Community-Based Growth Strategies

Civic Engagement as a Foundation for Community Success

TURN
AROUND
2015
LET'S
TURN THIS TOWN
AROUND
IN 2015!
THE HUB
West Virginia

Economic Downturn
Educational Attainment
Workforce Participation
State Budget Deficit
County Budget Cuts
• Large-Scale Problems •

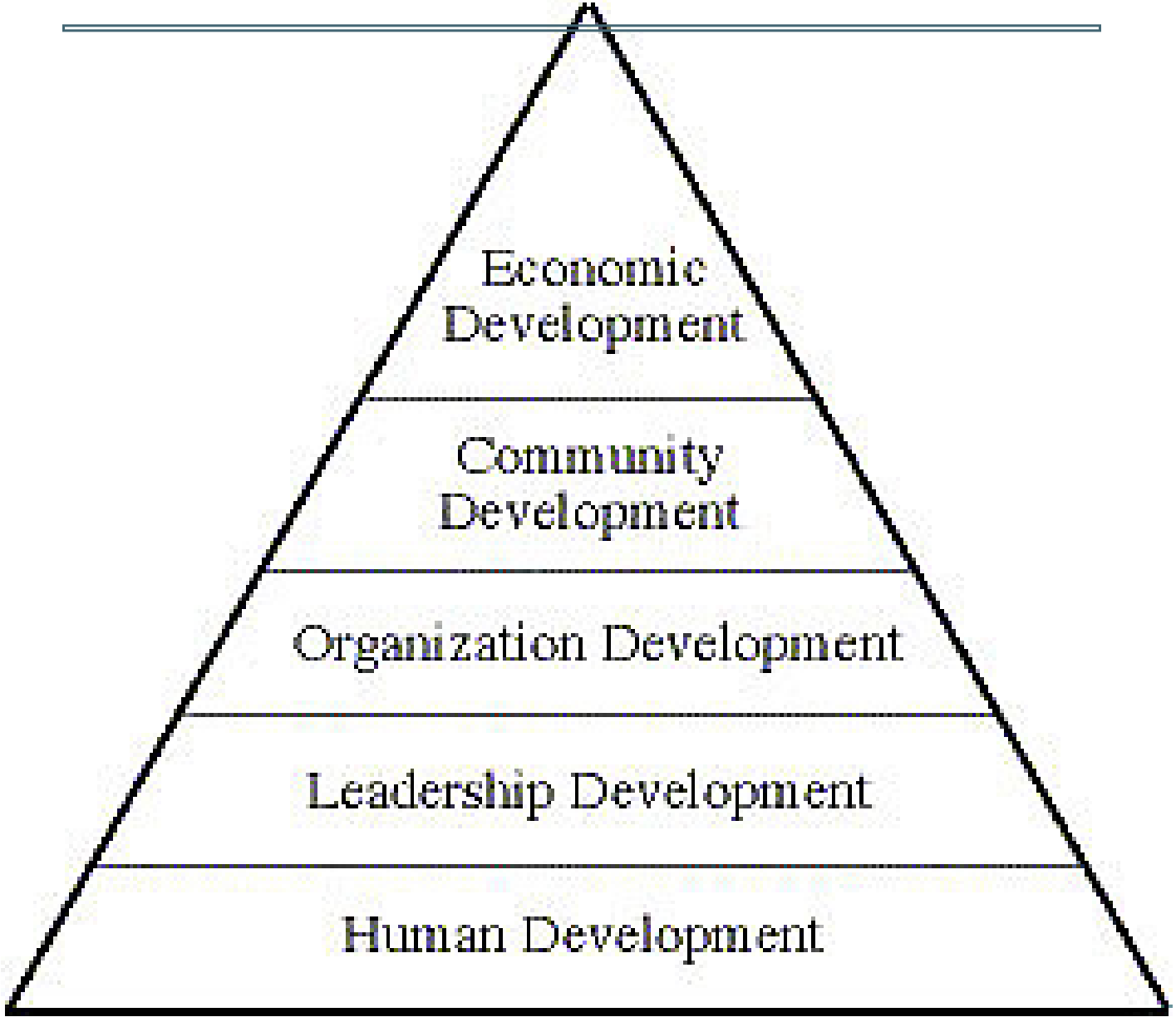
Harnessing Community Energy

Civic Infrastructure Development:
Long-Term Investment for Community Growth

1. Local Leadership Growth & Support
2. Civic Engagement Strategies

- Solutions that Invest in Community Leadership

THE TUPELO MODEL



Civic Engagement

An infrastructure for community planning and a mechanism to support emerging leadership

Why Does Civic Engagement Matter?

What Does Civic Engagement Look Like?

Stories of

Community Success

with Civic Engagement

Thomas WV

- 1 year community capacity building
- New Historic Thomas re-start

Impacts

28% Increase in Local Business Growth

29 new jobs

8,000+ sq. ft of downtown space redeveloped

$266,500 in small business loans

100% Main St business occupancy rate

Buckhannon WV

- Create Buckhannon
- HubCAP Community
- Weekly Community Planning Conversations

Impacts

Created 2015 Long Range Comp. City Plan

Secured funding and coordinated development of Jawbone Park

Launched Festival Fridays

Grafton WV

- Turn This Town Around
- All Abroad Grafton

Impacts

Local Beautification Projects

Twice-Weekly Farmers Market

Launch of First Fridays

Main Street Deck: $2500 leveraged into $60,000 public/private investment

Princeton WV

- Blueprint Community
- Princeton Renaissance Project
- Long-Term Community Coaching

Impacts

Leveraged >$200,000 worth of investment in acquisition and renovation of historic Lavon Theater

6 underutilized downtown buildings purchased

7 new businesses created

2 new major annual public events

Partnership Development

linked with

Civic Engagement

creates

Sector Growth

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