**Mobilize and Engage the Community**

How can the skills, talents, and resources be connected with the needs of the community, and how can you help facilitate that connection? You want to ensure that the projects and programs you’re supporting connect the desires of the community with their assets.

• Work with leaders to mobilize community residents.

• Mobilize residents around issues that impact their lives.

• Schedule monthly community listening sessions.

• Build on and help improve new and/or ongoing community projects.

• Help residents understand the benefits of their involvement, such as child care, skill training, meals, stipends, transportation, and resume building.

• Develop a plan for getting issues on a public agenda.

• Recruit volunteers. Ask people to get involved.

• Provide training and technical assistance.

• Show appreciation to residents by recognizing their efforts. Say thank you.

• Create a volunteer position description so residents know the expectations of their involvement.

• Use everyone who indicates interest in getting involved.

• Work with the community to pick five issues to address and make sure the first two are easy wins (clean up a park; convert an empty lot into a garden, etc.) so the tangible impact of their involvement is clear.