

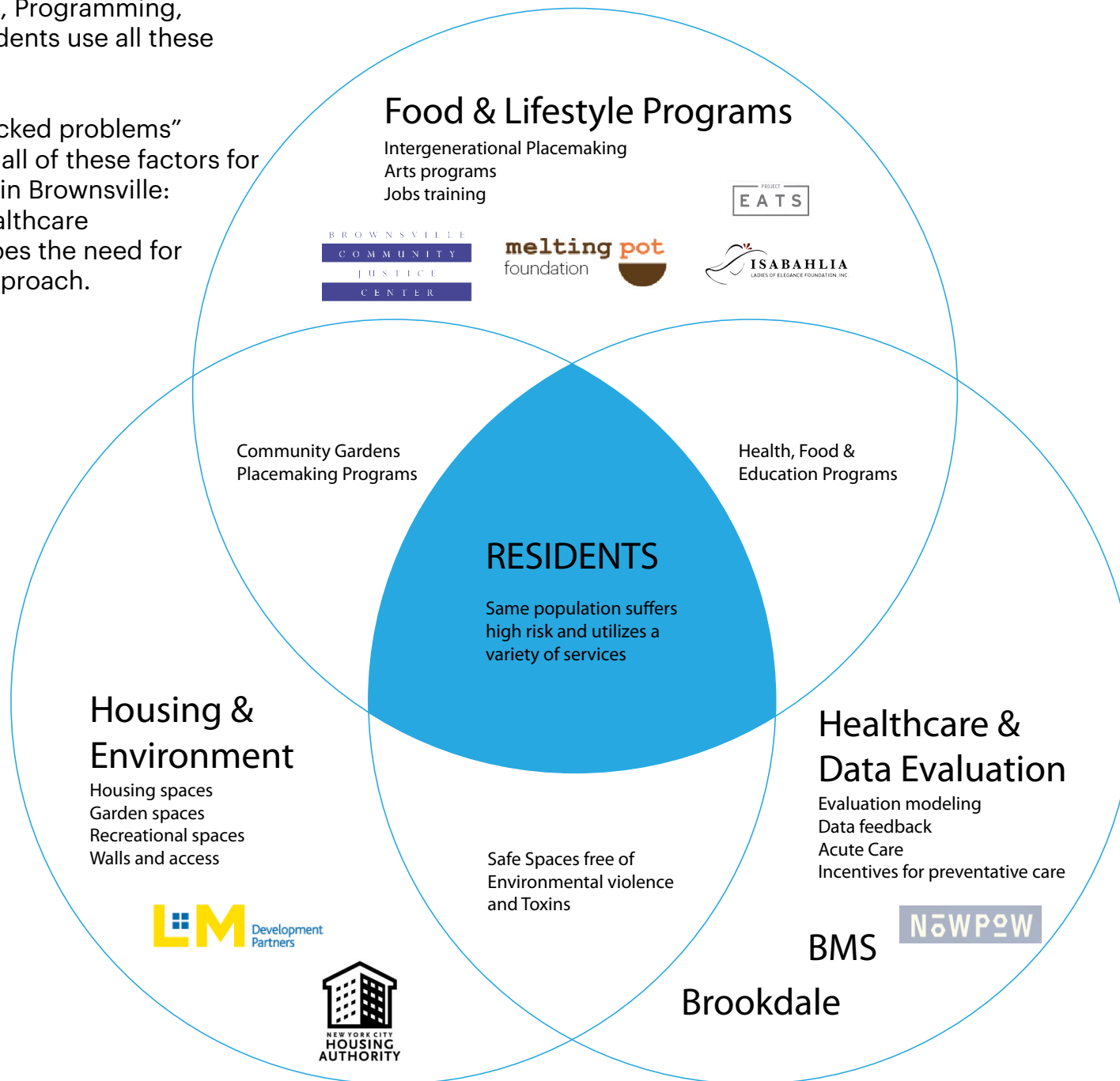
PREVENTING VIOLENCE and DISEASE IN HIGH RISK BROWNSVILLE

A Vision For Inter-agency Adaptive Management for Violence and Chronic Disease Prevention

INTERSECTIONAL ISSUES

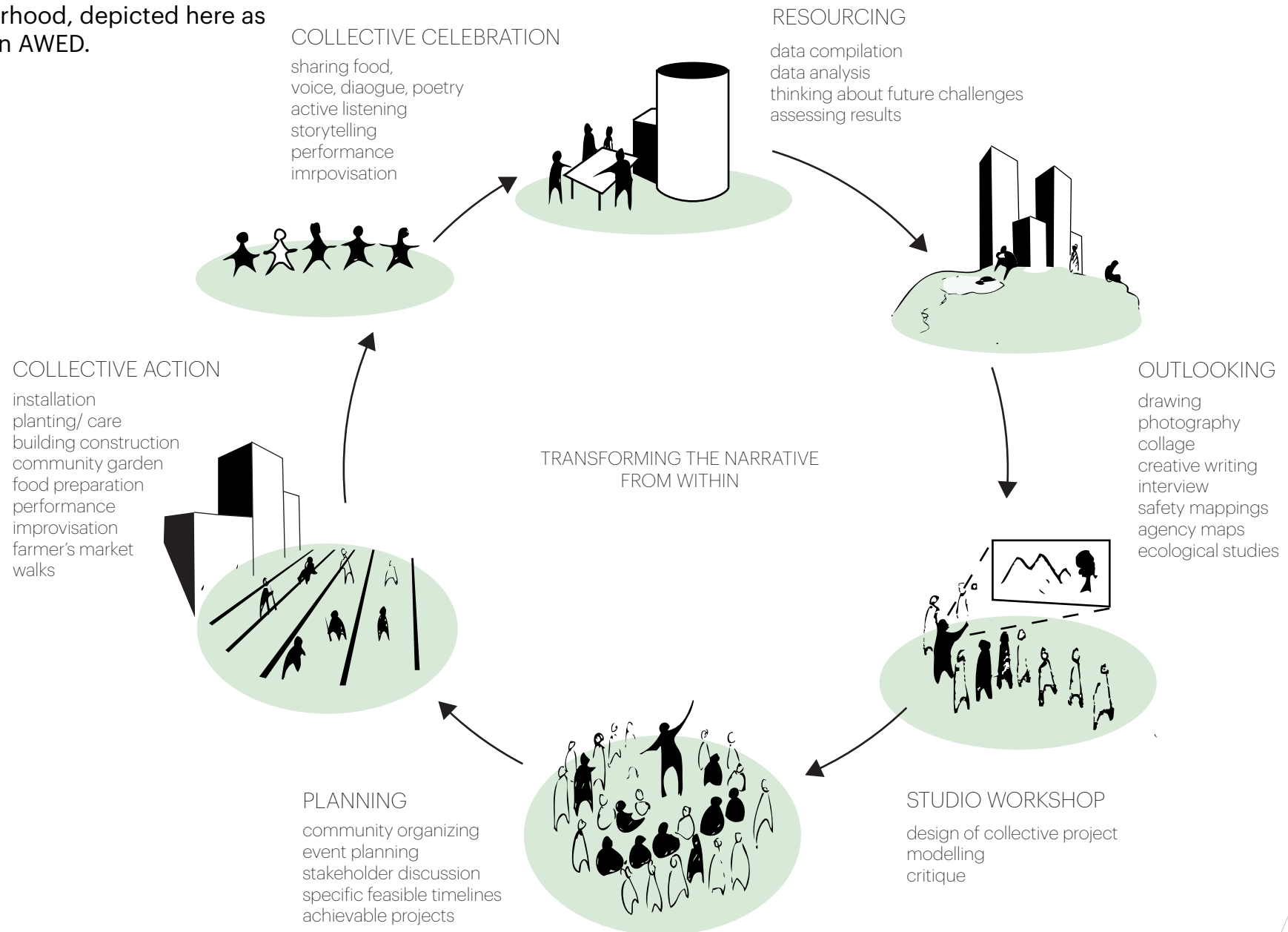
Change requires collaboration between agencies of Housing, Programming, and Evaluation. Residents use all these resources.

Intersectional or “wicked problems” are issues related to all of these factors for high risk population in Brownsville: Food - Housing - Healthcare and the CDC describes the need for an environmental approach.



WE ARE EACH OTHER'S ENVIRONMENT: ECOSOCIAL DESIGN

The process of prevention and health change deploys an ecosocial design process for transformation from within the neighborhood, depicted here as articulated in AWED.



SUCCESS IN BROWNSVILLE ALREADY DEPLOYS THIS METHODOLOGY

This process today
deploys various
agencies already in
the neighborhood.



BMS
Brookdale

NōWPōW

RESOURCING

data compilation
data analysis
thinking about future challenges
assessing results

COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

sharing food,
voice, dialogue, poetry
active listening
storytelling
performance
improvisation



PROJECT
EATS

COLLECTIVE ACTION

installation
planting/ care
building construction
community garden
food preparation
performance
improvisation
farmer's market
walks



TRANSFORMING THE NARRATIVE
FROM WITHIN

OUTLOOKING

drawing
photography
collage
creative writing
interview
safety mappings
agency maps
ecological studies

BROWNSVILLE
COMMUNITY
JUSTICE
CENTER

STUDIO WORKSHOP

design of collective project
modelling
critique



PLANNING

community organizing
event planning
stakeholder discussion
specific feasible timelines
achievable projects

These parts can be categorized into
4 simultaneous stages



COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

sharing food,
voice, dialogue, poetry
active listening
storytelling
performance
improvisation

RESOURCING

data compilation
data analysis
thinking about future challenges
assessing results



PROJECT
EATS

COLLECTIVE ACTION

installation
planting/ care
building construction
community garden
food preparation
performance
improvisation
farmer's market
walks



BUILD



PLANNING

community organizing
event planning
stakeholder discussion
specific feasible timelines
achievable projects

TRANSFORMING THE NARRATIVE
FROM WITHIN

WORKSHOPS

OUTLOOKING

drawing
photography
collage
creative writing
interview
safety mappings
agency maps
ecological studies

STUDIO WORKSHOP

design of collective project
modelling
critique



melting pot
foundation

COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

sharing food,
voice, dialogue, poetry
active listening
storytelling
performance
improvisation

CELEBRATIONS

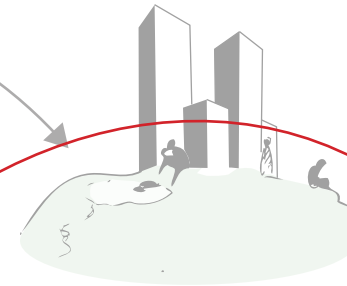


RESOURCING

data compilation
data analysis
thinking about future challenges
assessing results

BMS
Brookdale

NōWPōW



OUTLOOKING

drawing
photography
collage
creative writing
interview
safety mappings
agency maps
ecological studies

WORKSHOPS



STUDIO WORKSHOP

design of collective project
modelling
critique

BROWNSVILLE
COMMUNITY
JUSTICE
CENTER



TRANSFORMING THE NARRATIVE
FROM WITHIN

COLLECTIVE ACTION

installation
planting/ care
building construction
community garden
food preparation
performance
improvisation
farmer's market
walks

BUILD



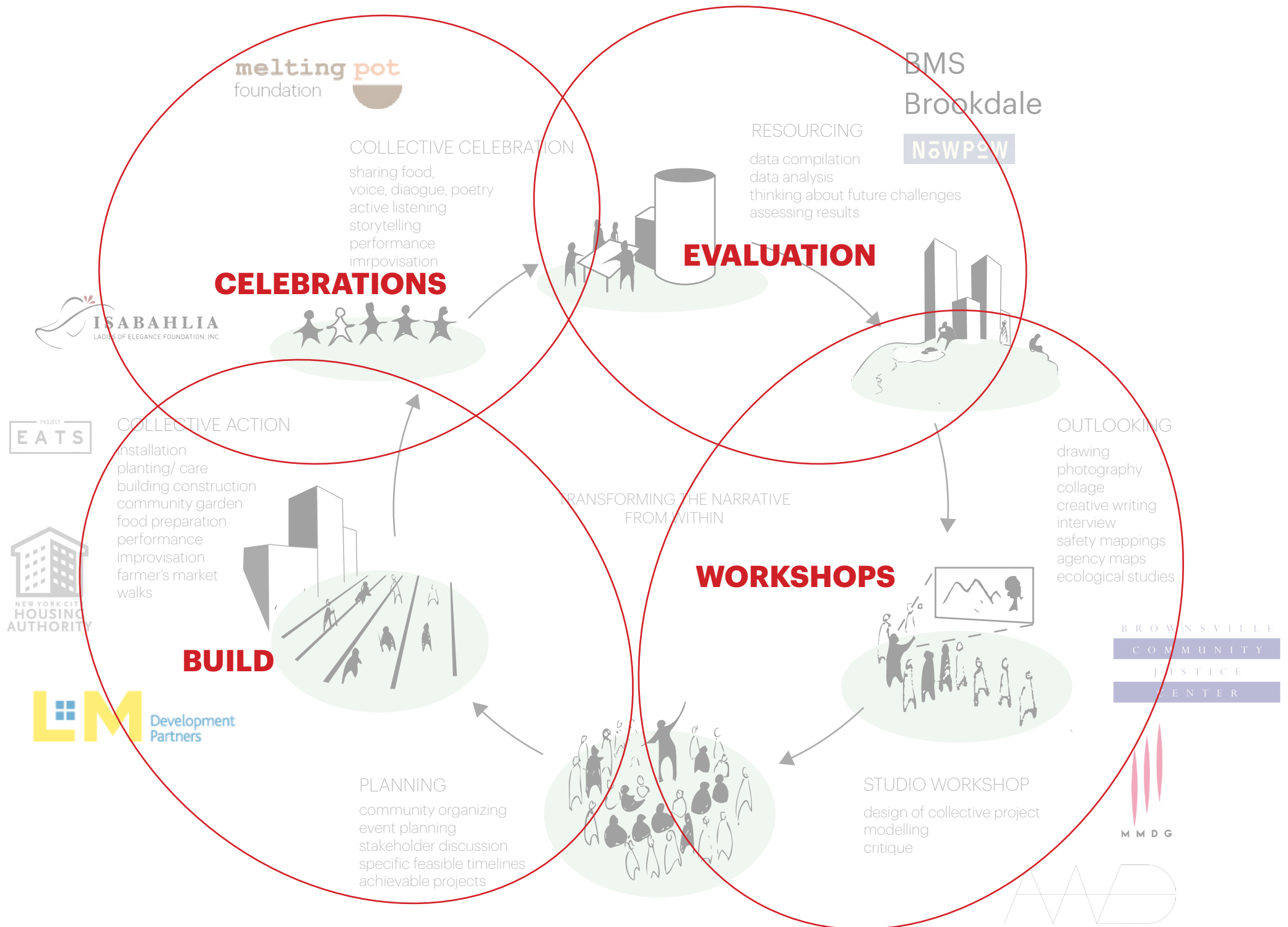
PLANNING

community organizing
event planning
stakeholder discussion
specific feasible timelines
achievable projects

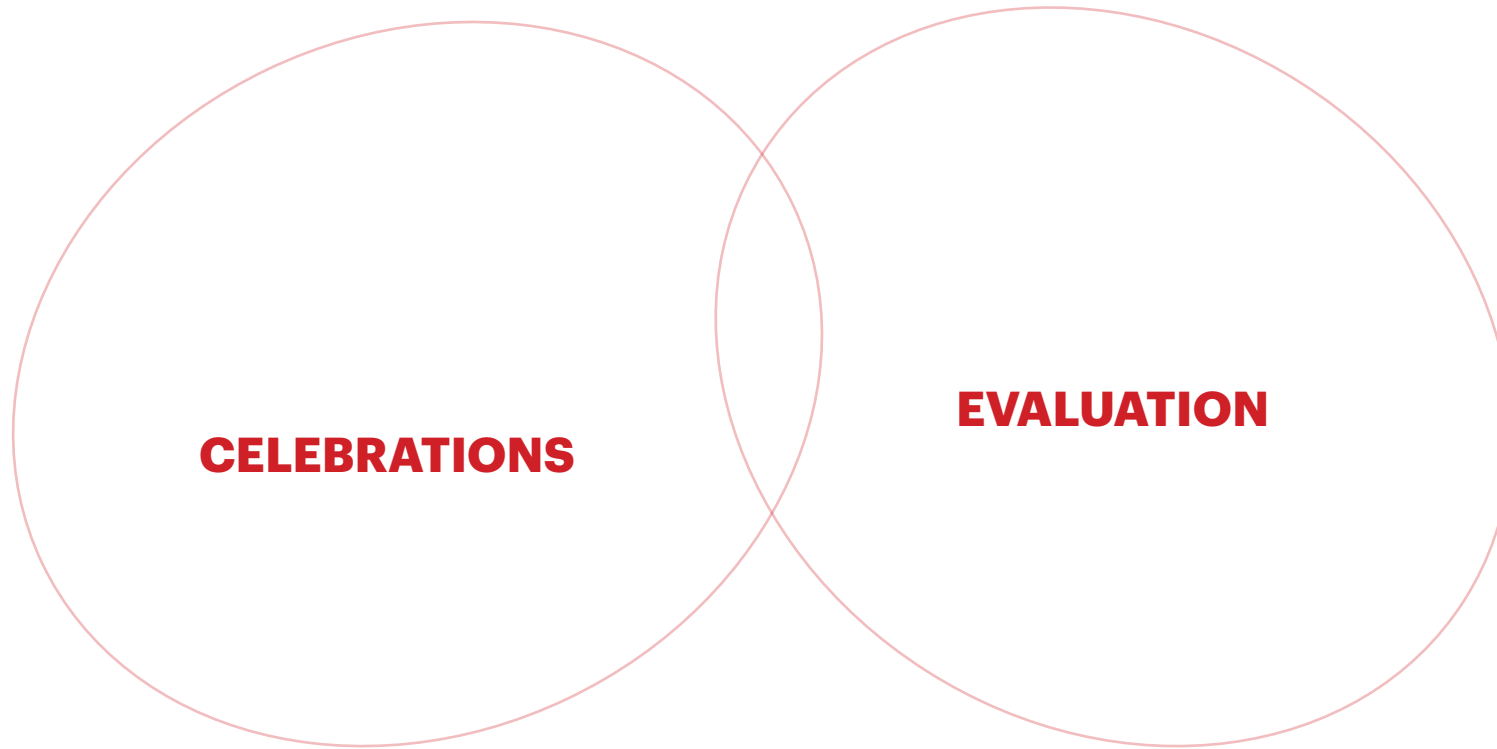


PROJECT
EATS





MISSING PIECES



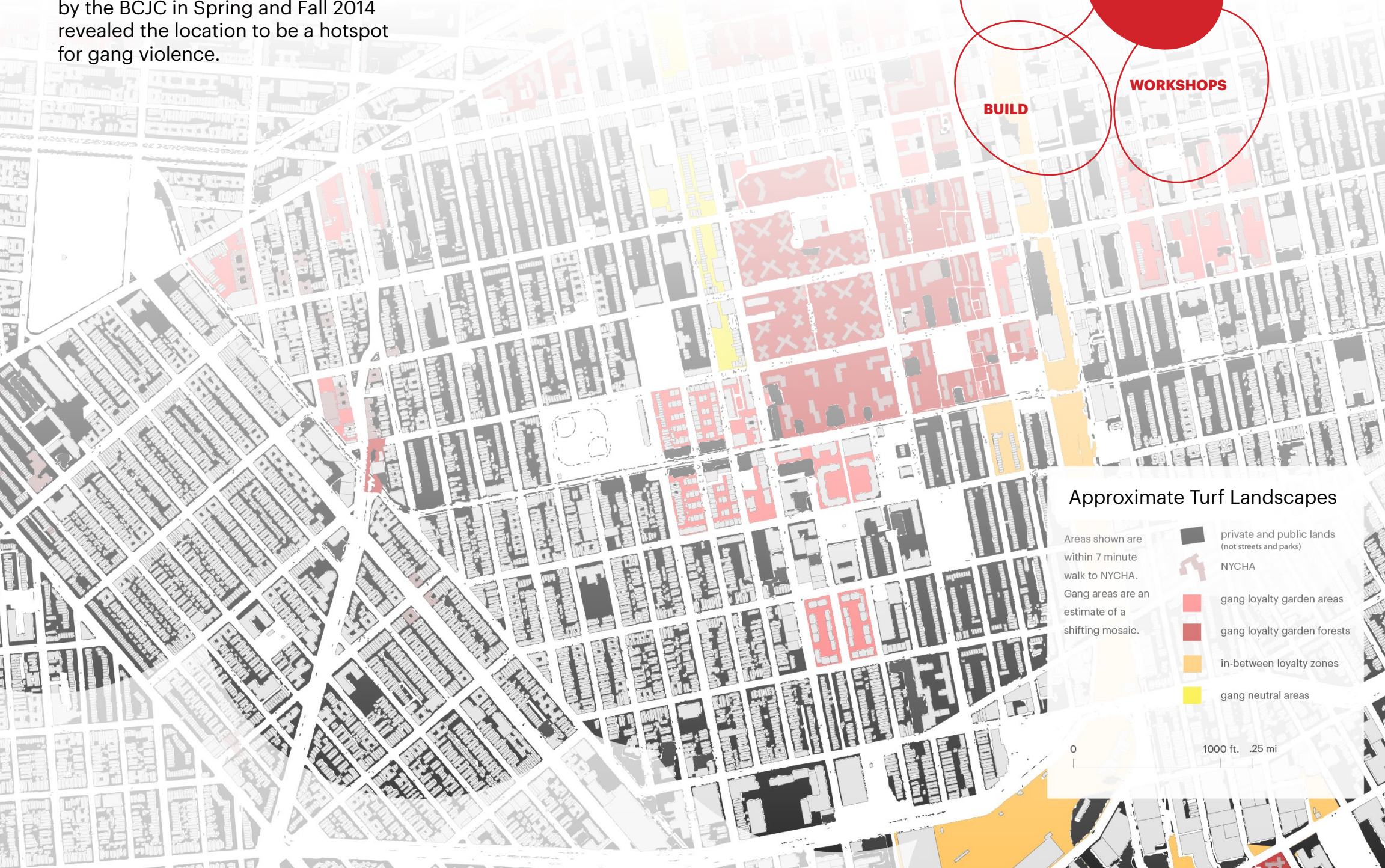
The **Melting Pot**, **BMS**, and **Brookdale** are core to celebration and evaluation, but they can't function without the support of housing agencies to provide space and funding.

When residents gather around the table, they provide feedback and programmatic changes are tested culturally.

Together we can test how new housing, gardens, and spatial programming can actually reduce violence and allow people to interact, eat together, and improve health.

MARCUS GARVEY VILLAGE/APTS

Consider the Marcus Garvey Village/Apts. It exists within a context of the historic gang conflict. Evaluation by the BCJC in Spring and Fall 2014 revealed the location to be a hotspot for gang violence.



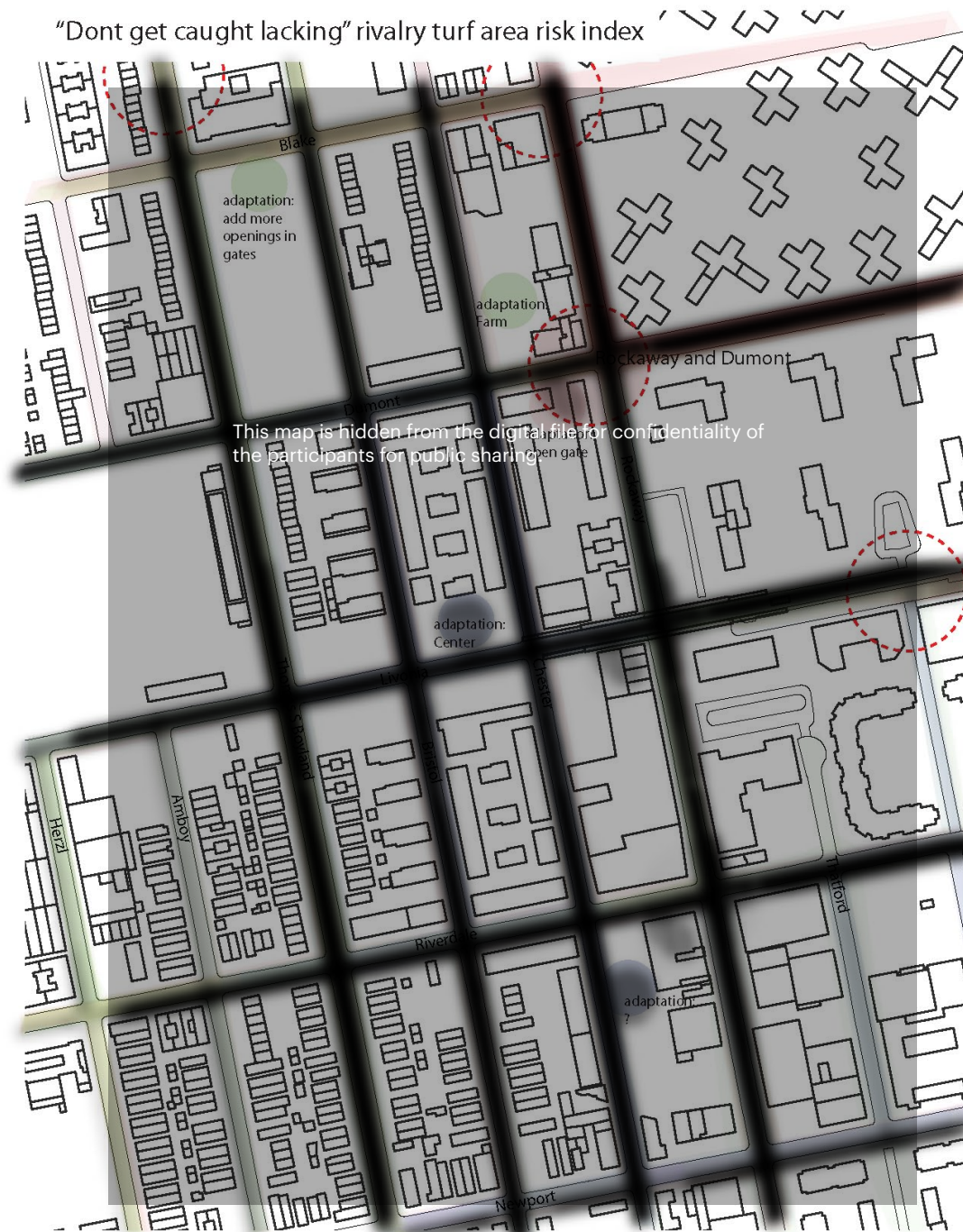
Approximate Turf Landscapes

Areas shown are within 7 minute walk to NYCHA. Gang areas are an estimate of a shifting mosaic.

- private and public lands (not streets and parks)
- NYCHA
- gang loyalty garden areas
- gang loyalty garden forests
- in-between loyalty zones
- gang neutral areas

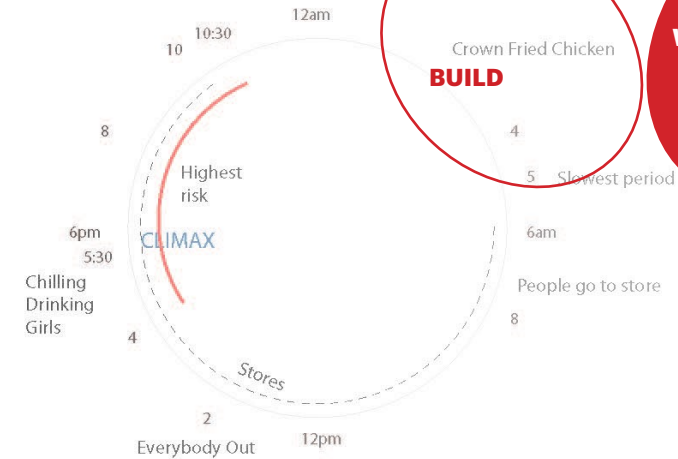
0 1000 ft. .25 mi

Workshops were done with a cohort of high risk young people in the Marcus Garvey Village/Apts in Spring 2015



Rockaway and Dumont

How do we "turn down" during high risk periods

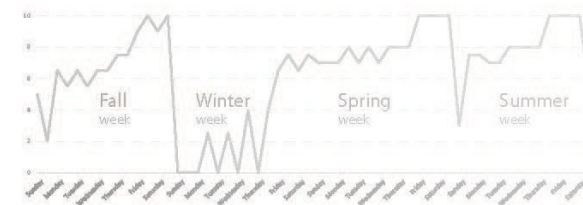


CELEBRATIONS

EVALUATION

WORKSHOPS

BUILD



Assessment needed

What are the physical patterns associated with the yellow and green areas? What buildings, trees, qualities of entry and escape?

What are the qualities of a boring "turned down" space? old people? children? music?

How do we create boring environments? Ordered environments?



Adaptation to turn down and increase escape



Adaptation to turn up or down



Adaptation to turn up

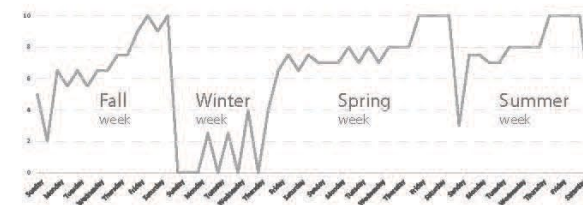
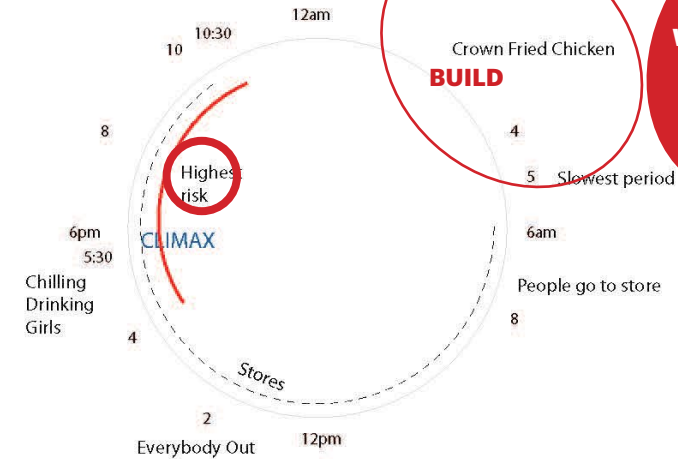


Several key locations were identified for some kind of spatial intervention along with key time periods when people are at high risk.



Rockaway and Dumont

How do we "turn down" during high risk periods



Assessment needed

What are the physical patterns associated with the yellow and green areas? What buildings, trees, qualities of entry and escape?

What are the qualities of a boring "turned down" space? old people? children? music?

How do we create boring environments? Ordered environments?



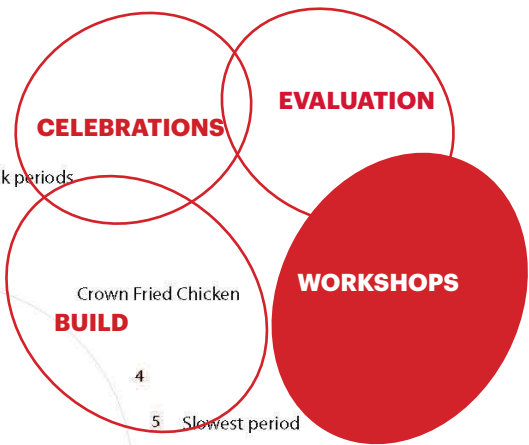
Adaptation to turn down and increase escape



Adaptation to turn up or down



Adaptation to turn up



Proposals were developed for the construction of an intervention, now under way.



Going a step further from the inside: Delicious Memories 4 PARTS

- Research spaces of memory and food in the community on both “sides”
- Collect data on psychosocial risks and values in the environment in the process
- Bring groups together around the table
- Integrate health and crime data and suggest spaces of intergenerational sanctuary



Going a step further from the inside: Delicious Memories

- Research spaces of memory and food in the community on both “sides”

This means sitting down for meals with residents, particularly elders, and talking about food, meaning, and family history. This will become a collection of stories, a book that describes the place and its beautiful and complex reality. It sets the stage for the actual meals bringing people together in an intergenerational setting.

- Collect data on psychosocial risks and values in the environment in the process
- Bring groups together around the table
- Integrate health and crime data and suggest spaces of intergenerational sanctuary



MONEY/
ing a step further f
spiritual
research spaces of m

- **Collect data on psychosocial risks and values in the environment in the process**

- Bring groups together around the table

- Integrate health and crime data and suggest spaces of intergenerational sanctuary

FAMILY/FRIENDS/
mental

LIFE & DEATH/
physical

Going a step further from the inside: Delicious Memories

- Research spaces of memory and food on both “sides”
- Collect data on psychosocial risks and values in the environment in the process
- **Bring groups together around the table**
- Integrate health and crime data and suggest spaces of intergenerational sanctuary



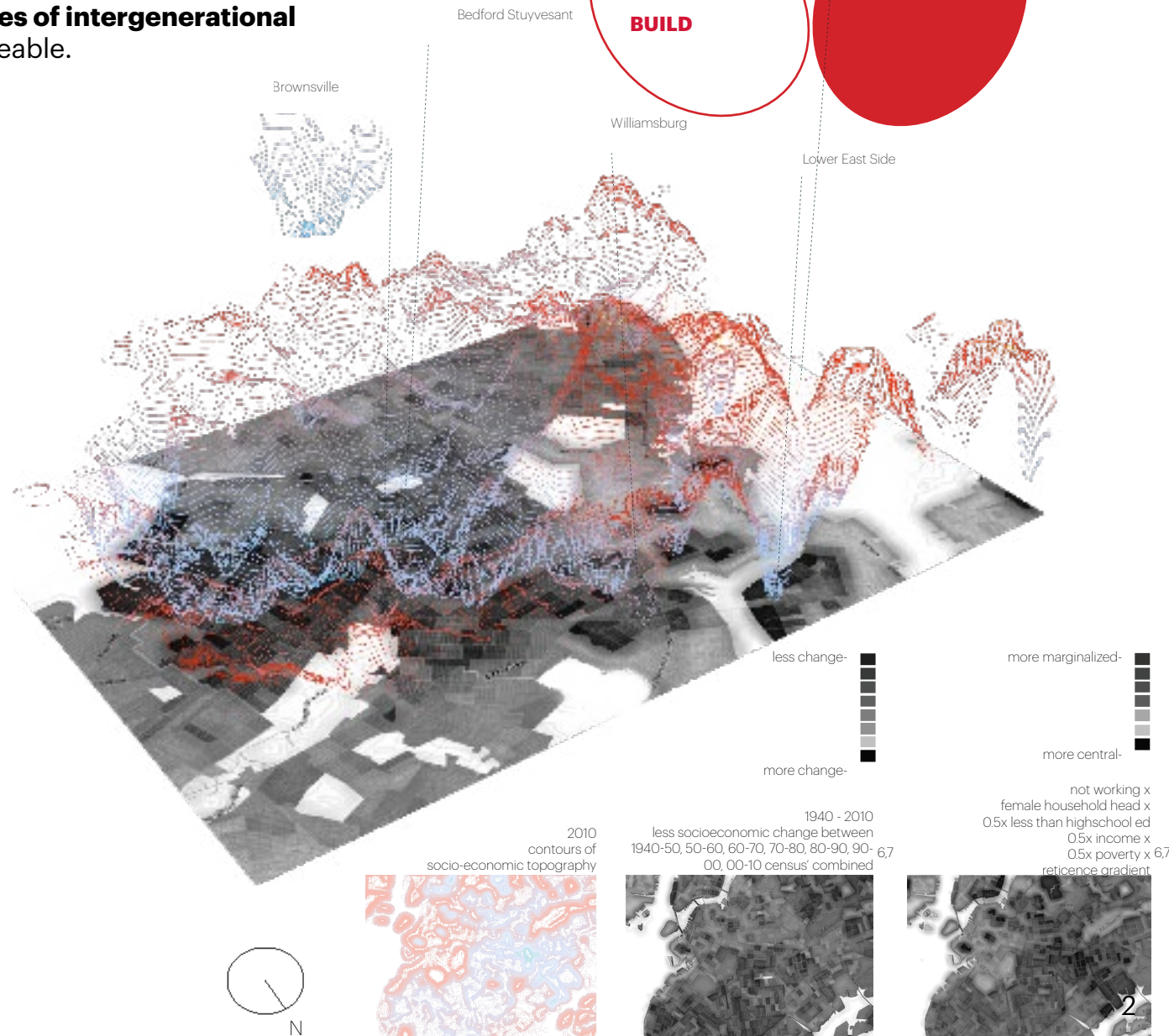
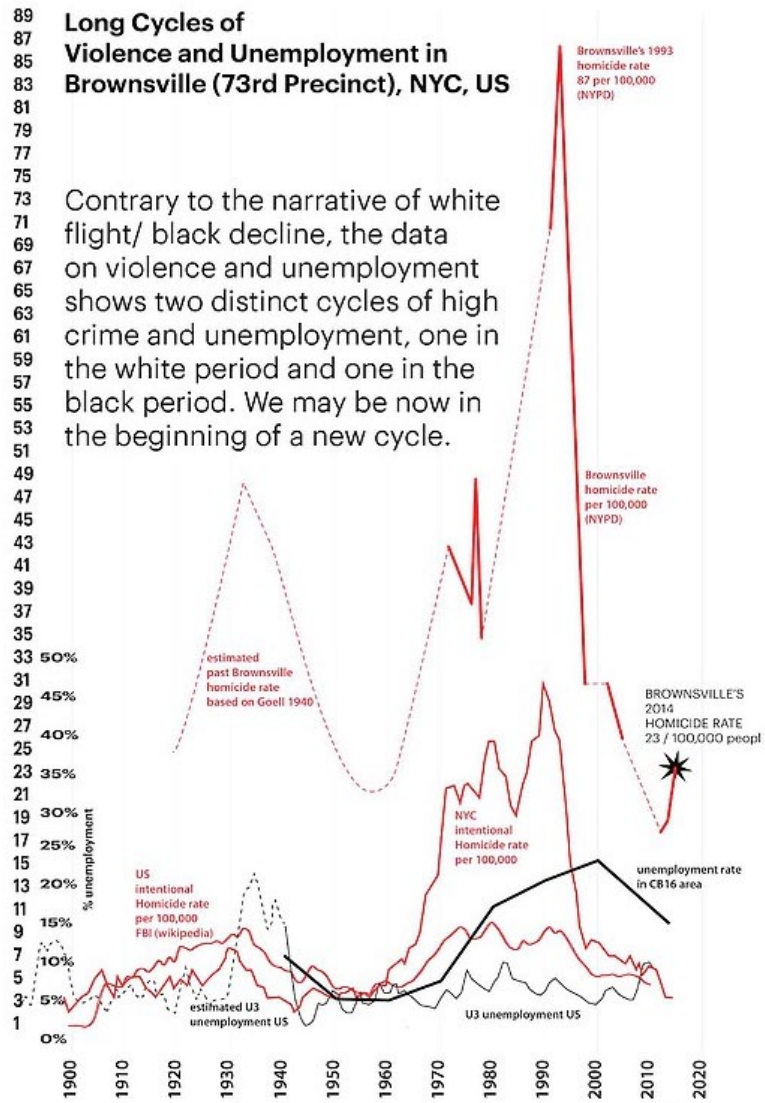
Going a step further from the inside: Delicious Memories

- Research spaces of memory and food on both “sides”
- Collect data on psychosocial risks and values in the environment in the process
- Bring groups together around the table
- **Integrate health and crime data and suggest spaces of intergenerational sanctuary.** Structural violence is historic, but manageable.



Long Cycles of Violence and Unemployment in Brownsville (73rd Precinct), NYC, US

Contrary to the narrative of white flight/ black decline, the data on violence and unemployment shows two distinct cycles of high crime and unemployment, one in the white period and one in the black period. We may be now in the beginning of a new cycle.



Project proposal goals and activities

The project is to create intergenerational sanctuary spaces by celebrating culinary tradition. Begin by celebrating traditions on each side, in the Brownsville Houses and the Marcus Garvey Village, creating intergenerational sanctuaries of memory that revolve around sharing food on a regular basis. Then bring groups together around the table. In the process collect data based on resident perspectives, such as where people feel safe, where people are willing to eat, and what level of adult oversight makes a space less likely to become explosively dangerous. The psychosocial environmental data collected will be integrated with crime statistics on shootings, and health data on diabetes and hypertension, to create an adaptive feedback mechanism to choreograph meals so that they actively diffuse tensions.

1. **Memories:** working with several young people one on one, youth will learn how to collect and record stories from elders in regards to food memories - particularly around the table.
3. **Workshops on environment,** mapping out safety, food access, and high and low stress situations.
2. **Culinary gatherings:** particular food stories will be celebrated by actually enacting meals, bringing more people together in the neighborhood.
4. **Integrating with crime and health data,** to create adaptive feedback mechanism.
5. Repeat.

Expected outcomes:

1. The Delicious Memories program will **create a book** of recipes and memories that people in the neighborhood will feel ownership over.
2. The culinary gatherings will **bring people together** over a series of measurable events.
3. Workshops will **produce a set of confidential maps** of how people feel about spaces that will lead to understanding how to better address the gang war in the current context.
4. **Integrated confidential data sets** that will exist in the confidentiality of health care providers can be consulted in aggregate to **know where to direct particular programs** to address violence prevention and chronic disease prevention.

