TITLE: Snowball Fight

IMPACT: Icebreaker, get to know you

RISK: Medium

GROUP SIZE: 6 to 40

TIME REQUIRED: 10 to 30 minutes depending on group size

DIRECTIONS:

- Distribute paper and pens to participant, one each per participant.
- Read three questions aloud, and ask participants to write their answers to the three questions on their piece of paper. They should not write their names on their paper. Select engaging questions that will appeal to participants, like “What is your favorite food?” or more challenging questions like, “What are your career goals?”
- Tell participants to crumple their pieces of paper into “snowballs.”
- Yell, “snowball fight” and have participants throw the crumpled pieces of paper at one another.
- Use the noisemaker to stop the snowball fight (usually after about one minute).
- Tell participants to grab the closest snowball and find the person who wrote it. Have them get to know the person.
- Have participants introduce the individuals whose snowballs they now have, using the three things written on the crumpled pieces of paper

DISCUSSION: Did you meet someone new? What did you learn? Did you find you had something in common? Where you surprised by what you learned from the other person?

HINT: Conduct the activity in a space where the likelihood of loosing a snowball during the snowball fight is minimized. Have youth recycle the snowballs right away (after the activity) so they don’t get left around.

OPTION: Have staff participate with the youth. Or have participants meet more than one person in this activity.

Adapted from University of Delaware, Institute for Public Administration.