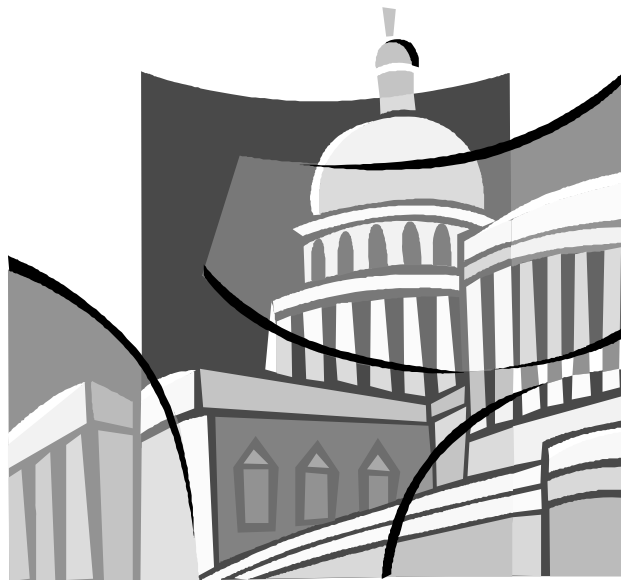


Contributed by Mike Green | ABCD Institute Faculty

Institutions:

Organized for Consistency Sustainability
Reliability



Schools Parks Libraries
Government Nonprofit Agencies
Hospitals Private Businesses
(where we go to work each day)

△ Institutions:

Fortress or Treasure Chest?

Strong communities make strong institutions...

Ways to be community serving by local action:

- Purchasing
- Hiring
- Investment and banking
- Youth training
- School involvement
- Accountability: local people serving on boards and committees
- Staff contributes time, resources and effort to community
- Contributing use of space and equipment
- Opening doors

STRATEGIES FOR INSTITUTIONS AS SERVANTS

What can agencies and institutions do to build stronger community members' groups and stronger communities? How to lead by "stepping back"?

CHAMPIONS FOR CHANGE- staff can work to get community members' power and resources - and can help agencies move from "lord to servant".

SMALL GRANTS- to activate citizenship through small amounts of funding to community member groups.

SELF INVENTORIES- what does our agency have to offer to strengthen local community members? (outside our service mission)

ASSOCIATION MAPPING- find and connect local associations and congregations.

OTHER ASSET MAPPING- discover what assets we have in our community to address issues.

CONVENE INSTITUTIONS- organize institutions to support community members' action — as community member groups want.

AUTHORIZE COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO ACT- agencies can use expertise and clout to encourage community members' action.

SUPPORT COMMUNITY MEMBER ORGANIZING- invest in and support the development of community member organizing groups and people centered community partnerships.

ECONOMIC POWER—buy, hire, train in ways that strengthen the local economy.