

Mentor Areas of Expertise

- Serving as a backbone organization for collective impact projects
- Facilitating multi-sector partnerships to create a shared vision and strategic plan
- Community engagement and community-driven approaches
- Selecting community health indicators
- Leveraging multi-sector data for policy and systems change

The Civic Canopy is a community-based organization transforming the way communities solve complex problems. The Canopy brings over a decade of experience convening and facilitating multi-sector partnerships that are positioned to create shared visions and address community priorities. The Civic Canopy will expose Mentees to their research-based Community Learning Model (CLM) that focuses on results-based accountability, includes relevant and diverse stakeholders in thoughtful dialogue, and develops action plans and structures for learning and action from shared data. Mentees will be supported in crafting community engagement strategies, building buy-in and trusting relationships, selecting and prioritizing community health indicators, and overcoming hurdles in accessing quality data more efficiently.

Proposed Key Learnings / Objectives

During the course of this mentorship, Mentees will:

1. Learn and share effective strategies for multi-sector stakeholder engagement, generating buy-in to work collectively, and partnership building that lays the groundwork for successful data sharing initiatives.
2. Engage in dialogue to foster inclusion and dialogue, share strategies for supporting community members as leaders, and learn how to promote action and ongoing learning toward shared goals and data in their own local communities.
3. Identify policy and/or systems changes needed at the local level and discover how multi-sector data can be leveraged to advance this work.
4. Share processes and tools to engage cross-sector collaborations in building consensus around a shared vision and data-driven approach to improving community health.

Mentee Eligibility and Fit

Mentees best suited for this Mentorship will likely be in the earlier stages of their projects, focusing on engaging diverse stakeholders in the process—including community residents and “unusual suspects”—and setting the right conditions for effective collaboration. Potential Mentees may already be using or evaluating a set of community, state, or national indicator sets but want to find something more well-rounded or more community-informed. While the Canopy has experience with establishing data-sharing systems, our focus is more on the collaborative end of the continuum—e.g. helping data partners develop trust and effective working relationships—than on the more technical side of things in terms of setting up the actual data sharing platforms, data sharing agreements, and ensuring the smooth exchange of data.

Mentors will work with their Mentee cohorts to narrow the focus of program activities from the list of potential topics. At the end of the mentorship, each group will have the opportunity to share tools and resources developed throughout the program with the All In network.