

Project Benefits continued:

- ◆ Education and literature to help the community understand, and assess toxic risks from a variety of sources
- ◆ Improvement in the quality of life and health through a cleaner and healthier environment
- ◆ Future protection for the health of the community residents
- ◆ Environmental Justice
- ◆ Become self-sustaining

The ultimate mission of the NTN2 project is to enable neighborhood residents to envision their communities as healthy and thriving.

Community Involvement

- ◆ Build a partnership
- ◆ Identify community concerns
- ◆ Identify potential solutions
- ◆ Improve health and life quality
- ◆ Become self-sustaining



New Tools New Vision 2 Grant

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The W.K. Kellogg Foundation*



Neighborhoods and Communities
Working Together

ALBANY, GEORGIA TOOLS
FOR CHANGE, INC.

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NTNV2 and the Community

New Tools New Vision2 (NTNV2), a community based commitment to empower community residents, families, and neighbors of the College Heights and College Park area to work together with partners and other stakeholders. This is a project supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and sponsored by Albany, Georgia Tools for Change, Inc.(AGTFC), a nonprofit organization and part of a Georgia four-city collaboration which includes Albany, Augusta, Fort Valley, and Savannah. The goals of this project are:

- ◆ To improve the overall health of residents in the identified communities in South East Albany, with the possibility to expand to other East Albany communities at a later date
- ◆ To build capacity in the communities and create a self-sustaining partnership with the communities and community organizations
- ◆ To build a strong organizational structure within AGTFC for sustainability
- ◆ To maximize access to health resources
- ◆ To educate the community about environmental health hazards and how to minimize the impact of such hazards to better protect and promote their health.
- ◆ Improve understanding of potential sources of toxic pollutants and how to set priorities for risk reduction

A broad range of community partners will work together on this NTV2 project to generate a composite list of sources that may be releasing toxic pollutants into the environment that could affect the quality of health in the communities. The two communities are surrounded by four superfund sites.

Community Partnership

The NTV2 grant will facilitate bringing together all stakeholders interested in the local community to develop a "NTNV2 Community" that is concerned about potential environmental exposures in the area.

Residents, neighborhood businesses, churches, health agencies, county governmental agencies and Albany State University will work together through partnership to identify sources of environmental exposures and set priorities for risk reduction activities.

Research Method

The Community –Based Participatory Research (CBPR) method will be used for conducting this project.

Raising Awareness

The NTV2 project can help with the development of a more comprehensive understanding of the sources of risk from toxic pollutants enabling the community to set priorities for

effective action. The principle issues to consider in the process are the prioritization of environmental and health concerns and what can be done to prevent and/or improve existing conditions,

<u>Environmental</u>	<u>Health</u>
◆ Air	Adult Health
◆ Water	Children's Health
◆ Social Contamination and Dumps	Respiratory/Allergies
◆ Drinking Water	Reproductive/Developmental Health
◆ Animals (Rabbits, squirrels, deer & foxes)	Cancer and Rare diseases

Project Benefits

AGTFC and local volunteers will track the level of participation in the achievement of milestones leading to the intended results.

This collaborative community project will provide the community residents with the following benefits:

- ◆ A stronger broad-based community commitment
- ◆ Identification of suspected toxic sources
- ◆ Research of existing environmental and health data collected in the neighborhoods through the use of Key Informant interviews
- ◆ Community forums, dialogue sessions, Health Fairs, surveys and newsletters