Social Change Wheel:

Models of Community Involvement

(activities that help make the world a little brighter for everyone):

- biking, taking public transportation or carpooling to work or school
- shopping at stores which give back to the communities they are located in directly
- visit the www.TheHungerSite.com each day to order free food for the hungry
- recycle paper, aluminum, glass, newspapers, plastic, etc.

(activities which raise awareness and/or change people's actions or attitudes about important social issues utilizing a range of educational approaches):

- speaking to community groups about homelessness, crime and recycling in their local community
- educating community groups through theater on AIDS/HIV prevention strategies or human rights issues
- developing experiential workshops for groups to increase multicultural understanding

Socially Responsible Daily Behavior

Advocacy through Community Education

Community Building

(activities that build trusting relationships among individuals and groups around issues of common concern):

- > participating in the national Million Man/Woman March
- interviewing residents to document the history of a neighborhood
- participating in emergency relief efforts after a flood, earthquake, tornado or hurricane
- planting a community garden with other residents in your community as part of neighborhood revitalization efforts

(activities which address immediate needs, but not always the conditions from which these needs emerge):

- > improving literacy skills of children, youth and adults through tutoring and teaching
- serving food at a soup kitchen or shelter
- > answering calls for a suicide or sexual assault crisis hotline

Community/ Economic Development

> Voting/Formal Political Activities

> > Direct Action Strategies

Grass-roots
Political Activity
Public Policy Work

Direct Service

(activities that identify allies, build common ground, and implement strategies for changing public policy):

door-to-door campaigning for clean water action

- lobbying for additional funding to build affordable housing
- organizing a letter writing campaign urging Congress to change existing welfare policy

(activities that identify and increase the human and/or economic assets of a neighborhood/community):

- completing a neighborhood assets inventory
- assisting with small business development or job skills development
- offering leadership workshops to local residents
- working to set up health care clinics and training community members on public health issues.

(activities that mobilize people to influence public policy through formal political channels--campaign work, voting, voter registration):

- organizing voter registration drives
- working on a political campaign
- > creating or distributing candidates' profiles including records of support on various public issues

(activities that use confrontation or public disobedience as a strategy for raising awareness of an issue or to change policy):

- picketing or holding candlelight vigil at the state capital
- participating in Take Back the Night rallies and marches to protest sexual and domestic violence
- organizing rallies to demand support for programs benefiting disadvantaged or underserved children

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