

# **Community Development Approaches**

RTM 300

## **Needs Assessment Approach**

- Focus on problems and weakness in community
- Needs assessment survey

# **Asset Building Approach**

- Focus on resources and strengths present in community
- Asset mapping

# **Community Development Principles**

- Asset based
- Geographic focus for community
- Regional perspective
- Public participation
- Roles of community based organizations (CBO)

# **Themes of Community Development**

## **Self-Help Theme**

### **J.A. Christenson**

- Self- Help Theme
  - Facilitator or educator role
  - Process focused
  - High ownership by community
  - Belief in capacity of situation
  - Sustainability potential

## **Technical Theme: community development**

**J.A. Christenson**

- Adviser or consultant role
- Task focus
- Goals often set outside community
- Consultant expertise central
- Delivery central, regional, or local

# **Conflict Theme: community development**

J. D. Christenson

- Advocate or organizer role
- Process or task focus
- Assumes lack of power
- Conflict strategy
- Saul Alinsky
- Sustainability problem