

Inclusion

We value a local community that celebrates and accepts all of the differences among individuals that keep our town vibrant and culturally beautiful.

Subthemes

- Educational, supportive, and engaging events & programming
- New ideas, accepting of others
- Willingness to change
- Build relationships
- Retain individuality
- Inclusive and welcoming

What's Underway

In the last few years we've seen...

- the revival of our local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) chapter
- Crawford County Human Services implement a national model to make Crawford County a trauma-informed community through the Systems of Care initiative
- the establishment of the Crawford County chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ), a national anti-racism group



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Action 1 Create a 24-Hour Community Center

Overview

Residents have expressed a need for a community space that is a safe, centrally located, religiously unaffiliated, and welcoming to all without financial barriers. This space will be identified as a information source for folks in need of services, especially the LGBTQ youth. Identified needs include, but are not limited to, education, support services, activities, and mentorship to educate and grow community pride among all resident diversities.

Existing Resources

- Successful local community center models like CHAPS, ARC, and soup kitchen
- Blighted/vacant properties
- Call for community center in City's comprehensive plan

Community Values

- ✓ Small Town
- ✓ Health & Safety
- ✓ Children & Youth

Action 2 Establish ongoing Town Hall meetings

Overview

The ideas presented in this Community Action Plan came from activated citizens and their experiences in Meadville. To maintain active citizen participation, quarterly Town Hall meetings will be held to address topics that matter to residents. Clicker polling is a suggested means of participation. These meetings can be increased in frequency if participation increases and the community yearns to address issues more consistently.

Lead Solution Partner

- City of Meadville

Existing Resources

- Active citizen participation

Community Values

- ✓ Small Town
- ✓ Local Economy



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Action 3 Expand trauma-Informed trainings

Overview

In conversations across Crawford County, My Meadville has heard much about trauma-informed care. Childhood traumas such as violence in the home, family instability, and food insecurity are not isolated incidents, but rather the beginning of struggles that continue well into a child's future, impacting them physically, mentally, and behaviorally. It is a desire shared among many residents to see those who work with the public, and therefore interact with those impacted by trauma, undergo trauma-informed training. These trainings are designed to help participants understand the impacts of trauma and allowing them to modify their behavior and interactions. Rather than act out of bias, these individuals, such as teachers, social workers, police officers, fire fighters, code enforcement officers, and others, will be able to help build resilience and heal our community.

Lead Solution Partner

- Crawford County Systems of Care
- Peace 4 Crawford

Community Values

- ✓ Health & Safety

Existing Resources

- Systems of Care initiative
- Emerging trauma-informed research

