Network Basics

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- Author of International Book *Network Weaver Handbook*
- Professor at Ohio University
- Led a large NGO in rural USA
- International consultant
- Fortunate to have visited Ghana & Uganda for the UNDP
So many benefits to working in networks!

- **Nurture individuals**
  - to gain confidence and motivation in their work and life paths

- **Increase access**
  - to high-quality and relevant knowledge and expertise

- **Connect actors**
  - for more resource and opportunity sharing across divides

- **Boost innovation**
  - for entrepreneurship and employment

- **Spark collaboration**
  - through that can help identify and create new opportunities

- **Foster deep learning**
  - across peers that shifts mindsets and opens up new understanding
You Are a Network Weaver!
Networks of Networks Amplify Learning & Action

Focused networks of networks may be an international, national or state network of networks:

- Learning
- Sharing
- Supporting
- Targeted large scale action for policy or advocacy
- Support Structure for Networks (esp Communications)

Cross sector networks or networks with different focus:

- Learning & sharing
- Provoke each other by pointing out their different perspectives
- Look for synergies where work is complementary
- Spread ideas from one network to another

Local Networks often focused on a leverage point:

- Local policy development
- Local collaborative projects
- Leadership Development
- Expanding the Network
- Relationship building
- Healing from trauma/dismantling racism
Free Resources at Network Weaver
www.networkweaver.com
Five characteristics of Network Weavers

For each one, list **NW** if you already have this skill and **Learn** if you would like to learn this skill
1. You Are a Network Weaver!

You help people see their network by mapping....

https://networkweaver.com/hand-drawn-mapping/
2. You Are a Network Weaver!

You connect people with similar interests....

https://networkweaver.com/closing-triangles/
3. You Are a Network Weaver!

You encourage network values: caring, sharing, building relationships….

https://networkweaver.com/network-values/
4. You Are a Network Weaver!

https://networkweaver.com/self-organizing-toolkit/

You help people act & innovate together....
5. You Are a Network Weaver!

You convene people to co-design & form an effective network: good communications, inclusive decision-making, and connecting with other networks ....

Network Weaver Handbook,
https://networkweaver.com/communication-ecosystem/
https://networkweaver.com/network-governance/