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Designing and Guiding Complex Collaborations:

Defining Success and Finding a Starting Point

An ORED / SIG Training Series to advance Team Science

October 2020 | Mississippi State University

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OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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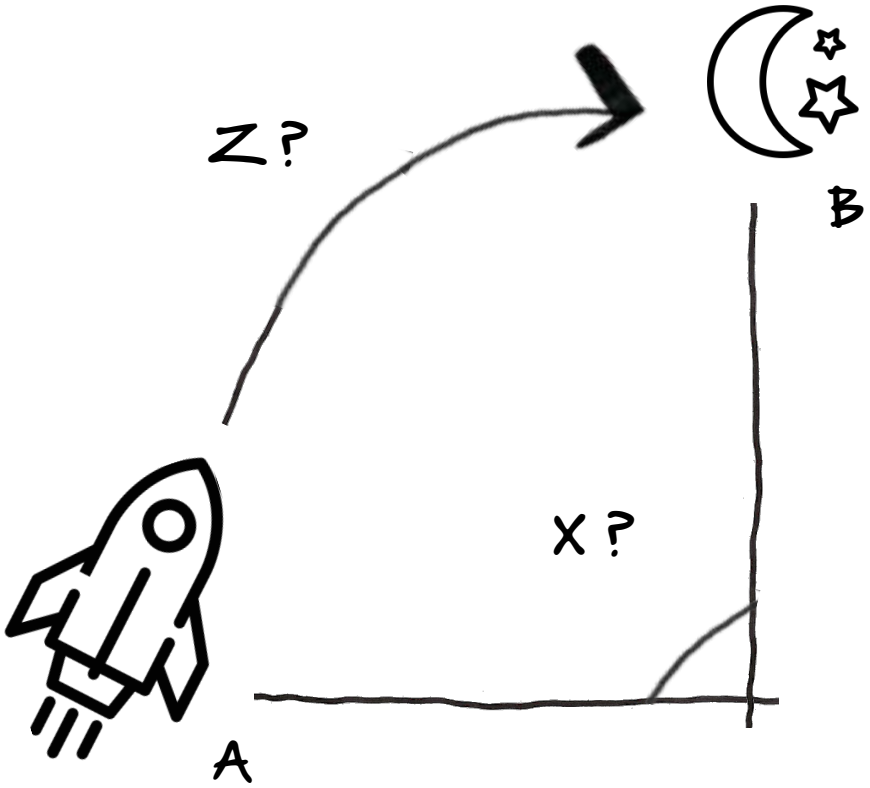
NOT Rocket Science



Housekeeping

- Session is being recorded
- Slides will be available
- Please remain muted
- Utilize the Chat Box (bottom right)
    - Interact with us
    - Ask questions

QUESTION…

Warm Up

Warm Up

If you could have a new skill in an instant, what would it be?

Use the Chat box to answer.

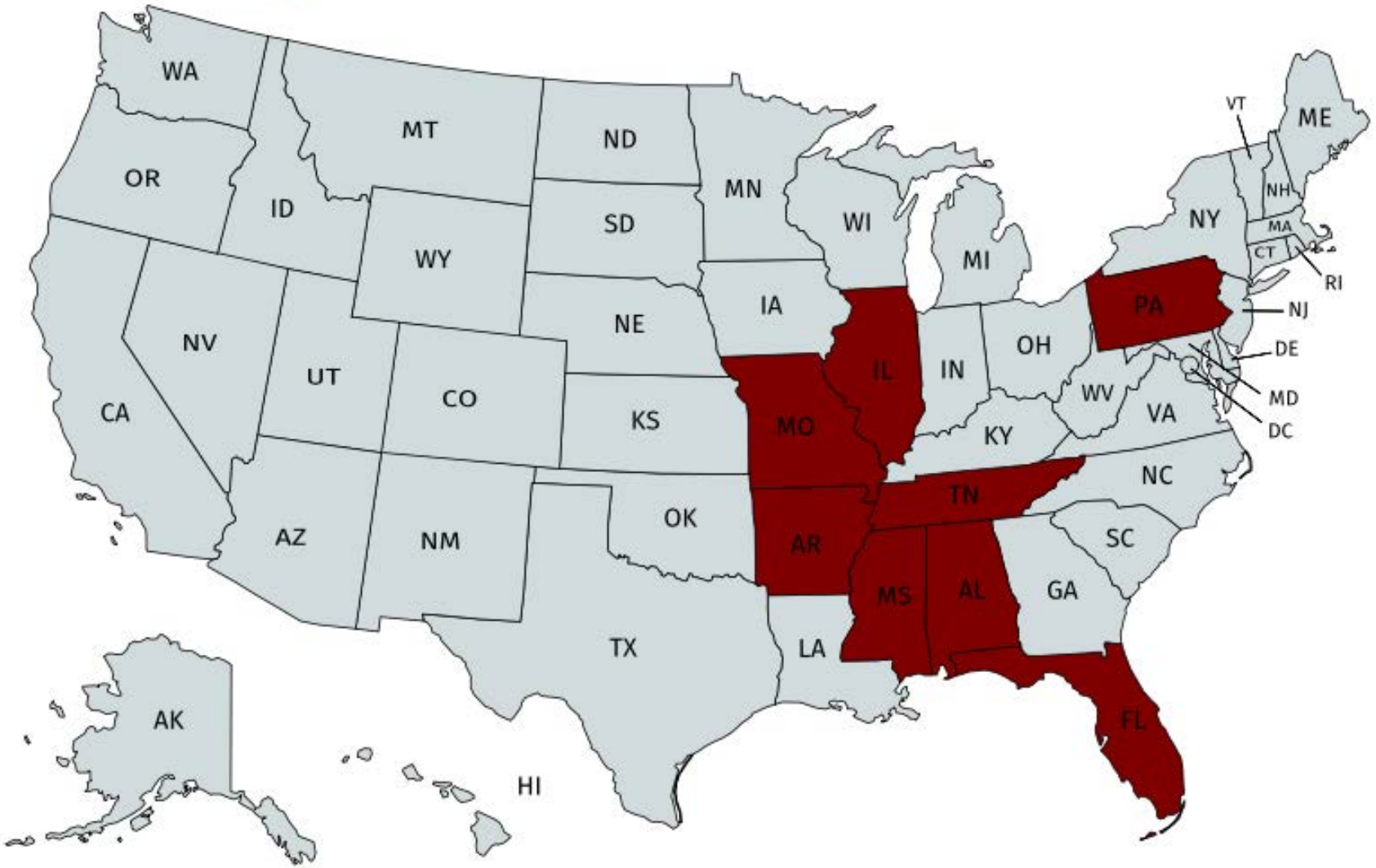
Need for Collaboration IN HIGHER ED

1. Required by funders

2. Trend is moving toward transdisciplinary programming

3. Addressing current challenges requires a collaborative approach

"Ok, we know we need to collaborate, but **how** do we do it?"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Strategic Doing™

Strategic Doing is a tool that allows people to form action-oriented collaborations quickly, move them toward measurable outcomes, and make adjustments along the way.

Provides a platform for collaboration

10 Rules (Skills)

Collaboration Seminar Series

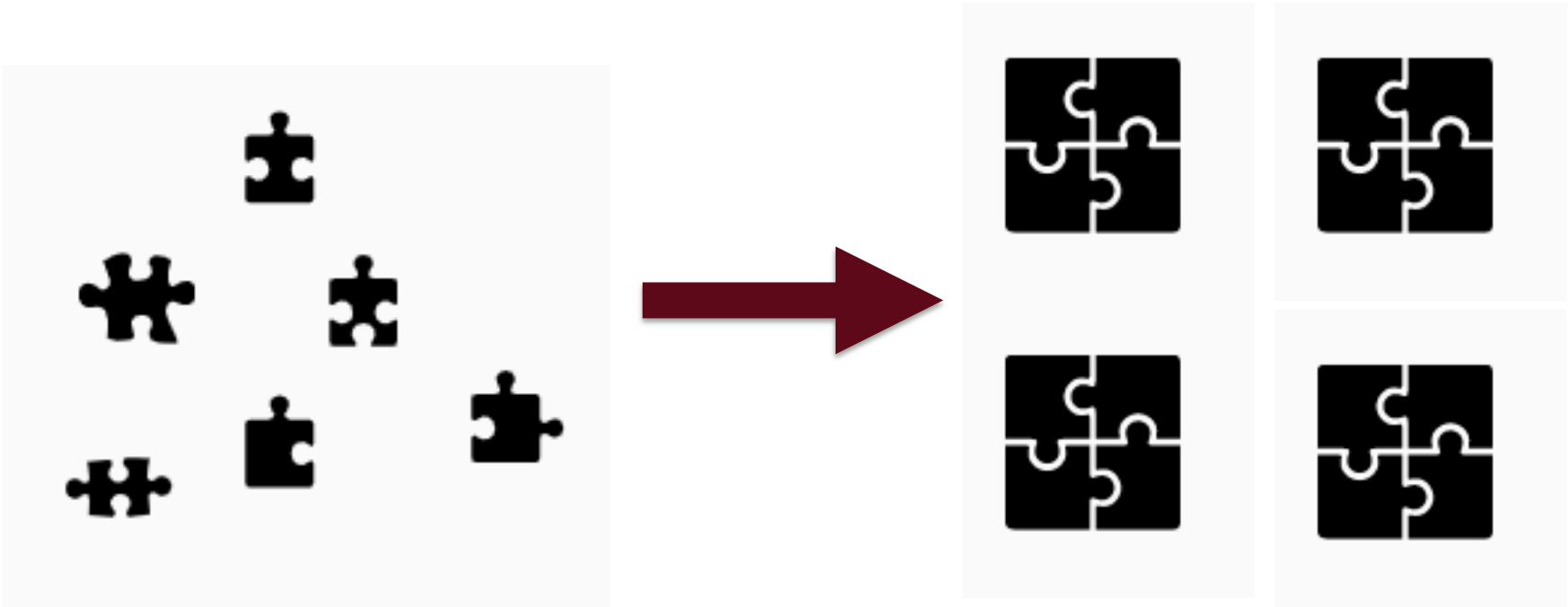
1	**Creating a Space for Collaboration** Wednesday, September 16 @ 2:00 p.m.
2	**Linking & Leveraging Expertise** Thursday, October 8th @ 10 a.m.
3	**Finding a Starting Point** TODAY
4	**Taking Collective Action** Thursday, November 12 @ 2:00 p.m.

Session 3: Define success and find a starting point

1. **Find your "Big Easy"**
2. **Convert your ideas to outcomes**
3. **Define Pathfinder Projects**

1. Find your “Big Easy”

In previous session:



Assets

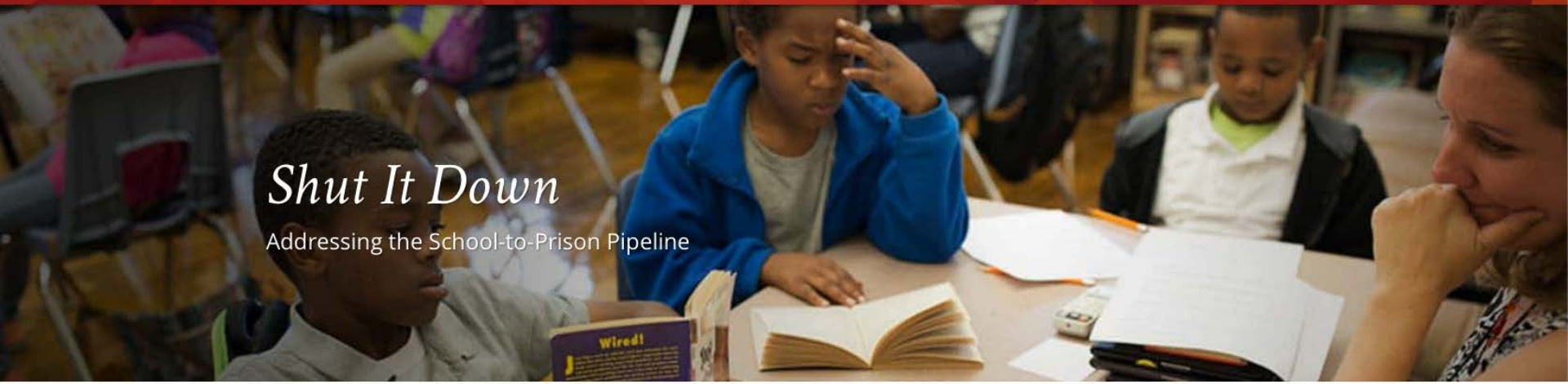
Opportunities

Labels
Boots
Other

@IWFSTL

INCARNATE WORD FOUNDATION
Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word

ABOUT US PRIORITIES GRANTS PROJECTS RECON



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Different Methods:

Consensus

Hard to achieve consensus

Consensus - 1

Time Consuming

Different Methods:

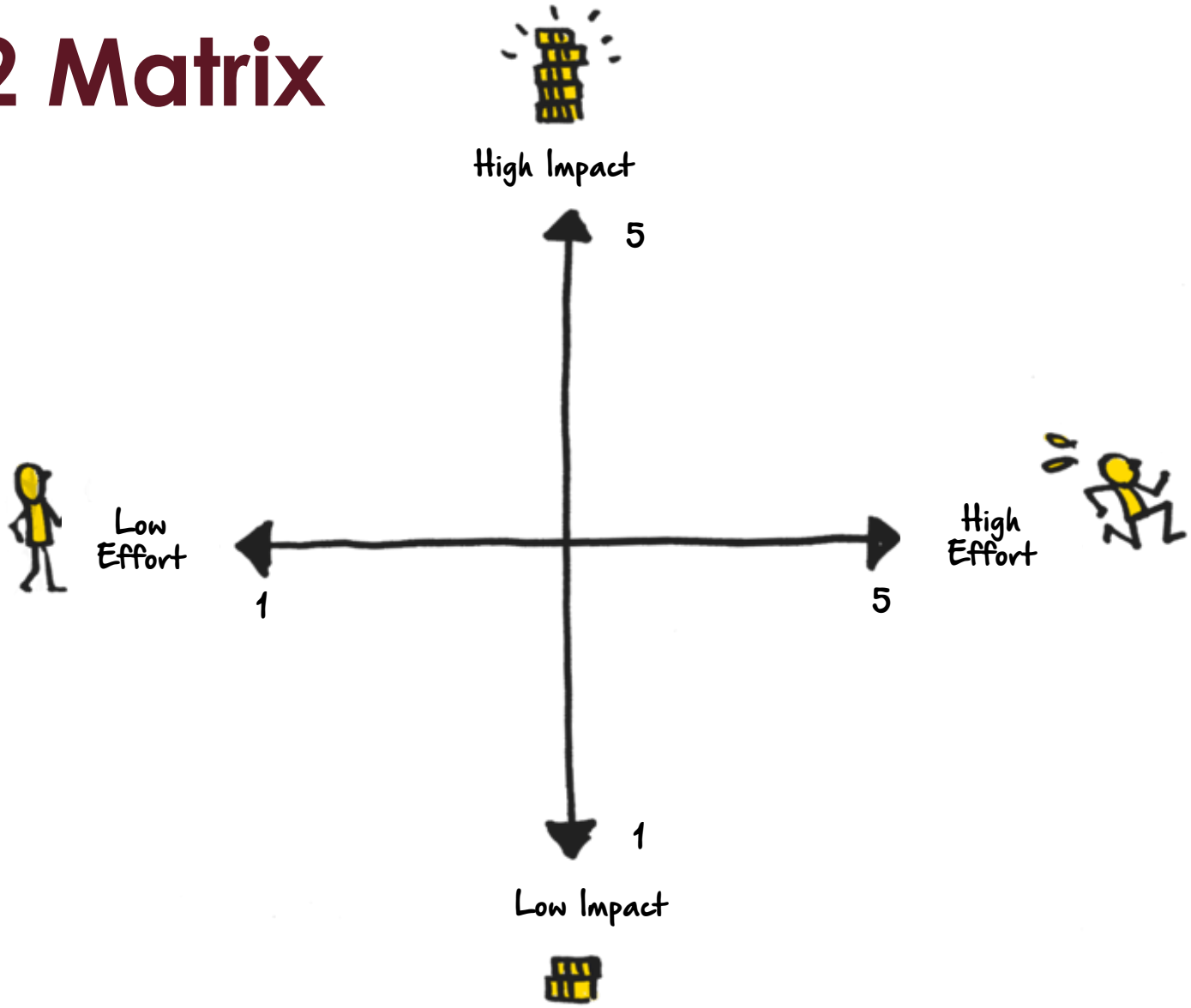
Majority Vote

No discussion of criteria

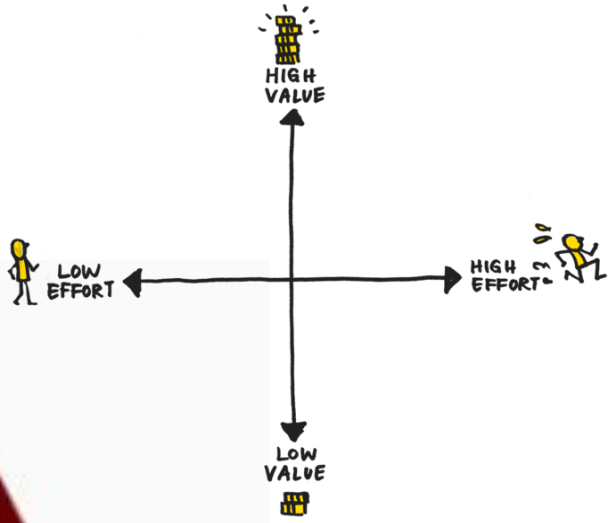
Sticky Dot

Single criteria

2 X 2 Matrix



“Big Easy”



Example: Find Your "Big Easy"

Impact

A

Tomato container downtown

B

Community garden

C

Overhaul lunch program in schools

Example: Find Your "Big Easy"

Ease of Completion

A

Tomato container downtown

B

Community garden

C

Overhaul lunch program in schools

Example: Find Your "Big Easy"

Which offers the best balance of ease and impact?

A

Tomato container downtown

B

Community garden

C

Overhaul lunch program in schools

Rule 5: Find Your "Big Easy"

For Each Opportunity:

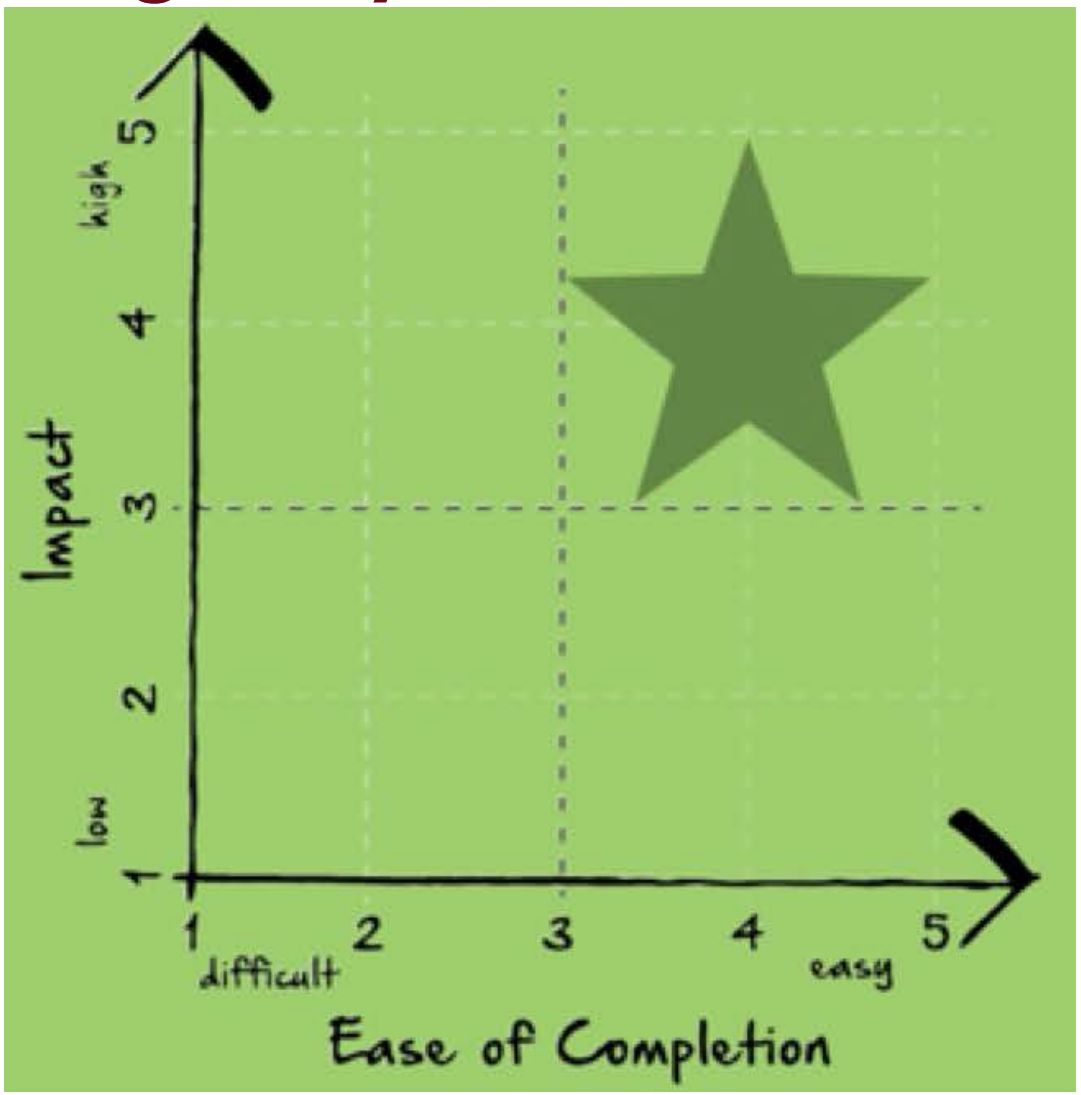
A. Individually rank "Impact"

B. Individually rank "Ease of Completion"

C. Add "Impact" for table

D. Add "Ease of Completion" for table

E. Total the score for each opportunity



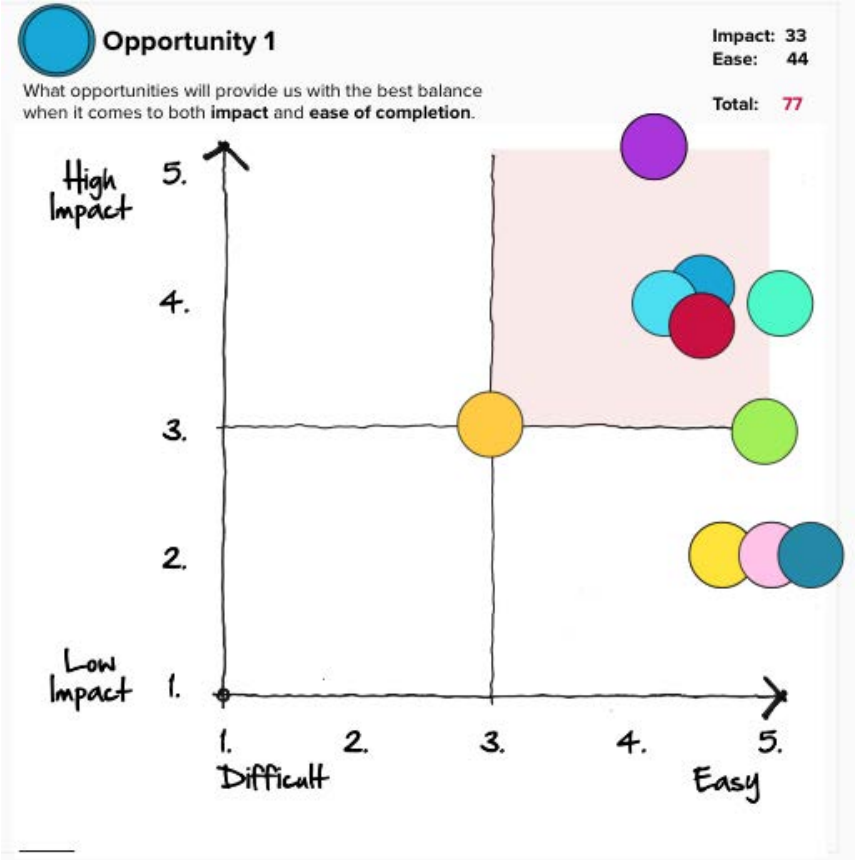
Opportunity #1

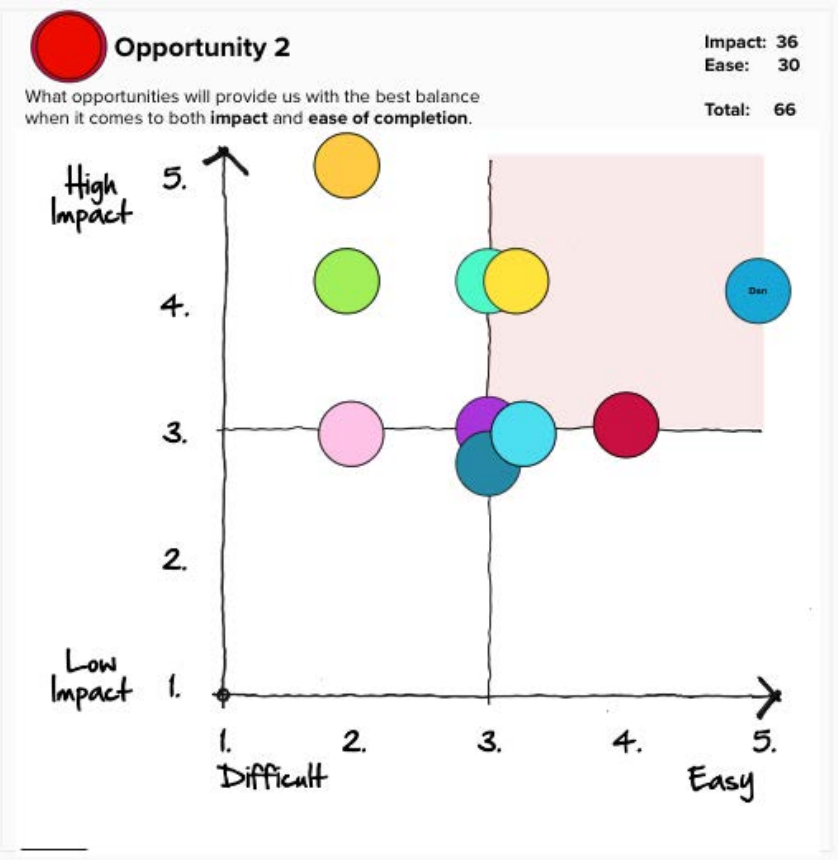
Person	Impact	Ease
Stephanie	5	1
Jeremy	4	2
Devon	4	1
Joe	5	1
Total	14	5
Big Easy Score	19 (14 + 5)	

Opportunity #2

Person	Impact	Ease
Stephanie	3	3
Jeremy	4	4
Devon	4	3
Joe	3	4
Total	14	14
Big Easy Score	**28** (14 + 14)	

Big Easy = Opportunity #2


Opportunity 1
Impact: 33
Ease: 44
Total: 77
What opportunities will provide us with the best balance when it comes to both impact and ease of completion.
High Impact
Low Impact
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.
1. Difficult
2.
3.
4.
5. Easy


Opportunity 2
Impact: 36
Ease: 30
Total: 66
What opportunities will provide us with the best balance when it comes to both impact and ease of completion.
High Impact
Low Impact
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.
1. Difficult
2.
3.
4.
5. Easy

2. Envisioning Success

Envisioning Success

What is the driver?

(Why are you doing this?)

What does success look like?

(What will be different?)

Envisioning Success

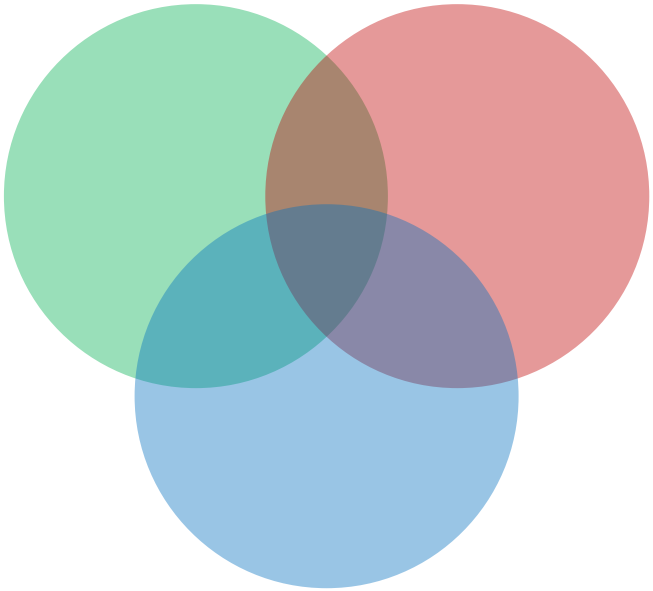
- Sets clear expectations
- Align group action

Envisioning Success

Let's buy a car!!

Envisioning Success

Let's buy a car!!



Envisioning Success

- Academic Setting
  - A. RFP defines success
  - B. Group defines success

- Research
- Service
- Prototype/Test Idea
- Demonstrate Concept
- Publication
- Funding

Envisioning Success

- What is the driver?
  - Farmers' Market

Increase sales of local farmers ($$)	Increase activity downtown (social)

Envisioning Success

6 **Define success for your "Big Easy" along with measureable characteristics** 20 min.

Take your "Big Easy" and define an outcome with clear measures of success.
What will be different once the "Big Easy" is achieved?

Big Easy:

If your project is successful what will be different?	How will we measure success?
Here is what we will see, feel, and do that will be different...	

Envisioning Success

6 **Define success for your "Big Easy" along with measureable characteristics** 20 min.

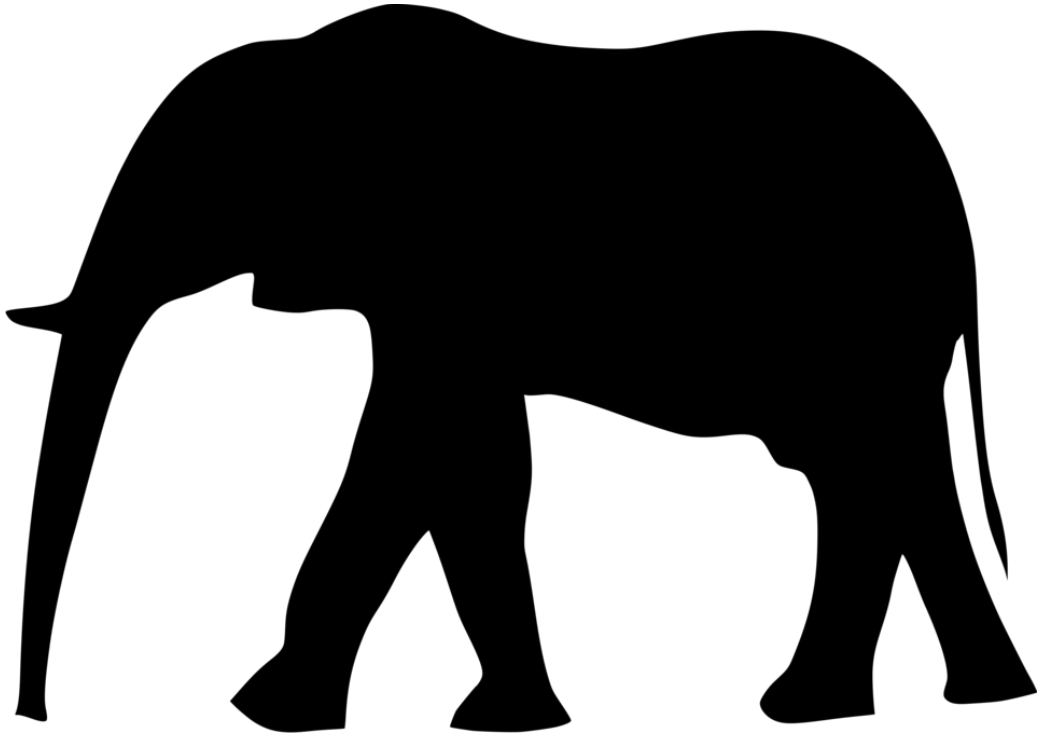
Take your "Big Easy" and define an outcome with clear measures of success.
What will be different once the "Big Easy" is achieved?

Big Easy: **Farmers' Market**

If your project is successful what will be different?	How will we measure success?
Here is what we will see, feel, and do that will be different... • People buying fresh, local food • Excitement & energy downtown • More people spending $ downtown	Amount of weekly vendor sales # of visitors attending market Increase in downtown merchant sales

3. Starting with a Pathfinder Project

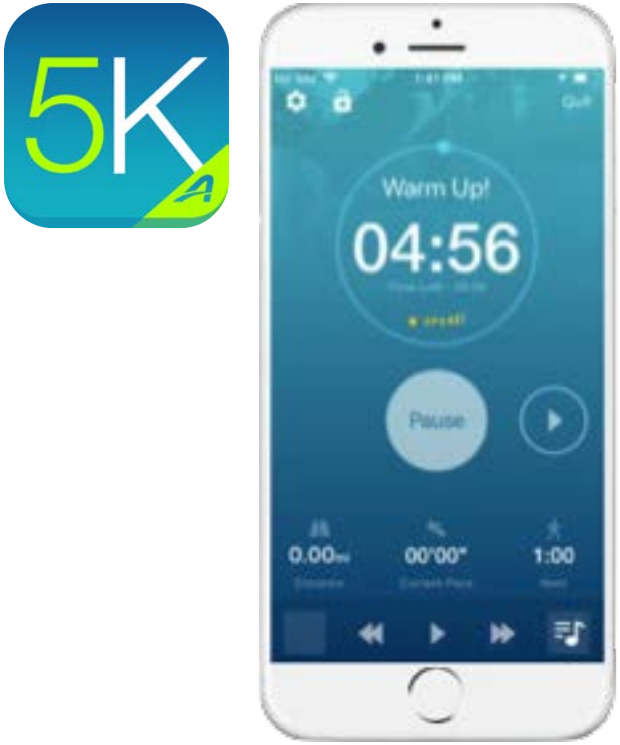
Pathfinder Projects



Relentlessly do the doable

Pathfinder Projects

- **30-minutes per day**
- **3 days per week**
- **9 weeks**
- **Total: 27 sessions**



Pathfinder Projects

- Small-scale, doable project
- Short-term - It can be done in 3 to 6 months
- It engages people at the table
- It allows you to test before you invest
- Group does not need permission to move forward
- It creates a "buzz"
- May be smaller version of "Big Easy"

Pathfinder Projects

- Allows the group to work together
  - Establish a relationship
  - Build trust

Pathfinder Projects

Big Easy:

Re-brand the community in order to change the perception for visitors.

Pathfinder Projects

Big Easy:

Re-brand the community in order to change the perception for visitors.

Pathfinder Project:

”Selfie Wall” mural in downtown.

#enjoycorinth #coke10k #pizzagrocery

#enjoycorinth #coke10k #pizzagrocery

#pizzagrocery

#enjoycorinth #coke10k

Pathfinder Projects

Research Examples:

First step:

- Data Collection
- Pilot
- Proof of Concept
- Problem Statement
- Abstract

Define success and find a starting point

1. **Find your "Big Easy"**
2. **Convert your ideas to outcomes**
3. **Define Pathfinder Projects**

SAVE THE DATE!

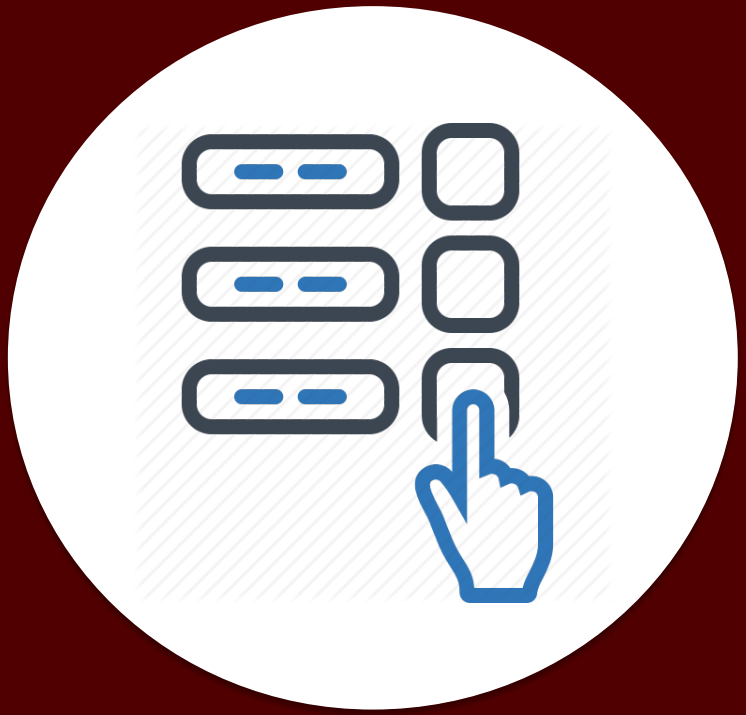
Thursday, November 12 @ 2:00 p.m.

Taking Collective Action

How can we help you?

Break down walls

Take collective action

Create a spark

- Help you do it!
  - Facilitation, workshops, etc.
- Help you learn more about it!
  - Strategic Doing training & certification