



Center for Belonging  
Folk School



# SINGING IN COMMUNITY AND NURTURING LOCAL SONG LEADERS

**A participatory action research study with emerging community song  
leaders in the folk school movement**

The Center for Belonging (CFB) Folk School believes in the profound impact of song as a tool for building strong and vibrant communities. Through a partnership with the Folk School Alliance, we hope to understand how to seed a culture of singing across the nation. To achieve this understanding and vision, CFB will offer song leader and community singing experiences for folk school leaders, equipping them with the skills and confidence needed to incorporate community singing into their programs.

## Project Description

Throughout 2024, CFB will host a series of community singing leadership and listening experiences! These experiences will provide valuable insights, resources, and practical techniques to integrate the power of song into your folk school's activities, with the hope to foster a sense of belonging among your folk school community.

## Proposed Outcomes

- Community singing will be interwoven into the daily rhythms of folk schools.
- Folk School Communities will share a sense of belonging and wellbeing.
- Communities and groups will be better able to cooperate across differences.
- A reliable process will be created for scaling community singing in folk schools.



## Study Project Implementation

- 4, Community Singing events at Folk School Alliance member schools (All voices welcome). Watch for event announcements from the Folk Education Association of America.
- 2, Song Leader Incubator events at Folk School Alliance member schools (By invitation).
- 2, Song Leader Retreats for active song leaders at the Center for Belonging Folk School

**This offering is 100% funded by Folk School Alliance partnership! This means that you as a Folk School Leader would be able to attend the song offerings at no cost.**

**Please reach out with any questions to [CenterforBelongingFolkSchool@gmail.com](mailto:CenterforBelongingFolkSchool@gmail.com).**

### Participatory Action Research

A qualitative research methodology that involves researchers and participants collaborating to understand social issues and take actions to bring about social change. Study participants may be asked to document their experiences and the impact of those experiences through questionnaires, interviews, and/or digital storytelling (recorded audio or video).



*“Singing is the most ancient technology of belonging” - Liz Rog*



## Resources and Credits

This project is funded by the Office of Research and Evaluation at AmeriCorps under Grant No. 22REACA001 through the National Service and Civic Engagement research grant competition. Opinions or points of view expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of, or a position that is endorsed by, AmeriCorps.

This work is supported by



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