



Communities Within Communities

WORKING WITH
SPECIAL POPULATIONS

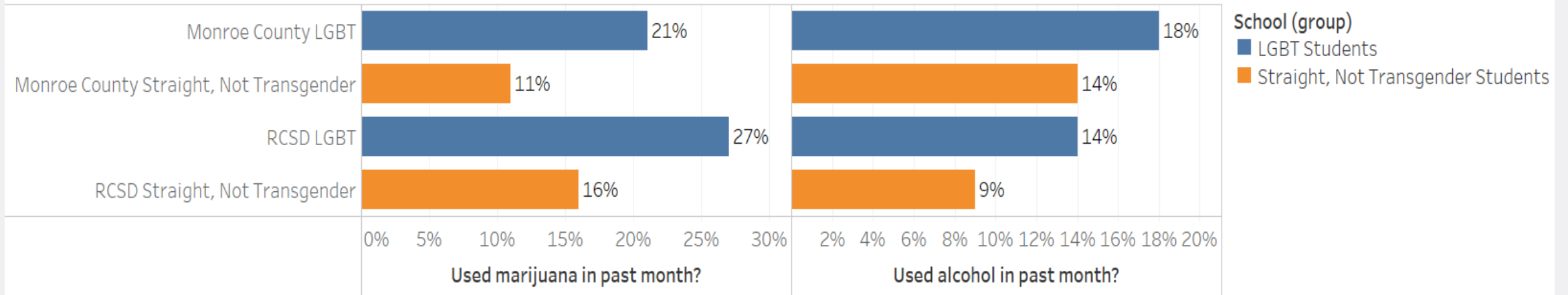
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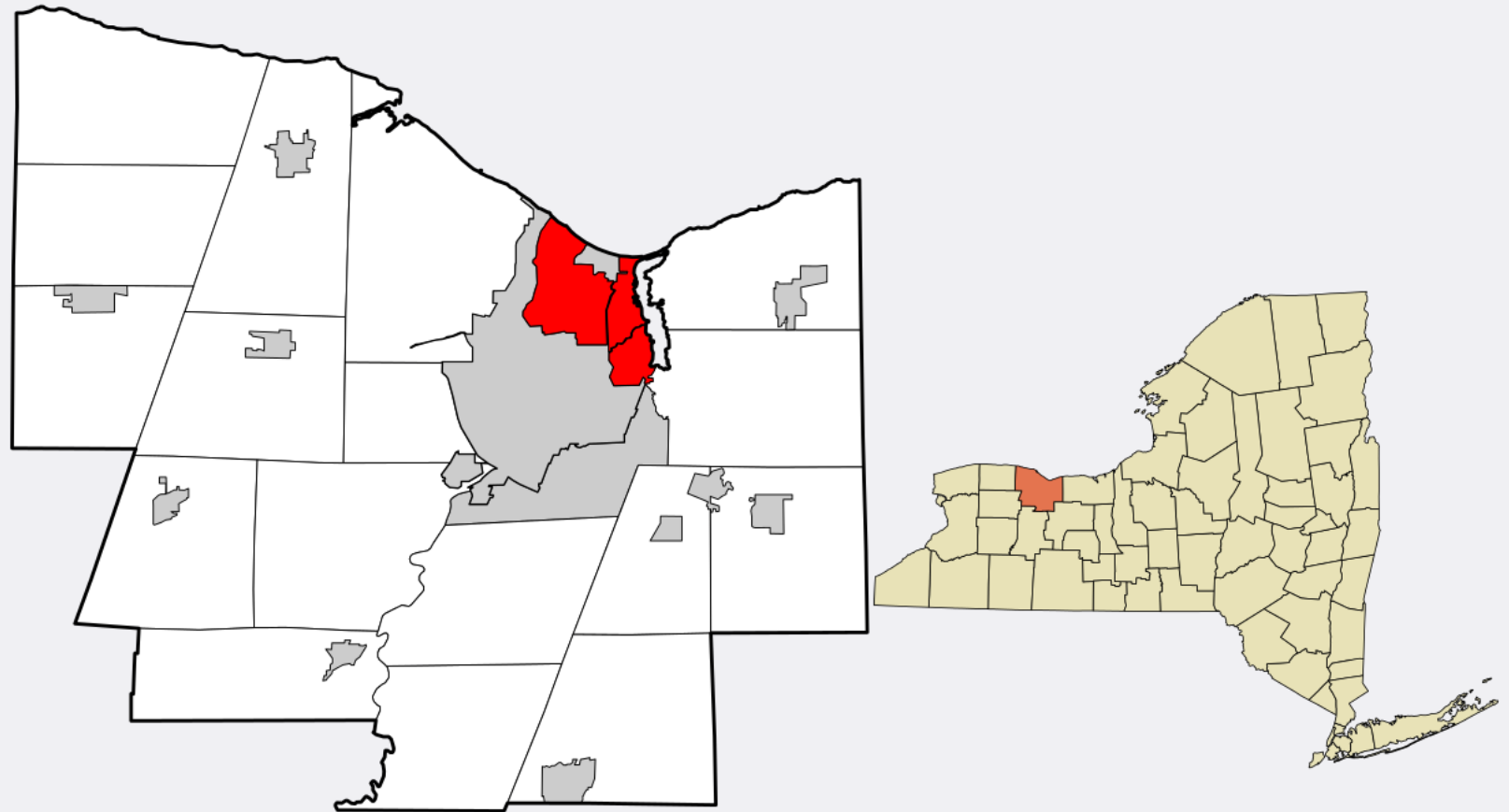
Uplift's “Special Pops” Project

Disparities in Drug Use



Communities

- Of PLACE
- Of EXPERIENCE
- Of INTEREST



Communities

- Of PLACE
- Of EXPERIENCE
- Of INTEREST



Communities

- Of PLACE
- Of EXPERIENCE
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Finding Funding

01

Research available funding opportunities – they do not have to be specific to special populations!

02

Lean on your network of connections

03

Keep in contact with local government officials

04

Incorporate underserved populations into existing work

Getting Started

- No need to reinvent the wheel, but you will need new people on board
- “Nothing about us, without us”
- 12 Sectors is a solid starting point, not always a finish line



Challenges



DATA GAPS



SILOED RESOURCES



OVERBURDENED
VOLUNTEERS

Successes



DATA COLLECTION



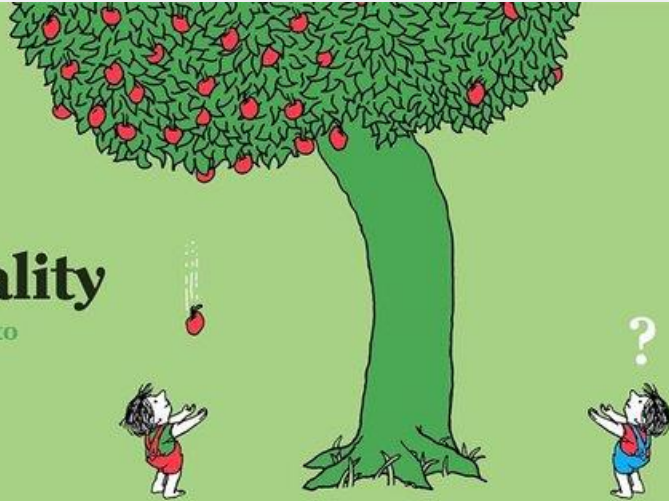
RESOURCE
COORDINATION



RESOURCE
IMPROVEMENT

Inequality

Unequal access to opportunities



With apologies to Shel Silverstein from @lunchbreath

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Equity

Custom tools that identify and address inequality



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Equality?

Evenly distributed tools and assistance



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Justice

Fixing the system to offer equal access to both tools and opportunities



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Additional Benefits

Increasing organizational
reach

Increasing diversity of the
coalition

Community trust; walking
the walk

What does it actually look like?

SPECIFIC

- Tailored strategies
- Based on the specific local conditions, norms, and expectations of the special populations

INCLUSIVE

- Broadly applicable strategies
 - Built with inclusive language and imagery
 - Culturally appropriate messages
 - Distributed in ways that will reach the special population
-

Intended Outcomes

Rise in protective factors – community connection, one or more trusted adults, awareness of and comfort with available resources

Decrease in risk factors – poor mental health, bullying and experiences of discrimination

Decrease in substance use rates

Decrease in the disparity of substance use rates

Take Home Steps



Community assessment – learn what communities exist within your community and what their unique needs are



Research funding opportunities

Where there is a lack of funding, connect with local government officials to express that there is a need



Build connections and capacity within the identified population



Consider ways that your current projects can be adapted to support special populations

Questions

