

# PROJECT PLANNING

Ideas for conducting a community needs assessment:

- *Brainstorm* - Gather program staff, volunteers, and/or other community members to brainstorm community issues/needs. As a group, examine the causes and effects of the issue and then brainstorm potential projects to address the needs identified.
- *Community Dreams* - As you meet and mingle with people living in the community you're working with, ask them about the changes they would like to see happen. If they had unlimited resources, what would they like to change? How would they go about changing it?
- *Community Walk* - Hold a forum to collect information from community members about issues/needs. Ask them to offer suggestions for potential projects.
- *Survey* - Conduct a formal or informal survey of community members to identify issues/needs. Surveys might include questions such as: What problems do you see in the community? What are the most pressing issues in the community right now? What types of service projects would be most beneficial for the community? List two things you want to change in the community.