

Seven Asset Based Community Development Principles for Institutions

- 1. Don't get in the way.
- 2. Don't get in front.
- 3. Every system has some primary functions and citizen/taxpayers expect that primary function to be performed, i.e.
 - Plow the snow
 - Pick up the trash
 - Maintain the peace
 - Teach children to stop, drop and roll
 - Etc.
- 4. Know your neighborhoods.
- 5. Think partnerships..."We can do this, but you can do _____.
- 6. If we can't address the problem, who do we know who can? THE THREE PRIMARY QUESTIONS:
 - What can we do to support neighbors? (What they can do themselves)
 - What help can we offer? (What can citizens do with a little help)...small grants and loan programs)
 - What must we as the keepers of the commons do? (What is our responsibility in supporting community?)
- 7. Measures of successful systems are those that create and recreate citizens/associations as producers of their future.

Fundamental Question: Will this intervention enhance or inhibit the natural association of citizens in the community?