



VOICE VISIONING SESSION REPORT OUT THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2013 MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH



What VOICE is About

VOICE brings together diverse members of our community in facilitator-led group discussions to draw out and capture everyone's ideas for the future. Together, we'll discuss our hopes and dreams for Evansville in a comfortable, open forum that's fun and inspiring, too. The sessions allow respectful conversations to take place, and all voices to be heard, and every opinion to be documented and shared. VOICE will ensure that everyone in our community has the opportunity to take part in creating a desired future. Absolutely everyone.

The VOICE Process

Leadership Evansville has facilitated discussion sessions starting on August 15 at easy-to-access public locations, such as Evansville Public Library System branches and Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation schools. The sessions have been advertised in neighborhood newsletters, the newspaper, television, radio and via the initiative's website: www.evansvillevoice.com.

Comments from each session will be available to the participants and the public. A summary and detailed notes will be posted on the VOICE Web site within one week of the session.

Once all comments are collected, additional community sessions will occur to verify that the information collected truly represents participants' opinions.

Then, common themes and ideas will be grouped by topic area to serve guidance for those organizations, businesses, universities, individuals, and government bodies with interest in that topic to move forward with further research and planning toward common goals.



VOICE SESSION SCHEDULE

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

GROUND RULES

THE FLOWER MAN BOOK

CARRY FORWARD & LEAVE BEHIND

VISION DRAWING & PRESENTATION

WRAP UP/ WHAT'S NEXT



LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator
THE FLOWER MAN BOOK



LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator

"One or two words describing why you are passionate about our community."

POSITIVE STATEMENTS

family friendly
family friendly
helping children
passion 80s classroom
Lincoln Clark Douglas organization
welcoming
helping children
neighbors help neighbors
new homes
people being nice
potential
positive spirit of collaboration
new changes
mentoring kids
diversity
people, price, community development
empowering children

ideal of being an all American city
opportunity
new residential homes in inner city
power of dreams
eagerness to volunteer
positive spirit, bringing people together
memorial church, families finding affordable housing, rehab
housing
future for youth
helping others, collaboration
helping homeless
working together
growth of south central- potential
advancement of youth
paying it forward
TSA
universities
clean city



CREATING EVANSVILLE'S FUTURE

"In a preferred future, what would you carry forward and what would you leave behind?"

GROUP 1:

Facilitator: Nicky Tesh

Scribes: Timothy Weir & Carol Pace

Recorder: Stephanie Terry



Carry Forward

integration of media and freedom of expression (i.e social networking)
Talents and opportunities bringing them together
Employment
Empowerment of diversity
Positive loving families

Gender equity
More Jobs for those coming out of school
Better job opportunities
Diversity
Prosperity
Sobriety
Acceptance
Culturally diverse marketing
Evolution of the mind
Lightness
Togetherness
Acceptance of gays
Knowledge
Better programs for addicts
Better neighborhoods
Better days ahead
Employment
An address for everyone
Happiness
Accepting parents
Empathy

Leave Behind

Limits on creative expression

Generation separation
Negativity
Racism
Dysfunctional family relationship
Thinking that one voice cannot create a wave of change

Racism
Pre- judgment
Poverty
Addiction
Discrimination in schools
Dysfunctional parents and families
Closed mind and isms
The darkness
Abuse
Gay discrimination
ignorance
criminality
Looking down on those less fortunate
Homeless shelters
Unemployment
Homelessness

Homophobia
Apathy



“In a preferred future, what would you carry forward and what would you leave behind?”

GROUP 2:

Facilitator: Phyllip Davis

Scribes: Jenn Schultheis & Je'Warren Coles

Recorder: Denise Johnson-Kincade



Carry Forward

Level playing field
Equal pay
hope
devoted, caring parents
youth achievement
positive power of change
better skilled
hope
tight knit community
positive city
equal opportunity
justice
second chances
youth achievement
camaraderie
vibrant socialization
community development-positive
peace
open mindedness
self control
chocolate
non-homelessness
social justice
teen center
vibrant cultural district
well defined community signage
positive self image for youth
easier recycling
love
lack of information sharing
gun control

Leave Behind

Racism
sexism
doubt
dead beat parents
academic failure
negativism
lack of education
doubt
every man for himself
misunderstand of disabilities
racism
politics
stigma- felons
lack of education
bad attitudes
boredom
urban decay
violence
closed mindedness

diet mt. dew
homelessness
poverty

lack
negative self image for youth
illegal dumping
bad attitudes
accessibility
violence & gun issues



LARGE GROUP CLOSING

Recap of “ What elements have you drawn into your visions of Evansville’s Preferred Future?”

Group 1

- every street is clean, houses are nice, people getting along, community center, community garden, technology learning center, church, free community health care, community arts and theatre, child/parent centers, more commerce on the riverfront, more access for center city kids, utopia

Group 2

- more parents accepting their kids and their kids' friends, middle school not seen as disappearing, more diversity, get rid of conformity, no bullying, fresh schools about learning and developing social skills
- people united with emotions, thoughts. Positive, good emotions. Giving everything to the people, music, peace
- travel affordable via airport, human fly travel, more skyscrapers- futuristic architecture, advanced health, opportunities to communicate with others, peace
- intersection in city- diverse, neighborhood schools, people working together, teen center- after school, playground, active youth, parks

Group 3

- bike paths going through the city, peace area- center for prisoners to get back into life, housing, teen centers, well developed housing, churches, hospitals, playgrounds, park is the central area in the city, place for entertainment, shopping centers

Group 4

- church is the center of the community, everything is connected to the church, senior condos, homes, Popeye's, real estate, banks, park for kids to play, bus to take people around, pool for the kids, memorial academy school, library,

Group 5

- kids, counselors, leadership- improve all resources, less pharmacy, less prescriptions, more faith based programs, more funding for youth programs, coexistence, unity, kill competition, open-mindedness, mentor programs, child care, programs for incarcerated parents, better conditions for homeless, music programs, compassionate teachers, how to grow and eat good food.
- new gateway in the city from Henderson/169, giant youth center- career resources, performing arts, pool "brain drain reducer" boys and girls club, vibrant culture , blues and jazz club, redevelopment in the south side, attract tourism, pool room,
- affordable housing, church, diversity, tolerance,
- handicap accessible



