

Understanding the Community Leadership Concept

Definition of Leadership:

Listening, draw a group of people together with one plan, mediator, central point of contact of information, motivator, communicator, facilitator.

Focal point of planning and communication, good listener, motivator, responsibility and accountability, “agent of change”, applies common sense to decision-making.

Strong knowledge of how the community should look and has a vision for the community and do what it takes to the job done. Lead by example. More than one person.

Leads by example, accepts responsibility, creative, inspires team-builder, recognizes diversity, good listener, mentor, conceptual, visionary.

Definition of Community:

Collection of people with common interest, different nationalities of people living working together, large extended family, physical boundaries of homes/people, partnerships/relationships with neighborhoods, common economic or social interests.

Resource of people, group of people with a common goal, neighborhoods of diverse people, 4 people in house – 3 million in U.S., workplace, hospitals, schools, buildings, people living together by custom or law, the human connection.

People working and bonding together with common objectives and resources to achieve their goals.

Geographic boundaries, Identify stakeholders to network, multiple shared goals, builds cohesiveness, become friends, branding, community meets a standard of leadership, moving people from residents to involved stakeholders.

Definition of Community Leadership:

A facilitator identifying, inspiring, and establishing, with the community input, their needs and goals, determining and prioritizing those goals/needs and guiding the efforts to achieve the goals.

involvement, group of people willing to accept responsibility and accountability for a common goal, people (elected, volunteer, or respected)

to be involved, spokesperson for community's issues and concerns, changing, local and involved people, city employees, board members, council, mayor, political, specific person with a focus.

Good organizer of ideas, promises growth and develop of community, represents the goals of the citizenry, works to achieve the common agenda, faith-based, develop and implement a plan, inspires positive change, ability to develop the vision for the community's common goal, implements the action plan.

Envisioning goals and objectives, implementing plan, engaging the community to achieve long-term results.

Roles and Responsibilities of Community Leadership:

Planning meetings/events, budgeting, commitment, what's best for the community, accountability, willingness to change, encourage involvement, follower, maintain vision, establish communication (directory, website, newsletter), inform about the roles/responsibilities, liaison, making decisions and focus, maintaining neighborhood standards.

Fact-finder, listener, organizer, planner/implementer, good listening, visionary, accepts compliments and criticisms.

Accountability to yourself, empower citizenry through education, i.e. how to landscape your yard, inspire people to accept change, mentor new leaders for the community, hold others accountable to community standards, fiduciary responsibility and accountability of community funds.

Inspire and setting an example, organizer, facilitator, networker, visionary, communicator.

Barriers and Challenges to Community Leadership:

Involvement (lack of), misinformation/getting facts out, too much involvement, negativity, monies, social/economic variety, burn-out of involvement, age-generation gaps, time – people not available, cultural, fear or retaliation, educational level. People have to see the value of the efforts.

Negativity, education of citizenry, inform citizens of issues, education level, choosing sides, misinformation, trying to be a spokesperson for the unspoken, closed-minded, own agenda, language barrier/non-hearing, Spanish, leader lack of effort, preconceived ideas, prejudices, disconnected neighborhood.

Non-participation, singular ideas and agendas, money – lack of it, apathy, lack of cohesive ideas, family and work-life over-rides community, diversity

in language and culture, community resistance, small-minded attitudes – don't gossip about your neighbors.

Cultural and language, general apathy, getting their attention, competing demands, renters vs. owners, information gathering, funding for community infrastructure, fear of involvement and/or retaliation.

What is your personal goal as a community leader?