



COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING

GCORR
CHURCH TO
COMMUNITY:
CHURCH FOR
ALL PEOPLE

As we looking to become involved in our community, it is important to appreciate the assets that we have as well as the assets that our community brings. Sometimes we are woefully unaware of all the blessings that God provides! This is where asset mapping comes in.

Asset mapping helps us to appreciate the many gifts and opportunities that God has given us to the do the good work of building the Kingdom together. By identifying our assets, we are better able to move away from a deficits-based mentality, which often stymies' progress and denigrates our community. Asset mapping helps to recognize the good things that God has given us, and then allows us to leverage those assets into our next ministry opportunity!

Invite a team of leaders in your church to walk in pairs around the neighborhoods that surround your church. Make observations about the resources and opportunities you see. Try not to focus on the things that are wrong, but the things that are going well that may bring momentum to the next opportunity. As you cross paths with people in the neighborhood, ask them what their own hope and dreams are for the community.



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As you walk identify the following:

1. Individuals that are part of the community (young, old, business owners, teachers, retirees, students):

a. _____

2. Buildings and physical places (parks, schools, churches, recreation centers, open fields, libraries):

a. _____

3. Community organizations (Kiwanis clubs, sororities/fraternities, civic associations, clergy clusters):

a. _____

4. Businesses and institutions (restaurants, hospitals, grocery stores, post offices, retail stores):

a. _____

Once you have completed your walk, come back together and share what you have observed. Discuss some of the following questions:

Who is in your neighborhood?

Where do they work or go to school?

What do they like to do when they are not at work or at school?

What physical spaces are being used and which one have capacity to be used more?

What spaces are the ones the community feels most comfortable in?

Once you have shared your observations, begin discussing how your church community might partner with the neighborhood to leverage some of your mutual assets in your next outreach ministry opportunity. Use this exercise in conjunction with the 'Divine Economy of Abundance' exercise to help your church pair its assets with the assets of the community.