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JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Community Coalitions

William R. Brieger, MPH, CHES, DrPh
Johns Hopkins University

Community Coalitions

- ✦ An organization of individuals representing diverse organizations, factions, or constituencies who agree to work together in order to achieve a common goal
- ✦ An organization of diverse interest groups that combine their human and material resources to effect a specific change which members are unable to bring about independently

Community Coalitions

- ✦ May focus on
 - Locality development
 - Community action

United Coalitions

- ✦ Enable organizations to become involved in new and broader issues without having the sole responsibility for managing or developing those issues
- ✦ Demonstrate and develop widespread public support for issues, actions, or unmet needs

United Coalitions

- ✦ Maximize the power of individuals and groups through joint action
 - Increase critical mass behind community effort by helping individuals achieve objectives beyond the scope of any one individual or organization

United Coalitions

- ✦ Minimize duplication of effort and services, resulting in improved communication and trust among partners

United Coalitions

- ✦ Help mobilize more talents, resources, and approaches to influence an issue than any single organization could achieve alone

United Coalitions

- ✦ Provide an avenue for recruiting participants from diverse constituencies
 - Politics
 - Business
 - Human service
 - Social and religious groups
 - Individuals

United Coalitions

- ✦ Exploit new resources in changing situations because of their flexible nature

Types of Community Coalitions

✦ **Grassroots coalitions**

- Organized by volunteers in times of crisis to pressure policy makers to act

✦ **Professional coalitions**

- Bring professional organizations together for a crisis or longer term action when their combined power and influence is needed

Types of Community Coalitions

✦ Community-based coalitions

- Bring professionals and grassroots leaders together to influence more long-term health and welfare practices for their communities

Successful Coalitions

- ✦ Exchange of resources among member organizations
- ✦ Inter-organizational cooperation, payoffs, benefits of joining
- ✦ Minimum size to make the coalition effective

Successful Coalitions

- ✦ Clear recognition and clear articulation of a mutual need or concern
- ✦ History of previous collaboration and joint efforts
- ✦ Compatibility among potential partners
- ✦ Determination to work together

Community Coalition Needs

- ✦ Formalized rules, roles, and procedures
- ✦ Strong central leadership
- ✦ Diversity of members who bring a wide range of skills and resources
- ✦ Organizational climate that fosters good relations among members

Community Coalition Needs

- ✦ External supports that facilitate resource exchange and community linkages

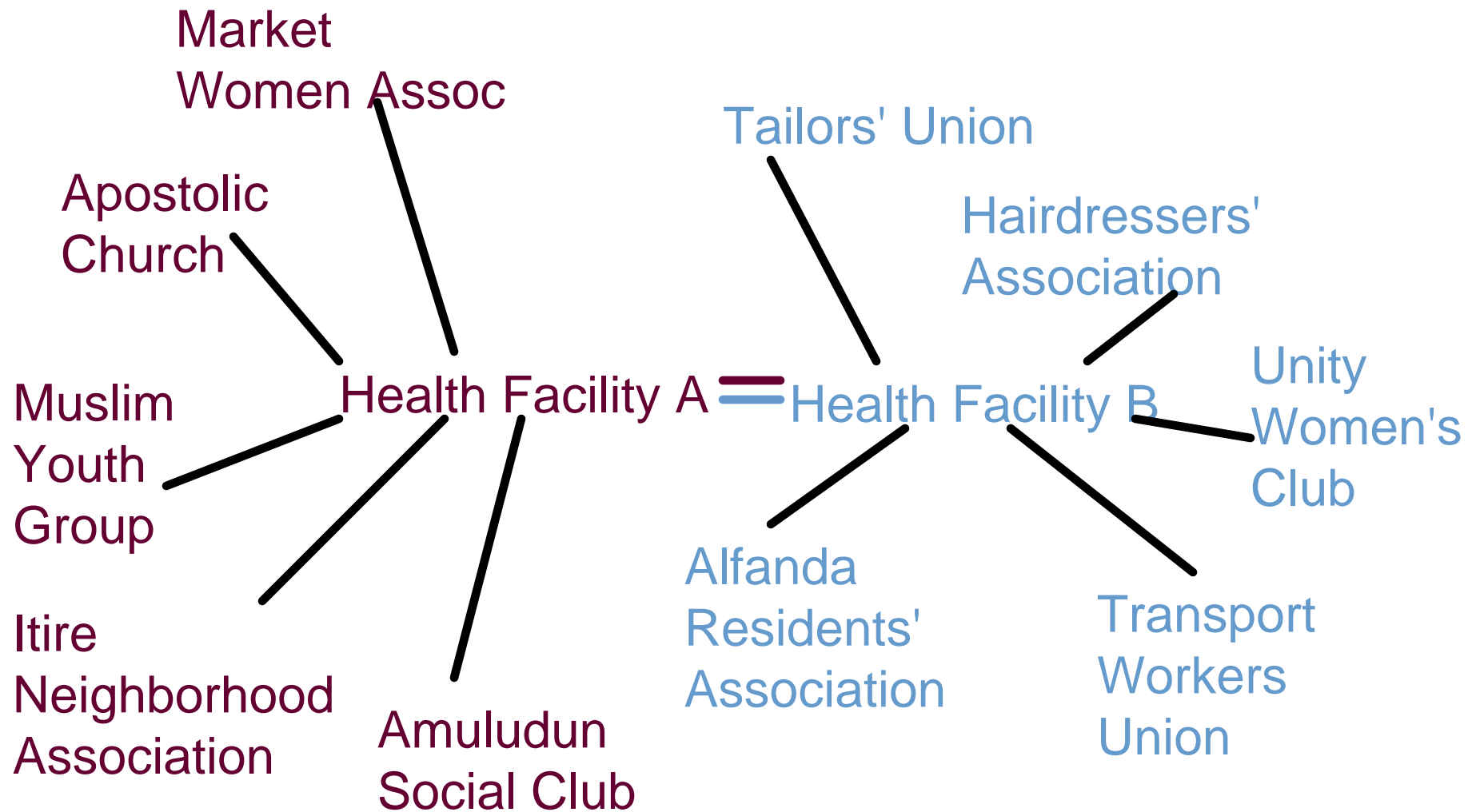
Community Coalition Needs

- ✦ Achievement of goals for the coalition of stay together
 - Short-term successes increase member motivation and pride, and enhance credibility of coalition
 - Observable indicators of progress toward the more long-term goals of the coalition

Community Partners for Health—Lagos

- ✦ Community-based coalitions
 - CBOs and professionals
- ✦ Memorandum of understanding
- ✦ Boards and memberships
- ✦ Clear child health goals

CPH Structure with Dyads



Community Partners for Health—Lagos

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Community Partners for Health—Lagos

- ✦ Short-term successes
 - Environmental sanitation
 - Immunization coverage
- ✦ Long-term efforts
 - Fundraising
 - Savings cooperatives

Mobilization for Immunization



Source: The Basics



CPH women members are empowered to take decisions on child care and through micro-credit loans

CPH Lessons

- ✦ Attention to existing social units of identity (CBOs) is the basis for successful coalitions
- ✦ Community coalitions can reach out to obtain external resources
- ✦ Successful coalitions are associated with heightened community efficacy