LEADING CHANGE

EMPOWERING MULTICULTURAL FAMILIES

Together

PROCESS

STEP 1

2003

PAY ATTENTION:
School and census data indicate increasing numbers of African-American and Hispanic/Latino residents in the community, many of whom have limited financial resources.

STEP 2

2004

IDENTIFY THE ISSUE:
AmeriCorps VISTA member brings neighborhood residents of various races and ethnicities together. They identify a need for a place to gather as families for relationship building and programming.

STEP 3

2005

BUILD RESIDENT LEADERSHIP:
Neighborhood leaders form an advisory board, conduct outreach, and begin to identify programming needs, and bring residents together to create a mural depicting their cultures to be displayed at the center.

2005

GAIN SUPPORT:
Iowa State University Extension, the City of Dubuque, and AmeriCorps Partners in Learning commit staff and funds to open a Multicultural Family Center in a 600 square foot rental space.

RESULT: 2009 Expansion

Empowering all families and community members to reach their potential and build unity out of diversity

Cultural Events
Family Programs
Adult Programs
Youth Programs
Teen Empowerment

COMMUNITY ART PROJECTS

With the support of local artist John Bricker-Anderson, community members created "Community Flow" and "The Portage" for the new Center

NEW FACILITY & PARTNERSHIPS

In 2009, the City of Dubuque provided a new 6,000 square foot home for the Center. The City continues to provide staffing, while a non-profit board raises funds for programming.
Teen Empowerment

Future Talk: An eight week summer service learning program for youth aged 13-17. 100 youth have completed the program since 2008. Three are attending local four year colleges, others are pursing positions as CNAs and still others have found employment.

Engaging and serving the community
Learning & experiencing the natural environment
Meaningful work for a stipend

"I made money, stayed out to trouble, and helped my community."

"People see us doing good and it makes them want to, too."

Our Community Builds Unity out of Diversity

The Multicultural Family Center began as a community initiative and continues as a community initiative.

170 Donors, Grantors, and In-Kind Contributors
10 AmeriCorps Members and 165 Community Members
1 Full Time 3 Part Time

Funders
Volunteers
Paid Staff

2013

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