



Southerners On New Ground

WORKSHOP HISTORY, MEMORY, LEGACY

TIME: 2 hours + Break

GOAL: To connect us to liberation movements of the past locally and to envision the legacy we leave

TOOLS AND MATERIALS:

Movement heroes' pictures and movement timeline if available

OPENING FRAMING AND 'WHAT FOR?': 10 Minutes

- The difference between legacy and co-optation: Knowing our histories, honoring them, learning from it as oppose to thinking we own them or we own others histories/culture/tools
- Legacy as a way to replenish the work with heart and soul, create a container to hold our longing for past and wholeness
- Creating a context for our work and wider spaces to think and be inside of in our work
- Create and remember reflective and creative practices towards organizing
- Learn tools for finding our past
- Give 2 concrete short examples of how these sets of tools have helped to forward work we know about

Community Mapping: 20 Minutes

Have small groups do community mapping with what they know, historically and currently, about the community. (Discuss that this process is often enriched by community-based research when doing organizing—talk about how that helps the community feel the richness of their own knowledge) Map while group shares what each member knows about: physical places in the community, segregation in the community, queer hang outs, organizing, immigrant patterns, etc.

Wall of Memory and Legacy: 15 Minutes

Identify folks who led struggles before who have passed on, and who are elders who have been holding the organizing work/community support work now and have been doing it along time. Put what you know about each elder on a special flashcard—and also leave blank spaces for your questions about things you don't know about these folks (Explain that in an organizing project you would now take the time to fill in the questions) Also, you can make symbols or pictures that make you think of this person. They can be living or passed on! Think about the qualities they have that you admire, respect, and give thanks for. Put these on the card too. Put all these up on a wall to create an altar. Say a few things about altar-making as a tool and how it can be used.

Break: 15 Minutes

Gallery Walk: 15 Minutes

Walk around and have each person talk about who they put on the wall for the altar and why

Symbols Quilt to Our Legacy: 30 Minutes

What do you want the legacy of your work to be? Use a word or symbol to articulate this. Put it on your square. Together we make our quilt. A few people volunteer to safety pin all the squares together during breaks until it is done.

Re-cap/Reflection: 15 Minutes

1. Understand the Skills
2. Confidence in using the skill: Would you use it?
3. Ways to use it: Does the group have ideas how they would use this?

**Have questions, need support or technical assistance on this tool?
Contact us at ignite@southernersonnewground.org or 404-549-8628**