I. Defining Roles of the Backbone

II. Pod Discussion on Backbone Roles

III. Large Group Discussion

IV. Practitioner Panel
There are several misperceptions about the backbone:

- The backbone organization **sets the agenda** for the group.
- The backbone organization **drives the solutions**.
- The backbone organization **receives all the funding**.
- The backbone **can be self appointed** rather than selected by the community.
- The backbone is “**business as usual**” in terms of staffing, time, and resources.

Common Misperceptions

Source: FSG Interviews and Analysis
Stakeholders describe backbone organization leaders as:

- **Visionary**
- **Results-Oriented**
- **Collaborative, Relationship Builder**
- **Focused, but Adaptive**
- **Charismatic and Influential Communicator**
- **Politic**
- **Humble**

“Someone who has a big picture perspective—[who] understands how the pieces fit together, is sensitive to the dynamics, and is energetic and passionate.”
DEFINING THE ROLE OF THE BACKBONE: TODAY’S CONVERSATION

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DISCUSSION – ALL PODS

• How do the 6 roles presented align with the work that you are doing?

• How would you modify or add to these roles to make them more relevant to describing your work?

• What do you think are the most important roles in creating change in your community?

• Which roles are the most difficult?

REPORTING BACK

• Pods 1 – 8: Modify
  Use yellow stickies

• Pods 9 – 17: Most important
  Use green stickies

• Pods 18 – 25: Most difficult
  Use pink stickies
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BACKBONE LEADER - PANEL DISCUSSION

Ian Gordon
PATHWAYS Initiative
San Diego, CA

Liz Weaver
Hamilton Roundtable
Hamilton, Ontario

Gabriel Guillaume
LiveWell Colorado
Colorado, Statewide