Stronger Together: Akron and Westfield Heart & Soul

Updated 10-19-2021

MILESTONES

Start date:

Community Heart Soul

Guided by what matters most -

GETTING **READY FOR HEART & SOUL**

- Community members gathered to learn about and gauge interest in Community Heart & Soul
- Community strengths, assets, and opportunities explored and defined
- Initial conversation with community leaders and elected officials held to discuss support for and involvement in Community Heart & Soul
- Marainstormed initial Team and discussed resources available to invest in Community Heart & Soul
- Formed initial Team and led an exploration of community networks and connections
- Collective decision made to move into Phase 1

Phase 1 LAY THE GROUNDWORK

Phase 2 **EXPLORE YOUR COMMUNITY**

Phase 3 MAKE DECISIONS

Phase 4 TAKE ACTION

6-8 months

4-6 months

2+ months

- 2-3 months
- Heart & Soul Team Assembled
 - Pool of volunteers assembled for initial Heart & Soul activities
 - Local officials/town government linked into Heart & Soul Team activities
 - Sub-teams created for specific tasks/jobs
 - Project Coordination plan created
- Work Plan Started
 - Overarching Heart & Soul Goals and Geographic Area written
 - Phase 1 Objectives and Tasks mapped out
 - Phase 1 Budget mapped out and general outline of budget for remaining phases created
- Public Awareness Activities Started
 - Development of core messaging and marketing tools underway
 - Heart & Soul launched publicly
- Reflect and Celebrate!

- ☐ Story Gathering Strategy created using Community Network Analysis Tool as a guide
- ☐ Data management system created to organize and store data from stories as they are collected
- Stories gathered throughout community
- Story listening groups formed to summarize data from stories and strengthen community relationships
- All data from story listening inputted in data management system
- Stories shared and celebrated throughout the community using multiple methods
- ☐ Heart & Soul Statements drafted from story data with community input
- ☐ Heart & Soul Statements revised and validated by the community
- ☐ Final Heart & Soul Statements shared with the community
- □ Reflect and Celebrate!

- □ Phase 3 Work Plan
 - Phase 3 Objectives and Tasks mapped out
 - Phase 3 Budget created
- Local and national trends data shared broadly with the community and used to inform and assess action ideas
- Tools used to analyze the conditions of each Heart & Soul Statement and gather ideas for action
- ☐ Heart & Soul Statements taken to partners and supporting organizations to garner support
- □ Community Network Analysis reviewed and public engagement strategies from Phase 2 employed to reach community members in the Action Plan review process
- Prioritized Action List created by community members
- □ Draft Action Plan created
- □ Draft Action Plan shared with community
- Initial members identified for Stewardship/Legacy Team
- □ Reflect and Celebrate!

- ☐ Phase 4 Work Plan
 - Phase 4 Objectives and Tasks mapped out
 - Phase 4 Budget created
- ☐ Heart & Soul Stewardship Plan, including the Stewardship Team, created
- ☐ Heart & Soul Statements publicly acknowledged
- Official support received from the community's key institutions
- ☐ Heart & Soul embedded in the community's policy, process, and decisions
- Implementation strategy devised for Action Plan determined in Phase 3
- System established for monitoring Heart & Soul progress and reporting to community
- □ Reflect and Celebrate!