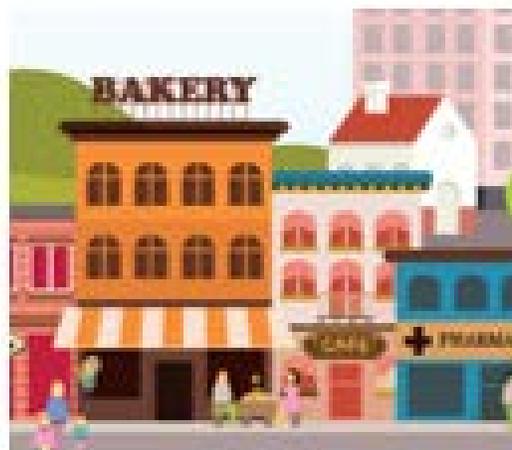
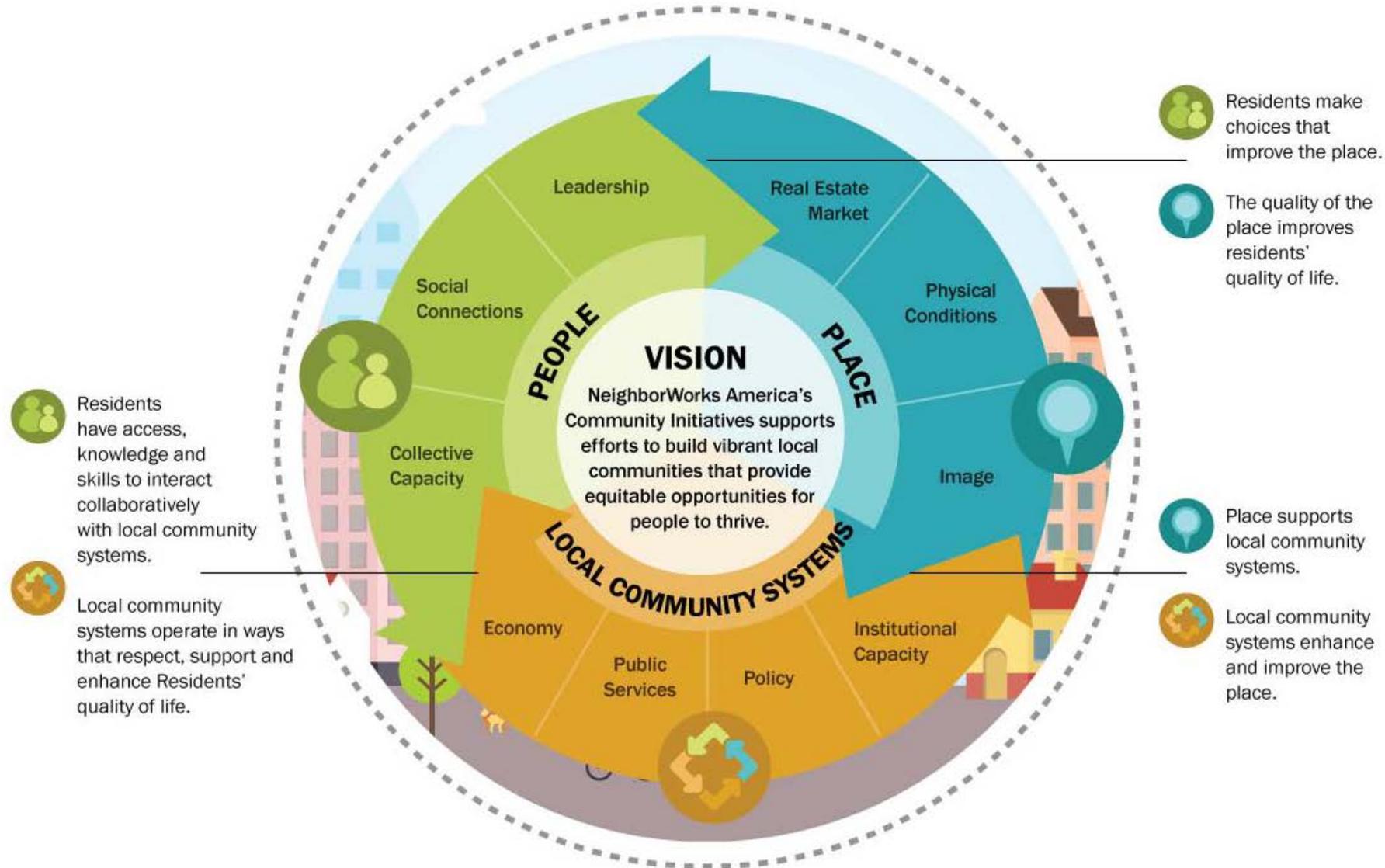


NeighborWorks America, Community Initiatives

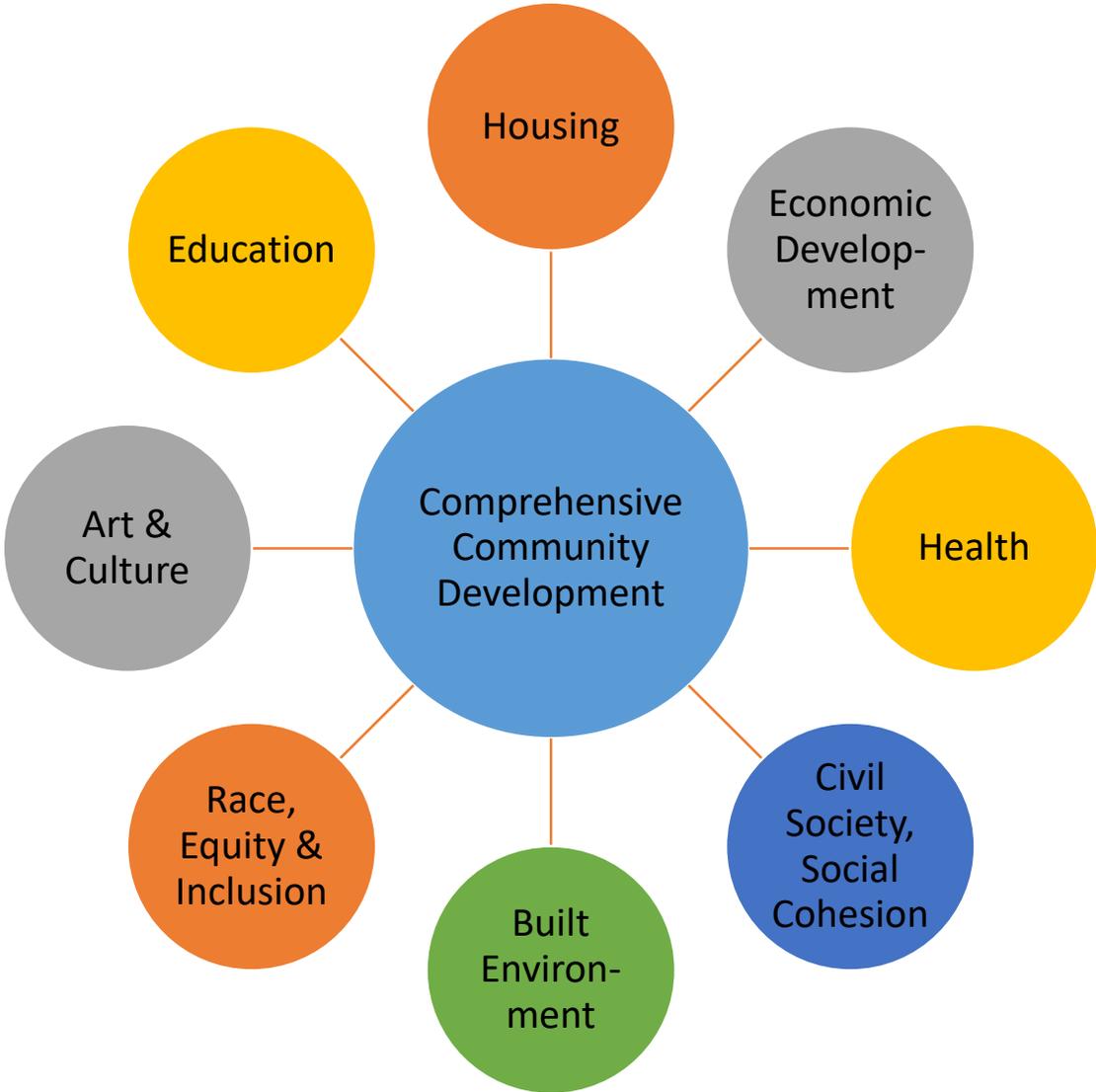
Community Building & Engagement
By Juan Leyton



Community Initiatives Theory of Change



Comprehensive Community Development



Community Initiatives

- **Rural Initiative** promotes, support and enhances comprehensive rural community development –a mix of affordable housing, economic development and strategies that strengthen and revitalize rural communities.
- **Healthy Homes & Communities** initiative integrates health principles into housing and community development. This includes promoting stable affordable housing that improves health outcomes.
- **Project Reinvests** is designed to support and further multi-faceted, place-based initiatives working to transform communities. Projects should be part of a strategic effort to create lasting change in a targeted place and be consistent with reaching a defined community outcome.
- **Community Building and Engagement** supports organizations across the NeighborWorks network to collaborate with residents to realize their shared vision. In particular, we ensure that network organizations are positioned to achieve impact in their efforts to build community, develop resident leaders, and support resident-driven groups.

Community Building & Engagement: Residents as the Driver for Transformed Places



Community Building & Engagement | Theory of Change



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Working Together for Strong Communities®



Community Leadership Institute Overview

- The Community Leadership Institute (CLI) is the cornerstone of NeighborWorks America's work to strengthen communities. The CLI enhances the capacity and commitment of local organizations to community leadership and increases community members' knowledge, skills, confidence and collective ability. Over the years, thousands of participants have come together to work with their neighbors to bring about positive change.
- The CLI experience consists of team building, onsite training and networking, and a yearlong action project. NeighborWorks network organizations and partners bring together teams of eight community residents accompanied by their staff to attend the annual in person training event. At the training, participants attend workshops, participate in plenary sessions with their peers, visit local community projects, and begin action planning for a project in their community. These projects are then eligible for a \$2,000 grant from NeighborWorks America which is implemented over the following year.
- The cumulative effect has been more sustainable solutions, ongoing community investment, and the community leadership necessary to create and maintain strong communities.

CLI Goals:

- Individuals - Increase the knowledge, skills and self-confidence of community members
- Teams - Build the collective capacity of CLI teams.
- Organizational - Enhance the capacity and commitment of local organizations to community leadership.

CLI Guiding Principles, The CLI will strive to:

- Offer high quality skills and knowledge training, which includes peer learning
- Build social connections among community leaders
- Create opportunities for community leaders to practice leadership skills
- Support teams to achieve community goals including those in their action plans
- Deliver programming that is relevant to current events and conditions in communities
- Provide excellent customer service to enhance participants' experience
- Promote diversity and inclusion
- Deliver programming that is multidimensional in order to meet the diverse learning needs of community leaders who are at different stages in their leadership development



What is a learning community?

A topic-based, collaborative forum in which a small cohort of NeighborWorks network organizations come together through a series of virtual and in-person meetings to refine and better understand practices, contexts and trends related to their comprehensive community development efforts. Each Learning Community will receive coaching from NeighborWorks staff and Subject Matter Experts and be guided by a lead network organization(s) who will help frame the challenge and exploration. Following the exploration phase, the cohort will work to gather the lessons learned and disseminate learnings to the network.

2018-19 Program Description

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITY BUILDING &
ENGAGEMENT LINE OF
BUSINESS

STRENGTHENING
COMMUNITY IN LOW WEALTH

TRAUMA-INFORMED
APPROACHES TO

CREATING LINKAGES WITH
HEALTH SYSTEMS AND

WHAT: 4 topic-based, cohort-led learning communities – cohort will engage in collaborative exploration and compile findings into a summary that will be disseminated to the broader network

WHO: per learning community: up to 10 network participants, subject matter expert, NeighborWorks staff facilitators

WHERE: combination of one in-person meeting in September and series of conference calls

WHEN: September 2018 -March 2019

Topic

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BUILDING & ENGAGEMENT LINE OF BUSINESS

This learning community will focus on how successful community building and engagement programs are able to bring adequate resources to sustain their operations, how to fund community building and engagement activities, and how to access additional resources.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Region</u>
NeighborWorks Great Falls	Co-Lead	Western
NeighborWorks Salt Lake	Co-Lead	Western
NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley	Cohort	Northeast
NeighborWorks Southern New Hampshire	Cohort	Northeast
The Neighborhood Developers, Inc.	Cohort	Northeast
RuralEdge	Cohort	Northeast

Subject Matter Expert: Corporate F.A.C.T.S.