

April 3, 2013 - Webinar: **Turning local news into information empowerment**

Liz Everson



community foundation

Leo Burd



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What's Up South Wood County

Low Cost & Free Events

Today's Outline

- Background information and community context
- The problem we're trying to solve
- The initiative and why it's working
- Lessons learned
- Next steps

You'll receive a complimentary copy of our whitepaper following the webinar.

What's Up South Wood County

Low Cost & Free Events





Where is everyone calling from today?

type in your chat window





Population 45,803

200 + Service Providers

Since 2007 ↑ 75% FoodShare

WELCOME TO

Wisconsin Rapids

www.visitwisrapids.com

Calendar of Events

INNER WISCONSIN COME ON in.

37% low-income families **NOT connected to Internet**



VERSION 1.1

COMMUNITY INFORMATION TOOLKIT

GUIDE TO BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES HROUGH INFORMATION EXCHANGE ww.infotoolkit.org

1008

Knight Foundation MONITOR INSTITUTE

CIVIC MEDIA

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reported getting their neighborhood news and information through word of mouth.

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of low-income 18-24 year olds have no computer at home



Using the phone is just within my comfort zone.





Do you have a digital divide in your community?





For those who have a divide, about how much of the local population do you believe does not have access?

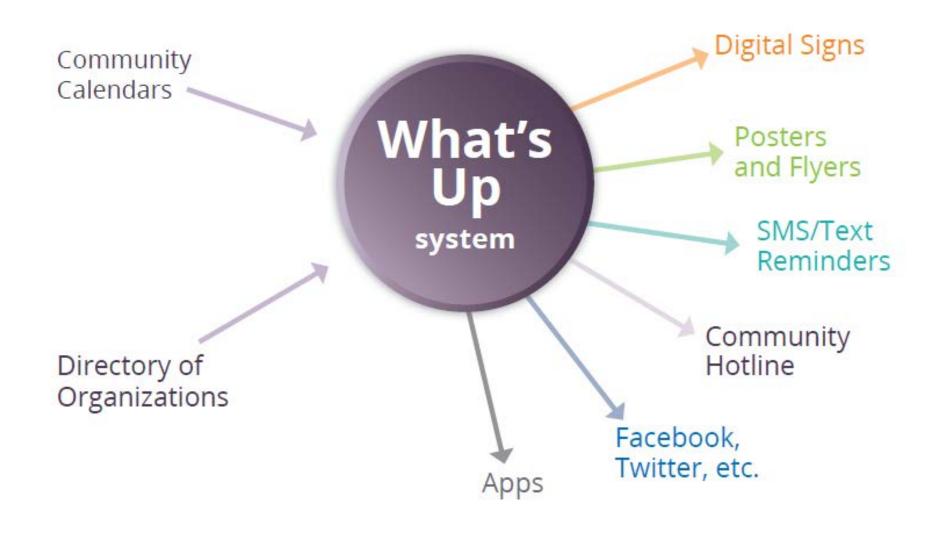


What's Up Informed people. Stronger community.

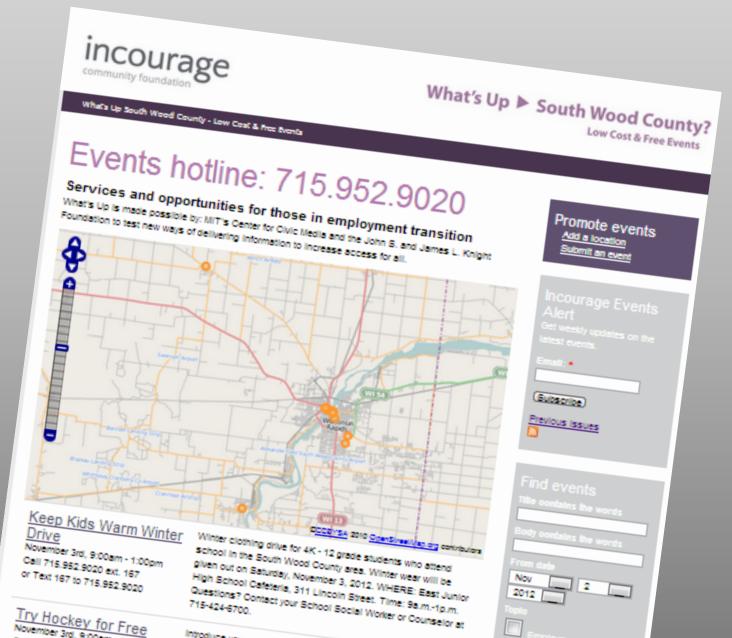
Provides real-time employment service information, traditionally found online - into "offline" channels that people use every day



How does it work?



Central Calendar System



Signs located at: Walmart **Job Center Food Pantry**



Bulletins: Buyers Guide Job Center Food Pantry

What's Up in South Wood County?

Provided by Community Foundation of Greater South Wood County in partnership with MIT

English Language Class

October 21st, 9:00am - 1:00pm. Also occurs on: 10/28. MSTC, 500 32nd St N, PH715.422.5300. Looking to improve your English speaking skills? This free class is offered by MSTC Academic Support Center. Registration is required.

GED Test Prep

October 21st, 9:00am - 1:00pm Also occurs on: 10/28. MSTC, 500 32nd St N, PH715.422.5300. Need help studying for the GED? MSTC Academic Support Center offers a free test prep class.

SWEPS Food Pantry

October 21st, 1:00pm - 3:00pm Also occurs on: 10/24, 10/25, 10/26, 10/27. First Congregational Church, 311 2nd St 5, PH715.422.2050. South Wood Emergency Pantry Shelf provides emergency food for local families and individuals in need, based on referral from North Central Community Action Program. Walk in-first come first served.

Food Pantry Screening

October 21st, 1:00pm - 3:00pm Also occurs on: 10/24, 10/25, 10/26, 10/27. North Cental Community Action Program, 2111 8th St S, PH715.424.2581. Food pantry applicants must provide proof they are a Wood County resident and are required to provide Social Security Card, Picture ID, verification of income and if available, Food Share/Quest card.

English Language Class

October 24th, 9:00am - 4:00pm. Also occurs on: 10/26. MSTC, 500 32nd St N, PH 715.422.5300. Looking to improve your English speaking skills? This free class is offered by MSTC Academic Support Center. Registration is required.

GED Test Prep

October 24th, 9:00am - 4:00pm Also occurs on: 10/26. MSTC, 500 32nd St N, PH 715.422.5300. Need help studying for the GED? MSTC Academic Support Center offers a free test prep class. Registration is required.

Free Community Meal

October 24th, 5:00pm - 6:00pm. Faith Reformed Church, 1321 32nd St N, PH 715.423.3055. Faith Reformed Church offers a free meal for individuals in need.

Breastfeeding Info & Support Event

October 24th, 5:30pm -7:30pm. Riverview Hospital Lower Level, 410 Dewey St, PH715.421.8937. Topics include: getting of to a good start, avoiding challenges, working and pumping, the myth of the nursing timeline. Light dinner is included. Sponsored by the South Wood County Breastfeeding Coalition and the Wood County Health Department.



SMS & Phone Hotline

715.952.9020 (i.e. Ext. 31)

Automatic SMS Alerts





Questions

Liz Everson



Leo Burd





Lessons Learned

- Experimentation is key.
- Be ready to fail forward and frequently.
- High-tech projects need a strong local backbone organization.



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civic media

Lessons Learned

- Backbone organizations need to be grassroots.
- Place-based nonprofits can help.
- To measure partnership impact, look beyond the project.

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Next Steps

- Enhance support to case managers/social workers.
- Add social media and landline phone alerts.
- Establish a network beyond central WI.





Questions

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Contact Us

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Whitepaper @ <u>bit.ly/YHXq0d</u>