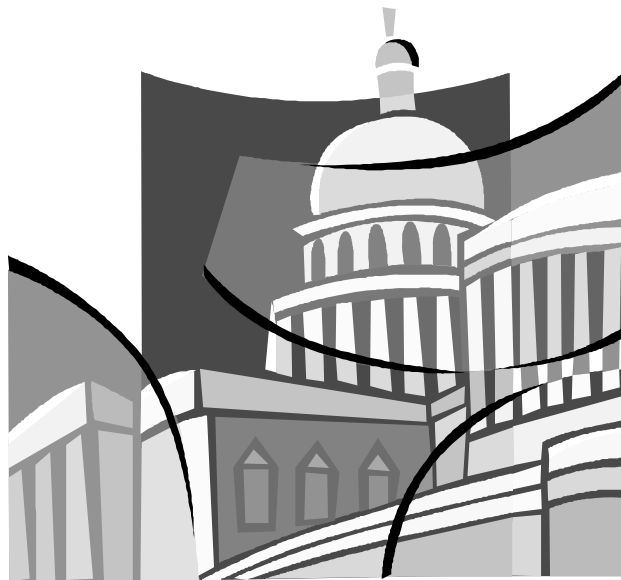




Institutions:

Organized for Consistency Sustainability
Reliability



Schools Parks Libraries

Government Nonprofit Agencies

Hospitals Private Businesses

(where we go to work each day)



△ Institutions:

Fortress or Treasure Chest?

Strong communities make strong institutions...

Ways to be community serving by local action:

- Purchasing
- Hiring
- Investment and banking
- Youth training
- School involvement
- Accountability: local people serving on boards and committees
- Staff contributes time, resources and effort to community
- Contributing use of space and equipment
- Opening doors



STRATEGIES FOR INSTITUTIONS AS SERVANTS

What can agencies and institutions do to build stronger citizens' groups and stronger communities? How to lead by "stepping back"?

CHAMPIONS FOR CHANGE- staff can work to get citizens power and resources - and can help agencies move from "lord to servant".

SMALL GRANTS- to activate citizenship through small amounts of funding to citizen groups.

SELF INVENTORIES- what does our agency have to offer to strengthen local citizens? (outside our service mission)

ASSOCIATION MAPPING- find and connect local associations and congregations.

OTHER ASSET MAPPING- discover what assets we have in our community to address issues.

CONVENE INSTITUTIONS- organize institutions to support citizens' action — as citizens' groups want.

AUTHORIZE CITIZENS TO ACT- agencies can use expertise and clout to encourage citizens' action.

SUPPORT CITIZEN ORGANIZING- invest in and support the development of citizen organizing groups and citizen centered community partnerships.

ECONOMIC POWER—buy, hire, train in ways that strengthen the local economy.