

Group Advocacy Steps

Three Community Strengths:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Three Community Obstacles:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Our Issue:

The Problem Seems to Be...

Possible Causes

Encourage all group members to share ideas about the **causes** of the problem. Identify each contributor and record his or her observations:

Identified Problem:

Problem Cause: **Inadequate information**

Example:

Problem Cause: **Incorrect information**

Example:

Problem Cause: **Inadequate motivation**

Example:

Problem Cause: **Systems obstacles**

Example:

Possible Solutions

Discuss possible solutions based on the causes of the problem. In an open discussion, the group identifies and lists as many solutions as possible.

Solution Pros & Cons

Solution:

Pros:

Cons:

Solution:

Pros:

Cons:

Solution:

Pros:

Cons:

Solution:

Pros:

Cons:

Solution:

Pros:

Cons:

Solution:

Pros:

Cons:

Choose a Solution to Try

After the group has discussed all suggestions, ask members to choose a solution.

- This may be a specific solution from the discussion, a compromise or melding of several solutions, or another solution based on new information elicited during the discussion
- If no one offers a suggestion, the group leader should suggest a promising solution

Proposed Solution:

Ask

After the group agrees on a solution, continue to ask questions to determine what action to take and whether the action is likely to be effective.

Ask:

- Will this action have a positive effect on the problem?
- How well does this action match our group's goals?
- How can we measure the effects of this action?
- What other agencies or organizations should know about this action?
- What media or other consumer groups would be interested in this action?

It is OK if the group cannot answer all of these questions. The group then determines whether members have all of the information they need before they can proceed.