



Session arc (Barnraisers virtual organizing trainings)

Every week: Garrett will be available for office hours ([sign up here](#))

Cohort Commitment/Expectations

Session	Topic	Description	Pre-session Homework	Materials
One	Preparing yourself to organize	What is organizing? What is weird about organizing white people for racial justice?	• Read Eve Ewing's interview with Mariame Kaba "Everything Worthwhile Is Done With Other People" • Read "Barriers to Organization Between Anti-Racist White People" by Joanie Mayer • Listen to Ezra Klein's interview with Jane MccAlevey (note- if you absolutely don't have time to listen to it, the abridged transcript on the Vox website will give you some highlights-- but it really is such an enjoyable listen). NOTE ON THE PODCAST LINK ABOVE: Some folks have understandably had trouble finding the link to listen to the podcast in the Vox article above, because when Ezra Klein left Vox	Slideshow Post-session homework: "Loving yourself, loving the white people in your network"

			they rebranded his podcast “The Gray Area With Sean Illing” but you can trust that link– it still brings up the old episode (on Spotify). Here is another link (to Apple podcasts) if the Spotify one doesn’t work.	
Two	Developing your campaign	How do you develop a campaign that is accountable to communities of color and which uniquely engages the white people you’re organizing? Start from an issue and search for a group, or start from a group and search for an issue.	• Reflection exercise: “loving yourself, loving the white people in your network” OPTIONAL: • Listen to this On Being interview with Derek Black and Matthew Stephenson	Slideshow Campaign idea bank "How to pick a campaign" flow charts Small group scenarios
Three	Persuasion : Part One	What are the basics of how to have transformative, relational conversations with other white people?	• Read this article on Deep Canvassing • Fill out a brief “crowdsourcing our organizing ideas” survey OPTIONAL: • Watch the video embedded in the Deep Canvassing article	Slideshow Building our curiosity about Frank Framework and scenarios <i>Post-session addendum:</i> The family corollary
Four	Persuasion : Part Two	Practicing and problem solving from Part One How can we complicate what we’re learning about how to change people’s minds?	• Read “How to talk to white folks about race” by me (Garrett) [note: I wrote this relatively early into developing the Barnraisers model so my thinking has evolved a bit since then, in ways that are reflected in the cohorts, but I still think there’s some helpful thoughts in here if you’re	Slideshow Question/conversation prompt bank Meg scenario Intro to love/struggle stories

			trying to make this more concrete]. • Watch this video on “How to change a mind” TRANSCRIPT: https://www.vexplode.com/en/tedx/what-does-it-take-to-change-a-mind-lucinda-beam-an-tedxsydney/ • There will be mental prep for this session (but no required writing assignment). <i>OPTIONAL:</i> • Listen to “Why (Most) People Don’t Change Their Mind” (podcast interview with Carol Tavris, author of the (very excellent) “Mistakes Were Made (but not by me)”) *Note, while that podcast episode title might be pessimistic, the insights it offers as to <i>how</i> you help folks change their mind are really helpful.	
Five	Campaign Strategy and Community Building	How do you sustain yourself and the people with whom you’re organizing in a way that also continues to push your growth and deepens your accountability to BIPOC folks?	YOUR CHOICE: Either.... Work on your love/struggle worksheet Work through a sample “organizing conversation prep” sheet	Slideshow Organizing cohorts: What to do when you have a group Scenarios
Post Cohort			• Follow up call with Garrett • Fill out Barnraisers Project	

			post cohort survey	
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Preview of week five questions:

Opening icebreaker (two sentences or less):

If you were given an entire year off to go to one place in the world and learn a single skill, where would you go and what would you learn (note: the place and skill don't HAVE to be connected).

Small group discussion:

We're going to talk about the love and struggle stories (and/or the conversation-prep-worksheet). How'd they go for you... what felt powerful or helpful about them, what felt like a slog (or alternatively, a deeply uncomfortable experience, etc.).

“On the care and feeding of an organizing group”

We're going to be working through [this framework](#) for how to care more about how a group feels rather than micro-managing its outcomes.

In order to play with this more fully, we'll divide into groups, with each group taking [one of these three scenarios](#) (with the goal of working through how you'd both identify “how” the space should feel and then how you'd help enable that in practice).