

## Working Together Across the Region

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## When you use an asset-based approach to planning:

- ✓ Residents identify goals and set priorities.
- ✓ Focus on assets and capacities, rather than needs and deficits.
- ✓ Use opportunities and strengths, rather than problems, to develop goals.



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## Why focus on assets?

- Significant change can occur when residents are committed to investing themselves and their resources in the effort.
- The prospects for help from external sources are bleak.
- Even “poor” communities include resources upon which to build.

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**Programs and processes:**

Planning for a purpose, Illinois Extension  
 MAPPING the future of your community, IIRA  
 CREATE BRIDGES, Illinois Extension

General tools:

- ✓ SWOT analysis
- ✓ Appreciative Inquiry
- ✓ Community Capitals Framework
- ✓ And others!

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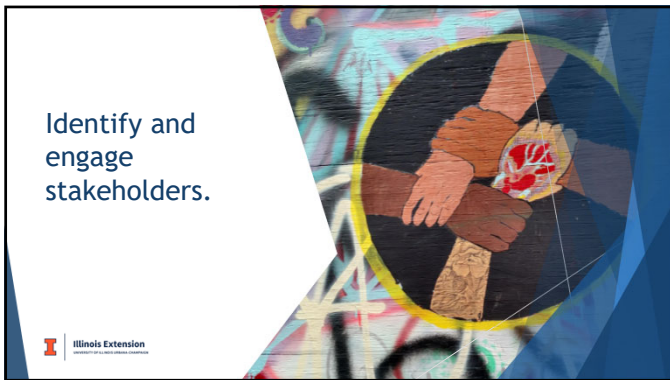
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**Identify and engage stakeholders.**

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 REGIONAL  
**SUMMIT**

*Building Capacity  
 for Regional  
 Changemakers.*

Listening sessions across the region.  
 Developing a shared vision for the region.  
 How can communities contribute to the regional vision?

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**Beginning with the end in mind:**

- ▶ Describe what you value most about your community or local area.
- ▶ What is something that would enhance the vitality of your local community?

NEXT:  
What one thing could you do to work toward enhancing the vitality of your community? Or the first thing?



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**Thank you!**



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