

OAK PARK-RIVER FOREST

COMMUNITY
works

ENVISIONING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

what is possible
when...



Community*works* is supported by the Oak Park-River Forest
Community Foundation



what is possible
when...

leaders are

convened

partnerships are

created

resources are

leveraged

goals are

shared

outcomes are

measured



a community *works!*

The Community*works* partnership is an initiative supported by the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation working toward envisioning a sustainable community. This involves all aspects of the community – business, government, non-profit organizations and individuals.

A sustainable community

- encourages its youth to grow and succeed,
- promotes good environmental practices,
- and develops future leaders.

A sustainable community that meets these goals will have thriving families and businesses, good use of land for homes, parks and commercial needs, environmentally responsible habits and a healthy economy.

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what is possible when...

*we ensure the
success of all youth*



Ensuring the success of all youth means making sure that kids are ready to enter school and ready to enter the workforce; that improvements are made to support quality education; and that a framework is provided to define and to measure that success.

Oak Park and River Forest community members have focused on what “success of all youth” means. More than 100 young people, community residents, teachers, parents, educational administrators, senior citizens, business owners and representatives of nonprofits came together at a Community Café to discuss the success of all youth. The areas for success identified by our community members are consistent with a recent national poll conducted by Gallup. The indicators for success of all youth are: a healthy start, caring adults, safe places, effective education and opportunities to help others.

The Success of All Youth aspiration aims to foster community engagement and work differently to achieve measurable goals on these important issues by focusing on outcomes rather than activities.

what is possible with your donation...

***every dollar contributed to the campaign will be matched,
up to \$2 million through September 30, 2011, giving us
the potential to bring a total of \$6 million to our communities.***

This is possible...



- Support for a healthy start for infants and children through medical and dental examinations and treatment at the Children's Clinic.
- Caring adults serve as mentors for teens through the Spoken Word program at OPRFHS helping students outside the mainstream give voice to their feelings and ambitions.
- Safe places through the Children and Teen Program provided by Sarah's Inn for children in homes or in relationships with domestic violence.
- Effective education through the Parents as Teachers Program helping parents learn what it takes to have children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.
- The opportunity to help others -- After the flood that damaged so many homes along Lake Street in River Forest, District 90 fourth graders' Heartworks Service Club organized a car wash and donated the proceeds to flood victims through a Flood Emergency Relief Fund established at the Community Foundation.





what is possible when...

***we achieve an environmentally
sustainable community***

The Community Foundation works with regional and community organizations leveraging resources to attract interest and funding from new sources to develop and implement strategies that provide for environmental sustainability in both villages.

Our strategies include convening local and regional leaders and identifying best practices modeled by other municipalities. Partnering with the Villages of Oak Park and River Forest, *Communityworks* supports the development of an Environmental Vision Plan to define goals and create a scorecard against which all progress toward desired outcomes is measured.

Through a continued partnership with the villages of Oak Park and River Forest, the Foundation will facilitate open discussion and obtain public input for the vision planning process, assist in implementation of the plan's priority actions and support the monitoring of community progress toward the plan's goals.

what is possible with your donation...

***we can award grants that serve as catalysts to help the
community bring more resources to environmental projects,
multiplying the effect of donations for the greater good.***

This is possible...



- Pilot of District 97's Zero Waste Lunch program to other school systems in the community to engage youth in reducing waste.
- Assist in raising public awareness of water conservation efforts through downspout disconnect, rain gardens, rain barrels and similar programs.
- Support of a local sustainable food system including community vegetable gardens, urban farming programs, farmers' markets and school gardening curriculum.
- Investment in renewable energy projects for schools, nonprofits and local government entities (libraries, parking garages, fire departments, village halls).
- Awarding of grants that serve as catalysts to help the community bring more resources to environmental projects, multiplying the effect of donations for the greater good.



what is possible when...

***we work to develop
tomorrow's leaders today***



This priority works to strengthen future leaders' civic engagement with the knowledge of community issues and goals. Participants learn skills that enable their success both in the workplace and in their community.

Donna Carroll, President of Dominican University has said, "We must all have the sentiment that our communities must be intentional in creating support of our emerging leaders so that they get to know the two villages inside and out, develop and strengthen their leadership skills -- and assist them in establishing the network of contacts necessary to be effective as community leaders."

Through leadership development, future and new leaders will engage in community learning that fosters professional and personal growth. Community leaders will develop mastery in areas such as collaboration strategies and the ability to motivate teams towards common goals and creative problem solving in such areas as the success of all youth and environmental sustainability.

what is possible with your donation...

***your support will provide a permanent funding source
for the development of future leaders.***

This is possible...



- With an intentional commitment to foster emerging community leaders, the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation, *Communityworks*, and Dominican University’s Brennan School of Business have leveraged resources to deliver the first “Community Leadership Program” (CLP) to enhance participant’s skills in areas including leadership, creative problem solving, developing and managing talent, negotiation and conflict resolution, and strategic planning. Working in teams, the participants then develop projects that directly benefit *Communityworks* priorities.
- Investment in community leadership development supports the partnership of diverse sectors of our community – businesses, universities, associations, schools, political organizations and nonprofits.
- Recognized as essential to sustainability, Community Leadership Development will be integral to the success of Oak Park and River Forest.

those who are making it possible...

Communityworks Advisory Committee

Tom Barwin
Dr. Donna Carroll
Dr. Constance Collins
Gary Cuneen
Lisa DeVivo
Steve Gutierrez
Dr. Thomas Hagerman
Mike Kelly
Sophia Lloyd
Boyd McDowell
Dr. Shirley Morgenthaler
Jan Pate
Ed Petrick
David Pope
Roberta Raymond
John Rigas
Diana Rosenbrock
Mary Jo Schuler
Nancy Waichler
Dr. Attila Weninger
John F. S. Williams

Past Members:
Mike Kelly
Frank Paris

Communityworks Working Groups

SUCCESS OF ALL YOUTH

Deb Abrahamson
George Bailey
Mary Anne Brown
Robert Giles
Pat Inman
Elizabeth Lippitt
Gerald Lordan
Annese Piazza
William Planek
Marcia Preston
Terrie Rayburn
Diana Rosenbrock
Stacy Williams
Phyllis A. Walden
John F.S. Williams

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sue Crothers
Ali El Saffar
John Houseal
Ed Malone
Andrew Maychruck
Amy McCormack
K.C. Poulos
Karen Rozmus
Diane Stanke
Michelle Vanderlaan

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Dominican University
Tina Levy
Jim Kelly
Jan Pate
Mary Jo Schuler

Communityworks Matching Campaign Committee

Co-Chairs:

Martin Noll
Ralph Mandell
Mary Jo Schuler

Paul Beckwith
Mena Boulanger
Dr. Donna Carroll
Boyd McDowell III
Julia Faust
Sophia Lloyd
William Planek
Marcia Preston
Chatka Ruggiero
Mary Jo Schuler
Mark Sitzman
David Valenti
Nancy Waichler

While we have endeavored to include all who have participated, if we have not included your name, please accept our apologies and our heartfelt thanks for your contribution.

***“The Grand Victoria Foundation
clearly has strong confidence in the ability
of our two communities to thoughtfully
employ these resources and make real
headway in the areas of education and
environmental sustainability.”***

David Pope
Oak Park Village President





Through September 2011, contributions to *Communityworks* will be matched by the Grand Victoria Foundation, up to \$2 million. These funds will support an endowment to award grants that help ensure the success of all youth, an environmentally sustainable community, and develop tomorrow's leaders.



what you can do to be a part...

You can help us multiply the value of the Communityworks Fund

- **by giving to the *Communityworks* Endowment Fund.** You'll be providing support that will create a permanent funding source for community aspirations today, tomorrow, and long into the future. The Community Foundation's objective is to support projects or programs through *Communityworks* that maximize resources and collaboration...and achieve measurable outcomes.
- **by volunteering your time and expertise on a *Communityworks* initiative.** You can participate with community leaders, friends and neighbors working to achieve community-based and measurable aspirations. Contact the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation to learn more.

together we make it possible...

CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITYWORKS

Contributions made before September 30, 2011 to the Communityworks Endowment will be matched by the Grand Victoria Foundation, up to \$2 million. These funds will support a permanent fund to award grants that help ensure the success of all youth and an environmentally sustainable community. Gifts may be made in the form of cash or marketable securities, and pledges may be payable over multiple years.

Name: _____ Please list this gift as Anonymous

Company (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Yes, I/we wish to support the Communityworks Endowment Fund:

CONTRIBUTIONS PAID THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 ARE MATCHED 1:1

Amount: \$ _____ I wish to join the Women Leaders in Philanthropy
(\$5,000 minimum gift)

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Check Enclosed (payable to the **Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation**)

Please charge my credit card \$ _____ (circle one): Visa MasterCard Discover

Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pledge in the following installments: (please identify amount and date)

Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____

PLEDGES PAID THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 ARE MATCHED 1:1

If you have questions, or to arrange alternate payment (eg. Stock or IRA distribution) please contact us by phone 708-848-1560 or by e-mail: donorservices@oprfcf.org.

Return this form to the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation:
1049 Lake Street, Oak Park, IL 60301



our mission...

The mission of the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation is to inspire philanthropy and to steward the community toward sustainability and well-being.

Communityworks is a community-based partnership supported by the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation.

The priorities of *Communityworks* are:

- Ensuring the success of all youth through quality education,
- Achieving an environmentally sustainable community,
- Developing leaders for tomorrow.



Jan Pate (left), Chair of the *Communityworks* Advisory Committee and **Sophia Lloyd**, Executive Director of the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation.



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The Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation

1049 Lake Street, Suite 204

Oak Park, Illinois 60301

708-848-1560

donorservices@oprfcf.org

www.oprfcf.org