This Toolkit Produced for

Deeper Learning ’16

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ABCD: And We Aren’t Talking About The Alphabet
Using Asset Based Community Development to Strengthen Your School

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Hand
Make a list of all those things you can do with your hands

Head
Make a list of all those things you are good at with your brain

Heart
Make a list of all those things you are passionate about

Human
Make a list of important relationships in your neighborhood, community, and beyond—people you can ask to get things done
Individual Reflection

Learners personally journal answers to queries around personal gifts/talents, inspiring questions, and dreams/aspirations.

1. What are your gifts? What are your talents? What do you love to do? Come up with at least 7 capabilities that will serve your Deepen Learning Dream well in your local context.

2. What are questions that inspire you? What are the 3 questions that your work implementing your Deeper Learning Dream over the next year at your school will answer?

3. In regard to your work at your school related to Deeper Learning, what are your dreams and aspirations? What do you most often daydream about in regards to your school life? Complete this sentence at least 5 times: “It would be so great if I could…”
Sample — CAPACITY INVENTORY
Developed by the New Prospect Baptist Church, Cincinnati, OH

INTRODUCTION

My name is __________________________ What is your name?

Thank you for coming over. Did someone talk to you about what the “Gift Exchange” is all about? What do you understand it to be?

Basically, we believe that everyone has God-given talents and gifts that can be used to benefit the community. I'd like to spend a few minutes talking to you about your gifts and skills.

GIFTS
Gifts are abilities that we are born with. We may develop them, but no one has to teach them to us.
1. What positive qualities do people say you have?
2. Who are the people in your life that you give to? How did you give it to them?
3. When was the last time you shared with someone else? What was it?
4. What do you give that makes you feel good?

SKILLS
Sometimes we have talents that we’ve acquired in everyday life such as cooking and fixing things.
1. What do you enjoy doing?
2. If you could start a business, what would it be?
3. What do you like to do that people would pay you to do?
4. Have you ever made anything? Have you ever fixed anything?

DREAMS
Before you go, I want to take a minute and hear about your dreams—these goals you hope to accomplish.
1. What are your dreams?
2. If you could snap your fingers and be doing anything, what would it be?
Partnerships with Associations

Use this tool to illustrate partnerships that your organization already has with associations in your community and to think about new partnerships which might be useful to this project and your organization.
Partnerships with Institutions

Use this tool to illustrate partnerships that your organization already has with institutions in your community and to think about new partnerships which might be useful to this project and your organization.

EXISTING

POTENTIAL

Your Organization
# A Window into My Organization

Review the types of assets that can be found within an organization. Use the next page to document your own organization's assets.

- **Personnel**
  - Expertise in/outside of job:
  - Ability to teach:
    - Art
    - Music
    - Athletics
  - Individual abilities:
    - Finances
    - Community History Writers
    - Health Care
  - Individual Traits:
    - Ideas
    - Energy
    - Enthusiasm
  - Technical Training:
    - Computers
    - Communications
    - Vehicle Operations & Repair
    - Investigation and Research
    - Child Care
  - Networks of Connections
  - Knowledge of Community
  - Leadership Development

- **Space and Facilities**
  - Meeting Rooms
  - Break Rooms or Kitchen
  - Glass Display Cases
  - Computer Rooms
  - Drinking Fountains
  - Gardens
  - Bulletin Boards
  - Lounges
  - Parking Lots
  - Bathrooms

- **Materials & Equipment**
  - Computers
  - Expensive Software
  - Desks, chairs, & other Furniture
  - Scanner
  - Printing Equipment
  - Fax and Copier
  - Digital Camera
  - Books, magazines, & newspapers
  - Telephones for hearing impaired
  - Artworks
  - Literacy and GED materials
  - Community History Files
  - Information on Community Organizations
  - Social Service Resources
  - Financial Information

- **Expertise**
  - Classes:
    - Arts, Athletics, Math,
    - GED, Literacy, Language
  - Educational Workshops:
    - Crime Prevention
    - Computer-Literacy
    - Healthy Eating
    - Storytelling
    - Leadership Skills
  - Knowledge of Community
  - Education & Training Courses

- **Constituents**
  - Individual Abilities & Interests
  - Individual Traits:
    - Ideas, energy, idealism
  - Linkages to Adults & Children
  - Linkages to Community
  - Collective Abilities & Interests

- **Networks of Connections**
  - Private Institutions
  - Public Institutions
  - Associations
  - Individuals

- **Economic Power**
  - Job Training
  - Sponsor Fundraisers
  - Hire Local People
  - Assist in Writing and Submitting Grants for Community Projects
  - Purchasing Power
  - Power to generate & receive special funds through bond issues, government, and foundations
Creating An Inventory Of Your Organization’s Assets

Your organization is filled with people, knowledge, and materials that should be recognized and shared. Now that you have reviewed page 19, take a moment to:

- Identify your organization’s assets
- Document these assets
- Use the next page to connect these assets to your project

A Window Into My Organization

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<thead>
<tr>
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Individual Mapmaking

Learners transfer this exact format into a map on flipchart paper and then post on wall

- On each table, there are several sheets of flipchart paper
- Set this paper up Landscape style
- On this paper, you’re going to transfer the notes from your original reflection, and your 1:1 conversations into a clear, readable map
- Please write clearly, as others will be reading it; also, be sure to leave the blank space
What is Needed to Mobilize a School Community?

• **Concerned School Community members** ready to take a stand, say they want something different and are willing to work

• **Emerging Leadership** that inspires and guides the project

• A common **Community vision** of the results

• **Involved people** who recognize that the means to achieve goals will vary but still support the common goal

• **Recognition and encouragement** of those who contribute to reaching the goal

• **Specific plans and goals** to reduce the impact of at-risk situations

• **Leadership that encourages**, builds and finds strategies but doesn’t become the focus of the situation

• **Recognition** that human relationships are important

• **Time**
Moving Forward

3 learning/intention statements. Complete the following statements three times.

From this sesh, I discovered/re-learned that I…
  •
  •
  •

From these learnings I intend/plan to…
  •
  •
  •

Five people I intend to connect with over the next month:
  1.
  2.
  3.
  4.
  5.

Here are 5 things I can do in the next month based on what I learned in this session to better implement my project:
  1.
  2.
  3.
  4.
  5.