

Focus Group Discussion Guide

Consent Process

The participants will have signed the consent forms for participating in the focus group discussion, in advance. At the start of the session, the participants will be informed that the session will be audio-recorded, but their actual names will not be used in the transcripts. They will be informed that focus will be on ‘what’ was said, and not on ‘who’ said it when transcribing the session.

Introduction

1. Welcome

The researcher will greet the participants and welcome them to the focus group discussion. The participants will be thanked for agreeing to participate in the focus group discussion. They will be asked if they foresee any challenges in the facilitation of the meeting. The sign-in sheet will be circulated to mark the presence of the participants.

2. Explanation of the process

The researcher will ask the group if they have participated in a focus group before. They will then be informed about focus groups. The information that will be shared in this regard includes:

The focus group is intended to:

- Determine how they experienced the process of developing and implementing the interventions.
- Determine the effect of the process on their emotional well-being and that of their peers.

Logistics

- The focus group will take about 90 minutes to two hours.
- Participants will be informed about where they can find amenities and the exit.
- They will be told they can help themselves to refreshments.

3. Ground Rules

Prior to suggesting some ground rules for the interaction, the group will be invited to share some group rules. After they have brainstormed, the researcher will ensure that the following are on the list (written on a white board).

- Respect each other and the views shared.
- Participate and share their views.
- There are no right or wrong answers.
- Information provided in the focus group must be kept confidential.
- Keep conversation within the group and to not have side conversations.
- Turn off cell phones or put them on silent, if possible
- Enjoy the interaction.

Discussion

The participants will be given enough time to respond to the questions. The researcher will not move too quickly from one question to the next. When repetitive information starts emerging, the researcher will move on to the next question.

Questions

1. How did you experience the process of developing the intervention?
2. What were the main challenges you experienced?
3. How did the young people of Mamelodi benefit from the intervention?
4. What have you learnt/gained from developing the intervention?
5. How did it influence your own well-being?
6. How do you think the process can be improved?
7. What resources did you find useful while developing and implementing the intervention?
8. How do you think you can use the lessons you learnt/skills developed in the future?

Themes for Discussion

- Experiences
- Challenges/obstacles encountered
- Perceived benefits of the intervention
- Skills developed and lessons learnt
- Perceived influence on well-being
- Improvements to the process

Materials and supplies for the focus group discussion

- Sign-in sheet for attendance
- Note pads & pens for each participant
- Focus group discussion guide for facilitator
- 1 audio-recording device
- Notebook
- Refreshments

Conclusion:

At the end of the focus group session, the researcher will thank the participants for coming and sharing their thoughts and opinions. The participants will be invited to share any final reflections and questions.