

CAN Community Dashboard

Process for selecting and changing indicators

Approved by CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 9/12/13

Periodically, the Dashboard Steering Committee will review the common vision statements and will consider whether the indicators currently on the Dashboard are the best indicators for measuring whether our community is making progress toward achieving the vision statements. The Dashboard Steering Committee may also revisit and reconsider indicators based on questions or directions from the CAN Board of Directors. Indicators may be changed with a recommendation from the Dashboard Steering Committee and a vote of the CAN Board of Directors.

One strength of the CAN Dashboard is that it is a short list of indicators. Care should be given to not expand the list and to ensure that each of the four goal areas of the vision statements is represented. There is also strength in measuring indicators over time, so changing indicators should be done rarely.

The Dashboard Steering Committee will review the criteria below in determining whether to recommend a change of indicators to the CAN Board of Directors.

- Dashboard Indicators should be...
 - based on CAN common vision
 - high-level with a multi-faceted, multi-dimensional impact
 - actionable and measurable
 - expressed in a consistent form that permits comparison over time and across geography
 - address root causes, not symptoms
 - inclusive, applies to entire community
- Communication Power
 - Meets the “public square” test
 - Could make it as a graph on the front page of the newspaper
 - Your neighbor, brother, or aunt would “get” why this indicator is important
- Proxy Power
 - The indicator says something of central importance about the result.
 - The indicator is a plain language representation of the goal of well-being desired.
 - When you change this indicator, it may bring other indicators along with it.
- Data Power
 - Data for this indicator is timely and reliable.
 - Data is consistent.
 - Data is available at various levels, i.e. national, state, MSA, county, zip code.
 - Data can be disaggregated by demographic groups and/or geographic areas.

If the Dashboard Steering Committee recommends a new indicator, it will also recommend a goal and target for the indicator and the information will be gathered and presented as it would appear in the dashboard report and on the dashboard website.