

Augsburg College  
Pillsbury United Communities  
University of MN School of Social Work

**MODEL FOR THE  
21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
SETTLEMENT ORGANIZATION**

# Cedar Riverside Neighborhood: Minneapolis, Minnesota





Roots go back to the Bethel Settlement in late 1800's, first settlement in Minneapolis.

- Pillsbury House in Cedar Riverside in 1930's.
- Unity Settlement.
- Currie Center.
- Brian Coyle Center in 1993 to present.

# University of Minnesota

## ● School of Social Work

- One of the oldest public Schools of Social Work in the US
- History of engaged research/social development





Question -

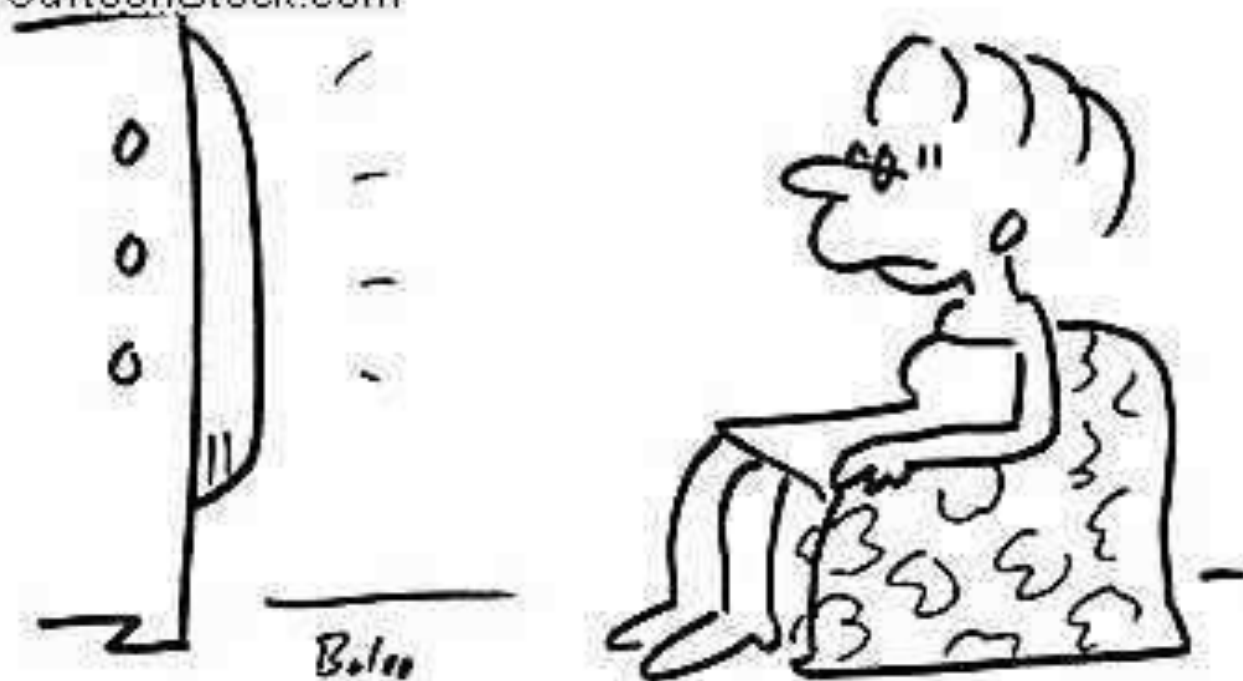
How does your <Center/  
Organization> fit within the  
settlement movement?

# Social Work Perspective: Settlement House Movement in U.S.

- ⦿ Residency, Research and Reform.
- ⦿ Private non-governmental organization.
- ⦿ Volunteers from privileged classes, bridging relationships.
- ⦿ Strengths-based, community building.
- ⦿ Collaboration based on residents' interests.
- ⦿ Cultural differences valued.
- ⦿ Poverty as a societal problem.
- ⦿ Political advocacy for systems changes.



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"In a five to four decision today, the Supreme Court  
picked social justice over regular justice."

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Settlement: Alignment with Institutional Directions

- Augsburg College – Sabo Center for Citizenship and Learning
- U of M School of Social Work – Institute on Community-Based Participatory Research
- Pillsbury United Communities – New Settlement Way Operating Model

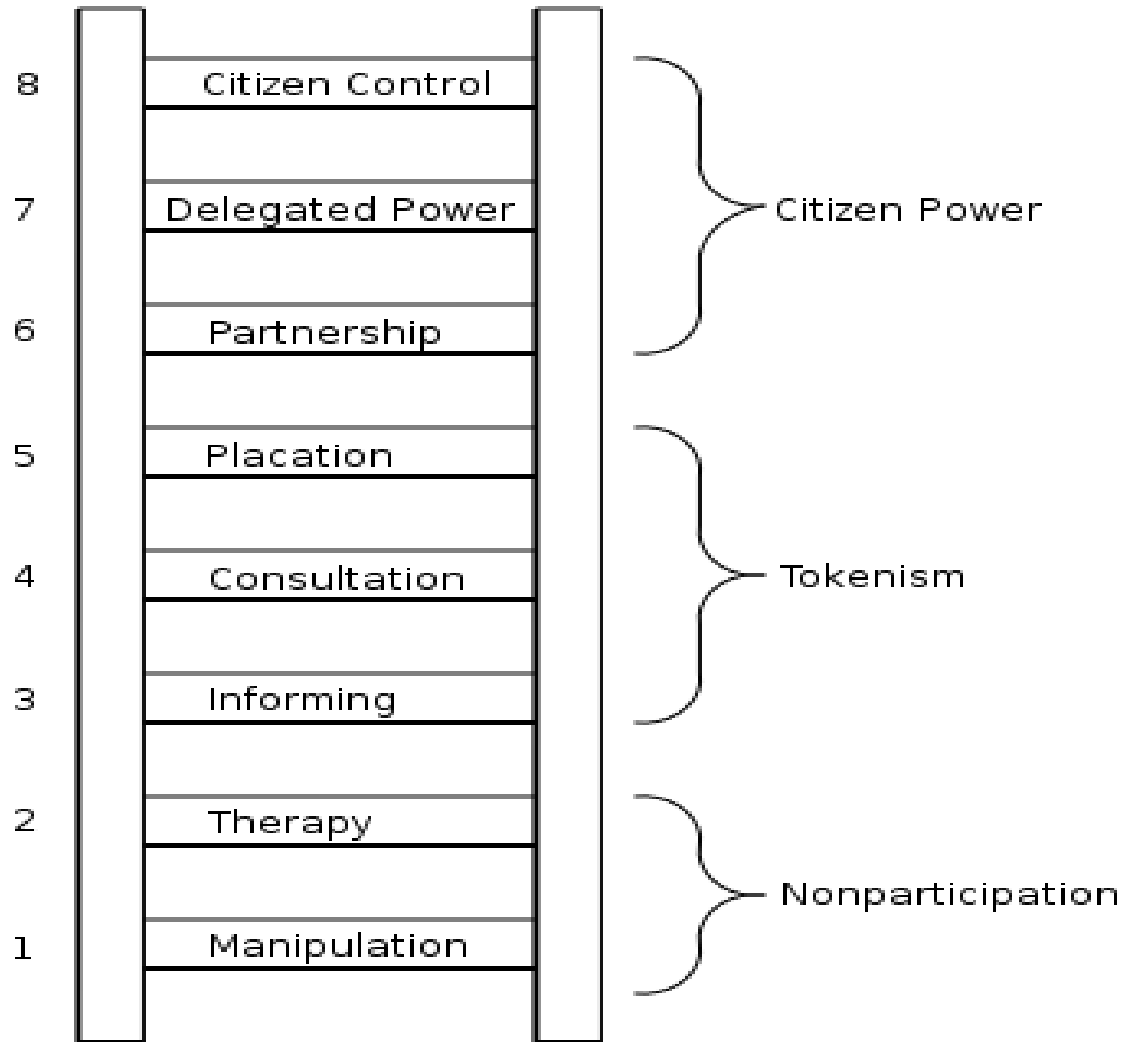
# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Settlement

## Organization: New Model

It's critical to involve community members together with academic institutions and nonprofit organizations as participants with shared power and say. Why?

- To advance social work as a values-based profession that changes conditions and challenges injustice.
- Greater impact through research/policy.
- Sustainability.
- Capitalize on the shared goals of applied researchers & community workers

# Ladder of Civic Participation



# Core Innovations

- Advancements in Cross-Sector Learning

Strengthen the community competence/professional competence continuum.  
Community in the classroom & classroom in the community.

- Community Designed Infrastructure Development

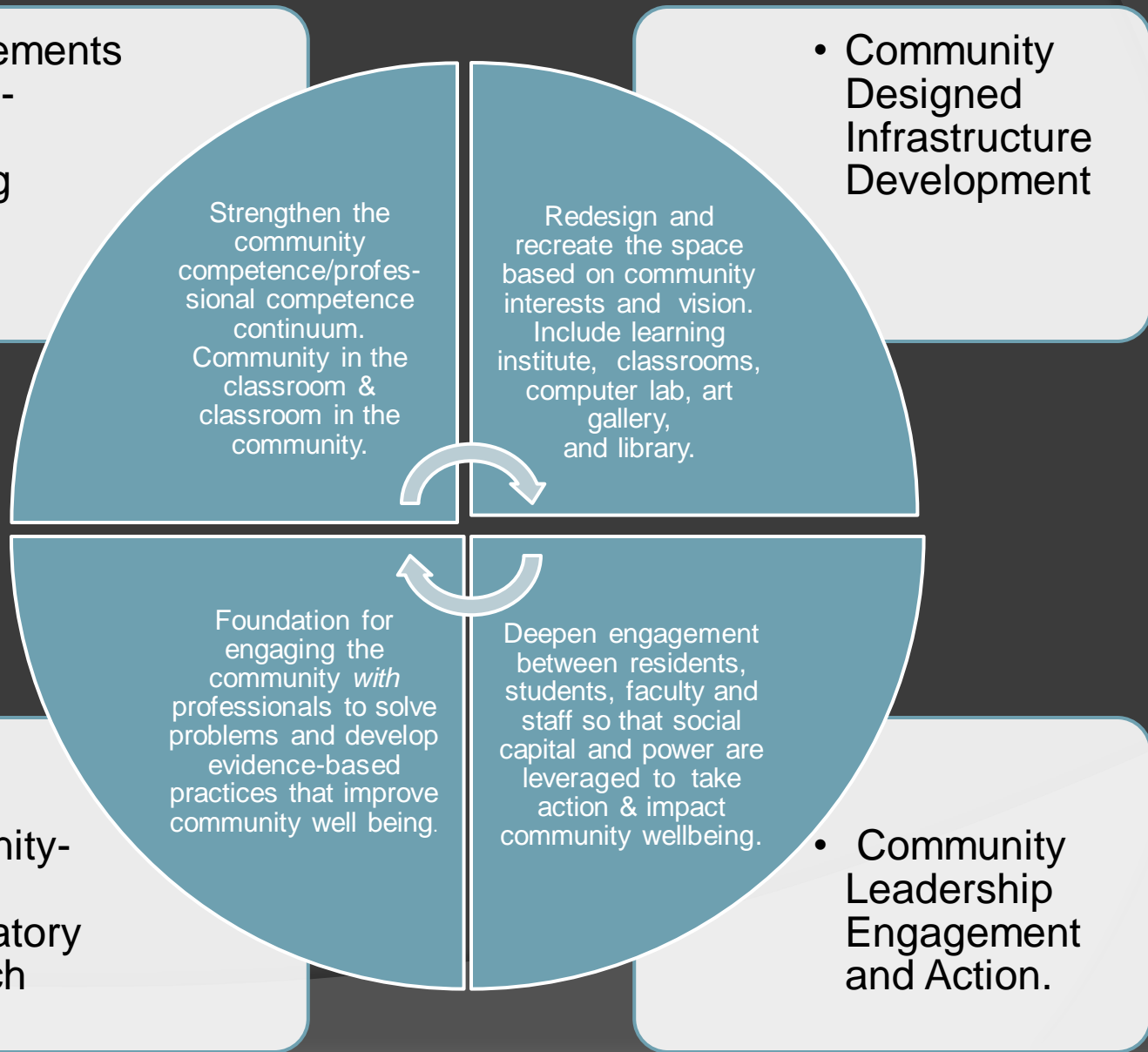
Redesign and recreate the space based on community interests and vision.  
Include learning institute, classrooms, computer lab, art gallery, and library.

- Community-Based Participatory Research

Foundation for engaging the community *with* professionals to solve problems and develop evidence-based practices that improve community well being.

- Community Leadership Engagement and Action.

Deepen engagement between residents, students, faculty and staff so that social capital and power are leveraged to take action & impact community wellbeing.



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Settlement Model: Progress Made

- LEARNING: 6 Interns placed at Coyle from Augsburg and the U of M. Plan for 2011 field seminar to be held at the Coyle Center with 12 interns. Course “Working with New Immigrant Populations” to be taught at Coyle, Spring 2011.
- ENGAGEMENT: More than 100 student volunteers and 16 work study positions provided through Augsburg and U of M at the Coyle Center. Concentration of America Reads-trained students from Augsburg and the U of M with Coyle Center Kids College. Augsburg MBA student team developed a business plan for a youth operated coffee shop. Partnership begun with U of M School of Social Work and PUC for 18-month engaged department project.

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Settlement Model: Progress Made

- RESEARCH: First CBPR project started for asset mapping with East African community members to focus on strengths and develop culturally supported and community led interventions for the reduction of health disparities.
- INFRASTRUCTURE: 150 community members engaged in process to redesign and renovate the Coyle Center space.

# Inclusion, Innovation, Impact

- Inclusion – Participatory, Reciprocal Accountability, “With” not “For”
- Innovation – Idea Incubator, Access Point concept.
- Impact – Individual empowerment, community change, systems accountability.



# Questions -

- From what you've heard, combined with what you have experienced in your own community, what do you see as the challenges to this model?
- What do you see as the strengths?

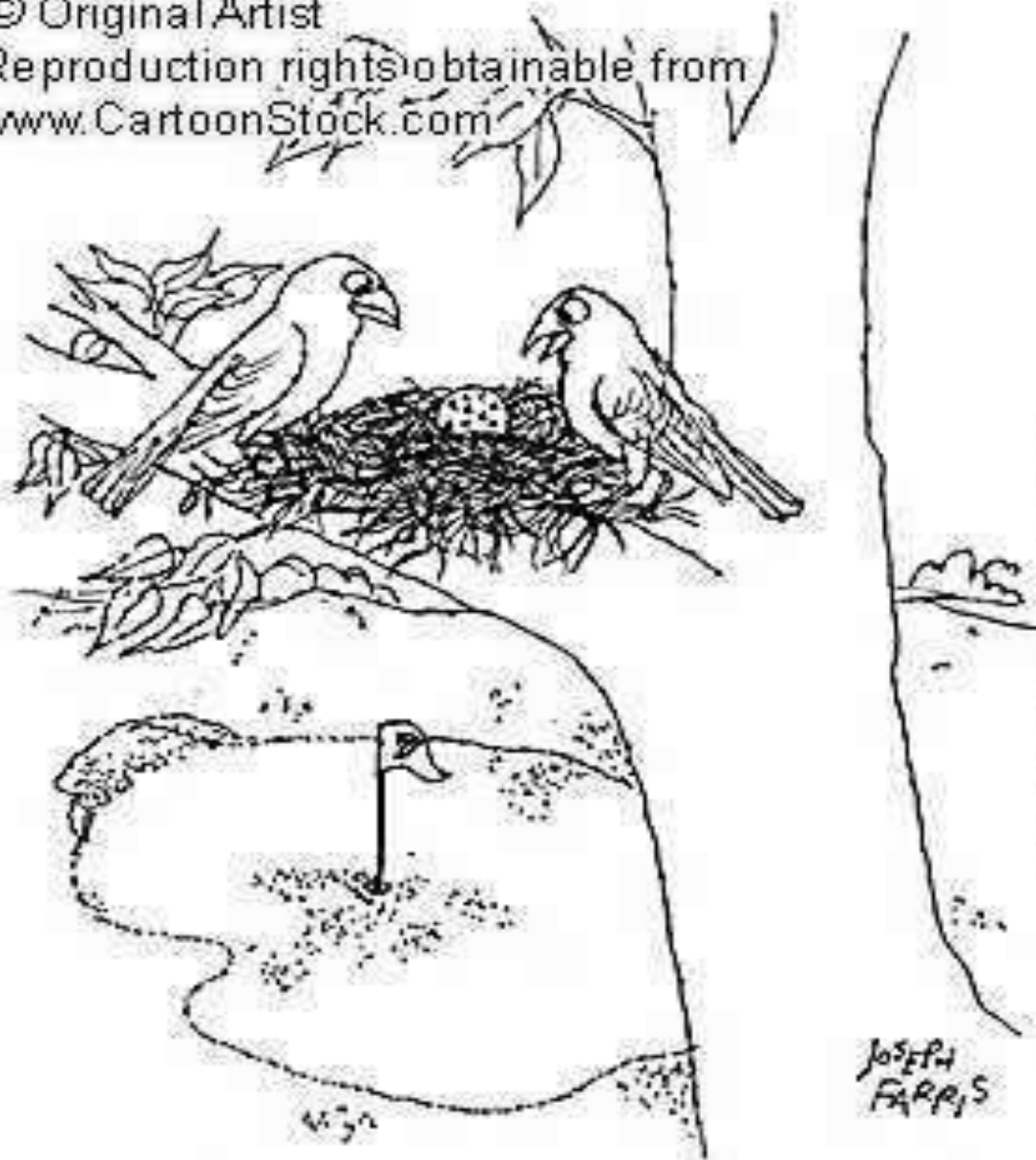
# Current Challenges

- Using existing resources rather than leveraging new. Only can do what existing resources allow.
- Bottom Up and Top Down. Getting everyone on the same page, so that the community is being “serviced” rather than seated as an equal partner at the table.
- How to institutionalize the model to achieve all that is hoped.

# Moving Forward

- Full integration of innovations in infrastructure, academic advancements, CBPR, and Community Engagement through a 3-5 year plan.
- The partnership expands by adding community representation at the table.
- Budget requirements: \$300,000/year for coordination, research component, faculty time, education scholarships, etc.
- The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Settlement House is created, implemented, evaluated and documented as a model.

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"I've been sitting on it for days and days and nothing happens!"

# Where do we go from here?

- Is the vision compelling?
- Recommendations to strengthen the model and broaden applicability to other communities?

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It's the previous 382 attempts that help you become 'a natural'.