**Main activity: Identity Mapping (45 minutes)**

Print/write out all identity categories on individual sheets of paper. These are not an exhaustive list of all of the identities that we may represent so, feel free to add others. Facilitator will then read different prompts and ask participants to walk to the identity that best categorizes how they feel towards the statement. Unlike many other activities where participants could fall in between many identities or groups, stress that they should choose just one. This may present discomfort but will need to a necessary conversation about intersectionality in the de-brief. Make sure to allow a few minutes after each prompt for de-brief and where Nashers can explain why they are standing near that identity. *Let the mapping begin!*

**Identity Categories**: Race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, education level, ability, mental health, immigration status, nationality, religion, political ideology

* ***Race***: socially constructed categories usually associated with a census that are used to define people. Ex. White, Black, Asian, etc.
* ***Ethnicity***: relates to language, culture and ancestry Ex. Dominican, Egyptian, etc.
* ***Ability***: a system that gives power and privilege to able-bodied people at the expense of people with disabilities. Ex. Being able to ride the train or bus without thinking about if the station is wheelchair accessible
* ***Gender***: the spectrum of the identities of being a Woman/Man; this is a distinction from female/male which is known as sex
* ***Sexual Orientation***: the spectrum of identities between heterosexuality and homosexuality, otherwise known as who you are attracted to
* ***Socio-economic status***: also known as your class, and your financial access
* ***Education level***: the highest level of education achieved (middle school, high school, college, or graduate level education)
* ***Mental health***: a level of psychological well-being
* ***Immigration status***: a person’s status as a citizen, resident or undocumented person
* ***Nationality***: the country you have citizenship in/were born in
* ***Religion***: the religious/spiritual identity you subscribe to
* ***Political Ideology***: your ideology based on political parties (Democrat/Republican) or social views on the way society should run (Liberal/Conservative)
* Age: how many years you have been alive; also connected to agism which is discrimination primarily targeted toward youth and the elderly

*Walk to the identity:*

* that people first see when they meet you
* that you take the most pride in
* you think about the least
* you wish you could hide from others
* that helps you find others who understand you
* you feel you have to prove to others
* that people are always asking you questions about
* you think about on a daily basis
* you are uncomfortable talking about
* you want to explore or understand more
* you have power in

Other definitions to keep in mind:

* **Privilege**: a set of perceived advantages enjoyed by people belonging to a dominant social group beyond those commonly experienced by people belonging to a subordinated social group in the same social, political, and economic spaces (nation, community, workplace, income, etc.).
* **Intersectionality**: the study of how different power structures interact in the lives of minorities (Kimberle Crenshaw)

**De-brief:**

* How did it feel to do this activity?
* Did anything surprise you?
* Was there an identity you wish you could have walked to?
* Before this activity, did you ever think about the difference between your visible, invisible, and hidden identities? What is the difference?
* Why is thinking about identity important to how we show up/are perceived in communities?
* Why is it important to talk about identity AND sisterhood together?What was it like to do this activity?

**Close out:** How does understanding your identity strengthen your community organizing skills?