

## **GOALS of the Neighborhood Institute**

1. Increase the *capability* of participating neighborhoods to engage neighbors in cooperative and collaborative endeavors that benefit their neighborhoods.
2. Introduce neighborhoods to successful examples of *processes* for neighborhood improvement and advocacy; and to public agencies and resources available as *partners* to assist neighborhood endeavors.
3. Introduce residents to *skills* and *knowledge* needed *to lead* effective community organizations and voluntary associations.

## **Meeting the Goals... Ideal Outcomes & Examples of Success Stories**

### **1. Start a neighborhood organization of some type**

- a. Neighborhood Association / Organization
- b. Blockwatch
- c. Project-based organization
- d. Program-based

### **2. Plan and Produce an Event or Project**

- a. Mural
- b. Bike train / path
- c. Art show
- d. Festival
- e. Outdoor or Community Concert
- f. Block party
- g. Children's events
  - i. Easter egg hunt
  - ii. Storytelling
  - iii. Reading
- h. Community play / theater
- i. Community garden
- j. Clean up a vacant lot

### **3. Start a Program or Service**

- a. Help seniors with yard work
- b. Monthly litter pick-up
- c. Newsletters
- d. Website or email communication listserv
- e. Phone tree

### **4. Issues and Problems**

- a. Embrace an issue or work to solve a problem
  - i. Traffic
  - ii. Crime
  - iii. Development

- iv. Environmental (MSD, Air Quality, etc...)
- v. Code and Zoning
- vi. Absentee landlords
- vii. Law enforcement & Code enforcement
- viii. Housing

## **5. Physical Improvement**

- a. Streetscape rehab & improvement
- b. Park projects
- c. Signage
- d. Banners
- e. CARR-type evaluations (compiling reports to city government concerning the general condition of the neighborhood, highlight structures that need demolition and stabilization, identify the locations of litter and dumping spots that need to be cleaned up, law enforcement to deal with specific social problems)
- f. Greening projects & Brightside stuff
- g. Beautification

## **6. Grant writing**

- a. Writing grants for anything contributing to neighborhood improvement

## **7. Dealing with Conflict**

- a. Building consensus
- b. Finding ways to compromise

## **8. Organizing**

- a. Getting people involved
- b. Building strong relationships
- c. Developing social capital
- d. Strengthening the neighborhoods capacity