

Community Engagement Chat: Care of Loyal Volunteers

Check out these ideas to support your leadership efforts in 2024!

- Use your existing network of peers, colleagues and friends. If you need something specific, reach out to your network. Actions that include skill building (aka resume building) are often well received. Also, fun events are easy to recruit for!
- Begin in a neighborhood with an in-person Community Meeting - this is a great place to find community Leaders. Also, Code Enforcement can be an excellent resource for identifying residents who care for their community.
- Provide a welcoming meeting space with food. Sharing a meal with others helps create connections and brings people back each month.
- Identify the purpose of your initiative and communicate it clearly to attract the right person.
- Reach out to the city or local government's community engagement department and focus on building trust.
- Set a regular meeting time so folks come to expect it; a solid infrastructure makes it work.
- Let the group decide on important topics AND provide topics that will attract different facets of the community. Find out current issues and help problem solve.
- Find ways to connect face-to-face.
- Develop a scouting strategy to share with leaders and organizations and develop a marketing strategy that draws people in.
- Offer childcare and build in fun activities to draw parents and children (building costumes, homemade holiday cards or ornaments, homemade gifts)
- Be careful of burnout – don't over ask!