PULLING TOGETHER IDEAS FROM GROUP DISCUSSIONS

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SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN PULLING TOGETHER "MAIN IDEAS" OF DISCUSSION GROUPS:

- Pulling together main ideas from group discussions builds understanding about what has been said
- It's helpful to have a process when summarizing the "main ideas"
- There is no single or best way.
 Your team will learn along the way



1) Get to know your data

- Read your data through
- You may start to see similar comments
- These similar comments may become a "main idea"

2) Record the "main ideas"

- Jot down any new "main ideas" that don't appear in the "Facilitator Report Back" summary
- Make note of information that is not captured as a "main idea"

3) Identify connections within and between "main ideas"

- Break down main ideas into different categories (if possible)
- Merge main ideas into larger categories (if possible)
 - Combine two or more categories that are similar

4) Share what you've learned

What does it all mean? What is really important?

- Look at "main ideas" and their categories
- Decide what is most important for your group
- Share your findings with others to see if any other ideas could be considered or if something important has been missed



SOME THINGS TO BE AWARE OF

- Be specific when identifying a "main idea" or category
 - Remember we are trying to understand another person's perspective
- Be objective in capturing the main concept
 - Capture only what was said in the feedback, not why we think the comment was said
- Be open to new ideas.
 - Look for all ideas present, not just the ones that you agree with or support your own thoughts



LET'S REVIEW

4-Step Process for theming data:

- 1. Get to know your data
- 2. Record the "main ideas"
- 3. Identify connections within and between "main ideas"
- 4. Share what you've learned

We may only get through steps 1 & 2 tonight (that's okay)

AN EXAMPLE

Question # 1: How does the staff recommendation follow the reference criteria?

"It's all dollars and cents"

- Does this comment answer the question?
 - ✓ If yes, record this idea as a "main idea" or assign a 'main idea' to the comment
 - ✓ If no, decide if the idea relates to another question
 If it does, place the idea under that question
- Your group may also want to create a "Questions" category to capture questions that were asked

SMALL GROUP WORK

- Divide into pairs or small groups
- Each group will be given one question to focus on
- Work through the 4-step process:
 - Get to know your data
 - 2. Record the "main ideas"
 - Identify connections within and between "main ideas"
 - 4. Share what you've learned
- Assign a note-taker to capture "main ideas"

ANY QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME