

Spring Valley Asset Mapping Project, 2018



Purpose

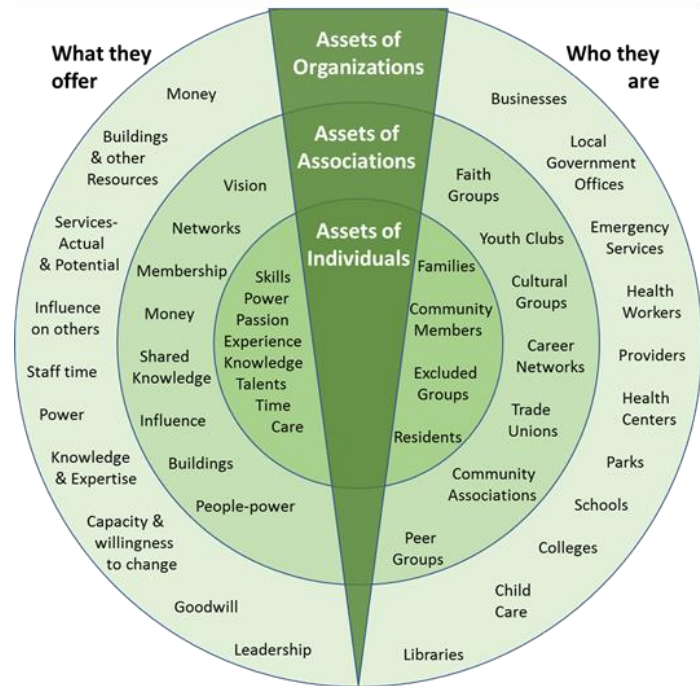
Asset mapping is a cooperative process of gathering information around existing strengths and opportunities within a defined community. It aims to create a comprehensive inventory of interconnected services, resources, and skills that can ultimately be visualized on a physical map. The process is an internally-focused investigation performed by key stakeholders which enables communities to develop strategies that improve overall quality of life through stronger local linkages. A bonus of this community engagement tool is that it forges meaningful relationships between the parties involved and stimulates resident involvement, ownership, and empowerment.

What are Community Assets?

A community asset or resource is anything that **contributes to or improves the quality of community life.**

Assets may include:

- *Private, public, and non-profit institutions, associations and organizations.*
- *Citizen associations and cultural groups.*
- *Local businesses that provide jobs and support the local economy.*
- *Physical structures or public places*
- *The abilities and capacities of individual community members.*
- *Actual and potential linkages between any/all of the above.*



What are our plans for using these assets?

This activity is a valuable strategic planning step that will help the Collaborative meet its Work Plan goals. Completion of this proposed high-level assessment can inform next steps for the group along the stages of the community engagement objectives defined. There are 3 basic steps proposed here: Recognize and delineate assets, Record and map those assets, and Mobilize toward the group's end purpose. With a unified understanding of the forces at play and the physical spaces they occupy in and around Spring Valley, the risk of duplicating efforts or missing important opportunities is minimized.

Process Overview

1. **Define the Community** (Population and Geographic Boundaries)
2. **Define the plan for the information collected**
3. **Determine what type of assets to identify**
4. **List the assets of Groups and Individuals**
5. **List the current linkages, and opportunities**
6. **Organize assets on a map**

The Rockland County Department of Health is available to facilitate this project and provide any technical assistance that may be needed with regards to community engagement. Collaborative members should expect a pre-project survey prior to the Asset Mapping Event coming this summer. Please see the reverse for resources and contact information.

Resources

Kretzmann, J.P. & McKnight, J.L. (1993). *Building Communities from the Inside Out: A Path Toward Finding and Mobilizing a Community's Assets*. Retrieved from: <http://www.abcdinstitute.org>

Healthy People 2010 Toolkit: A Field Guide to Health Planning. Developed by the Public Health Foundation, under contract with the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Public Health and Science, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), Public Health Infrastructure and Systems.
www.NACCHO.org/MAPP

Healthy City, a program of Advancement Project; *Participatory Asset Mapping*.
<http://www.communityscience.com/knowledge4equity/AssetMappingToolkit.pdf>

Contact Information

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Rockland County Department of Health, <http://rocklandgov.com/departments/health>