



Project Concept for Accelerate 77: Phase III

Goal: Build on previous project phases of Accelerate 77, ICA's expertise in participatory facilitation and leadership development, and the assets of the Greenrise building to design a framework that will allow for maximum impact on community sustainability and resiliency in Chicago neighborhoods.

Objective: Encourage and support grassroots initiatives that, in a bottom-up fashion, will assist in realizing regional sustainability and climate action plans, e.g., "Sustainable Chicago 2015."

1. Collaborate in the implementation of **Community-Led Sustainability Roadmaps** in three community clusters. With an emphasis on action, ICA will engage residents in identifying best practices and effective solutions to accomplish community-wide sustainability. This process, which can be replicated in other Chicago communities, will occur through an ongoing mix of participatory planning, coordinated action, and collective reflection to garner lessons learned.
2. Create a **Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network** that provides training through workshops on facilitation and sustainable practices; develops a collective voice around key sustainability issues in Chicago; and, engages leaders in peer sharing and cross-community mentoring.
3. Produce a **Sustainability Resources Database** organized by geography and topic and made available on the A77 website. Asset maps from community workshops would be incorporated into the database.
4. Demonstrate a model of creative sustainable culture for living and working at the ICA building -- the "**Greenrise Uptown Learning Laboratory**." This vintage 8-story landmark building is the largest non-profit service center in the Midwest and is home to diverse tenants that include many social service agencies and a residential community of voluntary simplicity. Because a dynamic "green culture" and energy efficient eco-system are being established here, it is an engaging venue for hosting community organizations and training community leaders in community resiliency.
5. Facilitate **Intergenerational Intern Learning and Engagement** in addressing environmental, economic, and social justice challenges in local communities. From high school and university students through retirees, interns will learn and work together on community engagement, training and communication as described in the project components above.



Organizing Sponsor
4750 N. Sheridan Road
Chicago, IL 60640
773-769-6363
www.ica-usa.org