

# HORIZONS

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP TO REDUCE POVERTY

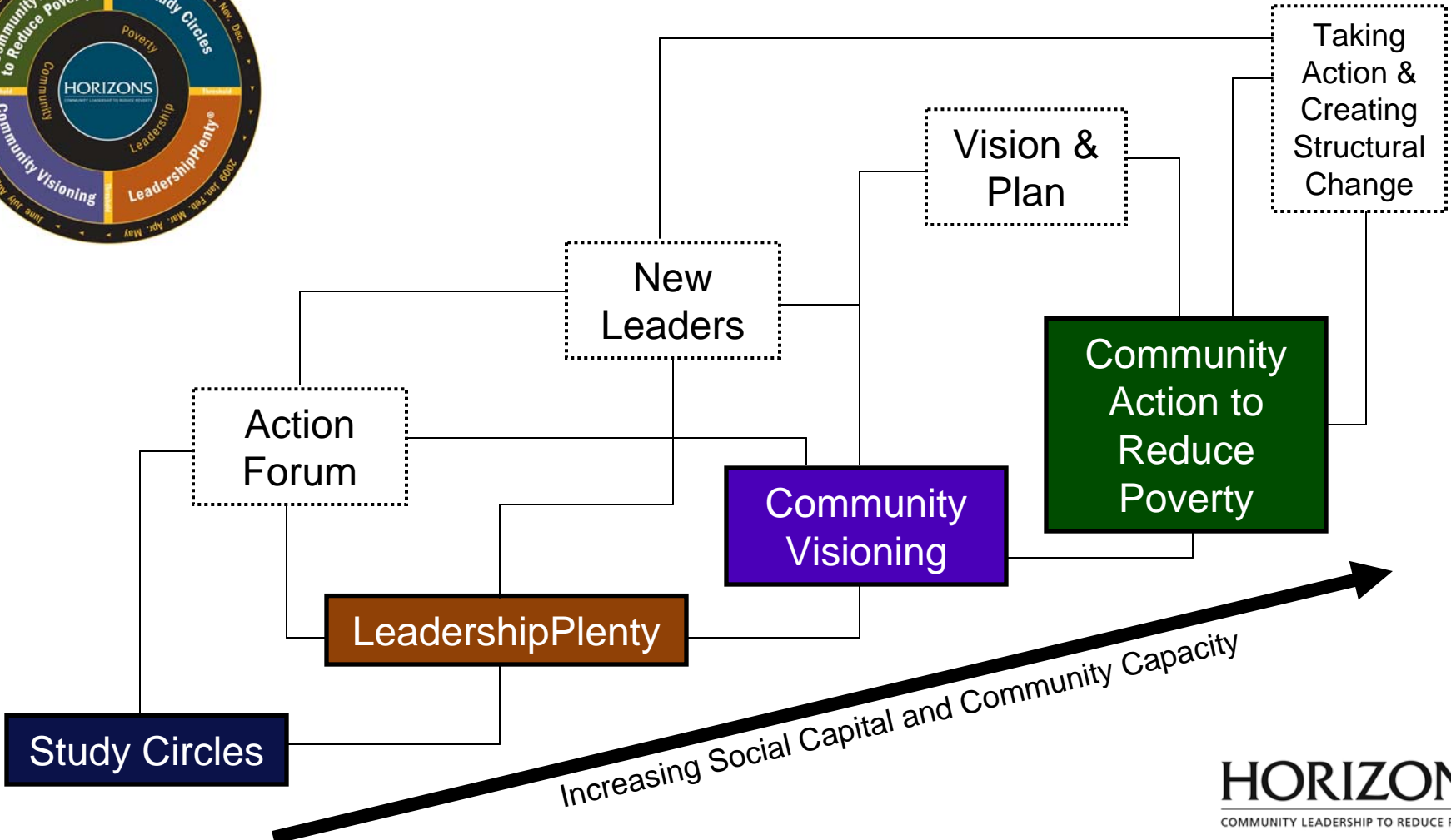
## Visioning and Community Action to Reduce Poverty





# Horizons Road Map

Prosperous, vibrant community in which everyone has a chance to thrive



# Horizons Values

- Transparent
- Inclusive
- Diverse
- Empower
- Many
- Voice
- Community Esteem

# Ultimate Horizons Outcome

- Prosperous, vibrant community in which everyone has a chance to thrive!

# NWAF Target Outcomes

- NWAF's New Strategic Focus
  - Increased assets and wealth among people of low incomes.
  - Increased capacity and leadership to reduce poverty.
  - Improved public policy solutions to reduce poverty.

# Horizons Visioning

- Community Visioning (June to August 2009)
  - Broader community is mobilized to adopt a shared vision and a plan for poverty reduction
  - At least 15 percent of the total community is expected to participate
  - Communities are encouraged to recruit participants from all parts of the community, paying particular attention to low-income people.
  - \$1,500 Grant - used to help implementing poverty reduction ideas and leverage other resources.

# Visioning Phase

- Community work during the visioning process
  - Study Circles and LeadershipPlenty® participants work together to lead a community visioning process.
  - Recruitment draws people from all parts of the community.
  - The community is mobilized to create and adopt a shared vision and plan for poverty reduction.
  - Identification or creation of a qualified organization to receive funds on the community's behalf.

# Visioning Phase

- What are the benefits to the community?
  - More people from all segments of the community are involved.
  - The community has an exciting community vision that results in solid action on leadership and poverty reduction.
  - The community has a poverty reduction plan to sustain their work over time.
  - There is a qualified organization to receive funds on the community's behalf.

# Action to Reduce Poverty

- Community Action To Reduce Poverty – September 2009 – April 2010
  - Bring together understanding of poverty, leadership skills and vision to take action that will help the community thrive.
  - Sustain efforts for the long-term
  - Developing structures to continuously recruit and welcome new leaders
  - Document visible changes in methods of doing business and to broaden/deepen the community's leadership base

# Action to Reduce Poverty

- Communities implement inclusive processes and decision-making methods, including:
  - increasing trust among members
  - commitment to action
  - ability to take collective action
  - building collaborative capacity and learning and using an asset-based approach

# Action to Reduce Poverty

- Community work during action
  - Community knows what poverty looks like and owns poverty as an issue.
  - Community is able to articulate the link between action and poverty reduction.
  - Community creates strategies to address local, regional, state and national policies.
  - Community leadership works with community members and partners to implement and sustain changes that
    - contribute to poverty reduction in their area.
  - Community seeks other resources.
  - Structures are in place and resources are leveraged to sustain action.
  - Community implements poverty reduction plan.

# Action to Reduce Poverty

- What are the benefits to the community?
  - Community-wide understanding and plan around poverty and leadership.
  - Additional skills from consultants and outside resources.
  - Development of strategies that link action to poverty reduction.
  - Involvement/participation of a more diverse pool of community members.
  - New connections within organizations and other communities to provide resources.

# Vision

- A **vision** is the overall image of what the community wants to be and how it wants to look at some point in the future.

# Visioning

- **Visioning** is simply a process by which a community contemplates and discusses the future it wants, and plans how to achieve it.

# Vision Statement

- A **vision statement** is the formal expression of that vision. It depicts in words and images what the community is striving to become.

# Visioning Steps

- *Where did we come from?*
- *Where are we now?*
- *Where might we go?*
- *Where do we want to be?*
- *How do we get there and when will we know it?*

# Vision Statement & Action Plan

- Vision Activities
- Vision Statement
- Vision to Action Rally
  - Vision Facilitator
- Community Action Teams
  - Around Seven Approached to Reduce Poverty
- Community Vision Report is due  
September 15

# Imagination & Vision