

CITY OF ALLENTOWN

April 2011

RESIDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

FINAL REPORT



Resident Leadership Training Final Report

Process

The planning committee consisted of Community Liaison Tatiana Tooley, Jordan Heights Neighborhood Manager Ellen Denizard and Weed and Seed and Neighborhood Coordinator Phyllis Alexander. We met on four occasions beginning in January and planned a kick-off event and the four training sessions. The kick-off event, held in March, featured keynote speaker James Johnson of Sun Consulting and Associates. Thirty-five residents attended this event and registered for the resident leadership training.

Logistics

The training sessions were held on April 5, 12, and 19th – Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital Conference Center. The 4th and final session was held on Saturday, April 30th from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Demographics

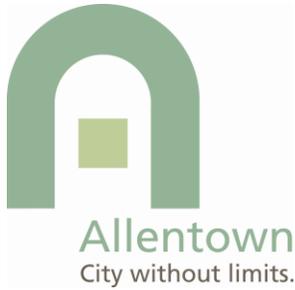
Participants were city-wide, male, female, between the ages of 18 to over 60, and racially diverse. Geography- two residents graduated from the East Side, two from First Ward, three from South Side, six from the West End and 13 from Center City. Gender - Female 14; Male – 12. Race/ethnicity – 12 (46%) Caucasian, 10 (39%) Latino, 4 (15%) African-American.

Content

- **April 5 – led by Phyllis Alexander** focused on defining leadership, effective communication, managing conflict and welcoming diversity.
- **April 12 – led by Tatiana Tooley** focused on the four core elements of community organizing: Leadership Development/Political Education, Base Building/Member Recruitment & Retention, Organizational Development and Developing Concrete Strategies.
- **April 19 – led by Ellen Denizard** focused on teaching residents how to asset map their neighborhood.
- **April 30 – panel discussion. Panelists were invited, per the resident’s request. Panelists were: Mayor Pawlowski, Dr. Zahorchak, Captain Keith Morris, Sara Hailstone, Ann Saurman, David Paulus, and Tara Craig.** After the panel discussion residents began working on their neighborhood plans, presented homework from the previous session and graduated.

Leadership Course Highlights

- Attendance – An average of 16 people attended the 3 Tuesday sessions. Twenty-five residents attended the Saturday full day session. Sixteen (62%) had perfect attendance. Four residents received a Participation Certificate (attended 1-2 sessions), twenty-two residents received a Graduation certificate (attended 3-4 sessions) – all certificates were signed by the Mayor.
- Overall satisfaction of the 3 Tuesday sessions – 71% Excellent, 14% Very Good, 6% Good, 8% No Response. Responses to the Final Comments request on the final class evaluation indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the course.
- Notable comments, and next steps – please see attachments 1 and 2.



Resident Leadership Training Final Report Attachment 1

Notable Comments (20 evaluations were completed and all comments were favorable)

- ✦ This has been an extremely positive experience that all residents of Allentown can benefit from. Thank you for your commitment for bettering the City Of Allentown.
- ✦ This was so worthwhile – personally as well as in a leadership sense.
- ✦ If we take one block at a time, Allentown will be the best of yours and mine.
- ✦ Great training! Loved meeting my neighbors.
- ✦ I would hope that programs like this one would continue. There is a wealth of knowledge to be gained.
- ✦ I thought it was very informative and helped me not to always see things at face value.
- ✦ Should have more of this and people from the block groups should come.