

HAL's Theory of Change

OCT 2023

STRATEGIES

Make public memory
participatory

Tell our own stories to our
own audiences

Create collective voices &
forces

Build shared knowledge

Foster relationships that reflect our values



VALUES

Non-Hierarchy

Honest & Healing

Community-Guided

Minimizing Harm

Accountability

OUTCOMES

Powerful & Connected
Communities

Historically-informed
action

People-powered
pedagogy

A leaderful network

THE PROBLEMS WE'RE FACING

Narratives ignore history & knowledge of those most impacted.

Communities are isolated.

Institutions reinforce exploitative structures.

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

**NARRATIVES
IGNORE
HISTORY &
KNOWLEDGE
OF THOSE MOST
IMPACTED**

Mainstream narratives about justice issues (like climate change, incarceration, displacement) -- and the policies they inform -- perpetuate racism and the fallacy of white supremacy by not centering the knowledge and leadership of directly impacted communities, and by focusing too narrowly on the people enduring the problem rather than its historical structures and systemic nature.

**COMMUNITIES
ARE ISOLATED**

Communities with shared historical experiences and deep knowledge are isolated from each other, limiting impact of their stories, actions and praxis.

**INSTITUTIONS
REINFORCE
EXPLOITATIVE
STRUCTURES**

Most academic and cultural institutions over-emphasize academic knowledge, undervalue community wisdom, fail to keep power, intellectual ownership, and sovereignty in the community rather than academy, all while abdicating responsibility for their role in land dispossession, racism, class exploitation, and imperialism.

VALUES

NON- HIERARCHY

We seek to work together non-hierarchically, continually acknowledging power imbalances and finding creative ways to address them.

ACCOUNT- ABILITY

A commitment to holding ourselves accountable to our personal and shared values as we engage in this collective work.

COMMUNITY- GUIDED

HAL's mission is centered on directly supporting our partner communities and community projects need to begin with and be guided by the communities involved.

MINIMIZING HARM

We seek to create an environment where harm and abuse are minimized as much as possible by addressing the larger conditions and systems that foster harm.

HONESTY & HEALING

Conflict, harm, and abuse are all possibilities when working together and we must be prepared to address issues when they arise in ways that both move towards healing and hold people/groups accountable.

STRATEGIES

**MAKE PUBLIC
MEMORY
PARTICIPATORY**

Do public history as collective organizing to understand and redress historical harm, through a process that builds community, solidarity, and healing from ecological and systemic trauma.

**TELL OUR OWN
STORIES TO
OUR OWN
AUDIENCES**

Support students and other directly impacted stakeholders to investigate their own histories and create historically informed visions for future justice, then share them in a variety of media with calls to action.

**CREATE
COLLECTIVE
VOICES &
FORCES**

Local teams identify the audiences they see as key change agents, then engage them in confronting histories and taking action.

**BUILD SHARED
KNOWLEDGE**

Support students and other directly impacted stakeholders to investigate their own histories and create historically informed visions for future justice, then share them in a variety of media with calls to action.

**FOSTER
RELATIONSHIPS
THAT REFLECT
OUR VALUES**

Local teams identify the audiences they see as key change agents, then engage them in confronting histories and taking action.

OUTCOMES

POWERFUL & CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Local directly impacted communities share more stories of historical harms and resistance with more of the audiences they seek to engage, using their historical knowledge to construct just futures beyond existing political and institutional systems.

HISTORICALLY- INFORMED ACTION

Historical structures and systems connecting our local experiences are revealed; directly impacted communities strengthen and sustain each other, build a reservoir of shared knowledge, and take collective action to redress shared histories

PEOPLE- POWERED PEDAGOGY

There are more learning spaces that both teach about and enact non-hierarchical, anti-colonial, non-extractive relationships, by training and building solidarity among students, educators, and directly impacted community members

A LEADERFUL NETWORK

The HAL network is financially sustainable and has decentralized leadership through which partners support and learn from each other.

Just Transition Framework

Source: Climate Justice Alliance

<https://climatejusticealliance.org>



Just Transition is a vision-led, unifying and place-based set of principles, processes, and practices that build economic and political power to shift from an extractive economy to a regenerative economy. This means approaching production and consumption cycles holistically and waste-free. The transition itself must be just and equitable; redressing past harms and creating new relationships of power for the future through reparations. If the process of transition is not just, the outcome will never be. Just Transition describes both where we are going and how we get there.