

A Tamarack Institute Webinar

THEORY OF CHANGE TO THEORY OF INFLUENCE

Lessons Learned from Chicago's New Communities Program

With Joel Bookman & Sylvia Cheuy

 **TAMARACK**
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Technical Considerations

- **We've got you covered** - You will receive a full recording of the call, the slides as well as a collection of links & resources.
- **Join the conversation** - Use the Q&A panel on your Zoom client to submit and vote for questions you'd like us to discuss.
- **Technical Support** - You can use the chat panel to ask for technical support throughout the webinar.

Gratitude & Acknowledgement

We begin this webinar by acknowledging that we are meeting on Indigenous land. As settlers, we are grateful for the opportunity to meet and we thank all the generations of Indigenous peoples who have taken care of this land.

As settlers, this recognition of the contributions and historic importance of Indigenous peoples must be clearly and overtly connected to our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities.



Sylvia Cheuy



Joel Bookman

FRAMING THE CONVERSATION

Please tell us more about the New Communities Program. What is its role/focus and how has it evolved over time?

NEW COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Humboldt Park
Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation

East Garfield Park
Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance

North Lawndale
Lawndale Christian Development Corporation

Little Village
Enlace Chicago

Washington Park
Washington Park Consortium

Chicago Southwest
Greater Southwest Development Corporation

Auburn Gresham
Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation

Englewood
Teamwork Englewood

Logan Square
Logan Square Neighborhood Association

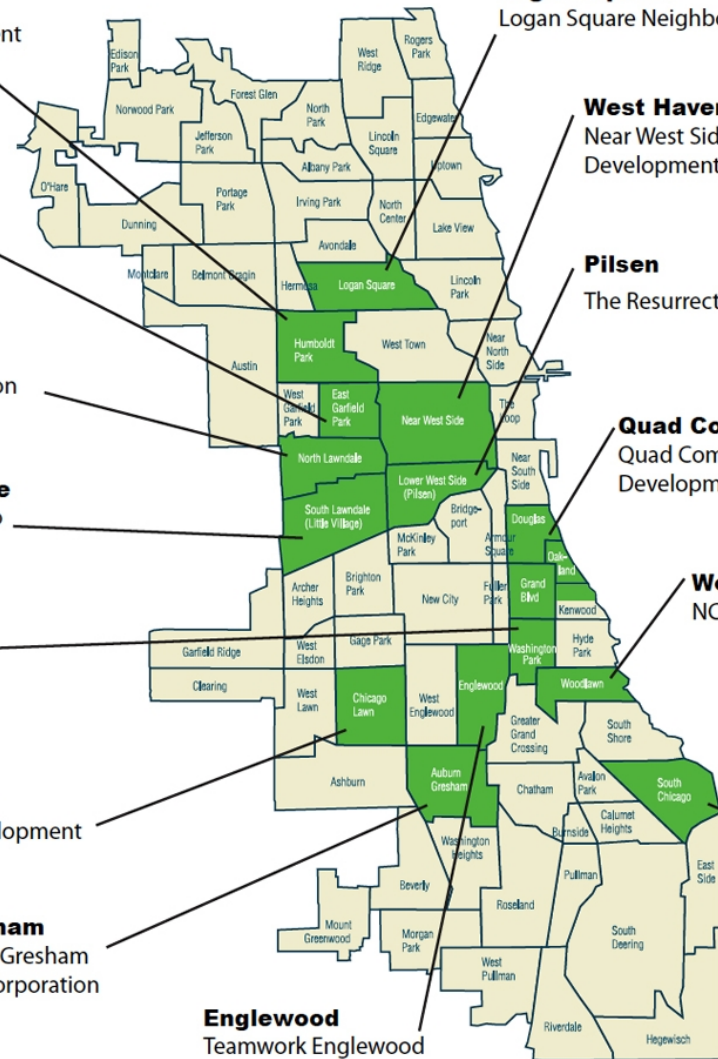
West Haven
Near West Side Community Development Corporation

Pilsen
The Resurrection Project

Quad Communities
Quad Communities Development Corporation

Woodlawn
NCP Woodlawn

South Chicago
Claretian Associates



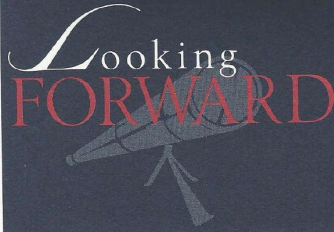
On the horizon...

First Symposium Generates Fruitful Discussion

Brophy, Chico Deliver Keynotes at Upcoming Symposia

Fall National Symposium Planning Underway

March 1997



Kemmis, Obama Provide Food For Thought at First Futures Committee Symposium

Former Missoula, Montana, Mayor Daniel Kemmis and Illinois State Rep. Barack Obama launched the biweekly symposia of the Futures Committee Strategy Group on February 14 with a stimulating discussion of Chaos Theory and the Principles of Healthy Communities.

Kemmis, a widely read author on cities, communities and civic engagement and current director of the Center for the Rocky Mountain West, kicked off the session by noting how important it is to take the time — as we are doing in Chicago — to question basic assumptions and methodologies inherited from the past and to investigate their relevance for the future.

Kemmis referred to the contemporary science of chaos theory/complexity, which suggests that apparently independent tracks of activity, such as we often see in community development work, may actually lead to coherent forms just at the moment we least expect. He went on to suggest that what we may be seeing in community work today is precisely such a coalescence.

In fact, according to Kemmis, it is essential to

understand communities as organic forms with structures that develop according to their own logic and that pay scant attention to artificial boundaries — boundaries which often keep an organic system from flourishing. Moreover, organic systems like communities develop relationships to other systems according to their own needs and without respect to structures imposed on them externally.

As an example, Kemmis described how his own hometown of Missoula, Montana is affected by the city of Chicago and that it is impossible now to think of Chicago apart from its larger metropolitan region or the Midwest as a whole.

Kemmis concluded by saying that community leaders today need to recognize the organic and chaotic nature of the communities with which they work, "hospice old ways of thinking" and "midwife the new organic forms that are emerging" especially when the new forms press head to head against the plastic boundaries with which they are competing.

Obama, newly elected to the General Assembly and a former community organizer and Harvard Law School

graduate, followed Kemmis and outlined what he termed the "eight principles of healthy communities":

- A sound economic base, including a living wage and the opportunity for advancement in work;

- The need to organize around production, not consumption;

- Primacy of the family, broadly conceived to include the variety of personal connections that constitute family, and the importance of family-friendly social and economic structures;

- The central importance of education, again broadly conceived to include basic skills as well as instruction in common values like honesty and self-reliance;

- An accessible and transparent public square, that emphasizes commonality, a shared language and lore, while also recognizing and valuing diversity;

- Inclusive civic associations and political structures, with processes that emphasize connectedness and interdependency;

- Thriving community-supported mediating institutions, including religious institutions, unions, civic and

other voluntary associations, and others; and

- A shared mentality that values the past as it invites and embraces the future.

"We must recognize the major tensions that exist in all communities — tensions defined by race, by class, by culture, by religion," Obama said. "A healthy community combines a recognition of individuality with a well defined public sensibility, and emphasizes both personal and collective responsibility."

The comments of Kemmis and Obama generated much thoughtful discussion as members of the audience, which included a broad and representative cross-section of the community, corporate and political leadership of the greater Chicago metropolitan area, participated in a question and answer period following the opening remarks.

(If you are not on the mailing list, but would like to be, call Sandra Womack at 312.697.6105. For other information, call Jim Cappravo at 773.436.1000.)

CHANGING THE WAY WE DO THINGS

Recommendations and Findings of The Futures Committee

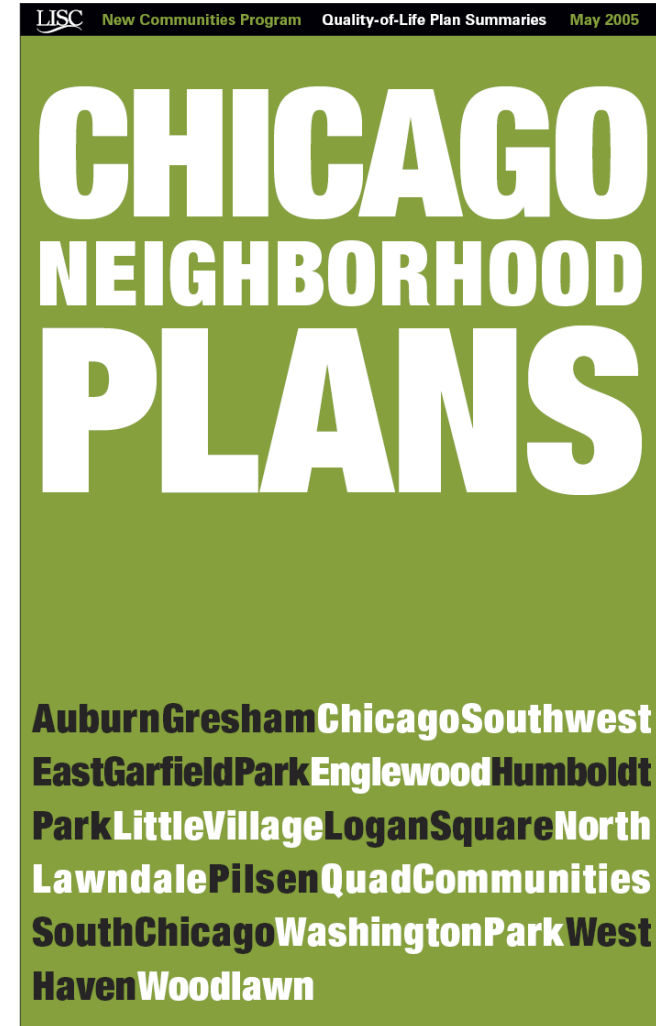
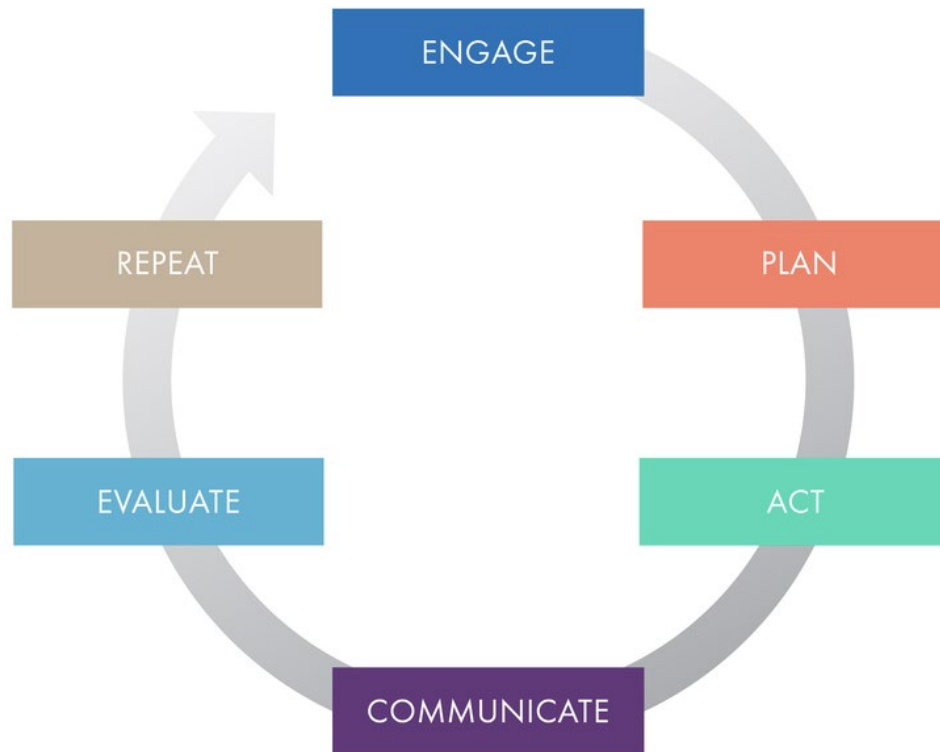


■ October 1997 ■

Made available through:

Local Initiatives Support Corporation/Chicago
547 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 601 ■ Chicago, IL 60661
Tel: 312/360-0800 ■ Fax: 312/360-0183

New Communities Program Model



EXPERIENCE AND PERSPECTIVE

How do you think your diverse experiences have affected how you think about the work of community & neighbourhood development?



★ Peace in Pilsen

★ Summer 2014



RESURRECTION
BASKETBALL LEAGUE

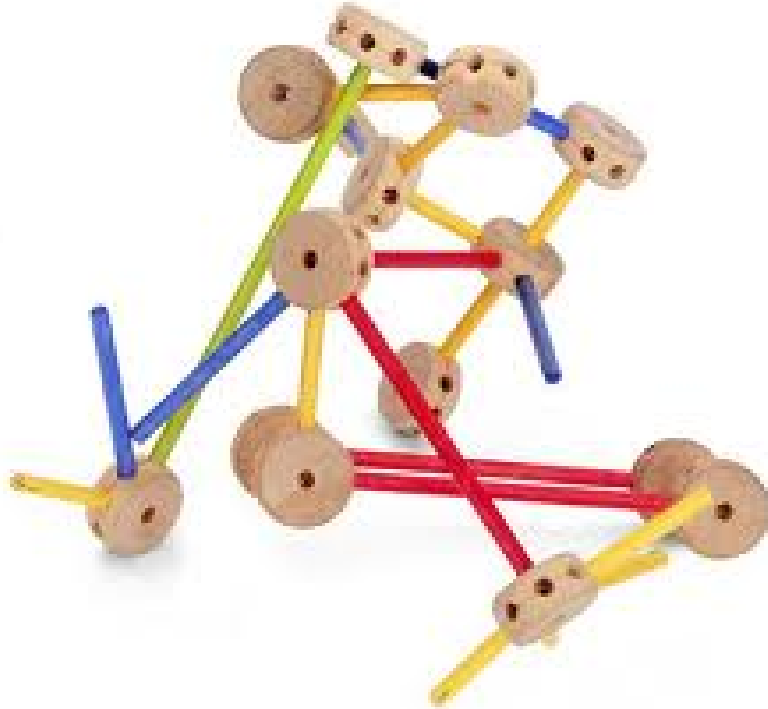
THEORY OF CHANGE TO THEORY OF INFLUENCE

The Leadership of the New Communities Program use the idea of a Theory of Influence, rather than the more commonly used approach of a Theory of Change. Can you describe how these two frameworks are different? How does the Theory of Influence Framework change how NCP thinks about its work?

CAPTURING THE ESSENCE OF THE PROGRAM

How has NCP's use of a Theory of Influence affected how you measure and communicate about the project's impact?

The Platform



- Virtual infrastructure
- Network of relationships
- Delivery mechanism
- Way to innovate with new program ideas
- Vehicle for program integration
- Accountability structure

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

When you consider the current realities facing communities and neighbourhoods, what are the things you think we need to be paying attention to as we think about the future?

Ten Years Later

ENGLEWOOD, CHATHAM, AUBURN GRESHAM

Auburn Gresham Project Wins \$10 Million Prize From Charitable Foundation

The Pritzker Traubert Foundation's Chicago Prize will help bring a \$50 million campus with a health center, urban farm and affordable housing to life.

 Maxwell Evans 2:15 PM CDT on Aug 6, 2020



Credit: Provided
A rendering of the renewable energy and urban farming campus.



CREATING SAFER NEIGHBORHOODS CONTINUES DURING COVID-19



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FROM NOVEMBER 29, 2019, TO JANUARY 10, 2020

New Communities Program

The New Communities Program (NCP) is a model of comprehensive community development that was seeded by a MacArthur Foundation grant administered by the Local Initiatives Support Corporation/Chicago. It is an effort to connect organizations in underserved communities, to maximize resources, and to improve the quality of life of neighborhood residents.

In 2003, Bickerdike was selected as the lead agency for NCP in Humboldt Park. Since then, Bickerdike has collaborated with over 70 community partner organizations from across a wide range of sectors to draft and substantially implement two consecutive, five-year Quality of Life plans for Humboldt Park.

Currently, the Humboldt Park NCP Task Force meets quarterly to discuss and learn about issues affecting the community. The Youth and Safety Committee is focused on reducing the impact of crime on young people in the community.

The Humboldt Park NCP Task Force meets on the fourth Wednesday of the quarter. Meeting information and updates are available on our [events calendar](#).

Ten Years Later

North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council | CMAP | LISC Chicago New Communities Network QUALITY-OF-LIFE PLAN 2018

NORTH LAWDALE THE NEXT CHAPTER



This IS Englewood

Gordon Walek
Published: October 7, 2016



The new Englewood Square shopping center at 63rd and Halsted

SOUTH CHICAGO, EAST SIDE

South Chicago's Long-Planned Affordable Housing, Retail Development On 92nd Street Set To Open In 2 Years

Two projects on 92nd Street, one of which has been in the works for more than a decade, will bring 78 units of affordable housing with space for a grocery store alongside a Calumet River garden and play space.

Maxwell Evans 12:15 PM CST on Jan 15, 2021



Credit: Landon Bone Baker
A rendering of the planned mixed-use development at 3211-3229 E. 92nd St.



ABOUT PROGRAMS NEWS EVENTS RESOURCES

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WE ARE A COMMUNITY-BUILDING ORGANIZATION

made up of dedicated residents and allies working together to develop leaders and create opportunities and programs that build a vital Garfield Park community.

MORE ABOUT US



QUESTIONS?

Online courses in French and English

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THANK YOU