Themes that Emerge from the Participants of the January 9, 2018 Twin Cities Nonviolent Collaborators Meeting

What follows is a thematic analysis of the responses provided by the participants at the 1/9/18 meeting.

1. A broad definition of violence and nonviolence is good. Need clarity on what we mean by active nonviolence (definition)

2. Need clarity on what the objectives/outcomes would be of a Week of Nonviolence
   a. awareness of violence and its effects in Twin Cities
   b. education on what can counter violence and promote nonviolence
   c. opportunities for people to engage in activities that promote nonviolence
   d. Potential focusing THEMES:
      i. Empathy
      ii. Respect
      iii. Being Neighbor

3. How do we measure the impact of the Week of Nonviolence?
   a. numeric measure, e.g. how many people participated/attended activities, etc.
   b. qualitative measures (probably from organizations putting on events) that describe how people seem to be moved/changed by the events - seen as a way to grow a nonviolent culture in the Twin Cities

4. Length of time of “week”: is 7 days long enough? Is once a year frequent enough?

5. Organizers and organizations need to be more diverse to engage diverse populations:
   a. race
   b. culture
   c. age
   d. gender
   e. socioeconomics

6. Engagement of many organizations is good - leads to awareness of what many organizations are doing; potential for larger coalitions. Density of many organizations providing opportunities can get people’s attention.

7. What is the long-term strategy (beyond a Week of Nonviolence in 2018)?
   a. address systemic issues/root causes of violence, e.g. poverty, racism, criminal justice system
   b. Needs to be ongoing.

8. Need a media strategy to promote the Week of Nonviolence

9. Get the “power structures” involved: mayors, city councils, police, park boards, schools, county commissions, state of MN, etc.