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ACHIEVING COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE TOGETHER

Resource Hub

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Turning ideas into results

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Guide
Strengthening Community Programs

Why You Should Care

Needing to strengthen your community programs? Maybe your current programs aren't drawing in the numbers you were hoping for, or the programs available are not meeting your community's needs. Whatever the case, investing in your next community plan with direct feedback from community members is essential for the success of the program, people, and entire community.

Guide

1. **Determine the Need**
   a. Where do you see your community lacking programs and resources?
   b. Why are you looking to strengthen your community programs? Is it part of your quarterly, bi-annual, or annual review process?
   c. Determine why this is coming up for you at this moment in time.

2. **Engaging with the Community**
   a. Understand where your community is at
   b. What are your community's needs?
   c. What are your community's interests?
   d. What is the current knowledge pool and skill set within the collective community?
      i. Activity 1: Host a community event and get attendants to write down their skillsets to document your community's strengths.
      ii. Activity 2: The Venn diagram (see next page)
         1. Have your participants answer each of the 3 questions: interests, needs, and skills
         2. Use the Venn diagram to see what activity(ies) meets all 3 requirements

3. **Determine Job Opportunities & Employability**
   a. Determine what [education, training, or employment] options fit your community's key planning areas
   b. What should be prioritized [education, training, or employment]?
   c. Match results from the activity 1 to the answers to a and b.
   d. Conduct research on planning areas that meet your community's 3 requirements to determine market viability and ecological impact.

4. **Determine Indicators for Community Growth**
   a. What is the projected growth in the job market?
   b. What major events may contribute to its growth?
   c. How is the job market relevant to the community or community location?

5. **Re-engage with the Community & Council**
   a. Present your findings to the community and leadership
   b. Show what the recommended options are and the preliminary plans to get there

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Community Interests

Community Strengths

Community Skills

Community Needs