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|  | **Parkway Community ABCD Exercise:Exploring the Implications of Asset-based Community Development**  |
| **OVERVIEW:**The Parkway Community ABCD Exercise invites students to engage in an exercise to explore what it means to take an asset-based approach to community development (“an ABCD” approach), versus a “needs” or “deficit” approach. Students are broken into groups and given a description of the Parkway Community. One group is given a list of assets while another group is given a list of needs. Students come up with recommendations for a nonprofit to engage with the community and then compare and contrast the recommendations. The exercise concludes with an explanation of ABCD principles. |
| **INSTRUCTIONS:** 1. Familiarize yourself with the Asset-Based Community Development PowerPoint (include link).
2. Read or ask students to read the “Session Opening” (3 mins).
3. Break students into teams of 5-7 people. Split the groups 50/50 into “Group A” and “Group B.” Optional: provide groups with a piece of poster paper and writing device.
4. Distribute a Situation Analysis to each student. Teams in Group A receive Situation Analysis – A. Teams in Group B receive Situation Analysis – B.
5. Activity - Teams review situation analyses and come up with a list of recommendations for a nonprofit looking to work in the community (20 minutes).
6. Report Back – Each group reports 2 recommendations to the entire class. All Group A teams report back until no new ideas are offered. Ideas should not be repeated. (8 minutes). As teams report back, write recommendations so they are accessible as a list to the whole class.
7. Repeat for Group B (8 minutes).
8. Present the ABCD PowerPoint and facilitate a discussion about its applicability to the Parkway exercise (20 minutes).
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| **SLS LEARNING OUTCOMES:** * Students will be able to analyze how decisions impact the sustainability of communities
* Students will be able to describe how they can use their discipline to make communities more sustainable
* Students will be able to develop approaches to sustainability challenges in communities
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| **TOOL CATEGORY*** Community Engagement, Introduction to SLS & Creating Sustainable Communities
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| **TOOL TYPE*** Discussion
* In-class exercise
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| **AUDIENCE:** * N/A
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| **DISCIPLINE*** N/A
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| **BIG IDEAS*** Asset-based Community Development
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| **KEY WORDS*** Asset-based Community Development, Community Development
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| **MATERIALS*** Optional: Poster board paper and writing tool
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| **TIME COMMITMENT** * 60 min
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