EconAvenue Community Meeting

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The views in this presentation do not necessarily represent the views of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City nor the Federal Reserve System.
I. Welcome, introductions and dinner

II. Review of Econ Avenue

III. Understanding Collaboration

IV. Overview of the Committee Process

V. Committee selection

VI. Adjourn
Community Engagement Philosophy

Recent Historical Models

- Community
- Organizations
- Funders

In traditional models, when the money runs out the programs stop and the community suffers.

EconAvenue Model

- Funders
- Organizations
- Community

In EconAvenue the community is the foundation of all activity and change!
The Process

STEP 1
Create a Locally Empowered Leadership Council

STEP 2
Connect the Leadership Council with Support Agencies and Institutions

STEP 3
Connect Community Designed Programs and Strategies with Funders and Resources

STEP 4
Create Economically Transformed Communities
Collaboration
The Essence of Transformation
Collaboration

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead – Famous Cultural Anthropologist
Collaboration Defined

Collaborative: structure or group working together to achieve a shared vision

Collaboration: the process through which parties who see different aspects of a program can explore constructively their differences and search for (and implement) solutions that go beyond their own limited vision of what is possible (Gray, 1989)
Collaboration Principles

Five Underlying Principles

Collaboration:

• Requires that all team members want to work together towards a common goal
• Is based on a sense that all participants are valued
• Embraces the unique perspectives of all team members
• Is based on a strong sense of purpose
• Requires trust and a sense of shared responsibility

Source: Critical Elements for Collaboration, University of Vermont and Pacer Center, 2008.
Collaborative Decision-Making

Identify and Use Specific Decision-Making Processes:

• Consensus-based decision-making is most common in collaborative groups

• Sometimes consensus means deciding that “I can live with that”

• Democratic decision-making (i.e., voting) may be used when consensus cannot be reached, as long as the group agrees to this approach ahead of time

Source: Critical Elements for Collaboration, University of Vermont and Pacer Center, 2008.
Collaboration Don’ts

No Steering

Have an honest dialogue. Don’t secretly attempt to push agendas that only benefit your organization or your desire. Ensure that everyone has an open and honest opportunity for feedback and insight.
Collaboration Don’ts

No Bullying

Bullying can occur in different ways. Subtle threats that if folks don’t ‘see something’ your way there will be consequences. Using your advanced knowledge to make someone feel small about their opinions. Negative non-verbal communication.
Collaboration Don’ts
No Idea Elitism

There are multiple ways to get to the destination. Don’t be so committed to one way that you alienate individuals who can help you get to the same destination a different way.

*Many times a road traveled together is better than a road traveled alone.*
Collaboration Don’ts

Don’t Focus More on Negative History the Positive Future

Attempt to wipe the slate clean. If that doesn’t work, remember, even people who don’t like each other can put that aside to achieve a goal that they both share.
The Master Process

1. Collaborative Group Formation
2. Condition Assessment & Current Assets
3. SMART Goal Setting
4. Brainstorming
5. Project / Activity Selection
6. Project Design
7. Resource Acquisition
8. Project Launch & Management
9. Measurement
10. Revision or Completion
The Committees

- Housing
- Workforce
- Small Business
- Champions & Volunteers
The Committee Process

The General Monthly Process
1. 6:00PM – 6:15PM Dinner & Networking
2. 6:15PM – 6:30PM Committee Updates
3. 6:30PM – 7:45PM Committee Work
4. 7:45PM – 8:00PM Committee Feedback
Committee Structure

Each committee will have a facilitator. Initially it will be a Federal Reserve Bank Community Development Advisor.

Each committee will have a volunteer “scribe” that will take notes, task lists, assignments.
Tentative Schedule

Meetings Second Tuesday of the Month

• January – Condition Assessment & Current Asset Assessment
• February - SMART Goal Setting
• March – Brainstorming
• April – Project / Activity Selection
The Process

Questions?
Econ Avenue Website

http://kansascityfed.org/community/econave/index.cfm
Next Steps

Upcoming Meetings

EconAvenue Community Meeting #1
January 14th, 2014: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Committee Work – Current Condition Assessment & Current Asset Assessment
Next Steps

January 2014 The Work Begins!
Contact

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For more information & resources
http://kansascityfed.org/community/