Community Readiness Model

http://triethniccenter.colostate.edu/communityReadiness_home.htm

The Community Readiness Model is an innovative method for assessing the level of readiness of a community to develop and implement prevention programming. It can be used as both a research tool to assess levels of readiness across a group of communities and as a tool to guide prevention efforts at the individual community level.

The Community Readiness Model defines 9 stages of readiness:

1. No awareness
2. Denial/Resistance
3. Vague awareness
4. Preplanning
5. Preparation
6. Initiation
7. Stabilization
8. Confirmation/Expansion
9. High Level of Community Ownership

Assessment of readiness is done for 6 key dimensions:

A: Efforts
B: Community Knowledge of Efforts
C: Leadership
D: Community Climate
E: Community Knowledge of the Issue
F: Resources.

A level of readiness, from 1 to 9, is assigned to each dimension. Strategy development then relies on these community readiness scores, with dimensions with the lowest levels of readiness typically being addressed first.

The process for conducting a community readiness assessment includes:

- Identifying the issue
- Defining the community
- Conducting key respondent interviews
- Scoring to determine the readiness levels &
- Developing strategies consistent with those readiness levels

Typically 6-10 key respondent interviews are conducted, with each respondent answering a set of 20-36 questions. Key respondents are carefully chosen to represent an important part of the overall community (school, government, medical). Completed interviews are independently scored by two individuals who then determine a consensus score for each dimension of each interview. Final dimension scores are obtained by averaging (dimension) scores across all interviews; the overall score is then calculated as the average of the six dimension scores.

More information about Jump Start and INJ’s other training and technical assistance services can be requested by completing the TTA Request Form on our website, www.institutefornativejustice.org/request-training-and-technical-assistance or by calling 918-708-1708.