

Beginning the Journey to Excellence

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Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch **excellence**.

Vince Lombardi

I see the Baldrige process as a powerful set of mechanisms for disciplined people engaged in disciplined thought and taking disciplined action to create great ~~organizations~~ **Communities of Excellence** that produce exceptional results.

Jim Collins, author of Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don't



Hypothesis

That a framework proven to drive performance excellence in *companies and organizations* – the Baldrige Framework – can be modified to achieve performance excellence in *communities* to benefit the health and wellbeing of all residents. Primary focus on:

Education
Health
Economic Vitality
Safety



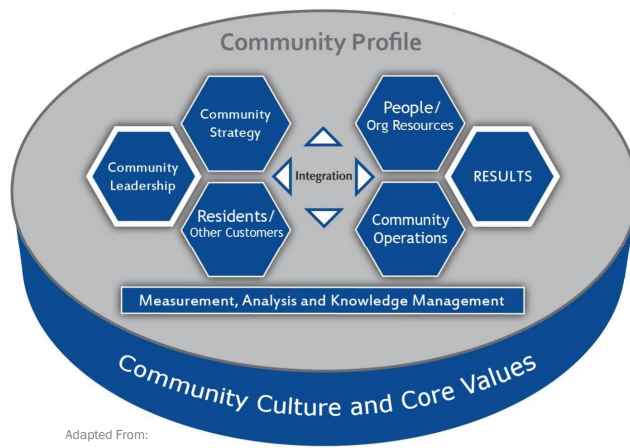
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"For America to sustain its vitality, promote opportunity, and create a more equitable society during its second 250 years of existence, we must improve the performance of communities and the people who lead and live in them."



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The Communities of Excellence Framework



Adapted From:

From Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, 2015. 2015-2016 Baldrige Excellence Framework: A Systems Approach to Improving Your Organization's Performance. Gaithersburg, MD: U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology. <http://www.nist.gov/baldrige>.

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National Learning Collaborative



- What is your community, and what is important to it? **Community Profile**
- Where do you want to go? **Vision**
- How will your community prepare for the future? **Community Strategic Planning**
- What are the gaps and how do you as a community engage to prioritize which ones to focus on first, next?
- How will you know when you get there? **Results**



We want to hear from you:

What does a community of excellence look like to you?

What are your community's core values?

How does your organization contribute to the overall wellbeing of your community?

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