

OBJECTIVES OF UPTOWN 5

PRESENT PROBLEMS

The past decades have seen great advances in the care for the people of the cities through such efforts as housing programs, increased welfare assistance, supplemental education, expanded transportation, health care, child care, recreation programs, increased police, job training economic development, and neighbor service offices. These programs have relieved the raw agony of people, but many problems remain. Unemployment persists, new housing projects shortly turn into slums, families continue to disintegrate, crime, alcoholism and drug abuse remain high. Even the efforts to engage the local people in exercising responsibility for their own community through neighborhood boards and corporations have not succeeded. Too often these groups have accentuated community divisions, engaged in power struggles, or simply dwindled away.

FIVE OBJECTIVES

In 1973 it is clear that, although the present services must be continued, some new elements must be injected. Our analysis of the city has shown that a comprehensive social model, intensified educational and motivational methods, and new foci for community organization are required. Uptown 5 will develop, implement and evaluate these methods in the Uptown area of Chicago.

COMPREHENSIVE MODEL

A comprehensive model of general social processes, developed by the Ecumenical Institute (see attached sheet), will be used to provide a picture of what systems every society needs to have fully functioning. An inclusive social planning methodology will be used to develop an action plan required for Uptown. Research will supplement the vast amount of data already available about Uptown to provide the basis for the Uptown 5 plan.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The primary need, especially in an already highly-organized area such as Uptown, is the development of methods for training both the agency people and the grassroots residents to work together for the good of the whole community. An education program, called LENS (Living Effectively in the New Society), under development by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, will provide compact two-day courses in comprehensive social planning. This will be supplemented by various programs and workshops developed by the Uptown 5 staff.

MOTIVATIONAL METHODS

There are motivational elements in the educational program, but additional methods will be used to develop in every member of the community a sense of hope, a picture of concrete possibility, and a vision of a better future. It is upon these attitudes that the success of any human renewal program rests. We have seen that those who experience the vision of possibility for themselves and for their community are the ones for which the urban renewal programs do the most good, and who in turn then help their community.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The first part of the book is devoted to a general history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is divided into three volumes, the first of which contains the history of the discovery and settlement of the continent, the second the history of the colonies, and the third the history of the United States from the Declaration of Independence to the present time.

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PRACTICAL
INSIGHTS

To actually apply all this theory to a city involves some practical insights. The first is to have harmoniously functioning interrelationship between the various geographical and political entities. At the local level, the city must be divided into communities small enough for every citizen to identify himself as an important member of that community, and yet large enough for the city to efficiently provide services to that neighborhood (perhaps 5,000 to 30,000 is a good population range, depending on history, geography, etc.). The city as a larger political unit is crucial for the effective provision of many services and the coordination of neighborhood programs. State and national governments with their larger resources must provide increasing financial support, as well as encouraging metropolitan area coordination. Another series of insights revolves around some way of dealing with all of the problems of all of the people of the city--at the same time. This is important because we know that piecemeal approaches cannot succeed. But, in addition, it is critical that every citizen, no matter what his race, age or position, feel that the city is concerned about him. Out of this context one can explain the rationale for program priorities as one proceeds through a long range timeline.

STAFF
EFFECTIVENESS

Crucial to the successful execution of all the previous principles is an effective staff. The most important factor is a self-image as servants of the people. In fact the staff at every level needs to see itself not only as servants of their own constituency, but also as indirectly responsible for the success of the larger geographic and political levels. For the interdependency of our society means that no community can succeed save the rest of the city, state, etc. succeeds. Another important element in staff effectiveness is a sense of common responsibility for the task. Each person must feel a part of the total organization, with a receptive atmosphere for his ideas. Every person must have a picture of how his role fits into the total plan. Finally, the timeline and assignment structure must be clear, so that each person knows what is expected of him and he can be held objectively accountable for the completion of his assigned tasks.

--Jim Stewart

12/17/73

-A preliminary draft

I.

VISIONLESS COMMUNITY STORY

The master contradiction in the cultural dimension of the Uptown area is that the story of the community is visionless. The citizens of the community, because of the cultural complexity of their particular geography, such as 97 social agencies or the mixture of high-rise buildings in slum locations, have no clarity on how to lift up a vision that holds the common experience. This contradiction manifests itself in several ways. Having no inclusive story, the attention is focused on a moral story of defeats and injustices, preventing permission to move futurically. The preoccupation of the elderly with Medicare programs, and concentration in high-rise nursing homes, is a key illustration of the sense of helplessness. Global gifts as problems of diversity is a reduced operating image produced by the overwhelmingness of the saturation of the different types in the area and the mode of relating to life. An interior resolve of trappedness binds the local man in the form of victimization to external forces and immediate problems. Paralyzed, in a sense, by the overwhelmingness of the geo-social relationships, a form of zombie-ism become rampant and community by local people is seen as being out of the question.

II.

PROGRAMMATIC PROCESS DIRECTS THE COMMUNITY DYNAMIC

In Uptown, the community programs, serving as the social structure, dissipates the consensus directing the community potential; maintains the symbol for community stability; implements the forum for community decision; promotes the authorization for community concerns. These aspects are held in being by bureaucratic direction of programs that cuts-off community participation in mobilizing the common thrust. Agency-maintained programs dilute the power of community forces to increase the effectiveness of stable community symbol. Professional Leadership implementing program goals shears-off the forum for community decision. Special Interest programs reinforce the conflict between vested (entrepreneur) interests and inclusive community concerns. The combination of these aspects working together at the same time render the gift of indigenous community diversity, and the programmatic approach to community direction, an ineffective style of operating global-local society.

III.

ABSTRACT OPERATING MODELS REINFORCE
DIVISIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Humanness is blocked in Uptown by a multiplicity of models and plans emerging from a variety of social contexts which tend to reinforce the divisions of the community and paralyze corporate participation in getting any model implemented. This multistructural approach siphons off the motivity of a wide variety of creative people who ultimately collapse in despair and frustration. This is generated by the fact that the restricted context is projected as ultimate, paralyzing local man's capability of giving himself to any of them. The failure of the various models to be inclusive is self-defeating, since they finally do not deal with the total community and the self-perpetuating self-interest patterns of the various groups promoting them inhibits a corporate strategic focus from emerging, which results in structural paralysis and intensified local cynicism.

IV.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC PROCESS
SUFFOCATES GRASS-ROOTS PARTICIPATION

The alienation of significant grass-roots participation in both the creation and sustaining of the community's economic base is one of the primal contradictions affecting the Uptown community. This is made manifest by decisions made for the community by self-interest groups, in the areas of land control, labor forces, and community subsidization. The profit screen out of which the Economic Corporations and land developers and Uptown operate is the primary factor in the determination of how land in the community is to be used. The community, therefore, is actually cut off from defining how its economic destiny is to be shaped. These external interests add to the disconnectedness of community life by focussing on immediate gain rather than any long-range image of what the community needs, which limits the possibility of establishing a continuing and developing labor force. The excess subsidization for the community births a sense of economic dependency which restricts the motivity of the grass-roots residents for the practical caring of its community.

Catalytic Forms	Demonstration Signs	Story Projection	Permeation Tactics	Leadership Training
<p><u>I. Penetration Design</u> 1. Lens Marketing 2. Public Bookstore/ Newsstand 3. Cafe/Theatre 4. Multi Ur Center 5. Youth Choir</p> <p><u>II. Ec. Parish Formation</u> 1. Galaxy local church cadre 2. Guild 3. Phenomenal Sunday School 4. Clergy Collegium 5. local PSU</p> <p><u>III. Community Mobilizatn</u> 1. Movemental Cadre 2. Polis Cadre 3. Senior Citizen Cadre</p> <p><u>IV. Pre Guild Forces</u> 1. Local Task Forces 2. Businessmen's League 3. Youth Service 4. Ward Leadership</p>	<p><u>I. Phase Reconstruct'n</u> 1. Preschool 2. Child Care System 3. Regular Children's Play 4. Experimental High School 5. After-School Study Hall 6. Elders' Centrum 7. Elders Story-telling</p> <p><u>II. Human Reconstruct'n</u> 1. Mental Health Clinic</p> <p><u>III. Community Rehab.</u> 1. Rehabilitation Signs 2. Service Coordination 3. Service Signs 4. Ward Force</p> <p><u>IV. Celebration Life Reform.</u> 1. Community Newspaper 2. Uptown 5 Symbol 3. Community Fair 4. Park-Claim Space 5. Bar 6. Barmen Training School</p>	<p><u>I. Event Celebration</u> 1. Global Cabaret 2. Festivals 3. Christmas Event 4. Mayor Daly Day</p> <p><u>II. Media Utilization</u> 1. Tracts 2. Permanent use of billboards 3. Uptown Voice Newspaper 4. Poster used with a rhythm 5. FM Radio Station 6. 100 page paper back book</p> <p><u>III. Symbol Creation</u> 1. Boundary Signs 2. Public Global Grids 3. Uptown Song 4. Ur Gardens</p> <p><u>IV. Past/Future Dramatization</u> 1. Visit by old movie stars 2. Show old movies 3. Community Museum with future 4. Preston Bradley story of Uptown</p>	<p><u>I. Infiltrate Community Organizations</u> 1. Lions Club 2. Political Parties 3. Model Cities Council 4. Uptown Chicago Commission Board 5. Jobs in Uptown 6. PTA 7. Local Congregations</p> <p><u>II. Training Offering</u> 1. Elders Bible Study 2. Teachers training through LENS 3. Group methods for Agencies 4. Laborers courses 5. Police through LENS 6. Speakers Bureau 7. Preaching Mission</p> <p><u>III. Community Gathering</u> 1. Convocation for previous citizens 2. Annual Open House 3. Community Open House Week 4. Town Meetings 5. Regularly at Nodes</p> <p><u>IV. Community Nodes</u> 1. Know Gangs 2. Service Coordinator 3. Local businessmen at Guardians Mtg.</p>	<p><u>I. Structured Courses</u> 1. LENS, PLC, RS-I 2. CS-I 3. Academy 4. NSV 5. Waiters through LENS 6. BTS</p> <p><u>II. Specialized Training</u> 1. Chinese Fly-heads 2. Imaginal Education 3. Week Nite School 4. One Day Convocat'n 5. One Day Leadership Training 6. Clerk Training School 7. Bar Tender Training School 8. University 13</p> <p><u>III. Specialized Projects</u> 1. Global Odyssey 2. Community Education through TV 3. Adult Education Structures 4. Inter-parish Exchange</p> <p><u>IV. Enabling Guild</u> 1. Education Guild 2. RS-I Pedagogy 3. Elder System Training 4. Ward Officer Guild</p>

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