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JOHNS HOPKINS  
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# Community Coalitions

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# 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



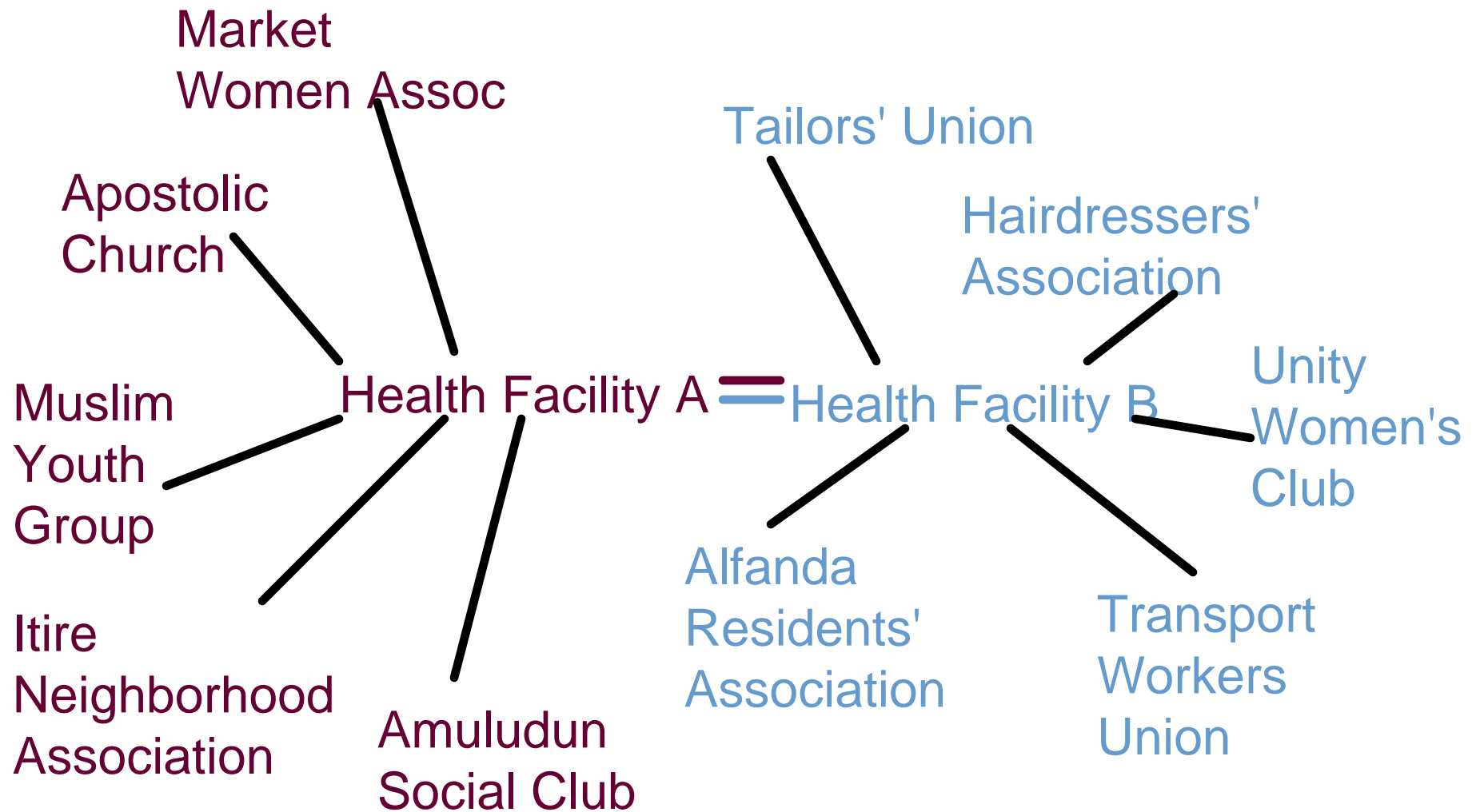
# Community Coalition Needs

- ✦ 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

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

# 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