SHARED DECISION MAKING

NAME OF ACTIVITY: DOTMOCRACY

Description of Activity:

Dotmocracy is an established and fun way to for collecting and prioritizing ideas as part of a consensus building exercise among a large number of people. It can be used when a facilitator would like to reach agreement among a large number of people on a number of ideas, items, points etc. Visually, it will indicate which ideas, items and points etc. resonate more strongly or should be focused on more closely based on each members perspective as a collective preferences.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this activity team members will:

1. Be able to understand how to use this activity to facilitate shared decision making.
2. Be able to understand the principles of shared decision making as part of a consensus building exercise.

Number of participants: This activity is appropriate for any number of team members from different professions.

Amount of time needed: 20 to 30 minutes but dependent on the number of participants as well as the number of focused items to be considered for voting.

Space/environment considerations:

You will need a room with lots of clear wall space.

Materials:

- Flipchart paper (self adhesive or bring masking tape to secure to wall)
- Markers
- Coloured sticker dots

Instructions for Activity

1. Precursor: a brainstorming exercise is completed with ideas posted on flipcharts (they can be categorized)
2. Participants are given coloured dots (can limit to 5 per participant)
3. Participants circulate to all the ideas and place dots on which resonate or seem most important to them.
4. At the end of the posting exercise, the facilitator can either:
   - Take the findings and collate to share later or
   - Have discussions with the participants to ensure consensus on those items with the most dots
5. A collated document is created that is based on shared decision making.

Credits/Acknowledgments
http://www.kstoolkit.org/Dotmocracy

We encourage you to use the evaluation form found here (insert hyperlink) to better understand how this worked for your team and what team learned from this activity. To provide feedback about this activity or process or for more information click here (insert hyperlink)