

Tech Tools for Asset-Based Employment

For more information on asset-based development, see <http://www.synergos.org/knowledge/02/abcdoverview.htm>

Use what you've got, but better. New digital media tools help you capitalize on your assets, and can even help you transform challenges into strengths.

- Appreciate and mobilize individual and community talents, skills and assets, rather than focusing on problems and needs.
- Client and community driven, rather an organizationally driven
- Strategies that build upon
 - Asset inquiries
 - Social capital
 - Participation
 - Focus on local environment and economies



→ Map your community assets and resources, and make sure all employment team members and clients have access to map

→ Record every placement on a board where staff can see it often to be reminded of success and remember odd placements that might work now.

→ Utilize volunteers' knowledge, maximize your connections with digital media tools, and look again at employers whom you've written off

→ Stay up to date and in close touch with local job development networks, one-stop career shops, and workforce development agencies

Start faking your tech savvy here!

CMap.com Free logic mapping software. Useful for mapping communication problems, barriers to employment, assets and challenges.

ZeeMap.com Free online resource mapping. Useful for mapping employment locations, resettlement resources. Share with coworkers, volunteer and clients.

Yammer.com Free online communication tool. Useful as communication log with employment team.

Twitter.com Connect with volunteers and current/potential employers via Twitter. Use the #search codes to find others interested in your topic.

Delicious.com Book marking site. Use Delicious to bookmark web pages you visit often, and then share your bookmarks with employment staff.

Zohonotebooks <http://notebook.zoho.com> When you don't have the resources to build your own webpage, use Zoho template as a free alternative. Example uses: posting resumes online, "selling" your employment services.

Ning.com Create your own resource for quickly and effectively communicating with volunteers and job developers.

+Asset-Based Employment empowerment and

Appreciative inquiry identifies, records, and analyses past success.

This helps strengthen confidence and inspires new approaches for action. **Social capital** uses associations and informal linkages to build bridges for success. Think about expanding your connection base in new and unusual ways:

digital media, arts festivals and fairs, and employment skills showcases. **Participation** provides

ownership of the employment process. **Focusing on the local environments and economies** makes best use of local resources. Understand and communicate that refugee employment benefits individuals, communities and economies simultaneously.

Molly Ammons
Monterey Institute of International Studies
mmammons@gmail.com