

Afternoons R.O.C.K in Dubois County

Team:

Jay Baker
Chuck Divine
Doris Mohr
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Problem Statement:

Some youth in Dubois County engage in risky behavior (i.e. use alcohol, tobacco, and drugs, drop out of school, and engage in violence), and in general, make bad decisions that lead to repeating a cycle of dependency on the system.

Project Description:

Afternoons R.O.C.K. in Dubois County is designed to serve as an after-school drug prevention program held during the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., which are three critical hours when most new drug use begins with youth in 7th, 8th, and 9th grade. It provides **R**ecreation, **O**bject lessons, **C**ulture and values, and **K**nowledge through active, entertaining, and focused activities for youth ages 10-14 years. It teaches youth about social and media influences, conflict resolution, refusal/resistance skills, gang and violence prevention, and the structuring of leisure time.

Vision:

The long-term goals for the “Afternoons R.O.C.K. in Dubois County” program are to promote (a/an):

- Increase in the high school graduation rate.
- Increase in those seeking education or skills-based training after high school.
- Less reliance on welfare system/break family cycle of dependence.
- Decrease in drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.
- Increase in community involvement—students become advocates for Afternoons R.O.C.K.

Stakeholders Analysis:

Name	Strongly Against	Moderately Against	Neutral	Moderately Supportive	Strongly Supportive
Youth Services Bureau					X
School Personnel					X
Parents		X	X	X	
Youth	X	X	X	X	X
Religious Groups				X	
Police					X
Mental Health Agencies					X

Next Steps:

- Develop criteria for selecting new members and identify potential team members by October 1, 2006.
- Hold meeting at Inwood to select new team members by October 15, 2006.
- Invite new members by phone, email or in person by October 31, 2006.
- Generate action steps based on challenge statement at a meeting to be held at Inwood by November 6, 2006.
- Schedule facilities, obtain funding, and implement Afternoon R.O.C.K in Dubois County by January 1, 2007.
- Expand program to other counties by sharing success stories by January 1, 2008.

Spencer County Economic Development Project

Team:

Lisa Nelson
Jacqui Duncan

Problem Statement:

Spencer County needs additional tax dollars to make up for the inventory tax revenue that has been eliminated. In addition, Spencer County’s population is dwindling, and its educated workforce is relocating. In order to avoid raising tax rates, incent relocation to Spencer County, and avoid “brain drain”, new industry must be recruited; however, Spencer County has no shovel-ready sites available.

Most developable property in Spencer County is below the 100 year flood plain. Most property out of the flood plain is owned by American Electric Power (AEP), and AEP has future plans for their property.

Project Description:

The Spencer County Economic Development Project is designed to secure funding, property, and resources to redevelop the Barmet Brownfield site in Spencer County. Upon project completion, the site will be marketed by the state as a shovel-ready site.

Vision:

The vision for this project is that within five years Spencer County will have acquired and redeveloped the 100+ acre Brownfield known as the Barmet site. Infrastructure, zoning, and utilities will be in place to accommodate new, clean industry interested in locating on a site with rail, river, and interstate access.

Stakeholders Analysis:

Name	Strongly Against	Moderately Against	Neutral	Moderately Supportive	Strongly Supportive
LEDC Board			X		
Local Government					X
Utility Companies				X	
Railroad					X
Local Community			X		
Current Owner			X		

Next Steps:

- Formulate a detailed presentation to make to the current land owners, asking current owners to give ownership of the property to Spencer County.
- Spencer County will, in turn, apply for grants to have the necessary environmental studies performed, which are needed to acquire state grant monies to clean the environmental hazardous material out of the site.
- Sell the idea to Spencer County Government.
- Apply for grant money to have environmental studies performed on the site. Match money for the grants may be needed. Utilities and other stakeholders will be approached.
- Apply for grant money to have the environmental hazards removed from site. Match money for the grant may be needed. Utilities and other stakeholders will be approached.
- Property will then be raised out of the flood plain with fill material provided by American Electric Power.
- We will apply for shovel-ready site designation from the State of Indiana.
- Site will be marketed as Shovel-ready Industrial Site.

Career Development Options for Posey County Juniors and Seniors: It’s all about getting connected!

Team:

Sally Denning
 Janet Johnson
 Donett May
 James Kamla

Problem Statement:

The current bi-annual career day program at Mt. Vernon High School is insufficient. Students are not given opportunities to **experience** multiple career interests. Posey County juniors and seniors will waste time and money in contemplation of their education and career choices.

Project Description:

Career Development Options for Posey County Juniors and Seniors: It’s all about getting connected will serve as an upperclassmen career experience and shadowing program, scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. during one day each semester, to introduce Posey County High School juniors and seniors to potential career opportunities.

Vision:

The goal of the “Career Development Options for Posey County juniors and seniors: It’s all about getting connected” program is to quadruple student awareness of and first hand experience in multiple career opportunities. This will enable students to more effectively choose appropriate classes, prepare for higher education, and ultimately be more confident in a career choice.

Stakeholders Analysis:

Name	Strongly Against	Moderately Against	Neutral	Moderately Supportive	Strongly Supportive
Chamber of Commerce			X		
School Admin.				X	
School Counselors					X
Student Group					X
Local Community			X		
Current Owner			X		

Next Steps:

- Share the well developed, professional program and the key people who will be operating and supporting it to gain support of school counselor and administrators.
- Identify the professional organizations to participate in the Upper Classman Career Experience Day (UCED) by obtaining a list of professional organizations in our community and selecting those we would like to approach for support.
- Gain support of Posey County professional organizations by contacting the president of such organizations asking to be included on the agenda, at which time we will present the program and ask for 5 professionals to volunteer to be part of the UCED.
- Persuade Posey County business professionals to participate with Posey County High School juniors and seniors in UCED by providing them with materials to help them throughout the job shadowing process, and provide a networking luncheon from 12:00-1:00 p.m., with all of the professionals and students.
- Research what other communities are doing by contacting other high schools, chambers, and professional organizations.
- Choose which students will be participating by providing names and occupations of the participants and provide an application by which they may apply for their top three choices, allowing students to self-select.
- Evaluate the program. An evaluation will be completed by both the students and the professionals before lunch. A door prize drawing from each group will take place at the conclusion.

Bringing History to Life for Young People

Team:

Problem Statement:

There is not a comprehensive source of education information available for parents/caregivers to use to reinforce regional history.

Project Description:

Educational material with regards to regional historic sites, which may include booklets for families, resource guides for teachers and summer day camps, weekly/monthly newspaper articles, websites, and visitor guides designed youth, will be developed and distributed as a result of this project. Sample sites for the booklet include Angel Mounds, George Rogers Clark Memorial, Grouseland Mansion, New Harmony, Underground Railroad Sites (i.e. Lyle Station and Cockrum Hall), Lincoln Pioneer Village and Museum, Reitz Home, St. Meinrad Archabbey and Monastery Immaculate Conception.

Vision:

The goal of the “Bringing History to Life for Young People” program is to serve as one organization taking ownership to produce and maintain educational resources for youth and families highlighting the regional historical sites to create excitement about the history of southwestern Indiana.

Next Steps:

- Identify/recruit potential partners for developing/distributing booklets.
- Develop budget for creating/distributing booklets.
- Pursue funding sources such as grants, corporate sponsorships, or advertising.
- Select historical sites for inclusion in the booklet.
- Develop booklet content and layout the booklet.
- Print and distribute booklets.
- Evaluate the booklet and its use.
- Identify/pursue development of additional resources.

Haynie's Corner Project

Team:

Problem Statement:

Complex zoning issues
Stigma/image of area
Current lack of financial investment incentives

Vision:

Get people interested in investing in Haynie's Corner

Stakeholder Analysis:

Leadership Evansville
Mayor's Office, City of Evansville
Department of Metropolitan Development
Keith Jarboe, City Council
Redevelopment Commission
Board of Zoning Appeals
Haynie's Corner residents and business owners
Neighborhood associations
Historic Preservation District Committee
Potential investors
Potential lenders
Alhambra Theatre, Inc.
Funk in the City
Patchwork Central

Next Step:

- Define zoning issues
- Define process to change zoning
- Specific crime statistics for the area for the past 12 months
- Specific federal/state/local loan programs
- Advocate for specific financial incentives—tax breaks; low interest loans, others

Spencer County Re-Entry Program: Breaking Free from the Chains of the Past

Team:

Barbie Brown
Chris Middleton

Problem Statement:

There is no comprehensive re-entry program in place in Spencer County for released prisoners. 40% of these inmates do not have a GED or high school diploma. They receive 50% fewer job offers, and 40% will be incarcerated again within 3 years, costing taxpayers millions of dollars.

Project Description:

The purpose of the Spencer County Re-Entry Program is to create a system which will aid inmates in becoming contributing members of society and mentors for current inmates. Components of the program will include a profiling process to identify qualified prisoners, education (GED, high school and college), job placement services, financial and social skills training. Program design and implementation is to be completed

Vision:

Reduce the rate of recidivism in Spencer County by creating a re-entry program for prisoners housed in Spencer County Jail.

Stakeholder Analysis:

Name	Strongly Against	Moderately Against	Neutral	Moderately Supportive	Strongly Supportive
Jim Greene, Jail Commander					X
Sonny Tharp, Sheriff					X
Jon Dartt, Prosecutor					X
Kermit Lindsey, D.A.R.E. Officer					X
Marva Sateler, Jail GED Program					X
David Donahue, Commissioner of Corrections					X
Jim Edwards, Edwards and Associates					X

Projects

Spencer County Council			X		
Spencer County Commissioners				X	
Debby Beavin, Director Business Development Center			X		
Tom Utter, Director Economic Development Corporation					X
Barbie Brown, Executive Director Chamber of Commerce					X
South Spencer School Corporation					X
North Spencer School Corporation			X		
Division of Family and Children			X		

Next Steps:

- August 31st Community Forum with Commissioner of Corrections, David Donahue in Chrisney, Indiana. Team members to include: Spencer County Commissions, Spencer County Council, Sheriff Sonny Tharp, Prosecutor Jon Dartt, DARE Officer Kermit Lindsey, and Jail GED Director Marva Stateler.
- Information gathering trip to Plainfield Educational Re-entry Facility. Team members to include: Director of Ivy Tech Re-entry Program Tom Darling, Indiana Department of Workforce Development Representative, Spencer County Adult Literacy Coordinator Kevin Hunter, Jail GED Director Marva Stateler, and Jail GED Program Instructor, Ferman Yearby.
- Conduct a Stakeholder Meeting in Spencer County to present the Re-entry Program. Team members to include: Jail Commander, Jim Greene; Sheriff, Sonny Tharp; Prosecutor, Jon Dartt; DARE Officer, Kermit Lindsey; Jail GED Director, Marva Stateler; Commissioner of Corrections, David Donahue; Spencer County Council; Spencer County Commissioners; Business Development Center Director, Debby Deavin; Director of Economic Development Corporation, Tom Utter; Executive Director of Chamber of Commerce, Barbie Brown; Southern Spencer School Corporation; North Spencer School Corporation; and Division of Family and Children.

Projects

- Conduct a Community Forum to present the Spencer County Re-entry Program, solicit ideas, and develop community support.