



Evaluating Community Venues Tips

Supporting people to connect with other members of the community begins with finding the right venue. Below are some tips for finding the places in the community that offer the best opportunity to build social capital and community connections. The 3 R's to Evaluating Community Venues

The Right Group

Look for a group:

- That takes place in the community and is open to everyone.
- That meets on an ongoing regular basis.
- That meets frequently (a few times/month vs a few time/year).
- That is "Inherently Social" where socializing with other members is a regular part of the group's activities.
- Where there are opportunities to interact and socialize with other group members during group activities.
- Where there is an opportunity for people to contribute to the group and develop valued social roles.

The Right Venue

Look for a venue:

- That is conveniently located and accessible for the person.
- That is conducive to group interaction.
- That offers a group size that is comfortable for the person.
- That offers an atmosphere that is comfortable for the person. (lighting, noise level, room size)

Find the Right People

Look for people:

- That have either an informal or formal leadership role in the group.
- That other group members go to for advice
- That are positive, open and talkative.
- That are open to meeting new people.
- Who know lots of other group members.