

## **Community Connection Asset Mapping Process: A Web-Based Organizing Tool of the CT Assets Network**



**Community Connection Asset Mapping Process (CCAMP)** is a dynamic, community mobilization tool. Its purpose is to create and sustain natural social support networks, or social capital. Its software system collects and reports data quickly and supports communities of any size with its online participant links. Allowing us to work smarter not harder, CCAMP organizes our ability to care.

Efficiently capturing the richness and complexity of resources to support healthy youth and family systems, CCAMP's powerful web based resource bank helps communities:

- inventory and gain important insights on the mix and variety of community assets and needs;
- unleash the capacities of individuals, institutions, associations, and any category of community organizations by connecting people with needs to people with resources.
- superimpose physical data onto land maps at any level of community organizing, i.e., geo-mapping by block, neighborhood, city, or region with immediate GIS technology;
- achieve positive change more effectively through quality data assembly of your asset maps;
- plan with detailed, compelling, push-of-the-button reporting on the untapped resources available to respond to needs and promote progress; and
- access all pertinent Census data through this same geo-mapping technology to illustrate how target populations or set of needs and resources, etc., relate in terms of the “bigger picture.”

This powerful analytical tool for community action and resource management allows users to connect online to maximize assets in a broad range of settings. CCAMP can be used by schools, agencies, neighborhood associations, towns, regions, and states, for example:

- to support youth and families;
- to educate and maintain safe communities;
- to support school-based service learning, career centers and after school programs;
- to support workforce competitiveness programs, school to career transitions, etc
- to re-integrate people in recovery (addictions, mental illness) back into their community;
- to create community inclusion for people with disabilities;
- to manage housing availability in real time for assisted living, recovery, foster care, etc.
- to organize natural support networks, i.e., social capital, for the benefit of community life.

**CCAMP supports the development and maintenance of strong community relationships.** It allows pinpoint matching of the hopes and dreams of participating individuals and organizations with the community's assets. Depending upon the information obtained via face to face conversations and/or on-line data entry, CCAMP users find anything from peer to peer services, housing, jobs, mentors, clothing, and a variety of other services, opportunities and resources for all community members.

In summary, CCAMP makes technology a 24/7 cost-saving and informative resource mobilizing community assets for social networking. Activists or consumers use online searches for desired resources and skills. Organization leaders present detailed results to funders, boards, peers, and the communities they serve through multiple report systems acquired from CCAMP's resource bank database. The cumbersome and sometimes overwhelming challenge of assembling needs and assets data, studying it and formatting it on GEO-MAPS is infinitely more manageable with CCAMP. Dozens of volunteer and staff hours—formerly consumed by data entry and analysis—are now dedicated to *grassroots level* assets matching. Turnaround times in making asset maps work to forward

a cause are reduced by several weeks through this comprehensive technological solution. CCAMP enriches asset-based youth or community development projects.

In closing, while it can be used by individual organizations, CCAMP is meant to serve as a catalyst for government, business, voluntary and philanthropic sectors to convert fragmentation into collaboration and synergy, to carefully align and invest resources, and to create a shared response to societal issues.

CCAMP has been introduced to a variety of groups:

**1. Library Systems**

- The Hartford Public Library
- The State Library System

**2. Neighborhoods**

- Bridgeport
- Danbury
- New Haven

**3. People with Disabilities (Able People)**

- The Connecticut System of Arcs
- FAVARH: The Arc of Farmington Valley
- Arc of Meriden/Wallingford

**4. People in Recovery (Mental Health and Addictions)**

- CT Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)
- Yale Program for Recovery & Community Health (PRCH)

**5. Youth at Risk / Promise Initiatives**

- Hartford Behavioral Health
- The City of Glastonbury
- Haddam-Killingworth Youth & Family Svcs
- Newtown Youth Services
- Waterbury Youth Services

**6. Special Interests Groups**

- After School Programs
- Connecticut Prevention Collaborative
- FAVOR, Inc—Family Advocacy and Behavioral Health Systems of Care
- School for Ethical Education
- Workforce Competitiveness

**7. State Departments in Connecticut**

- Dept. of Children and Families
- Dept. of Developmental Disabilities
- Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Dept. of Public Health

**8. Nationally**

- MA Dept of Public Health
- NY Mental Health Offices, Monroe Co
- Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN
- TX Mental Health Offices, FT Worth Co
- VT Dept. of Health

For more information, call CT Assets Network at 860-571-8463 or visit [www.ctassets.org](http://www.ctassets.org)

