

## **Strengthening New Hampshire Communities and Civic Participation & Leadership– (2010)**

**Reporting years:** 2010,2010,2011,2012, 2013, 2014

### **Logic Model Overview:**

#### **Situation:**

New Hampshire communities face many challenges, including changing demographics, shifting economic structures, and societal crises, with unprecedented growth in some regions and decline in others. Extension's Community Development program helps communities achieve long-term well-being by building human, economic, social and environmental capacity. To build community capacity, Extension Educators provide a variety of educational services to community residents, organizations and local governments. Examples include facilitation of community forums, training in leadership development, assistance with planning activities and provision of technical assistance for economic development, tourism and communications. Extension also connects campus-based resources – particularly faculty and students – to New Hampshire communities.

Further, information gleaned from GAP assessments held in all 10 NH counties, as well as needs identified as a result of 45 Community Profiles conducted in NH towns over five years, indicates that communities find it difficult to engage diverse citizens in activities and decision-making processes. Lack of volunteerism and deficiencies in leadership exacerbate this decline in civic engagement. The following trends outline the situation facing NH communities:

- There appears to be a decreasing diversity of individuals participating in decision-making and community activities at the local level.
- There is a lack of support for activities that encourage diverse participation in local decision-making processes.
- The percentage of individuals that vote is declining.
- Social networks between community citizens, organizations, and associations appear to be weakening.
- Volunteerism around community activities has declined due to increasing life-demands on individuals and families.
- Existing leaders lack the skills to engage and/or mobilize diverse participation in community activities and decision-making processes.
- It is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit and develop new leaders for community activities.

#### **Assumptions:**

Majority of community members care about the community in which they live

Communities value environmental and economic sustainability

Communities understand the connection between choices and outcomes

Potential leaders exist in every community

#### **External Factors:**

Changes in priorities of the National Extension System may occur with changes in administration

Level of county, state and federal financial support

UNHCE administration's understanding, dedication to and support of community outreach varies with changing leadership

Disasters and terrorism may be critical incidents

Outputs/Activities	Outcomes/Impact		
	Learning Outcomes	Action Outcomes	Condition Outcomes
<p>Community Profiles, a community-level strategic planning program enables diverse community citizens to come together and map out their desired future and develop an action plan to achieve that future. In addition to working with communities to organize and facilitate Community Profiles, SNHC staff provide follow-up technical assistance to community action teams working on specific projects</p> <p>Participatory Planning: Provide assistance/training to enable communities to implement participatory planning processes (i.e. Master Plan visioning, visioning for the arts, youth-adult partnerships, juvenile justice, and accessible agriculture).</p> <p>Economic and Tourism Development Assistance: SNHC Team members provide technical and planning assistance to local economic development corporations, regional economic entities and tourism development groups to enhance their decision-making with regard to tourism and economic development plans, projects and activities.</p> <p>Web-Based Community Planning Tools: The SNHC team is developing a suite of web-based tools that will enable community decision-makers to conduct community assessments, inform community decisions and implement community-based plans. Examples of tools include the <i>Community Capacity Assessment</i> and the <i>Citizen Planner on-line Curriculum</i>.</p> <p>Facilitation/leadership skills course-provide yearly skills courses of two to five sessions to community leaders in group facilitation, participatory planning techniques and leadership.</p>	<p>Informal and formal community leaders enhance leadership and other skills to make them more effective leaders.</p>	<p>Participation by youth and adults in civic/leadership activities increase. Citizens will also recognize and value others' leadership skills.</p>	<p><b>Individuals and groups from communities gain new leadership skills that enable them to empower others to engage in community activities/projects.</b></p>
	<p>Community leaders understand that community issues span a broad range of topic areas, some of which may be foreign to them.</p> <p>Citizens learn processes to engage the public in community projects, plans and activities (i.e. value of local produce, master plan visioning, asset mapping)</p>	<p>Community leaders identify emerging community issues and needs</p> <p>Communities institute participatory processes to engage citizens to address needs, wants, visions and concerns (i.e. building a new school, creating a Master Plan vision). Through participatory processes, individuals realize they can make a difference in their communities.</p>	<p><b>Community leaders have a solid understanding of current and emerging needs/issues for decision making about their community's future</b></p> <p><b>A diverse range of community members - both communities of place and communities of interest - will become effectively engaged in planning, decision-making, needs assessment, community action and evaluation of community efforts.</b></p>
	<p>SNH4-With Extension's assistance, 15 communities to implement mechanisms/tools to analyze the current situation and identify emerging issues to be addressed.</p> <p>SNHC6-30 community leaders develop a new understanding of the issues facing their community.</p> <p>SNHC 09-5 – Ten communities/groups around the state implement participatory decision-making processes as a result of Strengthening New Hampshire Communities Team activities (i.e. Master Plan Visioning Session, Community Profile Action Planning, strategic planning). In addition, individuals and leaders in these communities realize their capacity to make a difference in their community. (formerly CPL4)</p> <p>SNHC 09-9- 100 community leaders learn skills to more effectively lead groups/organizations. (Relates to 4H8 &amp; SNHC1) (formerly CPL6)</p> <p>SNHC 09-10 - Over 50 community leaders (e.g. Selectpersons, Board/Commission members, etc) learn processes and techniques for engaging citizens in community decision-making. (formerly CPL8)</p> <p>SNHC09-14-3 NH communities implement comprehensive community assessment processes to help them to analyze their assets and potential opportunities (examples include Master Plan survey, local economic analysis, business inventory, community assets inventory, etc.).</p>		

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Facilitation/leadership skills course-provide yearly skills courses of two to five sessions to community leaders in group facilitation, participatory planning techniques and leadership.	Communities become more aware of resources available to build civic participation and leadership skills.	Communities take advantage of available resources to improve civic participation and leadership in communities (materials, websites, trainings, grants, technical assistance).	<b>Groups and organizations effectively mobilize available resources – technical assistance, information, and contacts – to achieve their mission/goals.</b>
Global Positioning System (GPS) Training: Provide training to community groups on using global positioning systems to map community assets.			
SNHC 09-11 - Through civic participation and leadership training, up to 50 individuals build a knowledge base for building civic engagement and leadership. (formerly CPL7)			
SNHC09-14 - 3 NH communities implement comprehensive community assessment processes to help them to analyze their assets and potential opportunities (examples include Master Plan survey, local economic analysis, business inventory, community assets inventory, etc.).			

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Participatory Planning: Provide assistance/training to enable communities to implement participatory planning processes (i.e. Master Plan visioning, visioning for the arts, youth-adult partnerships, juvenile justice, and accessible agriculture).			
Economic and Tourism Development Assistance: SNHC Team members provide technical and planning assistance to local economic development corporations, regional economic entities and tourism development groups to enhance their decision-making with regard to tourism and economic development plans, projects and activities.	SNHC1- 20 citizens take on new leadership roles within their community (Relates to 4H8)		
	SNHC 09-9- 100 community leaders learn skills to more effectively lead groups/organizations. (Relates to 4H8 & SNHC1) (formerly CPL6)		

<p>Web-Based Community Planning Tools: The SNHC team is developing a suite of web-based tools that will enable community decision-makers to conduct community assessments, inform community decisions and implement community-based plans. Examples of tools include the <i>Community Capacity Assessment</i> and the <i>Citizen Planner on-line Curriculum</i>.</p>	
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	<p>Facilitation/leadership skills course-provide yearly skills courses of two to five sessions to community leaders in group facilitation, participatory planning techniques and leadership.</p> <p>Inventory Citizen Engagement/Leadership Resources: Gather and post resources on web that focus on engaging citizens and building leadership capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- inventory of current resources</li> <li>- analysis of quality of resources</li> <li>- determine how to best disseminate information</li> </ul> <p>Community Profiles, a community-level strategic planning program enables diverse community citizens to come together and map out their desired future and develop an action plan to achieve that future. In addition to working with communities to organize and facilitate Community Profiles, SNHC staff provide follow-up technical assistance to community action teams working on specific projects</p> <p>Participatory Planning: Provide assistance/training to enable communities to implement participatory planning processes (i.e. Master Plan visioning, visioning for the arts, youth-adult partnerships, juvenile justice, and accessible agriculture).</p> <p>Economic and Tourism Development Assistance: SNHC Team members provide technical and planning assistance to local economic development corporations, regional economic entities and tourism development groups to enhance their decision-making with regard to tourism and economic development plans, projects and activities.</p> <p>Web-Based Community Planning Tools: The SNHC team is developing a suite of web-based tools that will enable community decision-makers to conduct community assessments, inform community decisions and implement community-based plans. Examples of tools include the <i>Community Capacity Assessment</i> and the <i>Citizen Planner on-line Curriculum</i>.</p>	<p>Communities become aware of their needs and wants and understand the importance of engaging citizens to assess current and emerging needs that strengthens social, economic and environmental resources</p>	<p>Communities build community networks that enhance their communities socially, economically and physically.</p> <p>Communities institute participatory processes to increase the level of local engagement and successfully implement action plans and policies to make a difference for their community.</p>
<p>SNHC 09-5 – Ten communities/groups around the state implement participatory decision-making processes as a result of Strengthening New Hampshire Communities Team activities (i.e. Master Plan Visioning Session, Community Profile Action Planning, strategic planning). In addition, individuals and leaders in these communities realize their capacity to make a difference in their community. (formerly CPL4)</p>			

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	<p>SNHC3-Up to 15 action groups/committees utilize UNH Cooperative Extension expertise in collaborative planning, in partnership with other agencies/organizations around the state, to preserve and conserve open space</p> <p>SNHC8- A minimum of 100 citizens and community leaders develop a better understanding of the Master Plan Development Process and local land use planning (Relates to SGWR25)</p>		
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	<p>SNHC09-2 - 15 community groups/organizations help to implement a minimum of 7 collaborative planning processes that create a minimum of 20 action groups.</p> <p>SNHC7-A minimum of 10 action groups/action committees engage diverse stakeholders in planning for the economic viability of their communities</p>		



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Research and teaching in community development.	Students increase knowledge and skills in basic principles and processes of asset-based community development.	Students and faculty advisors work with communities on applied research projects.	<b>Research and teaching at UNH is used to improve practice by key decision makers and policy makers.</b>
	SNHC09-12 -40 UNH students understand and apply basic principles and processes of asset-based community development. SNHC09-13 -5 undergraduate and/or graduate interns gain applied experience in the field of community development by working directly with New Hampshire communities, with the support of their faculty advisors. SNHC09-15 - 2 research projects focusing on New Hampshire community issues serve to bring new information that assists key decision-makers and policy-makers.		