



## MCH Snowballs: Facilitator Instructions

*This activity requires enough open space for the whole group to stand and walk around. For an added element of surprise, don't tell the participants what the name of the game is; surprise them with the snowball fight.*

Instruct participants to:

“Turn your papers sideways. Do NOT put your name on your paper. Legibly write the answers to five different questions in each of the four corners and in the middle of the paper, as shown in the example.” (Show the example on the following page as a slide or handout.)

What are your MCH passions?	What is your program's/agency's greatest strength?
What is your program's/agency's greatest challenge?	What has been your most satisfying success?
What is your biggest hope for women, children, and families?	

Give a little time to write, and then instruct participants:

“Once you have written down all of your answers, please join me in the open space in the room. Leave everything at your seat except your paper—bring that with you.”

When everyone is in the open space:

“Now, crumple up your papers, because we're going to have a snowball fight!”

Start throwing the snowballs! If some participants are reluctant to take part, they should loosen up when they see everyone else getting into the fun. Conduct the snowball fight for a suitable length of time.

Instruct participants:

“Now, pick up a snowball, and make sure you don't pick up your own.

Read the answers on the paper you've picked up, and start looking for the author. Do this by actually asking the questions, rather than holding up the paper and saying “Is this yours?”

Instruct the participants:

“When you've found the author, link arms, with the reader on the left and the author on the right. If you're not comfortable linking arms, that's ok, just keep the reader on the left and the author on the right.”

Eventually all arms will be linked in a circle (or a few circles or pairs).

Finally, you can have participants introduce their “snowball buddy” to everyone else. To save time, you may wish to have people report just one of the answers their partner wrote.

Adapted from “Snowball Opener,” by Stephanie Pollack, *Thiagi Gameletter*, January 2008.  
<http://thiagi.com/pfp/IE4H/january2008.html>



## Engage, Explore, Envision

A "Meeting in a Box" for Celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Title V of the Social Security Act

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