



Vol IX, Issue I, Q-1 2020 January | February | March

Community Engagement

Turning Your Nonprofit Into A Powerhouse!

The Community Engagement Strategy

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Participation in Juvenile Court Processes
Strengthening Second Chance Ministries
The Community Learning Series

Make a Donation

Hebrews 10:24-25 (AMP)

²⁴ And let us consider *and* give attentive, continuous care to watching over one another, studying how we may stir up (stimulate and incite) to love *and* helpful deeds *and* noble activities, ²⁵ Not forsaking *or* neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching.

Introduction

Community Engagement refers to the process by which community benefit organizations and individuals build ongoing, permanent relationships for the purpose of applying a collective vision for the benefit of a whole community. While community organizing involves the process of building a grassroots movement involving communities, community engagement primarily deals with the practice of moving those communities towards change, usually from a stalled or otherwise similarly suspended position.

Strengthening Existing Entities

This type of Community Development seeks to empower individuals and groups of people by providing them with the skills they need to effect change within their communities. These skills are often created through the formation of collaborative social groups working for a common agenda. Community developers must understand both how to work with individuals and how to affect communities' positions within the context of larger social institutions. Methodologies of community engagement are a result of problems in the current community benefit administrative structure, where governing boards of community projects become unable to continue convincing either themselves or the community to further the projects they became involved in. This may be due to "incorrect aiming of **accountability** for problems in the governing board, overzealous **micromanagement** of resources, a collectively **dysfunctional** board, poor board / staff relations or unsatisfactory organizational planning."

Participation in Juvenile Court Processes

Juvenile court is a special court or department of a trial court which deals with under-age defendants charged with crimes, or who are neglected, or out of the control of their parents. The normal age of these defendants is under 18, but juvenile court does not have jurisdiction in cases in which minors are charged as adults. The procedure in juvenile court is not always adversarial, although the minor is entitled to legal representation by a lawyer. Parents or social workers and probation officers may be involved in the process to achieve positive results and save the minor from involvement in future crimes. In some jurisdictions, such as **in 44 states of the United States, severe offenses, such as murder and gang-related acts, are treated the same as crimes committed by adults even for minors** (though particularly young offenders may still not be treatable as adults.)

Strengthening Second Chance Ministries

The "Second Chance Act" legislation authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide employment assistance, housing, substance abuse treatment, family programming, mentoring, victim's support and other related services that help reduce recidivism. The Second Chance Act also establishes the National Offender Re-entry Resource Center for the purpose of managing, monitoring, and disseminating information to the service providers and community organizations delivering services under the Second Chance Act.

"We know from long experience that if they can't find work, or a home or help, they are much more likely to commit more crimes and return to prison." (George W. Bush, 2004)

The Community Learning Series

Our Community Learning Series consists of a host of "Lunch & Learn" and "Dinner & Learn" Informational Presentations which include, but are by no means limited to the following:

The Community Engagement Series; *The* Youth Development Series; *The* Board Development Series; and *The* Cornerstone Series.

[see *The Advocate Magazine* for References](#)
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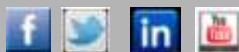
Always feel welcome to contact us directly with any questions, comments, or great ideas!

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*Helping Individuals, Organizations & Communities
Achieve Their Full Potential*

Our Mission

The Mission of The Advocacy Foundation
is Threefold:

To Rescue

Young persons from the prison pipeline
and help redirect and restore their lives;

To Teach

New and fledgling nonprofit organizations to become
fundable, to thrive, and to maintain compliance;

To Train

Qualified Juvenile Justice Professionals with a passion
for effective careers in the Juvenile Justice system.