Cross the Line

Purpose of Activity: The purpose of this activity is for students to reflect upon their own self-identities while acknowledging the identities of others.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes:
By actively participating in this activity, participants will:
- Understand the experiences and connect to fellow participants
- Practice self-reflection of their own identities
- Recognize the importance of listening to subordinate groups in an effort to work towards social justice

Materials Needed:
- Tape or String (Used to create lines)
- Room big enough to move across
- List of Conditions for Crossing

Ground Rules:
- Be fully present and participate at your own comfort level – challenge by choice.
  - Follow up - What does it mean to be “fully present”?
  - Follow up - What does “challenge by choice” mean?
- Push yourself outside of your comfort zone – the most learning happens when we are a little bit uncomfortable.
- Listen respectfully, share air time, and encourage others to participate.
- It’s ok for us all to be at different places with the things we discuss today.
- Show respect for one another’s beliefs, values, and experiences.
- Respect and maintain privacy.

Disclaimer:
- This is a challenge by choice. Some students may not be comfortable crossing the line and that is just fine.

Facilitation Guide:
- Gather participants to stand just behind one side of the line.
- The facilitator will read a statement. If the statement applies, the participant will cross the line and stand behind the line across the room.
- Participants should look across the span of room and make a connection with someone.
- The facilitator will allow those who crossed to share such as,
  - Things they want the dominant group to know about the experience of being part of the subordinated group
FAST FACTS

- **10+ People**
- **60-120 Minutes**
- **$0**
- **High Risk Level**

**Discussion Questions:**

- What kind of feelings did you go through while participating?
- What are some things shared that impacted you?
- How does this help you to be an ally?
- How did it feel when there were only a few of you on one side?
- How did movements of others affect you?
- Did you ever feel yourself making judgments of others?
- Is there something you wished you shared but didn’t?
- Why would we do this activity? How does this relate to creating inclusive communities?
- What can you do to create inclusive communities?