Getting Started: Introductions, explanation of agenda

Who’s Here?

Personal Interest – 16

Professional/Subject Matter Organizations –
  a. RSVP Marshall Woodford and Livingston Counties
  b. HarborLight Hospice
  c. Peoria County Board
  d. U of I Extension
  e. Prime Plus at ICC
  f. Methodist Encore
  g. Eureka College – Director of Lifelong Learners
  h. Center for Prevention of Abuse
  i. Home Healthcare Plus/Dreams for Seniors
  j. Central Illinois Agency on Aging

Current Situation

A. Strengths:
  a. Prime Plus, Encore, Bradley OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
  b. Community is strong in volunteers
  c. Media support for community volunteer opportunities
  d. Regional Vital Economy project – adequate and skilled workforce – mentors
to develop the younger workforce.
  e. ICC geared many classes towards all ages
  f. Southside Mission developed employment training: Culinary, Housekeeping, Construction preparing for better paying jobs
  g. Workforce Network used to have Experience Works (Revitalize)
  h. CIAOA – Title V similar to Experience Works(Still Here)
  i. Professional, Amateur, and Collegiate Sports venues that hire seniors
  j. Number of seniors with skills & knowledge that they are willing to share
  k. Hospital Volunteers
B. Weaknesses:
   a. Lack of Systems for volunteer engagement in all communities?
   b. Don’t know best ways to communicate need for volunteers
   c. Aging volunteers need to be replenished
   d. Not everyone communicates electronically
   e. Organizations are not meeting needs of new volunteer skills, talents, interests
   f. New Volunteer programs pop-up then fade (ie Adopt a School)
   g. Do not have a strong culture of private giving
   h. Lack of gratitude/appreciation expressed to volunteers
   i. Age does influence employer decisions
   j. Lack of Transportation keep from employment or volunteerism
   k. Safety Concerns keep from volunteering or work in certain areas
   l. Some volunteer programs impacted by time required (additional meetings).
      They want flexibility
   m. Limit of training for people who work with volunteers
   n. Lack of multigenerational opportunities – Volunteerism and Lifelong Learning

Magic Wand/Desired State
A. Volunteering: Centralized database that included needs, opportunities, skills and interests
B. Stronger structure among volunteer coordinators for communication, sharing information (NOVA)
C. Database for 50+ who are looking for local jobs
D. Trade or barter skills database (ie. Cut hair for cleaning gutters)
E. Create a pathway group that encourages verbalizing fears of transitioning, self discovery, continuing education
F. Support for 50+ to return to school
G. Community Volunteer Fair
H. Public TV/Radio station devoted to 50+
I. Need for Senior Power Advocate to promote advantages of hiring 50+
J. Create culture of support for Encore Careers
K. Convince that learning/using technology will increase their information and empower them (SeniorNet)
L. Marketers support of the 50+ audience
Recommendations/Goals

A. Volunteers
   a. Volunteer Fair
   b. Volunteer Coordinator Coalition
   c. General Database
   d. Create Hub for Non-Profit Center for Excellence – Volunteerism
   e. Identify Grant Sources
   f. Create a Pathway for Volunteers to Employment

B. Employment
   a. Employment Fair
   b. Bring back/develop Experience Works
   c. Senior Power Hiring Advocate
   d. Training for Seniors
      i. Technology
      ii. Resume writing to sell skills

C. Lifelong Learning
   a. Providers of Education work together vs. compete against one another to deliver lifelong learning
      i. Partnerships
      ii. Jointly define lifelong learning
   b. Provide Transportation to places to receive learning
   c. Enhance access to computer training and computers in their homes