EconAvenue Community Meeting

11/12/2013

Dell Gines
Senior Community Development Advisor
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
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. Northeast KCK by the numbers
A detailed look at ZIP code 66101 and Wyandotte County economic and social data. Senior Economist Kelly Edmiston will examine housing, small business, employment, crime, demographic and other data focusing on the Northeast Kansas City, Kan., area.

III. Neighborhood leader feedback
Senior Community Development Advisor Dell Gines will share feedback received from 40 one-on-one meetings with local Northeast Kansas City, Kan., stakeholders, as well as the feedback received from the survey at the Oct. 8 EconAvenue meeting.

IV. Next steps

V. Adjourn
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
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

- Community
- Organizations
- Funders

In EconAvenue the community is the foundation of all activity and change!
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Stakeholder Meetings

Between June 2013 & August 2013
I met with over 40 individuals that lived, worked or served in Northeast Kansas City Kansas.
Stakeholder Meetings

• Neighborhood leaders
• Pastors
• Support agencies
• Community developers
• Young professionals
• Government officials
• Others
Stakeholder Meetings

1. The interviewee provided a description of their activities or organization.
2. The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City introduced the EconAvenue program.
3. An informal discussion was held on the key issues that were occurring in the NE KCK community.
4. A discussion was held on the potential receptiveness of the community to the EconAvenue program in particular, what would be the key barriers to success.
Stakeholder Meetings

Positive Thoughts

1. NE KCK is getting better
2. Crime is down
3. The community is ready to come together
4. The community is hungry for change
Stakeholder Meetings

Housing

1. More affordable housing is needed
2. Issues with vacancies, absentee landlords and aging housing
3. Challenges getting funding to build affordable housing
4. Qualifying individuals to purchase housing is difficult
Stakeholder Meetings

Workforce

1. Workers don’t have the skills to get the new jobs coming in the area
2. Lack of worker skills, soft skills, computer skills and skilled labor
3. Ex-offenders have trouble with employment
4. Many folks can’t pass drug testing requirement
5. Transportation to work is a challenge
Stakeholder Meetings

Small Business

1. Entrepreneurship development is limited, almost non-existent in 66101 and surrounding areas
2. Local small businesses are not being supported
3. There is no credit to help small businesses get established
4. More mom and pop stores need to be developed to serve the area
Stakeholder Meetings

Community

1. Multiple factions and cliques
2. Organizations are territorial and there are turf battles
3. The community is fractured and therefore has a fractured voice
4. Collaboration has been improving recently
Stakeholder Meetings

Leadership

1. Stifling of young and emerging leaders by current leaders
2. Older leaders entrenched in their roles and unwilling to be flexible in their approaches
3. Political leadership is unconcerned with the plight of the poor and has no clear plan for 66101 and surrounding area
4. Churches won’t come out of their doors and work with the community
The Process

Questions?
Next Steps

Upcoming Meetings

EconAvenue Community Meeting #3
December 3, 2013: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Topics
I. Overview of the collaborative process
II. Discussion on committee process
III. Formal invitation to leadership council participation and committee selection
Next Steps

January 2014 The Work Begins!
Upcoming Events

11/14/2013
"Community Of Owners"-Jobs, Housing & Advocacy project "We the People", the COO'S (Community Of Owners) November 14, 2013. 2611 Vine St. Kansas City, Mo,/Church of the Living God, CWFF. Contact for more information: Geguieffa Williams 816-291-7689 or email: together@ccateam.org

11/18/2013
HNMA (Historic Northeast-Midtown Association) is hosting a business coffee from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at JFK Community Center on Monday, November 18, 2013. Business owners with the HNMA territory are welcomed.

12/7/2013
HNMA is holding its quarterly meeting at JFK Community Center on Saturday, December 7 from 9 to 11 a.m.
Contact

Dell Gines
Sr. Community Development Advisor
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
dell.gines@kc.frb.org
(402) 221-5606

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