



Summer Opportunities to Engage!



Have you submitted entries to the Sustainable Communities Challenge? The [Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network](#) is mapping Chicago's sustainable practices, from youth and veteran engagement to gardens, composting and tree planting.

[Click here to submit your activities today!](#)



How are YOU getting an A in Summer? Flash Mob Consensus Workshop

Join us at **Montrose Beach, 11 AM-2 PM on Saturday, August 16, 2014**

for a Flash Mob Consensus Workshop on *How Are YOU Getting an A in Summer?*

Bring a picnic and some gear and make a family fun day of it!

ICA Releases Fifth City Video to Commemorate Fifth City Preschool 50th Anniversary

In 1962, ICA established operations in Fifth City in Chicago's East Garfield Park community on the West Side of Chicago.

Two years later, Fifth City community members established the [Fifth City Child Development Institute](#). This **Saturday, July 26th, 9am-3pm**, Fifth City Preschool will celebrate 50 years of providing early education to neighborhood children.

Ruth Carter (1936-2013), the dynamic, former director of the Fifth City Preschool, will be honored as Trumbull Ave., near Fifth Ave., will be named honorary

Ruth Carter Lane.



Fifth City: A Decisional City (1983) Watch Ruth Carter speak about Fifth City Preschool at 8:22.

"Fifth City Preschool has thrived throughout the years due to a caring, committed staff and a great curriculum," said Pam Bergdall, a resident of the ICA GreenRise who volunteered at a [Rebuilding Together](#) work day at Fifth City Preschool on July 10th.

To commemorate this exciting milestone, the ICA has released, for the first time ever online, the [Fifth City: A Decisional City](#) video. The ICA congratulates Fifth City Preschool for 50 years of outstanding community education.

Sustainable Community Development Summer Program



Students and staff using ICA methods to plan for the Solar Unveiling

This year marks the fourth consecutive summer ICA has hosted a program aimed to immerse university students in the arena of sustainable community development.

This summer's Sustainable Community Development Intensive (SCDI) course was designed to complement academic coursework for students interested in pursuing a career in the field of community development.

SCDI emphasized application of ICA's participatory processes. Students from four Chicago-based institutions, along with a student from Macalester College in Minnesota, participated in the program. Andreus Fox, the grandson of Fifth City resident Lily Fox, also participated in the program.

Students learned tools to help communities and groups create a vision, identify root problems, and plan for action and implementation. The methods were put to practical use to help ICA staff plan for the solar unveiling event happening this September.

Thus far, ICA has offered summer courses focused on theory and community engagement. The learning from this summer was that adding participatory processes to the sustainable community development curriculum enhances the students' experience. Next year, ICA will host an 8 week long, holistic course combining methods, theory, and civic engagement.

Getting PHiT is a ToP Priority

Have you ever wondered how **Technology of Participation (ToP)®** is relevant to your field?

One sector where ToP is making an impact is public health, a field that has been subject to a number of significant changes over the past several years.

To respond to policy changes such as the Affordable Care Act, public health professionals are increasingly required to be facilitative leaders. They must bring key partners together to maximize inclusion and authentic public engagement to address critical community health needs.

In early 2011, a group of ToP trainers and facilitators noticed an increasing demand for ToP training and facilitation among public health professionals. They launched the "Public Health in ToP" (PHiT) team to meet these growing needs. Today, the PHiT team has around 40 national members working to build public engagement capacity within the public health sector at the national, state and local levels.

Feedback about using ToP methods in public health has been overwhelmingly positive. One team of public health professionals in Colorado used the Focused Conversation and Consensus workshop methods with a group of 80 cross-state youth, youth-serving professionals and representatives from medical health, public health and state agencies.

"The audience loved the activity," they shared. "We used a sticky wall to put up several developmental occurrences, and they arranged and rearranged them as they saw fit. This drove a great conversation about understanding and communication between youth and youth-serving professionals. It went off without a hitch."

Another added, "I loved having the great conversations between the youth and the professionals. The space felt safe and I do feel that the youth felt so, too. They were open and honest about their experiences in the discussions."

ToP methods maximize participation and drive action in every field. To learn more about the Focused Conversation, Consensus Workshop and Action Planning methods, check out the ToP gateway course, [ToP Facilitation Methods](#).



Register for a ToP Training Course

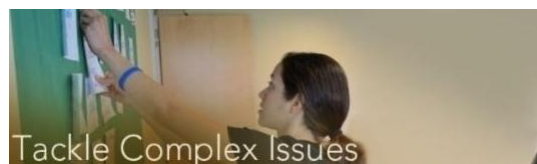
Do you want to effectively help a group think, talk and work together? ICA's ToP Training Program provides structured facilitation methods to help you lead.

[Click here to find a course near you!](#)

How might these trends inform our next steps?



The PHiT team used the WAVE tool to analyze trends in the public health sector and identify strategic directions for the year. Learn to use the WAVE in the [Environmental Scanning Approaches](#) course.



Find a Certified ToP Facilitator Near You

Do you need a neutral facilitator? A certified ToP facilitator can help organizations or communities with everything from strategic planning to team building.

[Click here to find a certified ToP facilitator!](#)

ICA Colleague Spotlight: Welcome Caitlin!

This July, ICA welcomes Caitlin Sarro as a full time staff member. Originally from New York, Caitlin has been living in Chicago for six years. Caitlin first joined the ICA as part of a team of 40 interns in 2012 and has never left!

During the last 10 months, Caitlin has been working with the ICA through [Public Allies Chicago](#) (AmeriCorps). Caitlin is appreciated at the ICA for asking the important questions and her unique eye for aesthetic design.

What drew you to the ICA?

I was looking for a way to get more engaged with community organizations all across the city and expand my asset mapping skills. I saw the opportunity for the 2012 Accelerate 77 internship and joined the community engagement team. By the end of that summer, I was on every team!

What are your favorite parts about working with the ICA?

I am both fascinated and mystified by participatory governance and I enjoy being a part of its integration into the ICA work culture. I also love the controlled chaos that we exist in on the day to day.

What is an interesting fact about you?

I never lost my first tooth - I lost both of my front teeth at the exact same time, on Thanksgiving morning when my parents intentionally gave me a stale bagel. How New York is that?!



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