



THE JEFFERSON CENTER

2017 Creativity & Innovation Award: Rural Climate Dialogues

March 13, 2018





HELLO!

I am Camille Morse Nicholson from the Jefferson Center.

I am here to talk about the Core Values Award-winning project, the
Rural Climate Dialogues

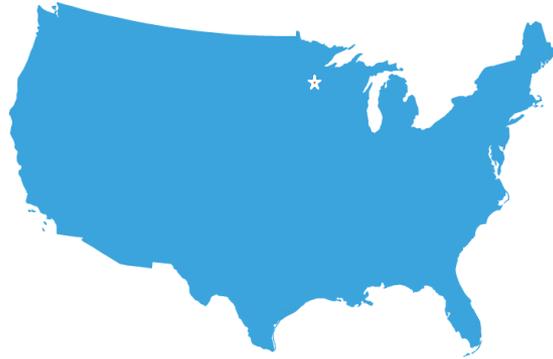
You can e-mail me at camille@jefferson-center.org

WHO WE ARE



About Us

Our mission: To partner with citizens, communities, and institutions to design and implement informed, innovative, and democratic solutions to today's toughest challenges.



Located in Saint Paul, Minnesota

Our Vision

We envision a society where individuals authentically engage with:

- one another
- their communities
- public & private institutions
- government and elected officials

to address the challenges and issues that affect their lives.



How We Do It

We shrink the gap between individuals and the institutions, policies, and issues that affect their daily lives by empowering citizens to solve shared challenges.

Our dialogue to action model:

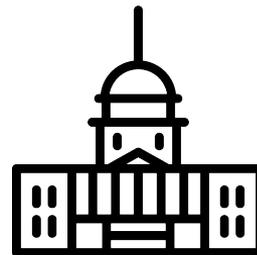
Co-define



Co-design



Co-create



Co-define

We build relationships with nonprofits, universities, governments, community members, traditional “stakeholders,” and others to gain a deeper understanding of the issue at hand.



Co-design



Next, we work with these stakeholders to create a specialized engagement process to gain citizen feedback. We provide participants with the expertise, tools, and time they need to develop meaningful and collaborative solutions.



Co-create

Recommendations are developed into action at local levels and beyond. We strive to stay engaged, using data and feedback to further refine our process and create sustainable solutions.

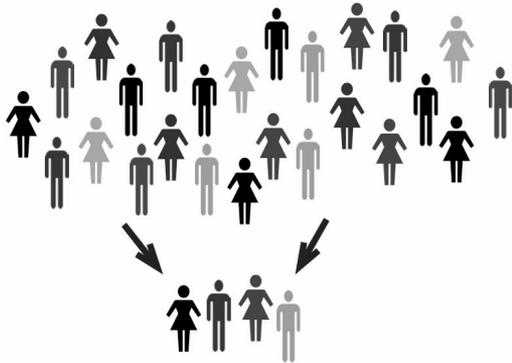


CITIZENS JURY



Citizens Jury Process Elements

- Small group, microcosm
- Random selection, compensation
- Multiple days, sufficient time
- General framework of educational information for analysis and background
- Multiple perspectives & approaches for solutions from “experts”
- Combination of dialogue, facilitated deliberation, & design-based exercises
- Group crafts recommendations and reports collectively



OUR PROGRAMS



Our Core Programs

Climate & Community Resilience

We're helping local communities develop solutions to the threats of extreme weather and a changing climate.



Democratic Innovation

We design and implement new models of public deliberation and participation to support a more informed and engaged citizenry.



Patient Engagement & Patient Policy

We promote new opportunities for patient participation in both clinical settings and in developing policy for healthcare service providers and governments.



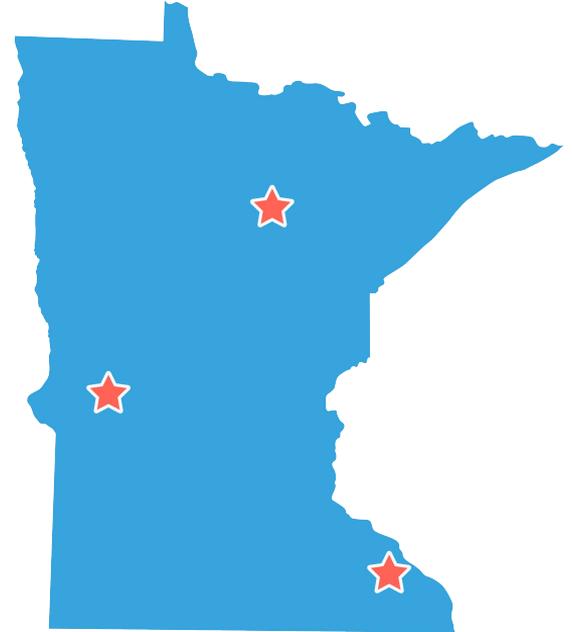


RURAL CLIMATE DIALOGUES

Rural Climate Dialogues

Citizens Juries held in 3 rural distinct Minnesota counties:

- Stevens County
 - Located in Western MN, agriculture as major theme
- Itasca County
 - Located in Northern MN, outdoor tourism a major theme
- Winona County
 - Located in Southeastern MN, water and tourism major themes





Role of Participation

Phase 1

JC outreach to communities, leaders, and stakeholders shapes the information the juries receive

Phase 2

High-quality information is presented by local experts

Phase 3

Jury-generated recommendations outline action steps for individuals and the community

Phase 4

Community leaders & stakeholders engaged in the beginning, as well as activated participants, are positioned to act on recommendations with JC support



“

You can go into a situation with your mind made up, but with the right information you can really change your mind, and I think that's where we come in when we go home and talk to our neighbors.



Community outcomes

Winona

- City participated in Partners in Energy
- Community groups educating on energy and water

Itasca

- Considering solar garden
- Increased rain garden installation

Morris

- The Morris City Council partnered with Saerbeck, Germany
- Stevens County has incorporated climate resilience into emergency planning



Follow up & change in approach

Evaluation measured:

- Attitudes towards climate and impact
- Whether they (as individuals, as a community) *can* act
- Whether they *should* act

RCD 2.0

- Energy-focused
- Testing how stakeholders on panels might change outcomes
- Slightly different event formats tailored to the communities



“

Before I was a part of these events, I really didn't think there was anything I could do about it. I was always just one of those who thought, 'It's too big of an issue. It's happening. My hands are tied.' Where, from these events, I realize that there are things we can do, even me personally, my community. It is a global issue, but there are community, individual issues too that can be dealt with.



IAP2 Core Values

- Right to be involved
- Contributions will influence decision
- Sustainability of decision-making
- Seeks out interested or impacted
- Participant-guided participation
- Meaningful information
- Communicate outcomes of involvement



Thanks!

Any questions?

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