### Jim Walter Partnership Center University of South Florida

# SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY ORGANIZING TODAY!

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### Philosophy and Values

- Create a <u>positive</u> experience of the community
- Build <u>respect</u> for community members of different generations, cultures, and backgrounds
- Enhance <u>ownership</u> of community assets and challenges
- Strengthen interpersonal <u>skills</u> for business, community, and school leadership
- Forge new <u>networks</u> between local business and community leaders
- Develop groundwork for new community <u>partnerships</u> with existing non-profits



### Your Community's Assets



**Education** 





**Political** 



Faith-Based





**Culture** 

**Organizations** 



# So HOW do we partner with the community to succeed?

### Empower and connect community leaders as we help:

- 1. Assess THEIR needs
- 2. Provide RELEVANT, effective training
- 3. APPLY skills to a powerful COMMUNITY PROJECT that makes a difference
- 4. Build STRONG PARTNERSHIPS.
- 5. Enhance long-term community NETWORKS and collaboration



### Assess Their Needs

- Conduct community focus groups and pilot programs
- Talk with and connect leaders across the community
- Assess individual leadership capacities and cultural diversity
- Generate and support participant-led projects





# Provide Relevant, Effective Training:

Four or five sessions of Fun, Learning, Friendship, and Impact!

- 1. Get to know one another and create a community vision to inspire projects.
- 2. Learn and apply project management skills.
- 3. Explore available resources. Practice effective communication and team building skills.
- 4. Practice presentation skills with project accomplishments



### Apply Skills to a Powerful Project

- Connect project topic to community vision
- Use project management skills
- Work as a team to reach goals
- Present tangible results at celebration banquet
- Continue implementation of project for community change





### **Build Strong Partnerships**

Strengthen relationships and networks

Classmates of different ages and backgrounds yearbook!

- Program alumni serve on JWPC Board
- Community and business leaders as speakers and resources
- Local officials introductions
- Potential funders





### Enhance communication, network, and collaboration skills

- Elected city, county, and state officials
- Law enforcement
- Local government officials
- Housing Authorities and CRA leaders
- Nonprofits, CDCs, NeighborWorks
- Faith-based groups
- Educational entities
- Youth organizations





#### From Idea to Action!

- Wimauma Community Health Fair
- "Putting Neighbor Back in the 'Hood"
- Beautification of Youth Center by Youth
- Community narratives in booklet, "Your Shoes, My Story"
- Haitian Dance Troupe (non-profit organization now)
- Teen Green Project (received Beautification Grant)



### Wimauma Miracles!





#### Putting Neighbor back in the 'Hood! Child's Park, St. Petersburg



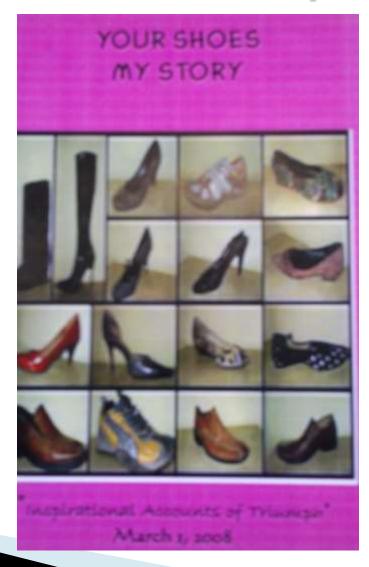
# Partner: City of St. Petersburg



### Dream, Play, Learn, Implement!



## Your Shoes, My Story: University Area CDC, Tampa





### Haitian Dance Troupe--Judith





Teen Green Project--Antonio



### Jerome Ryan, President, Tampa Housing Authority





# Thank you for all you do!

For more information about Grassroots Leadership Development, please contact Manny Rivero at <a href="mailto:mrivero@usf.edu">mrivero@usf.edu</a>

