



**Center For Neighborhoods**  
**The Lucille Leggett**  
**Neighborhood Institute**

**Tips for Working with Neighborhoods**

<b>How we normally work with other organizations</b>	<b>How we work differently with neighborhoods and residents</b>
We know who to contact by position	We have to research who to contact (sometimes it is not obvious)
We give them timelines and deadlines	We ask them to give us a reasonable time frame
We write things up – give them memos and job descriptions	We meet with them and have face to face conversations (preferably in their community)
We often take the lead in projects	We need to allow the neighborhood to lead us
We set up meetings during the day	We go to meetings at nights or on the weekends and when appropriate help to figure out childcare and transportation
We offer a list of possible roles for our organization	We ask how our organization can be most helpful
We use our leadership structure to help us make relationships	We look to current relationships to help introduce us into new communities
We manage projects	We negotiate our role, offer suggestions and learn to be flexible
We reach our objectives in a way that is most efficient	We follow the lead of residents with patience, as work takes much longer, is not efficient, often involves several players and lots of twists and turns
We assume authority is in the person with positional power	Authority rests in the one with the most relationships