

TEMPLATE FOR STEPS IN MAPPING COMMUNITY ASSETS

Asset mapping follows several key steps necessary to discover the resources, activities, and interests that exist within the community.

Step		Process	Comments / Questions	Comments
1	Define Community	Determine the specific population	All city residents, elderly, disabled, youth, faith-group, etc.	
		Determine the geographic boundary	Entire county, city limits within the county, etc.	
2	Convene Core Mapping Group	Recruit 4-6 individuals or leaders in the community, use both formal and informal networks	Don't forget the 'silent leaders' or 'quiet strangers' Who has a wide community knowledge base?	
		Determine a project facilitator	Who can best manage the project-skills, time, etc.	
3	Get Organized	Project collaboration	Most effective when done with a defined goal	
		Desired outcomes and goals, what is the end result?	Is there a particular issue?	
			Is it need-based or asset-based?	
			What is the desired outcome?	
		Prepare an estimated budget	Human and financial resources	
			Grants	
			Fundraising monies	
		Determine if there has been any asset mapping previously done	In-kind contributions	
			What records are available?	
		What methods will be used to gather information?	Face-to-face conversations	
Door-to-door				
Interviews				
Surveys (phone, on-line, paper)				
Storytelling				
Community records				

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4	Select Asset Inventories and Gather Information	After choosing which (all) inventories to select, gather information on all the assets and resources. Use the Identifying and Inventorying Assets Template to help coordinate and organize findings.	Assessment Inventory Levels: use all or just ones specific to the needs of the community.	
		Compiling this information involves taking stock of EVERYTHING that your community has to offer to support the health of its residents.	• Skills Inventory	
			• Statistical Inventory	
			• Economic Inventory	
			• Local Institutions and Organizations Inventory	
			• Physical Infrastructure and Land Assets Inventory	
• Cultural Resources Inventory				
5	Create the Map	Once asset inventories are completed, these assets are "mapped" to identify skills and show locations, groups, interests, and identify areas with gaps.	Map of the town or GIS created map	
			Use color-coded pushpins or computer rendered coloring to indicate assets	
			Create a flyer that depicts assets	