World Cafe

The ODEIE can serve as a resource to assist you in leading your team/group in a collaborative dialogue to address a particular topic or issue that is of concern to you. The World Café was developed as a way to bring together diverse perspectives and opinions around an issue or topic, that are all geared towards improving the experiences of all individuals.

The World Café is structured in a way that has participants engaged in rotating small group discussions, leading to a whole group debrief. The questions that drive the dialogue center on the collective goal to identify strengths, challenges, and solutions to critical issues. These sessions are designed so that those in the room recognize that they each have the ability to identify and implement solutions to common problems.

In preparation for the World Café, the ODEIE meets with the session facilitators to develop a series of questions that will drive the dialogue towards answering the main question/purpose in a way that allows many different perspectives to be heard.

World Cafés can be used to:
- Engage community members and stakeholders in dialogues to identify strengths, challenges, and solutions within that group
- Being together department members to develop greater understanding of everyone’s experiences
- Drive dialogue on critical issues at conferences
- Assist in identifying areas of focus for strategic planning

Following the World Café session, the ODEIE will provide facilitators with notes about what was discussed in the room, so that leadership teams can use direct feedback from the discussion to drive efforts for implementing solutions to challenges that were identified in the room. While you have the power to execute changes, the ODEIE commits to always serve as a resource to you through future follow-ups in developing ways to move your efforts to being more diverse, inclusive, and equitable.

If you are interested in hosting a World Café for your team, or a group of your choosing, please contact the ODEIE to learn more.