

MACG Listening Campaign

The House Meeting

A house meeting is a gathering of 6 to 10 people held in a home, school, church, union hall, or other community meeting space. It is a tool for discovering common issues, sharing personal stories and reflection. It is co-led by trained leader facilitators. Notes capturing the issues are either taken by one of the co-facilitators during the meeting, or after the meeting when debriefing.

A house meeting often includes a one-to-one conversation (relational meeting), a basic tool of organizing. A house meeting may be used as a follow-up to a series of one-to-one conversations in which a common theme surfaced. The house meeting then becomes an opportunity for individuals experiencing the same pressure to hear others' stories, thereby decreasing isolation and creating the opportunity for collective planning and action.

The house meeting is a primary tool in building institutional capacity and relational power to address the pressures that affect our families and our institutions.