



Canton Community Team

Need: We have lost the ability to communicate with our neighbors, government and people who are not in our social circle. Need to build our community that foster dialogue & each person contributing to working together on common

items.

Purpose: Building a community that works together to become a better place with honest dialogue between members that becomes a standard part of decision-making process that solves community problems, and that has an attitude of “**We various I**” approach in dealing with others and believes the following:

- Recognize that we are all different but as human beings there is some good in each of us.
- Connecting with other people is essential to our well-being.
- Each of us needs to be an active part of the community and not relied on others to do it for us.
- Gov’t is made up of people like us trying to be good neighbors.
- **Concept of Ubuntu...** We are all part of one human family We need each other and are responsible for each other.

Fundamental Values: Having developed skills like; Trust, Respect, Independence, Collaboration, Kindness, Listening, and Empathy.

Goals:



- Create model that builds small communities one at a time
- **Go from “I to We” in our outlook**
- **Become a community team with a charter and value system**

Need to start with a real community problem!

Restores community is one of possibility, generosity, and gifts, rather than one of problem solving, fear, and retribution." This context allows a new conversation to take place. It requires its citizens to act authentic by choosing to own and exercise their power rather than delegating to others what is in the best interest of that community. Focus must be inclusive for all, not just the leaders but each and every citizen of that community.... Peter Block in the book Community: The Structure of Belonging

Forming a community that focuses on the problems that bring us together as sharing team for the betterment of all of us. Then creating a team ***that focuses on becoming a community of people working to make things better by:***

Wisdom: good decisions and taking the path that provides value to all (society)

Community: People and relationships count, “We versus I” Attitude

Social justice: leaving the world a better place than you found it

Purpose: Sense of direction that you achieve, the goals you set

What’s our Purpose?

To Facilitate the change from just a group of Individuals to a team that has its own Charter (purpose, Goals and roles) for working together.

Item	Examples Description
Roles	Of individuals in the community
Interpersonal skills	Body language, Smiling, Greetings, Helpfulness, Caring, Positive attitude , The Platinum Rule(Bose corp.)

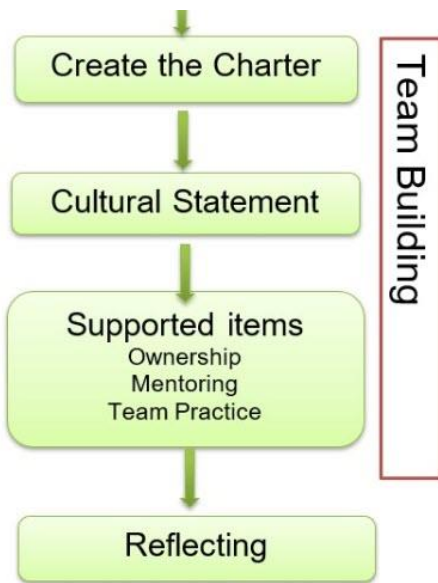


Norms Guide <i>acceptable behavior</i>	What fun and innovative ways can we make the community better, Good collaboration, Think critical & creatively, Self-regulation support
Rituals Flag day	What actions or events do we want to do to learn, honor our team member, etc. What's on my mind intro.
Beliefs: <i>Something that is accepted</i>	Learn from Failure” and “Make Others Successful, Focus on the customer and all else will follow, Do your best, Continuous improvement, Life-long-learner
Values	Trust, Honesty, Listening, Empathy, Curiosity, Kindness, Flexibility, Respect, Independence, Collaboration,
Sports/Music Analogy	In a good team the players work together (no stars) and care about each other and want all to be successful. They Achieve their beliefs, Their outcomes. Jazz experience

Ideas on How to get this working: Examples; of discussion items (All people have a role in the community):

- Discuss the concept of We versus I community
- Connect to every community & non-profits organization and develop a working relationship and share ideas.
- Organizing and running projects
- Collection news within and outside the community
- Distributing news within the community
- Holding learning classes
- Set-up the infrastructure of the community
- The communities core values, purpose/charter and culture need to be continuously exposed to members and updated when needed.
- Study other communities like Demark to find ways to do things
- Bridging economic levels within the community





Within the community boundaries, create islands of interests by forming teams of the community who want to do the activity, **such as family charters, community problem development/solving, anxiety in children, community get togethers, learning financial literacy** etc. These teams will be supported by a core learning team that helps with the set-up of these

values.

The community physical will be broken up into sections with block captains and messengers. Information of activities will be done thru a community newsletter delivered thru the mail. The community will have a leadership team, and an infrastructure team

Many community roles are needed to communicate with each other and re-enforce the team purpose

News group	Block captains	Learning team
Activity groups	Message group	New group facilitators
Historian group		

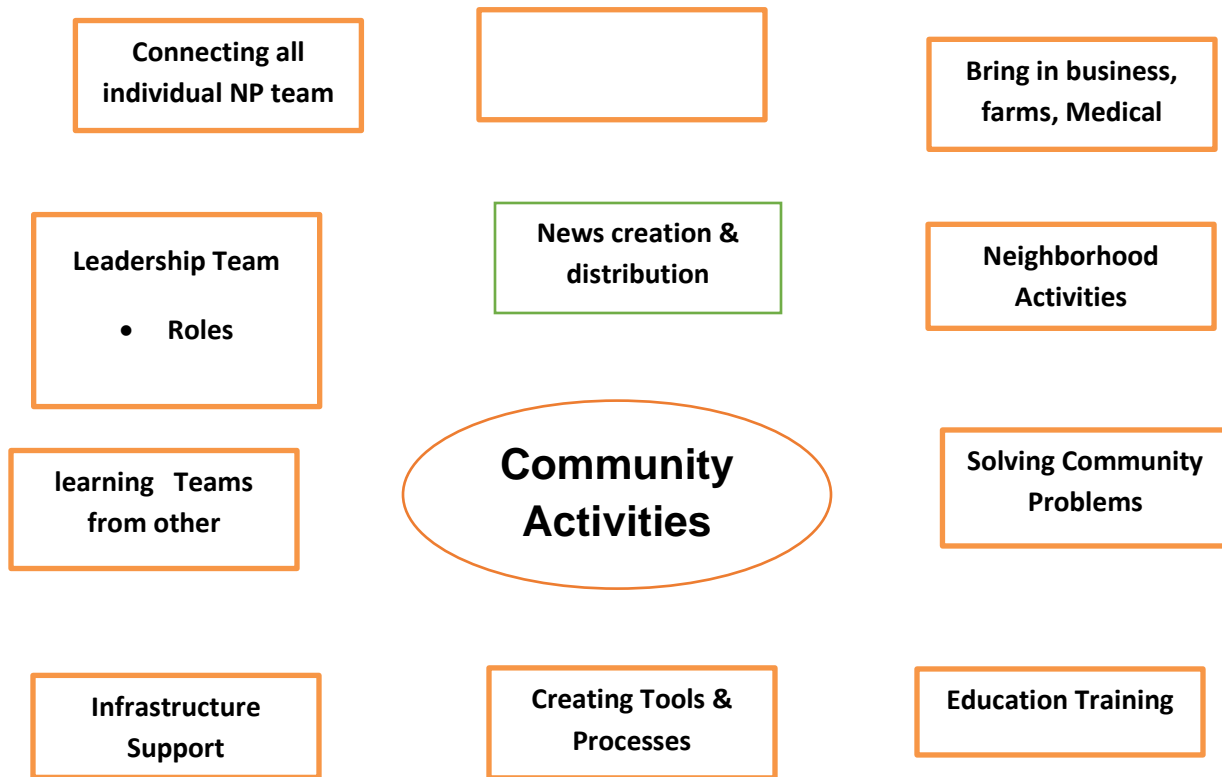
Community Attributes:

Thoughts	Life Skills / Actions
Wisdom: good decisions and taking the path that provides value to all (society)	Thinking skills (creative, critical, system), SEL learning, Decision making, Reflection, Innovation





Community: People and relationships count	Listening skills, communication skills, teamwork, Interpersonal skills, Relationship, Measurements, Trust, Honesty, Empathy
Social justice: leaving the world a better place than you found it	Problem solving skills, positive outlook, Curiosity, Process skills, Executive functions
Purpose: Sense of direction that you achieve, the goals you set	Put first things first, Pro-active outlook, Begin with the ends in mind, and Win-Win for all, Time-management, Project planning,



It is not an on-line but I physical one where there is a defined Purpose and Cultural Statement, and all people have a role in its creation and maintenance. It focuses on a culture of **“WE versus**



I” for members and has multiple roles and activities created by member’s needs.

Like all good organizations, a culture that focuses on making things better for its constituents, knowing and caring for each other and owned by the community will survive and grow. The goal is to create a community where people talk to each other and show loving kindness as well. ***We then want to help replicate this model to other communities.***

Resources:

<https://acl.gov/CommitToConnect>

Why set up a community group?

There are many reasons why people might want to set up a voluntary or community group:

There is a need: Local people who have identified a need for a particular activity or service in their area, or it could be that there is a real gap in the services or activities in your area. Maybe a service is already being provided but is not accessible enough, or is not being delivered in an appropriate way.

To get something done: There may be an identified need, but crucially it needs the time and commitment from people, like yourselves, who are willing to get on and do something about it! This often involves stimulating debate to gain support and attract attention.

To work with other people: Running a group is a team effort. It isn’t just about the amount of work to do, but also about shared responsibility. Starting a group means working together with people who share similar concerns and are aiming to solve a particular problem or meet a certain need.

Help a community access funds: to improve the local area with projects for environmental, sports, arts, health or leisure activities.



What makes a successful group?

- Meeting a need
- Being clear and realistic about what you want to do and can achieve
- Team effort - working with new or existing communities members
- Securing resources to help you achieve your aims (e.g. people and funding)
- Understanding legal and other responsibilities

Considerations when setting up a community group

Setting up a new group involves a variety of tasks and there a number of things you will need to consider. The more aware you are of what you need to do the easier the task will be. Forethought and good planning at this stage can save a lot of wasted effort or work later. It is likely there will be a lot of helpful people and agencies with the expertise you need. The following key questions below are provided as an essential checklist.

Key questions:

- What do we want to do?
- Where do we want to do it?
 - What do we want to do with it?
- Do we have the time, energy and commitment to do the work ourselves?
- Do we have a plan for action?
 - Do we need policies and procedures?
- Do we have a constitution?
- Do we need a committee?
- When will we hold general meetings?
- Do we need a bank account?
- Does our work involve young people or vulnerable adults?
 - How will we generate funds?
 - Do we need to allocate training provision?
- Have we set out public relations activities?



- Have we taken into account legal responsibilities towards the people we will work with or provide a service to?

Example:

[Robert Putnam](#) in his book [Bowling Alone^{\[1\]}](#) finds that a community's well-being is dependent on the quality of relationships among the citizens of that community. He refers to this as social capital. Social capital creates a sense of belonging thus enhancing the overall health of a community. Putnam goes on to identify and examine the decline of [social capital](#) in America. Pressures of time and money, [suburbanization](#), the effect of [electronic entertainment](#), and perhaps most importantly the [generational change](#) appear to have all been contributing factors in the decline of social capital.

