

**Community Partnership Enhancement Fund
Legacy Report
St. Albert Strategy & Mobilization Committee**

Story

In 2006 St. Albert FCSS took a leap in a new direction pulling out of the many committees' they participated on (42) and formulating a new approach, one that ultimately would improve coordination and collaboration among service providers.

In 2007 an application was submitted to the Community Partnership Enhancement Fund (CPEF) for dollars to support formalizing the St. Albert Strategy & Mobilization (SAM) Committee, a community based committee developed to ensure the identified and emergent needs of the community are served through a coordinated, facilitated and supported community response and the formalization of two Working Groups; a Family and a Seniors Working Group.

Highlights

SAM initiated, supported and/or advocated for over \$650,000 investment dollars/grants for the St. Albert community including:

- ✓ Community Partnership Enhancement Funding
- ✓ United Way funding to support the Rental Subsidy Program
- ✓ Safe Communities Innovation Fund – Neighbourhood Development initiative

Sam endorses:

- ✓ Seniors' Working Group
- ✓ Child, Youth and Family Working Group
- ✓ Asset Development initiative

Seniors Working Group:

- ✓ Developed "A Community for ALL Ages" A Plan for St. Albert Seniors addressing collective advocacy, centralized information, transportation, and elder abuse

Child, Youth and Family Working Group key initiatives:

- ✓ Identify gaps in community database
- ✓ Create information packages for military families
- ✓ Community based Parent Information Series
- ✓ Birth Control and Sexual Health clinic/information

SAM is a City Council priority

Is It Working?

- ✓ 77% report increased effectiveness in responding to the needs of youth, parents, families and seniors
- ✓ 88% report partnerships are improved
- ✓ 100% report relationships are strengthened
- ✓ 100% report increased understanding of gaps in service
- ✓ 42% report decreased # of committees

Anecdotes

"We can see the benefits of tackling issues together as organizations"

"The networking opportunities have been a lifeline for me as I am new to my job I feel that I am better able to address the needs of my clients"

"In the past our organization was overlooked in many community committee meetings, since the formation of SAM we have been informed and involved in those community issues, have been able to participate and our ability to meet our mandate has increased substantially"

"The capacity of agencies serving seniors has been markedly increased due to improved communication, resource sharing, shared passion and motivation and clear objectives"