

**CHICAGO
AREA
PROJECT**

Strengthening
neighborhoods

Helping
young people

*Chicago Area Project's Alternative to
Violence*

**Chicago Area Project's
Mission**

*To work towards the prevention and eradication of
juvenile delinquency through the development and
support of affiliated local community self-help
efforts in communities where the need is the
greatest.*

Shaw's Philosophy

- "The most essential feature of the Chicago Area Project is the initiation of programs of cooperative action on the part of the residents of small localities, communities, or neighborhoods where conditions impose serious handicaps upon the normal development of children. The local community is therefore the primary unit of operation and the responsibility for setting goals, formulating programs, and determining policies that rests with local citizens. In this way the enterprise may develop as a constructive expression of the interests, energies, talents and common purposes of the people and contribute materially to the vital task of insuring to each child the security, training and education essential to his/ her physical and social well-being."

• Dr. Clifford R. Shaw, Speech to the Community Fund of Chicago, 1934

Chicago Area Project
How does CAP engage local people in process of
addressing local problems?



Chicago Area Project Community Organizing

- ❑ CAP affiliates identify local issues and the assets/resources available to address them.
- ❑ CAP affiliates are comprised of local, indigenous leadership representing the community.
- ❑ CAP assist affiliates with securing and managing their own funds through technical assistance and training.
- ❑ CAP builds the confidence of affiliates to collaborate with other organizations within their community.
- ❑ CAP and its affiliates inter-connection allows the agency to systematically address larger community issues.

Chicago Area Project Direct Service

- ❑ Direct services occur through CAP's network of more than 40 affiliates offering educational, cultural, and recreational programming.
- ❑ CAP directly provides services through special projects with federal, state, and local governments.

Chicago Area Project Advocacy

- ▣ CAP and its affiliates hold institutions that serve the community accountable.
- ▣ CAP provides T.A. to neighborhood groups to advocate on behalf of their youth for improvements in schools, juvenile justice system, and economic enhancement opportunities.
- ▣ CAP engages in public policy efforts, particularly around juvenile justice, minority health, and child welfare issues.

Chicago Area Project Collaborative Efforts Are Key

- ▣ The Illinois Area Projects (IAP) in Collaboration with the Chicago Area Project is a working partnership of over 400 community and faith-based agencies delivering vital educational, employment, mobilization, prevention awareness, and community services in areas of Illinois that enable communities to help themselves.
- ▣ Through IAP the Chicago Area Project has been able to help all levels of government conduct outreach and services to the most vulnerable populations that are in crisis.

Chicago Area Project Collaborative Efforts Are Key

- ▣ Through Chicago Area Project's collaborative efforts, the agency has been able to do the following:
 - Relocate Hurricane Katrina and Rita victims at the request of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS).
 - Register over 5000 children in the Illinois *All Kids Health Insurance Program*.
 - Increase the knowledge of at least 10,000 young people between the ages of 12-24 on STD-HIV transmissions at the request of the Illinois Department of Public Health.
 - ▣ In addition, CAP was asked to train youth to educate their peers.
 - ▣ Conduct 15 youth lead, STD-HIV events and forums across the state of Illinois.

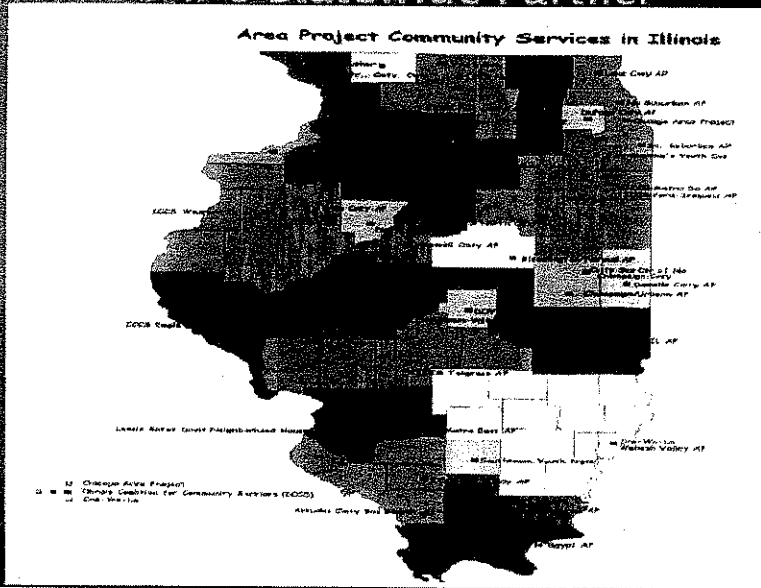
Chicago Area Project Collaborative Efforts Are Key

- ▣ Facilitate a statewide H1N1 Flu Prevention and Education and Vaccination at the request of the Illinois Department of Public Health.
 - CAP and IAP were able organize approximately 300 community and faith-based organizations from 42 different cities to provide education and prevention on H1N1.
- ▣ CAP developed a statewide youth leadership and development program for youth in care and transitioning out of care at the request of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (IDCFS).
 - CAP has been able to structure a program for hundreds of foster care youth and young adults that advice the IDCFS Director on the effectiveness of the child welfare systems, programs and services.

Chicago Area Project Collaborative Efforts Are Key

- Cap has diverted nearly 500 youth annually from the Cook County Juvenile Justice System by collaborating with Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice and the Cook County Courts.
- Through the Chicago Area Project network, the agency has served an average of 20,500 youth and young adults per year.

Illinois Council of Area Projects CAP's Statewide Partner



"Every Neighborhood has the leaders it needs to solve its own problem." -

Clifford Shaw

- ▣ CAP focuses on Strengthening Chicagoland Neighborhoods.
 - CAP is an agency that believes in individual and group empowerment through education, technical assistance, and capacity building/ development.
 - ▣ Through CAP's 75 years of experimental approaches to community development it recognizes that communities that have the most success in positive community change are those in which community residents spearheaded the change efforts.
 - ▣ CAP focuses on helping community residents identify their leadership, strengths, and assets/ resources to address their specific problems that effect their ability to live safe and healthy lives.
 - ▣ Once community leadership is identified, CAP assist with mobilizing residents to participate in community forums that birth committees and those committees grow into specific organizations that address specific needs.

The Westside Story

James "The Major" Adams Volunteer-Leader-Mentor



Committed to the Community

- "Major" a long time community leader, advocate, as well as musician, veteran and volunteer, mobilized hundreds of neighborhood youth for a music program.
- "Major" led efforts to mobilize local public housing residents and neighboring homeowners to form the Youth Services Committee of the Westside addressing the rising delinquent behaviors among youth and strengthen institutions supporting families.
- "Major" along with caring adults and community leaders, serve as unofficial community truancy and drop-out prevention liaisons, advocating on behalf of youth and parents.

Committed to the Community

- "Major" established the Hornets Drum Corp, a highly precision music and marching program serving 300 at-risk youth annually referred from police, courts, schools, families and community at-large.
- "Major" created an effective neighborhood mentoring and leadership development system resulting in highly successful alumni who give back to the community
- "Major" annually provided over 400 summer jobs opportunities for youth in partnership with city of Chicago and the federal government.

Westside Neighborhood Development

- ▣ "Major," partnering with local leadership, created several economic and community development projects.
 1. Project MALES: Forum on Re-Uniting Fathers to Troubled Youth.
 2. HAMM/Horner Assoc. of Men/Moms: addressing barriers to young parents self-sufficiency.
 3. MTE/Mentoring, Training and Employment Center designed to support long-term unemployed, ex-offender, single parents and parents with children. (2000 served / 600 employed annually)
 4. Sub-Link, Inc. entrepreneurial development initiative for local neighborhood residents to create business ventures to serve the needs of the community.
 5. MACC/Major Adams Community Center - an Academy for positive youth, family, healthy living, vocational and leadership development.
 6. In partnership with Habitat Management Company, "Major," help to develop the East Park Apartments as a transitional living arrangements for low-income homeless fathers and single individuals.

"Every Neighborhood has the leaders it needs to solve its own problem." - Clifford Shaw

- ▣ For Example: "Major," Horner Association of Men (HAM), and CAP developed a 150 unit Single Room Occupancy for low-income community residents.



Chicago Area Project's Consumers

- ▣ Chicago Area Project serves:
 - * 10,500 Families in twenty-five of Chicago's 77 Community areas.
 - * 20,500 Chicago Area Youth through 55 Community Efforts.

Program Implementation and Evaluation Process

- ▣ Programming and evaluation originates from the experience, interests, assets and concerns of the local people.

Evaluation

How CAP Evaluate it's Work

- ▣ Has the neighborhood taken an active role in the development and operation of the program?
- ▣ Has the community assumed responsibility for meeting it's own identified issues?
- ▣ Have residents become aware of negative issues impacting the community?

Evaluation

How CAP Evaluate it's Work

- ▣ Have local residents began to identify and utilize community resources to deal with these issues?
- ▣ What constructive changes have been demonstrated in attitudes of the community that promotes the welfare of its children.?
- ▣ To what extent does case records show that changes have been effected in the attitudes and conduct of those participating in the program?

Practice Based Evidence Factors Leading to CAP's Success

- ▣ Engaging local indigenous residents to develop grassroots efforts, taking action to identify, articulate, and strengthen the community's protective factors.
- ▣ Leadership is represented by local residents with its goal and purpose identified by the very constituency which, it not only serves, but is also its controlling board.

CAP's Sustainability System

- ▣ Alumni (Spirit of Community Commitment)
- ▣ Volunteerism
- ▣ Positive Youth Development
- ▣ Training of Practitioners

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For More Information Please call the
Chicago Area Project Central Office

312-663-3574 or visit:

www.chicagoareaproject.org

