



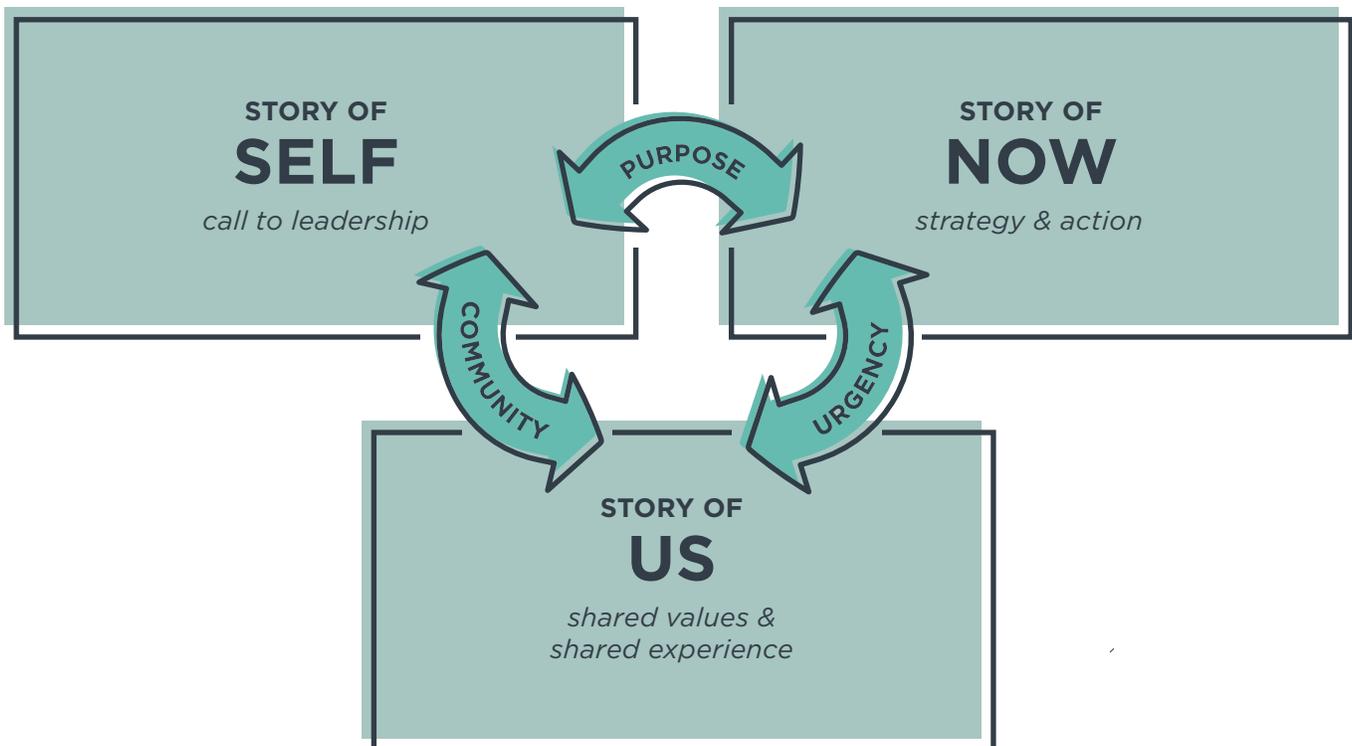
STORY OF SELF

OUR PUBLIC NARRATIVE DURING CRISIS

“ Movements have narratives. They tell stories, because they are not just about rearranging economics and politics. They also rearrange meaning. And they’re not just about redistributing the goods. They’re about figuring out what is good.” - **Marshall Ganz**

INTRODUCTION:

Stories can move the emotions that get us to take action and create change. One powerful way to structure stories for action is called **public narrative**. Public narrative is made up of three elements:



The story of self is of our **unique journey of learning**. When we can relate our story of self to others through a story of us, then we **connect through shared experiences**. And, when we connect these shared stories to the moment – to the urgency of immediate action – we create a **story of now**.



STORY OF SELF REFLECTION

In this worksheet, you will focus primarily on your story of self.

A story of self tells why we have been **called to serve**. Our story expresses the values or experiences that call each person to take leadership on a given issue.

The key focus is on **choice points**, moments in our lives when values are formed because of our need to choose in the face of great uncertainty.



DIRECTIONS:

Consider the choices you have made and the path you have taken to bring you to this point in time as a leader. **Once you identify the specific relevant choice point, dig deeper by answering the following questions:**



CHALLENGE:

- What was the specific challenge you faced?
- Why did you feel it was a challenge?
- What was so challenging about it?
- Why was it your challenge?



CHOICE:

- What was the specific choice you made? Why did you make the choice you did?
- Where did you get the courage (or not)?
- Where did you get the hope (or not)? How did it feel?



OUTCOME:

- What happened as a result of your choice?
- What hope can it give us? How did the outcome feel?
- Why did it feel that way? What did it teach you?
- How might your story influence future action?
- What kind of story do you want to continue living out?