

# Generating Community Change

# Community Development

- “Community” – Greek word means fellowship, interaction
- Community development = quality of interaction among the people living in a locality improves over time
- Collective agency – the ability of a group of people to solve common problems together

# 1. Technical Assistance Model of Community Development

- Problem-solving approach:
  - Need/Problem identified
  - Analyze cause, find solution
  - Technician from outside brought in
  - Implement the solution
- Cost-benefit analysis used
- Citizens are not participants

## 2. Conflict Approach to Community Development

- Organizer comes in
- Organizing = process of learning
- Works in coalitions – a local organization that is linked to a national, “parent organization”

# 3. Self-Help Model of Community Development

- Emphasizes process:
  - People work together
  - Arrive at group decisions
  - Take action to improve their community
- Systematic change
  - Build civic capacity for collective action
  - Move towards a shared vision for the future

# Requirements of Self-Help Model

- Everyone has similar interests, can build consensus: democratic
- Community has a degree of autonomy
- Assumes broad based community participation
- Involves a big time commitment

# Effective Community Change

- Strong community organizing
- Link to outside resources
- Lateral linkages
- Communities of information – leverage resources