

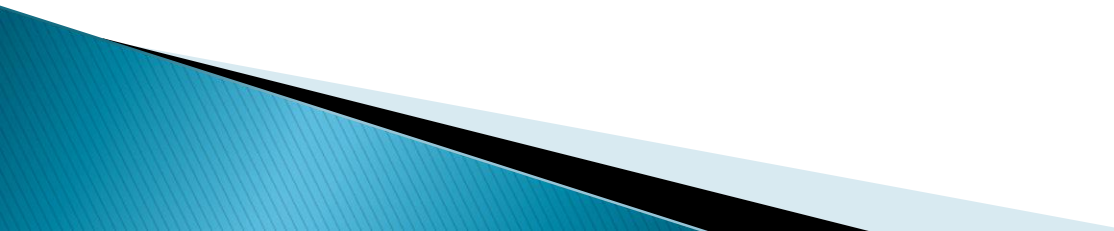
# Community Mapping

Essential First Steps for IDS Providers  
March 21, 2014

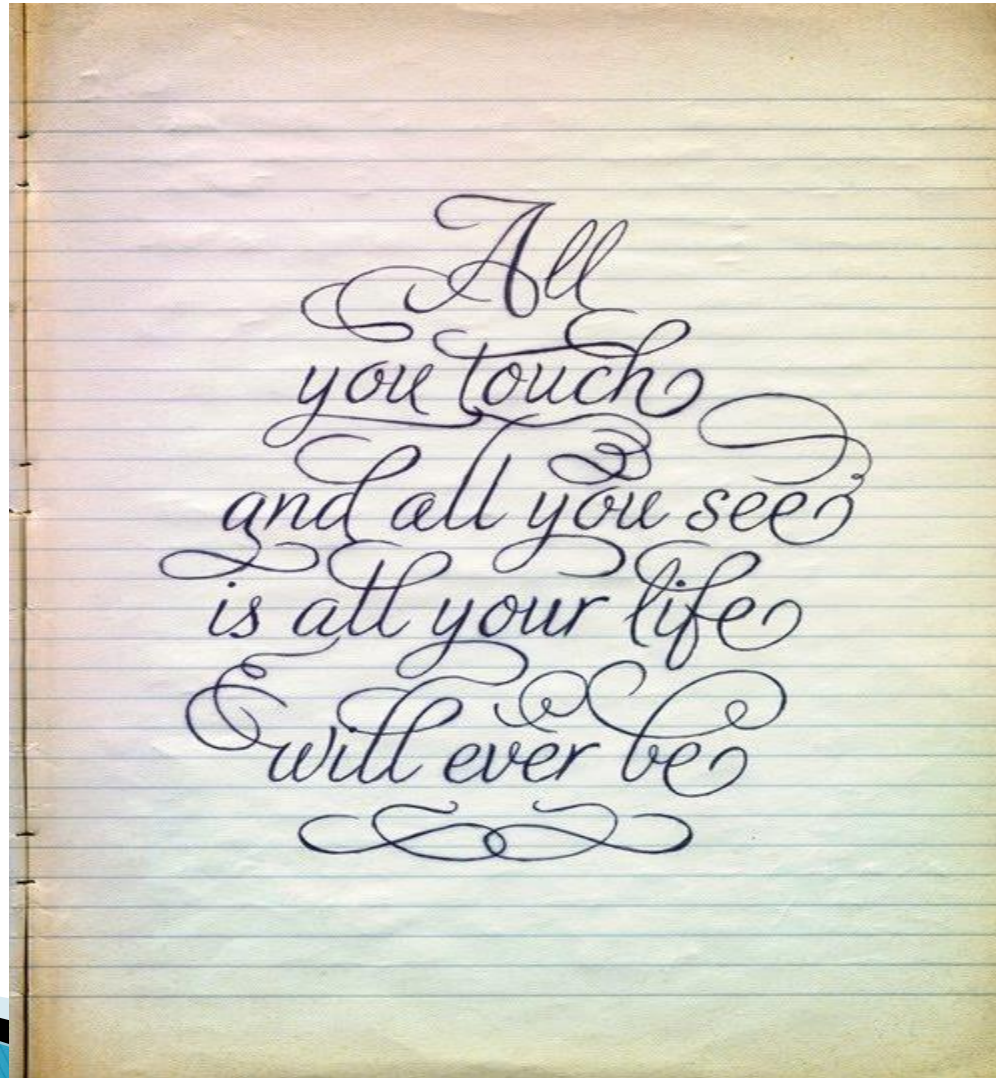
# Community Mapping

- ▶ Establishing a broad knowledge of opportunities for:
  - Community Involvement
  - Membership (formal and informal)
  - Volunteering
  - Learning (through instruction or by doing)
  - Exploring and pursuing specific interests
  - Meeting like-minded people
- ▶ Looking for opportunities that are not specifically for people with disabilities
  - Beware of Too Much Focus on One-Time Events

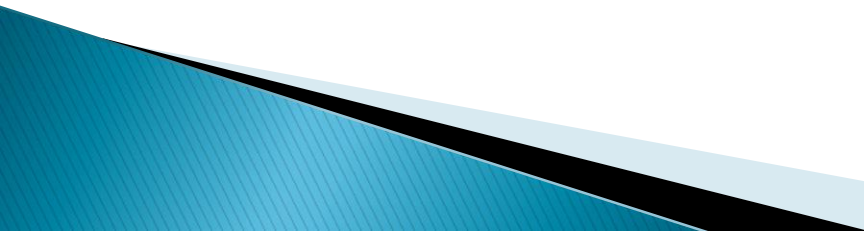
# Community Mapping

- ▶ A DSP's personal knowledge is not enough to develop good Community Integration Plans
  - ▶ **Community Mapping is the key to high quality IDS service**
  - ▶ Developing Community Integration Plans from “scratch” for each person referred could compromise quality of initial service
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# We Are Limited By What We Know

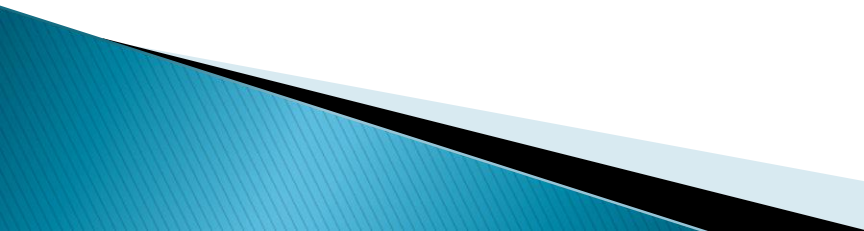


# Community Mapping


- ▶ Cataloguing opportunities is something each IDS agency needs to do
  - ▶ IDS agencies should be starting now to ensure as much baseline cataloguing as possible is done before anyone is referred for IDS
  - ▶ This is start-up activity for IDS: start-up is essential for any new service.
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# How will information be collected & stored for easy retrieval

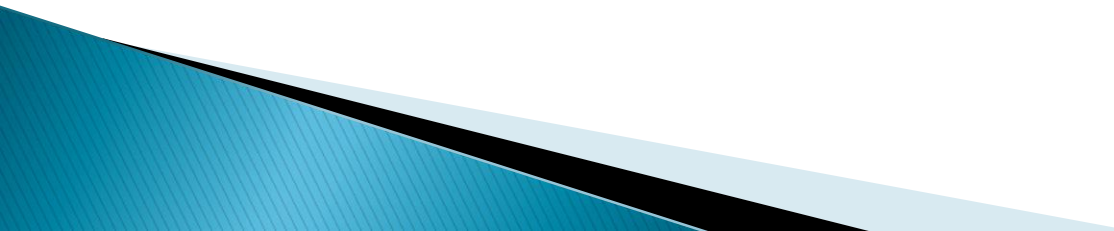
Priority #1: Identify existing websites with searchable information

- ▶ Develop searchable in-house database for IDS staff to identify best websites to go to.
  - ▶ Use on-line searchable databases as models for developing your own in-house database listing specific opportunities
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# Example: [volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org)

- ▶ **Choose:**
    - **Local** (you'll go to a physical location)
    - **Virtual** (you can do it from a computer, your home or anywhere!)
  - ▶ **Choose:**
    - Cause Area (10 basic areas; 29 total options)
  - ▶ **Choose:**
    - Kids, 55+, Teens, Groups
  - ▶ **Narrow search by keyword; advanced search option**
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# Example: [meetup.com](http://meetup.com)

- ▶ “neighbors getting together to learn something, do something, share something...”
  - ▶ Enter interest area (e.g. knitting, tennis) and Washington, D.C.
  - ▶ Find groups and information on when/where they are next getting together
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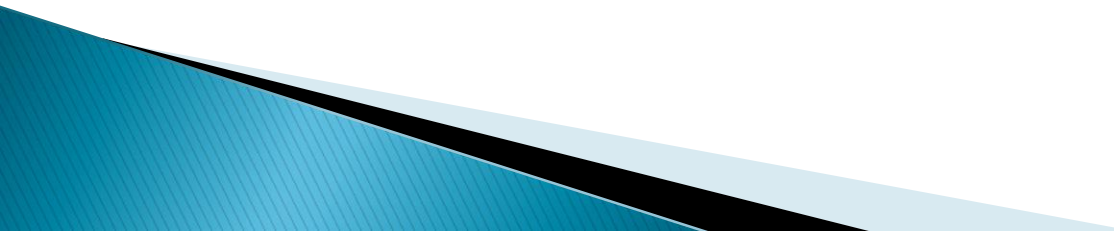
# How will information be collected & stored for easy retrieval by DSPs

Priority #2:            Develop your own searchable database

- ▶ Enable key search features:
  - By Interest Area
  - By Neighborhood, Ward
  - By Cost (e.g. free, minimal cost, substantial cost)
  - Other search criteria?
  
- ▶ Develop all relevant data entry fields to enter each IDS option into database

# How will information be collected & stored for easy retrieval by DSPs

Priority #3: Identify how staff will contribute to the agency's Community Mapping

- ▶ What staff will take the lead now and when IDS is up and running?
  - ▶ How can other types of staff contribute their knowledge...now and later?
  - ▶ Who else can be asked to contribute information? How will they be asked? How will the information be collected?
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# Gathering Leads from Existing Agency Staff

- ▶ Basic knowledge shared initially – in staff meeting or through other “at work” opportunities. Provide electronic or paper questionnaire to be completed.

## On-Going Leads:

- ▶ IDS Alerts by email
  - Prizes or other incentives for participation
  - Introductions rewarded with cash

# Do Trial-Run Mapping with a Few Existing Day Service Participants

- ▶ Have staff who know the person well complete a short profile identifying range of opportunities the person would likely enjoy.
- ▶ Have staff likely to be involved in IDS service practice their community mapping skills by researching and developing a list of options that match what the person is looking for.
- ▶ Staff should engage in multiple strategies:
  - Web-based research
  - Asking other agency staff to share ideas
  - Identifying and asking other “key informants” for leads

# Other Key Steps to Take Now

- ▶ Determine how agency databases will be managed
    - Who will enter information (could be great paid work experience for someone)
    - Who will manage/update information over time
    - How will agency keep track of IDS participants involved in the opportunities listed in the database (to avoid too many people using one option)
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