



PROFILE of Community Connect

Name of Community Mapping Group/ Local Area Network (L.A.N.)

Goals:

- To become more aware of program/services in the City Centre area
- To identify gaps and overlaps in services, as well as trends
- To identify ways of achieving/maintaining effective collaboration/partnerships of City Centre Agencies to better serve children and families

Expected Outcomes:

- Participants are more knowledgeable about programs and services and trends in the City Centre area
- Agencies are addressing gaps in service and collaborating to meet the needs of families/children more effectively

A Collaborative Community Mapping Planning Process

Joint Commitment:

- Mar, 06: discussed statement of need, strategy, goals, rational and outcomes
- Apr/May, 06: determined boundaries and had M.A.P.S. Alberta Capital Region provide us with demographic information
- Term of reference created – reviews and updates Jan, 08
- Jun, 09: Community Connect Action Plan updated

Community Profile:

- Jun, 06: decided on a list of resource categories that we wished to map and a template was created by M.A.P.S. so that we could begin sending information about our individual agency programs/services so they could be mapped
- Sept, 06: came up with a list of community agencies in the City Centre and each of us agreed to interview a number of them and send template information to M.A.P.S.
- Looked at created maps and came up with five areas we would like to examine in more detail. Decided to look into areas one at a time to determine if/how we could affect change in those areas. Had a guest from Boyle Street C.S. come and speak with us about the housing issue
- Sept, 08: Presented demographic maps (2006 Federal Census)

Community Engagement:

- Jun, 07: Named priorities: 1) housing; 2) mental health/addictions; 3) immigration; 4) youth. Chose mental health and youth as priorities
- Jul, 07: Created action plan with two priorities. Two sub-groups created to work on Community Connect areas of interest
- Sept, 07: Proposal of youth sub-committee with strategies
- Sept, 07: Proposal of mental health sub-committee with strategies
- Feb, 07: a) Centralized youth intake meeting and b) mental health workshops hosted
- Jan, 08: Presentation about City Centre Youth Servicing Agencies (CCYSA)

Action:**Mental Health:**

- The overall goal of this sub-group is to collect information about current resources/networks /existing groups and to enhance knowledge between service providers who offer mental health resources and programs to children and adults
- Feb/Nov, 08: Mental Health Committee held training sessions for front line staff
- Nov, 08: Mental Health workshop held

Youth:

- The overall goal of this sub-group is to collect information about current resources and connect with other service providers who offer resources and programs for youth
- Jun, 08: Proposed Youth Intake and Consent Forms presented to the Committee that can be shared among youth agencies in helping serve youth more effectively
- May, 09: SharePoint data base activated
- Presentation of SharePoint database to youth agencies
- Jun, 09: Proposal for SafeCom (Safe Communities) Grant
- Dec, 09: Presentation about High Risk Youth Research Project (Speaker from Old Strathcona Community Collaboration Group)

Reflection:

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Members & Organizations Represented:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Bissell Centre
- Boyle Street Community Services
- Catholic Social Services
- Changing Together
- Child and Family Services Region 6
- City Centre Education Project
- City of Edmonton Community Services
- Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers
- Edmonton Public Library
- Healthy Alberta Communities
- John Howard Society
- Inner City Children's Project
- Inner City Youth Housing Project
- Métis Nation Alberta
- Pride Centre

- Support Network
- YMCA Enterprise Centre

Outcomes Achieved To Date:

- Community Connect Mapping Profile completed.
- Community Connect Mapping Committee has identified priorities: Mental Health and Youth.
- Needs of children and families are met more effectively through enhanced partnerships.
- Professional knowledge and expertise is enhanced among Human Service Providers.

Profile Completed by: M.A.P.S. March, 2010