

# Creating Sustainable Community Partners *Enhancing Day Service Options*



# Heightened Scrutiny Challenges Facility-based Services



The idealism that all services should be offered in the community may be too high, but it doesn't have to be all or nothing

- ❖ We are community
- ❖ Providers should flex where they can with community-based, as a compliment to facility-based

# Avoid Common Mistakes

Reliance on  
Consumerism

Reliance on  
Recreation

Excessive  
Volunteering

Loitering



# If Not That, Then What?

Rather than doing  
nothing, we chose to do  
something





# Domains of Community-Based Learning

- Work Exploration
- Community Exploration
- Health Promotion and Wellness
- Education and Learning
- Cultural Exploration
- Social Network
- Spirituality



# Engage Chicago



**577 EXPERIENCES TO DATE**

# Challenges faced during pilot

- Unpredictability
- Preparation
- Staff
- Transportation
- Resources
- Participant skill level

**Sustainability!**





# Easier Said than Sustained





# Relationships Are Crucial



**Create  
experiences**

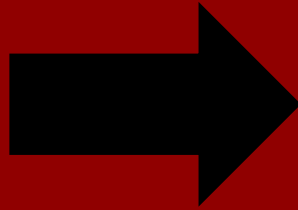
**Lead to new  
opportunities**

**Tend to pay off**

# Once a Champion...



# Meet Amy



# Meet Rick

Parent

Advocate

Difference Maker







**The Wait is Worth It!**



Making a  
difference



# Meet Matt ↓



# Relationship Building Considerations

- ✓ Don't Force things
- ✓ Implement only when right and ready
- ✓ Don't expect it to happen in one meeting
- ✓ Seek mutualism, reciprocity
- ✓ Value added
- ✓ Deliver responsibly
- ✓ Deliver like a "closer"
- ✓ Introduce participants and your facilities
- ✓ Appreciate; celebrate together!







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Questions?

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