

Map it out: A visual and physical participatory method for data collection

# The Improve Group

- Evaluation, research, strategic planning, and capacitybuilding
- Data-driven to answer questions that will help leaders make decisions they can be confident in
- Coaching for programs to do internal evaluation and research
- Local (Minnesota), National, and International clients
- Blog and other resources at www.theimprovegroup.com (Facebook and Twitter)

# Purpose of community mapping

- To show depth, connectedness, and gaps in resources
- Helps stakeholders visualize
  - concentration or absence of resources
  - proximity of resources to particular locations and populations
- Results in two rich data sources
  - the map itself
  - facilitated discussion

# Background

- How we used community mapping in Faribault, Martin, and Watonwan Counties
  - Inventory
  - Needs assessment
  - Choose interventions
- Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP)



#### Strengths of the process

- Engages all stakeholders in creating visual map and through facilitated discussion
- Shared understanding among stakeholders though collaborative process
- Accommodates multiple learning styles visual, auditory, and kinesthetic
- Accommodates different communication styles and levels of comfort
- Promotes community involvement, ownership and empowerment

#### Preparation: What do you want to know?

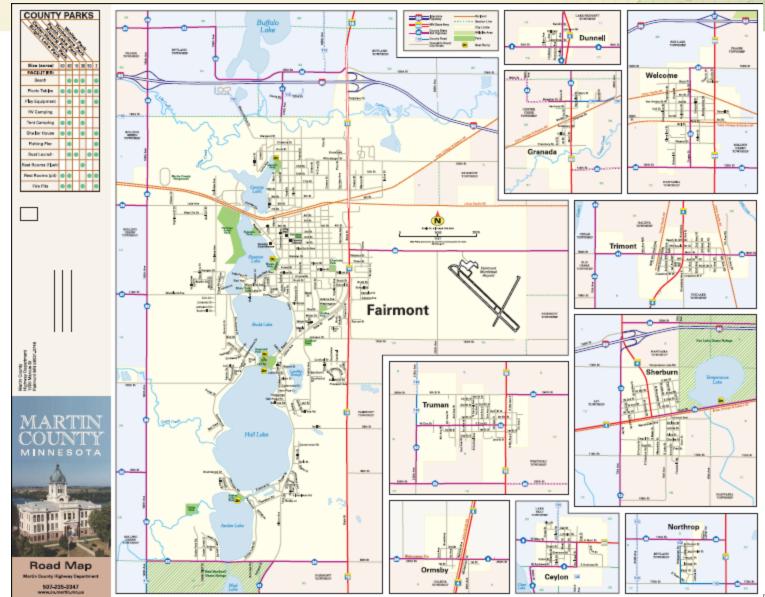
There are <u>many</u> ways to define what you want to know. Consider these questions as you develop the mapping activity for data collection:

Do you want to...

- know what a population knows or doesn't know about a topic or resource?
- identify the concentration, gaps, and relationships among assets and deficits?

Identify the area (community) where you want to map out assets and deficits

- Geographical region (city, neighborhood), building, campus
  - Example from The Improve Group's project with SHIP



Identify the area (community) where you want to map out assets and deficits

- Geographical region (city, neighborhood), building, campus
  - Example from The Improve Group's project with SHIP
- Specific groups (population-based)
  - Example from The Improve Group's project with another project

Indicators relevant to the Arts in Health Network as whole	Indicators relevant to a specific "un/under-reached population"	
	Population #1:	(i.e. Spanish-speaking newcomers)
	Population #2:	
	Population #3:	(i.e. Pediatric nurses or art therapists)

strong asset	somewhat of an asset	somewhat of a challenge	significant cha
	= informal relationships		
	= formal relationship		
>>>>>>	= direction of asset or deficit ori	gination (e.g. from one indicator	to another)

LEGEND

#### Preparation: Create a map

#### Find a map depicting this area

 Google maps, Yahoo maps, Department of Transportation websites, DNR websites, tourism or chamber of commerce

#### Challenges:

- Printing at a print shop (publically owned material)
- Cost
- Size
- Level of appropriate detail
   Do you need street names? County boundaries? Trails?

#### Preparation: Create icons

- Create a list of potential assets and deficits/detractors
  - If the list is long, you can collapse into larger categories to make the activity more manageable
- Find images to represent the identified assets and deficits
  - Google images, clip art, blank icons

# Preparation: Create icons













#### Preparation: Create icons



Evidence, Data, and Knowledge



**Leadership & Partnership** 



**Financial** 



Local, State, & Federal Government



**Volunteers** 

#### Preparation: Identify mapping participants

Per map, include 4 – 10 people who:

- share an interest in the issue being explored
- hold a stake in the issue
- have different viewpoints or knowledge about the issue and area being examined
- are from a wide variety of groups or organizations

#### Actually doing it

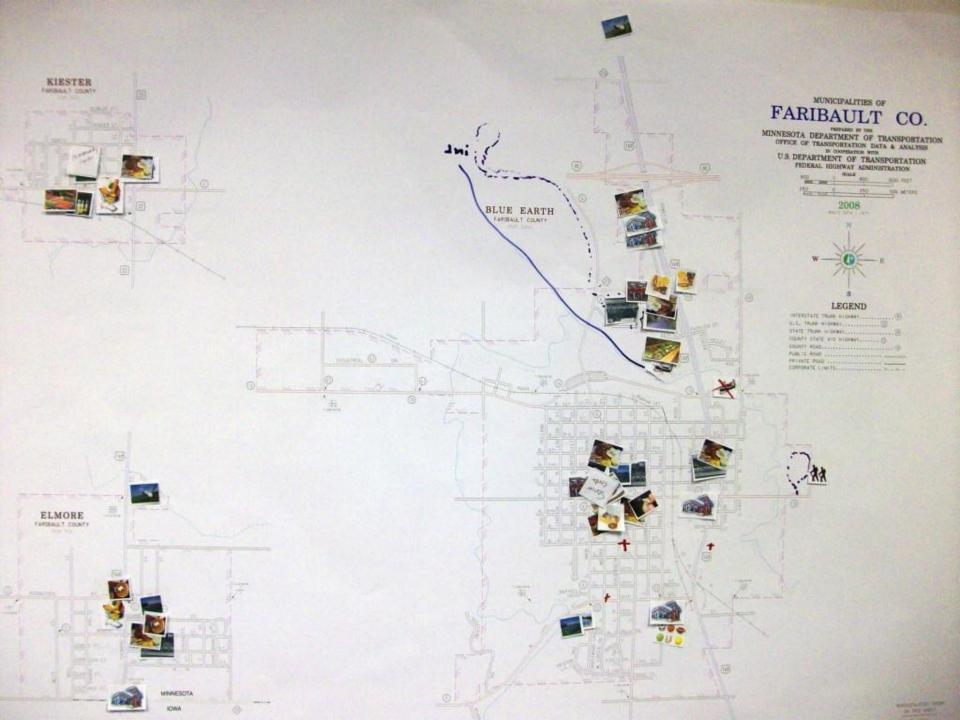
- Break into groups
- Tape asset and detractor icons to map
  - Write notes to explain, if needed
- Facilitator assisted each group with the mapping process
- Small groups present maps to larger group
- Discussion about common assets and detractors

# The case of Faribault, Martin, and Watonwan Counties

- What we learned
- How it informed the broader needs assessment

#### Community mapping exercise examples SAINT JAMES NO WATON MUNICIPALITIES OF WATONWAN MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUTTERFIELD MATONWAN COUNTY Notes CBB Uniote rated - New Constantion don't require sidewalks -Nature area -walting Last of sidewalks ODIN ORMSBY WATCHWAR AND MARTIN COUNTIES. LA SALLE WATCHWAY COUNTY





#### Interactive Exercise

#### **Anaheim Chamber of Commerce**

What visitors like and don't like to do during their stay

Map: The area around this hotel and conference

What to identify on the map: Things that <u>are fun</u> to do and things that <u>are not fun</u> to do in the area

- Tape icons to map
- Circle in green if they are fun
- Circle in red if they are not fun
- Write an explanation beside the icon, if needed
- Create your own icons for assets or detractors that are not available

# Findings Discussion

- What were some similarities and differences among group members about what they considered fun (or not fun)?
- Where were icons concentrated? Were they located in certain areas or spread out?
- Are there assets missing from the map that you wish were there? (Things you like to do, but are not available.)

# **Activity Discussion**

- How did the exercise go?
  - Successes, what went well, or advantages to using this data collection method
  - Challenges, weaknesses, or limitations
- What other contexts would this be useful in? How could you adapt or apply this process in other contexts?

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