

# Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Presented by:

Michael E. Phelan, Township Supervisor

Roger A. Larson, Richwoods Township



TOI Educational Conference  
2016

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Your Presenters:



Michael E. Phelan has been the Richwoods Township Supervisor since 2005. He is no stranger to program development through the development of partnerships. Throughout his tenure as supervisor, Richwoods Township has partnered with University of Illinois Extension, Rebuilding Together, HUD, Village of Peoria Heights, Peoria Heights Public Library, Peoria Heights Congregational Church, Peoria Heights Public School #323, St. Thomas Catholic Church and Peat Technologies.

Such partnerships have resulted in programs which have impacted the citizens of Richwoods Township. These programs include Camp Clover, Chef School, Housing Rehab (over 22 homes and their Township owners have been impacted), Sponsoring of Thanksgiving Dinners and Leadership Academies.



Roger Larson has been developing educational programs for over twenty years. He has done so with Township governments, municipal governments, not-for-profits and business.

Presently Roger works with Richwoods Township in Peoria Heights, Illinois. During his tenure there, he has developed multiple partnerships, culminating in three high school leadership academies, 2 11 week educational garden projects and, in 2016, a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Academy for middle-school students.

He previously worked for University of Illinois Extension, where, for twenty years, his performance was evaluated through the prism of the development of educational programs and their impact.

Roger's philosophy is simple, "Whatever one does, let it have impact!"

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

## Outline of Today's Workshop

History of Township Programming

Why Develop Township Programs

How to Develop Township Programs: *Good Ole-Fashioned Brainstorming*

Some Township Program Examples



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

#### History of Township Educational Programming

- Richwoods Township in Peoria County: *Rebuilding Together, Camp Clover, Chef School*
- Limestone Township in Peoria County: *Girl Scout Raised Bed Garden*
- Elmwood Township in Peoria County: *Camp Clover*
- Rosefield Township in Peoria County: *Rosefield Township Nutrition Notes, Camp Clover*




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Township Program Development Model



Before developing anything, this question must be considered.

Brainstorm

How does a Township determine its needs?

Development

How does a Township take the information and develop a program?



What takes place to determine the impact of a Township program?




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

#### Why Would A Township Take the Effort to Develop An Educational Program?

1. *Illinois Township government is presently in the "cross-hairs."*
2. *Market to a potentially new audience.*
3. *Be able to document impact beyond General Assistance, Assessing, Collecting and Road/Bridge Maintenance.*
4. *Address other needs in the usual, Township, cost-effective manner.*




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Brainstorming the Township Needs

1. *Develop Partnerships...Planning is shared...Marketing is shared...Impact is shared and the Mission is consistent.*

- o School Systems
- o Public Libraries
- o Faith Community
- o Service Organizations
- o Business Community
- o Social Organizations
- o Fraternal Organizations
- o Community Colleges
- o University of Illinois

**EVERYONE LOOKS GOOD...**



Township Educational Programming

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Brainstorming the Township Needs

2. *Determine Community Needs*

- o Bring a Planning Committee Together, comprised of your Partners
- o Consider the needs among Seniors, Youth, Unemployed, Parents, Gardeners, and others who are ecologically-minded?
- o Listen informally: "What are people saying on the street?"
- o Use Needs Assessment Tools: Focus Groups, Surveys, 1:1 Conversations
- o Develop A Community Survey (One Assessment Tool)
  - o Not lengthy
  - o Work with your Partnerships



Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Brainstorming the Township Needs

3. *Develop A Creative Funding Stream*

- o Township Educational Programs do NOT have to cost a great deal of tax dollars.
- o When your Partners have a passion, the funds will come.
- o Ask individuals, who are not Partners, to participate in the program.

4. *Begin A Program Which Is Easily Accomplished. "You only have one chance to get someone off their seat."*



Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

**Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming**

Examples of Township Programs

1. **Leadership Academy: 2014-2016**

- o A full synopsis is available for download: [www.toi.org/richwoodstowship](http://www.toi.org/richwoodstowship)
- o Partners
  - ✓ Peoria Heights High School #325
  - ✓ Village of Peoria Heights
  - ✓ Peoria Heights Police Benevolent Association
  - ✓ Peoria Heights Public Library
  - ✓ Heights Bank
  - ✓ Hometown Community Banks-Peoria Heights Community Bank

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





---

**Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming**

Examples of Township Programs

1. **Leadership Academy: 2014-2016**

- o Program: 2014-15; 6 weeks, 10-noon
- o Program: 2016; M-F, 9am -1:00pm
- o Needs addressed
  - ✓ Young people engaged in their community.
  - ✓ Young people learning from individuals, who themselves are leaders.
  - ✓ Put the learning into practice through project development.

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

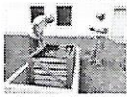




---

**Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming**

Examples of Township Programs

2. **Peoria Heights Public Library Garden Project: 2015-2016**

- o Full synopsis available for download: [www.toi.org/richwoodstowship](http://www.toi.org/richwoodstowship)
- o Partners
  - ✓ Peoria Heights Public Library
  - ✓ Lowes of Peoria
  - ✓ Better Earth Premium Compost
  - ✓ Village of Peoria Heights
  - ✓ University of Illinois Extension

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---



---

---

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Examples of Township Programs



2. *Peoria Heights Public Library Garden Project*

- o Program: 11 weeks during 2015-2016
- o Increased the size of the garden
- o Needs Addressed
  - ✓ Providing positive summer activity
  - ✓ Practicing proper gardening techniques
  - ✓ Practicing nutritional by using garden products
  - ✓ Practicing proper food preparation techniques

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





---

---

---

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Examples of Township Programs

3. *S.T.E.M Academy 2016 (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)*

- o Full synopsis available for download: [www.toi.org/richwoodstowship](http://www.toi.org/richwoodstowship)
- o Needs Addressed
  - ✓ Young people learning about programming, building, soldering and careers.
  - ✓ Young people working with Expert Volunteers.
- o Partners
  - ✓ Pearl Technology
  - ✓ Richwoods Township

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





---

---

---

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming

Examples of Township Programs

4. *S.T.E.M. Academy 2016*

- o Partners (continued)
  - ✓ Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters-JATC
  - ✓ University of Illinois Extension
  - ✓ Village of Peoria Heights
  - ✓ Caterpillar Engineers

Impact analysis on [www.toi.org/richwoodstowship](http://www.toi.org/richwoodstowship)

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 15

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---






---

**Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming**

Examples of Township Programs

5. *Rebuilding Together: 1998-2016*

- o Full synopsis available for download: [www.toi.org/richwoodstownship](http://www.toi.org/richwoodstownship)
- o Needs
  - ✓ Provide minor housing rehab for seniors and the disabled
  - ✓ Engage Volunteers in "bettering" their community
- o Partners
  - ✓ Rebuilding Together, Peoria Chapter
  - ✓ Local Businesses in Peoria Heights and Peoria metro-area

Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming**

Questions?

Contact Information

Michael E. Phelan <a href="mailto:richwoods7@Comcast.net">richwoods7@Comcast.net</a> 309-688-2822	Roger A. Larson <a href="mailto:Richwoodslar@gmail.com">Richwoodslar@gmail.com</a> 309-688-2822
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

[www.toi.org/richwoodstownship](http://www.toi.org/richwoodstownship)



Increasing Your Township's Impact Through Educational Programming 17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---