

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do you want to help your community but don't know how? There are many ways to evaluate what problems are facing your neighborhood. Here is a short list of ways you can get started.

Mind Mapping

Draw your map and consider the some questions like, what are issues facing my community? What could be the causes of this problem? Brainstorm for project ideas that can remedy these problems. Evaluate and prioritize the project ideas to find the perfect fit.

Conduct a Survey

Ask a group of people what their biggest concerns for the community are and how they would change it.

Genie

Ask people what they would wish for with unlimited resources if they were granted three wishes for their community. Keep a list of the wishes and see if there is a project idea that can fit them.

Community Goals

Does your town have a specific set of goals? What about your school or neighborhood? Research and find out what the groups around you are trying to do to help get ideas for volunteering.

Observation

Are there any special events going on around town that may need assistance? Check your local paper to find out.

Exercise Your Right

Write letters, call or visit members of your city council or state legislature. Ask them what some pressing issues are in your community, state or town. Perhaps some of these issues can be helped through organizations in your town.