

## THE DOT GAME EXERCISE

### Materials and Assignments

1. Poster Paper. You'll need 5-8 sheets of Poster Paper (a.k.a. flipchart paper) to post around your meeting room. For this session, you will want to capture and share everyone's ideas. The poster paper facilitates this process. Hint: The Post-It brand poster paper is self-sticking (no push pins or tape required). You can attach the sheets to any wall and will not disturb painted surfaces, etc.
2. Marking Pens. You'll need one or more large marking pens.
3. Colored Dots. You will need colored adhesive dots (or one marker pen per person ) to use for voting.
4. Assignments. Assign people in your group to acquire and bring in the colored adhesive dots, at least 30 per person. Hint: Any color or combination of colors will work for this purpose.

### How to Prepare

1. The facilitator reviews with the group the objectives and procedures of this exercise.
2. For this session, you will definitely need a "scribe."
3. Post 5-8 sheets of paper around the room so that your scribe is prepared to list the ideas that will be generated by the members of the group.
4. Review the list of optional "categories" shown in your Study Circle Guide for this session. If you believe that they will be helpful in listing and organizing ideas you may want use them as labels at the tops of the poster paper.

### Developing the Profile of Your Ideal Health Care System

Group members now have the opportunity to identify and describe the elements (values and features) they would like to see in their health care systems.

1. Members take turns sharing the ideas they have developed since the last session or which occur to them as the exercise proceeds.
2. The goal of this exercise is to elicit many ideas. Do not use this time to evaluate the ideas.
3. The scribe lists those ideas on the appropriate sheets of paper. Some ideas may fit in more than one category.
4. There may be conflicting ideas. List them all. This is not the time to choose between them.
5. Don't get bogged down in details.

### Follow the Dots

There are three steps in this part of the process. Together they will give you an idea of the kind of health care system individuals and the group would like to see. Each person has been provided with a set of colored dots (or a colored marker).

1. **Individual Voting.** Each person should review the lists of ideas or elements that have been generated by the above group work. Next, each person should take their 15 dots and place them on their highest priorities on any of the sheets. As examples, some people will spread their dots evenly among the sheets; others will place them in only two or three.
2. **Reviewing the Collective Vote.** Now everyone is able to see at a glance how the group as a whole ranks the ideas or elements that have been generated.
3. **Compiling the Results.** Someone should take the sheets home and fill in the FORM with the results. This form will be reviewed in Study Circle #6.

**Now the group is ready to discuss the results of this exercise.**

**Return to the Study Circle Guide.**