

Where to Find Your Host - Building a Grassroots Community Network

“When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion.”

Ethiopian proverb

Identify local organizations, groups of activists, officials and influential members of your community that you can contact. (The suggestions below are just suggestions. Think creatively!)

What makes a great host? Passion, commitment, the ability to be articulate and to pay attention to detail, evidence of emerging leadership qualities.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Check your yellow pages under “Social Service Organizations” for specific names of agencies and organizations and for other ideas. You should also use Internet search engines such as www.google.com or www.yahoo.com.

Community Action Program

Urban League, NAACP, Other

Neighborhood Associations

Immigrants / Refugees

Poor People’s Organizations

Hunger Coalition

Welfare Reform Coalition

Food Bank

Food Pantries

Homeless Shelter

Soup Kitchen

Women’s Center / Organizations

Domestic Violence Program / Shelter

Transitional Housing

Veterans Organization (Activists)

Citizens League

Head Start (including policy council)

Latino Community Organizations

Peace and Justice Organizations

League of Women Voters

Youth Organizations

Labor Unions

National Conference of Christians and
Jews

Other

POLITICAL ACTIVISTS:

Think of people involved in politics, party or otherwise — volunteers, state officials, or county officials, etc. who might be too busy to be partners, should know about RESULTS, and might have ideas for people who might be involved.

Green Party

New Party

Democrats

Republicans

Other

Other

CHURCH COMMUNITIES:

Any denomination is good, but here are some with a particularly strong history of involvement in social action. Ask ministers for members of the congregation who would be interested.

Urban Ministries

Interfaith Coalition / Council of Churches

Society of Friends (Quakers)

Unitarian Universalist Association

United Church of Christ

Presbyterian

United Methodist

Episcopal

African Methodist Episcopal

Baptist

Lutheran

Lutheran Social Services

United Church of Christ

National Conference of Christians

Jewish Congregations

Other

Catholic Diocese

Office of Social Justice and Peace

Catholic Charities

Catholic Worker / Dorothy Day House

Religious Orders: (Nuns / Brothers)

Parishes

COLLEGES / UNIVERSITIES:

Can be a good source of partners who are not overly committed with community activities. It's important to have a staff or faculty member who would take the lead in coordinating activity of students.

College _____

Chaplain / Campus Ministries _____

Volunteer / Coordinator _____

Service Learning Coordinator _____

Student Organizations _____

Departments

Sociology _____

Political Science _____

History _____

Psychology _____

Nutrition _____

Early Childhood / Education _____

Family Science _____

Communications _____

Other _____

HIGH SCHOOLS (and Junior Highs):

Great spirit and creativity to be tapped. Again, a teacher-coordinator is important.

High School _____

Departments

Social Science _____

History _____

Civics _____

Speech _____

Psychology _____

English _____

Other _____

JUST FOLKS:

Perhaps the most important source of partners is people you know, regardless of their affiliation or professions. Think about the people you care about, the people in your life, the people who share your interests and concerns.

Relatives

Neighbors

Friends

Members of your church

Co-workers

Acquaintances

