



SHINING LIGHT ON THE GIFTS OF OUR NEIGHBORS

Alicia Baker & Rev. Aaron Hobbs
She/Her/Hers & He/Him/His
UMVIM Community Workshop
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PEOPLE

START TO

HEAL

THE MOMENT THEY FEEL

HEARD.”

-CHERYL RICHARDSON

IN THE NEXT HOUR:

- ◆ Where have we been?
- ◆ Where we are going?
- ◆ How can we put it into practice?



NEEDS-BASED APPROACH

“What needs to be changed in our neighborhood?”

“Who needs help?”

“What problems do you see and what do you want to do about it?”



ASSET-ORIENTED APPROACH

“What do we already have in our neighborhood that can help us get where we want to go?”

“Who can help us?”

“What assets do you have and where can you use them?”

The Foundational Truths of ABCD

1. Everyone has gifts

2. Everyone has something to contribute

3. Everyone cares about something and that passion is his or her motivation to act

“Following an asset-based approach means doing things ***with the community*** rather than for the community. It requires emphasizing and ***utilizing what the community has to offer*** over what it lacks. And it is distinguished by the types of initiatives that result – ***who is involved, what the goals are, who leads, how they are sustained, and who benefits financially...***

“...Greater community involvement results in more sustainable initiatives and greater community impact over the long term. If you want to empower a community to chart its own path forward, needs based services will never get you there.” Polis Institute, 2016

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“What needs to be changed in our neighborhood?”	“What do we already have in our neighborhood that can help us get where we want to go?”
“Who needs help?”	“Who can help us?”
“What problems do you see and what do you want to do about it?”	“What assets do you have and where can you use them?”



THE GOLDEN RULE:

- ◆ If I am asking others to participate - is this an activity/meeting/opportunity I would want to participate in myself?
 - ◆ Is it accessible and inclusive?
 - ◆ Is it empowering?
 - ◆ Is it engaging and fun?



IF IN DOUBT:

- ◆ Listen!
- ◆ Go to where people already are!
- ◆ Ask to join events where people are already doing things!
- ◆ Collaborate as often as possible!





Summer Youth Rovers



Gifts & Talents

Connection Wall



Neighbor Gatherings



TIME TO PRACTICE!



GROUP ACTIVITY!

- ◆ Come up with an idea to engage with neighbors using only your assets
- ◆ Remember: assets can be physical (access to space), skills, relationships, etc!
- ◆ 8 minutes – then share at the end

WHAT DID YOU CREATE?



WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE?



RESOURCES TO KEEP LEARNING:

Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center: www.inrc.org

[Having Nothing, Possessing Everything: Finding Abundant Communities in Unexpected Places](#), by Rev. Mike Mather

Everyday Democracy:

www.everyday-democracy.org/resources/neighborhoods

Racial Equity Tools:

www.racialequitytools.org/act/strategies/civic-or-community-engagement

Tools 2 Engage: www.tools2engage.org

CityLab Equity: www.citylab.com/equity

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING!

If you want to contact us or share your ideas:

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