

## **Collaboration Ice Breaker**

### **Objectives:**

1. Demonstrate the need for collaboration between Public Health and Corrections for issues related to TB Control
2. Illustrate the gap between the current and desired state of agency collaboration

**Supplies:** Facilitator script (below)  
Scale signs (1 – 10) or draw scale on board

**Participant Materials:** A/B cards, pen

### **Facilitator Directions:**

1. Tape Scale Signs on wall (1 – 10) (or draw scale on board)
2. Distribute A/B cards to participants
3. Provide instructions for completion and exchange of cards
4. Facilitate discussion of participant's answers to the questions

### **Participant instructions (Say this):**

- *We will be asking you questions regarding the collaborative nature of your working environment. You will be entering your answers on this card anonymously.*
  - *In the A column on your card, please place one numeric answer to respond to this question:  
(Select your rating: 1 = Not important through 10 = Extremely important)*
    - *In your opinion, how important is collaboration between Public Health and Corrections (especially in relation to the control of infectious diseases like HIV and TB)?*
  - *Mark your number selection on the card in the A column.*
  - *In the B column, please place one numeric answer to respond to this question:*
    - *Currently, where would you rank your facility (or workplace) on this continuum considering their overall practice of collaboration with the other agency (Public Health or Corrections)? 1 = Not at all through 10 = Highly collaborative between Public Health and Corrections*
- Example: 1 = Not at all – both agencies never speak to each other, do not try to communicate; 5 = there is some communication, but do not meet regularly; 10 = Medical and administrative personnel meet regularly, discuss multiple issues regarding inmates and place in the community)*
- *Mark your number selection on the card in the B column.*
  - *Now fold your card in half to cover your answers.*
  - *Please stand and greet 5 other class participants in the room. As you greet the other participants, introduce yourself by telling them your name, where you work and what position you hold. Each time you greet a new person exchange cards.*

After participants have had time to mingle and exchange cards, re-convene the group.

- *Open your card and stand near the number that is entered under the A column. (This may or may not be the same number that reflects your personal answer, but you are now anonymously representing another participant).*
- *The first question posed to the group was:*

*In your opinion, how important is collaboration between Public Health and Corrections (especially in relation to the control of infectious diseases like HIV and TB)?*

Expected response:

- *It is clear that most of you highly value collaboration since many of you have higher numbers . . . What are the benefits of a collaborative working relationship between Public Health and Corrections?*
- *Now please move to the location that represents the number entered under the B column on your card.*
- *This question asked the current status of collaboration between Public Health and Corrections. Currently, where would you rank your facility (or workplace) on this continuum considering their overall practice of collaboration with other agencies (Public Health or Corrections)?*  
*1 = Not at all (no collaboration between agencies) through 10 = Highly collaborative between Public Health and Corrections*
- *It is apparent here that many of you moved from higher positions to a lower position. Why this change?*
- *Reality is that you collaborate less than what would be ideal.*
- *Collaboration between agencies is essential for successful contact investigations and discharge planning and you will be hearing about many opportunities for enhanced collaboration and communication between the agencies.*
- *Please return to your seats.*