

Higher Works Collaborative
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Higher Works Collaborative (HWC) was developed in 2017 as a response to our growing community. The Mission of Higher Works Collaborative is To bring a holistic approach that bridges the gaps and meets the needs of our BIPOC community. Our team is built of dedicated people that work directly with the community. We have over half a century of combined experience working with and in our clients culture. As is with the History of people of color in this country, we have been able to do a whole lot with very little. We are successful at this work because of those many years of experience, professional training, and schooling that provide structure to the work that we perform.

Similar to many other Organizations and Health officials, Covid forced us to move into a Video Conferencing platform to meet with our clients. Being a small organization this was a process for us. One of our strengths as an organization is to meet our clients where they are at, and assist them in navigating through crisis management in their lives. Many of our clients had little to no experience in video conferencing at that time.

Our experience with video conferencing and community outreach has it pro's and con's. In the early months of Covid we struggled trying to help clients understand the technology needed for our appointments. More than 45% of our clients did not have an electronic device other than a cell phone for our meetings. In our meetings it requires some research and retrieving data. As one of our outreach events we hosted a virtual town hall. This allowed students, parents, District officials and others in the community a space to have conversations around distance learning, Learning loss, access to wifi and other challenges families are experiencing.

Many families are struggling with access to the internet, limited hotspots and bandwidth access. Outside of the millennials, we have started sessions that teach basic skill development and some we had to gather resources to buy simple laptop devices, to assist in tele-health and other appointments digital meetings. Our success is in helping our participants execute their plans realistically, holistically and with dignity and respect. We are firm believers that no one can help us better than we can.