

Social Change Wheel

Models of Community Involvement

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE DAILY BEHAVIOR

Activities that help make the world a little brighter for everyone

- Biking, taking public transportation, or carpooling to work
- Shopping at stores which give back to the communities they are located in directly
- Recycling, composting, etc.

DIRECT SERVICE

Activities which address immediate needs but not always the conditions from which needs emerge

- Serving food at a soup kitchen
- Improving literacy skills for adults and children
- Doing household projects for the elderly

COMMUNITY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Activities that identify human/economic assets of a neighborhood or community

- Completing a neighborhood assets inventory
- Offering leadership classes to local residents
- Working to educate a community about public health issues

ADVOCACY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Activities which raise awareness and/or change people's actions or attitudes

- Speaking to community groups about homelessness, crime, or recycling in their local community
- Developing workshops for groups to increase multicultural understanding

VOTING/FORMAL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Activities that mobilize people to influence public policies through formal political channels

- Organizing voter registration drives
- Working for a political campaign

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Activities that build trusting relationships among individuals and groups around issues of common concern

- Participating in March of Dimes
- Community clean-up efforts after a flood, earthquake, tornado or hurricane
- Planting a community garden as part of neighborhood revitalization efforts

GRASSROOTS POLITICAL ACTIVITY/ PUBLIC POLICY WORK

Activities that identify allies, build common ground, and implement strategies for changing public policy

- Door-to-door campaigning for clean water action
- Lobbying for additional funding for affordable housing
- Organizing a Congressional letter writing campaign

DIRECT ACTION STRATEGIES

Activities that use confrontation or public disobedience as a strategy for raising awareness of an issue

- Picketing or holding a candlelight vigil at the capital
- Participating or organizing rallies and marches