

WHAT “MOVING TRAINS” COULD BE HARNESSSED?

Change horsepower can come in many forms. It is sometimes useful to look for the “moving trains” that have already taken on an issue, such as early childhood education, AIDS education, literacy, child abuse or even economic development or community safety. “Moving trains” are individuals, organizations or initiatives with the capacity, motivation and resources to create change. This can also be used to map existing structures, such as coalitions, networks, intermediaries or leadership groups.

Directions: Think of two or three major “moving trains” in your community. Write them in the numbered boxes across the top of the chart below (starting with one you are actively engaged in). Quickly check off what you know about their focus on this page. On the back of this page, check off what you know about their primary stakeholders and strategies. As you work, refer back to the Big Picture Goals categories. This tool will help you create a database of the initiatives in your community and help you identify strategic ways to link them.

MAPPING “CHANGE HORSEPOWER”						
BIG PICTURE GOALS	DESCRIPTORS		“MOVING TRAINS”			
			1.	2.	3.	
	Age Groups	Early Childhood				
		Elementary School				
		Middle School				
		High School				
		Young Adults				
	Supports	Caring Adults				
		Safe Places				
		Healthy Starts & Supports				
Effective Education						
Opportunities to Help Others						
Settings	Families					
	Youth Organizations					
	Schools/Colleges					
	Workplaces					
	Faith-Based Organizations					
	Community Places					
	Deep End Systems (e.g., Juvenile Justice)					
Goals	Protection/Problem-Reduction					
	Prevention					
	Preparation/Development					
	Participation/Leadership					
Outcomes	Learning					
	Working					
	Thriving					
	Connecting					
	Contributing/Leading					
Times	During School					
	Weekends					
	Before/After School					
	Summers					
	Evenings					
	Holidays					

MAPPING “CHANGE HORSEPOWER” (CONTINUED)

	DESCRIPTORS	“MOVING TRAINS”			
		1.	2.	3.	
BIG TENT PARTNERS	Professional Roles	Public Policy Makers			
		Media/Communications/Public Opinion			
		Researchers			
		Advocates/Organizers			
		Practitioners			
		Philanthropists/Funders			
		Labor			
		Business			
	Community	Children & Youth			
		Families			
		Communities			
		Cultural Groups			
	Services & Systems	Early Care & Development			
		After-School			
		Youth-Serving Organizations			
Libraries & Museums					
Health Care					
Youth Employment					
Civil Rights					
Community Service					
K-12 Education					
Higher Education					
Faith-Based Communities					
Prevention Programs					
Parks & Recreation					
Child Welfare					
Juvenile Justice					
Other (write in your own)					
BIG IMPACT STRATEGIES	Improving Systems	Program/Services Coordination			
		Workforce Strengthening			
		Capacity Building & Technical Assistance			
		Improving Quality			
		Performance Measurement/Evaluation			
	Aligning Policies & Resources	Needs/Assets Inventories			
		Coordinating Policies & Practices			
		Establishing Funding Priorities			
		Exploring Funding Alternatives			
		Assessing, Changing & Creating Policies			
	Increasing Demand	Constituency Building			
		Public Awareness/Education			
		Opinion Polling			
		Collecting, Using & Sharing Data			
		Public Outreach			
Advocacy & Organizing					
Engaging Youth & Families	Family Involvement				
	Skill/Leadership Development				
	Volunteer Service				
	Governance/Organizing/Advocacy				
	Philanthropy				
	Entrepreneurism				