



# Systemic Change

May 12, 2011

St. Vincent's Seminary

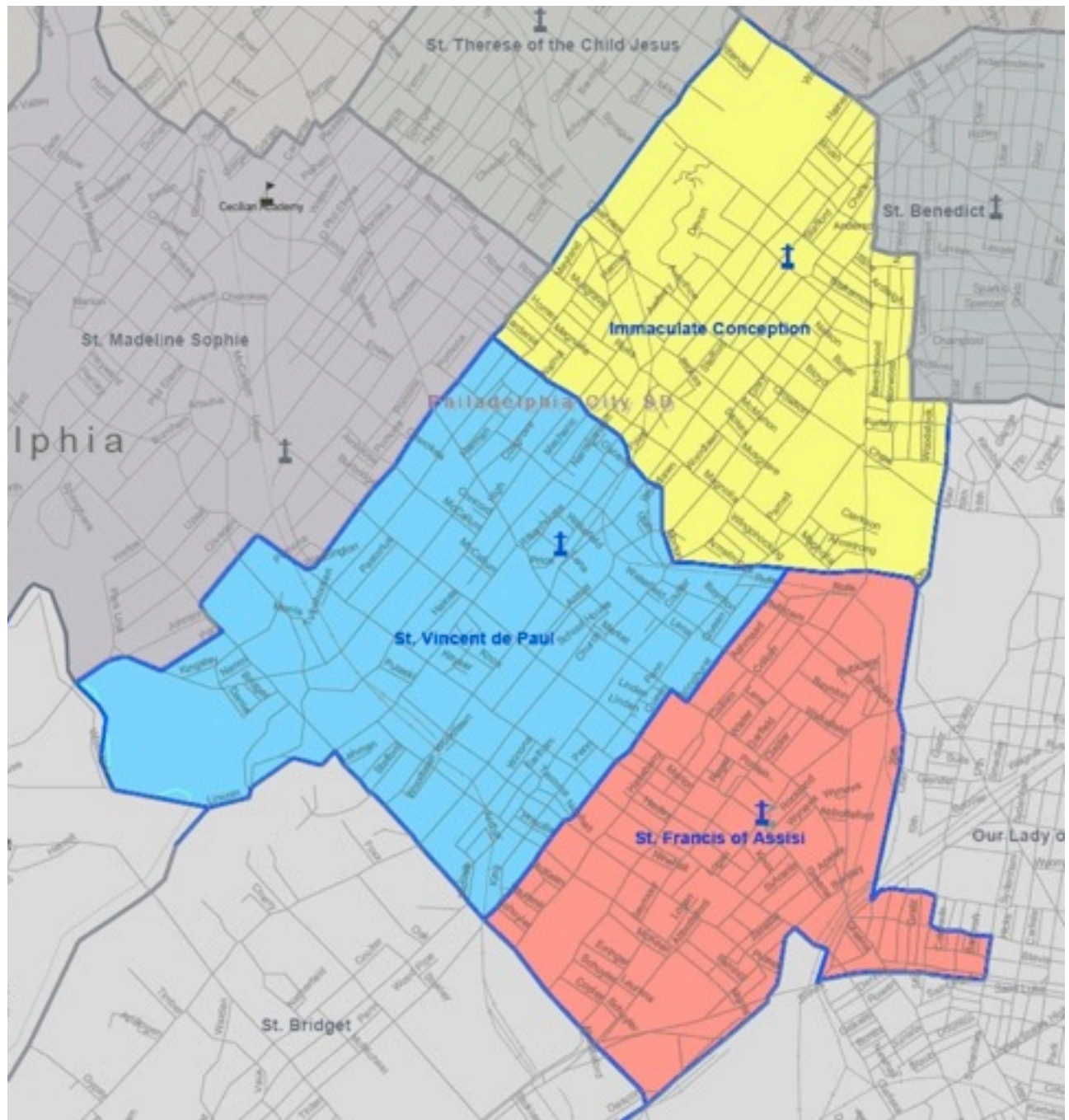
# Germantown Database and Network Formation Working Group (VinNet)



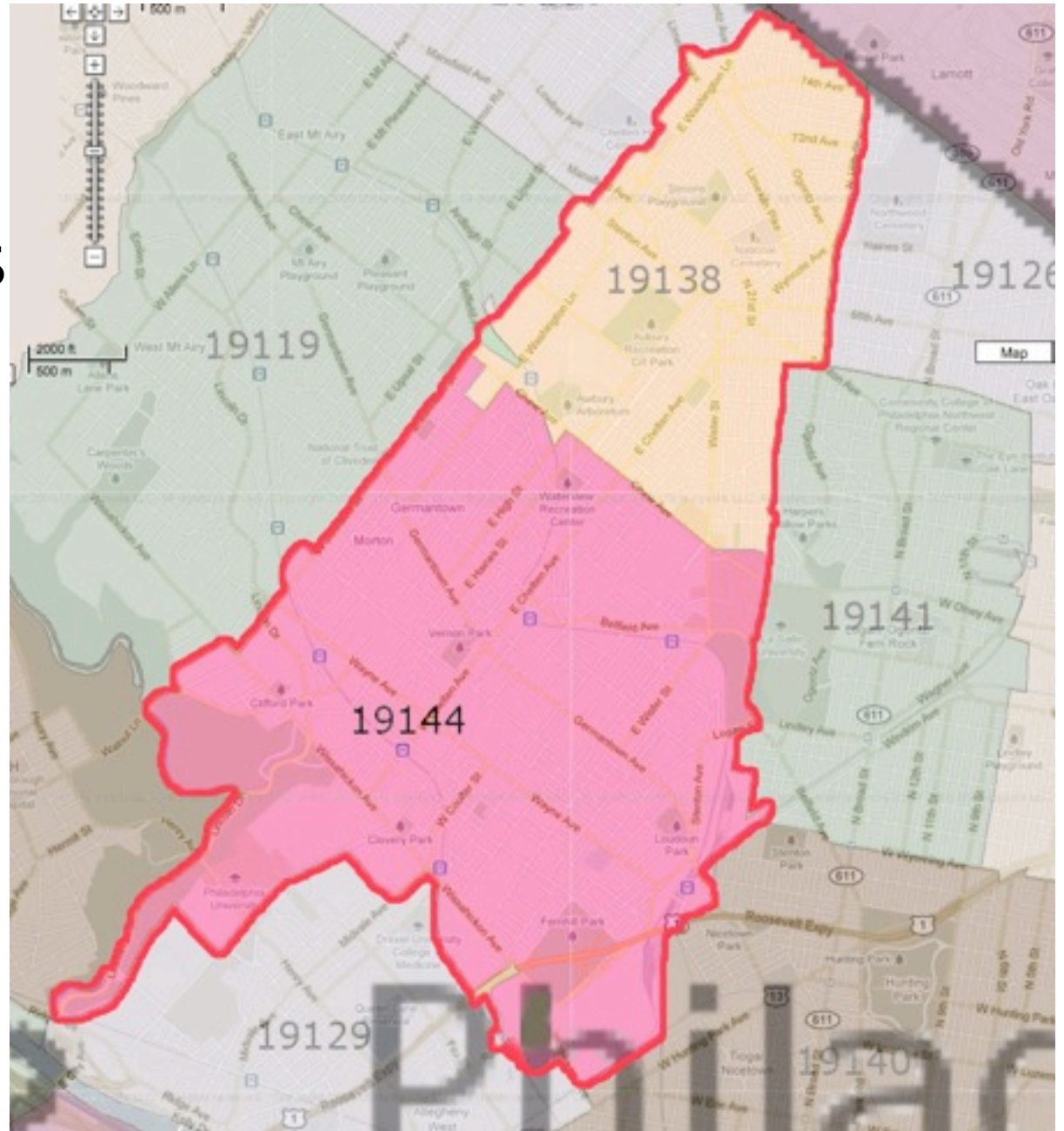
# Area covered

- ✿ The territory is the area covered by the three parishes (Immaculate Conception, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Francis of Assisi) and
- ✿ Zip codes 19144 and 19138

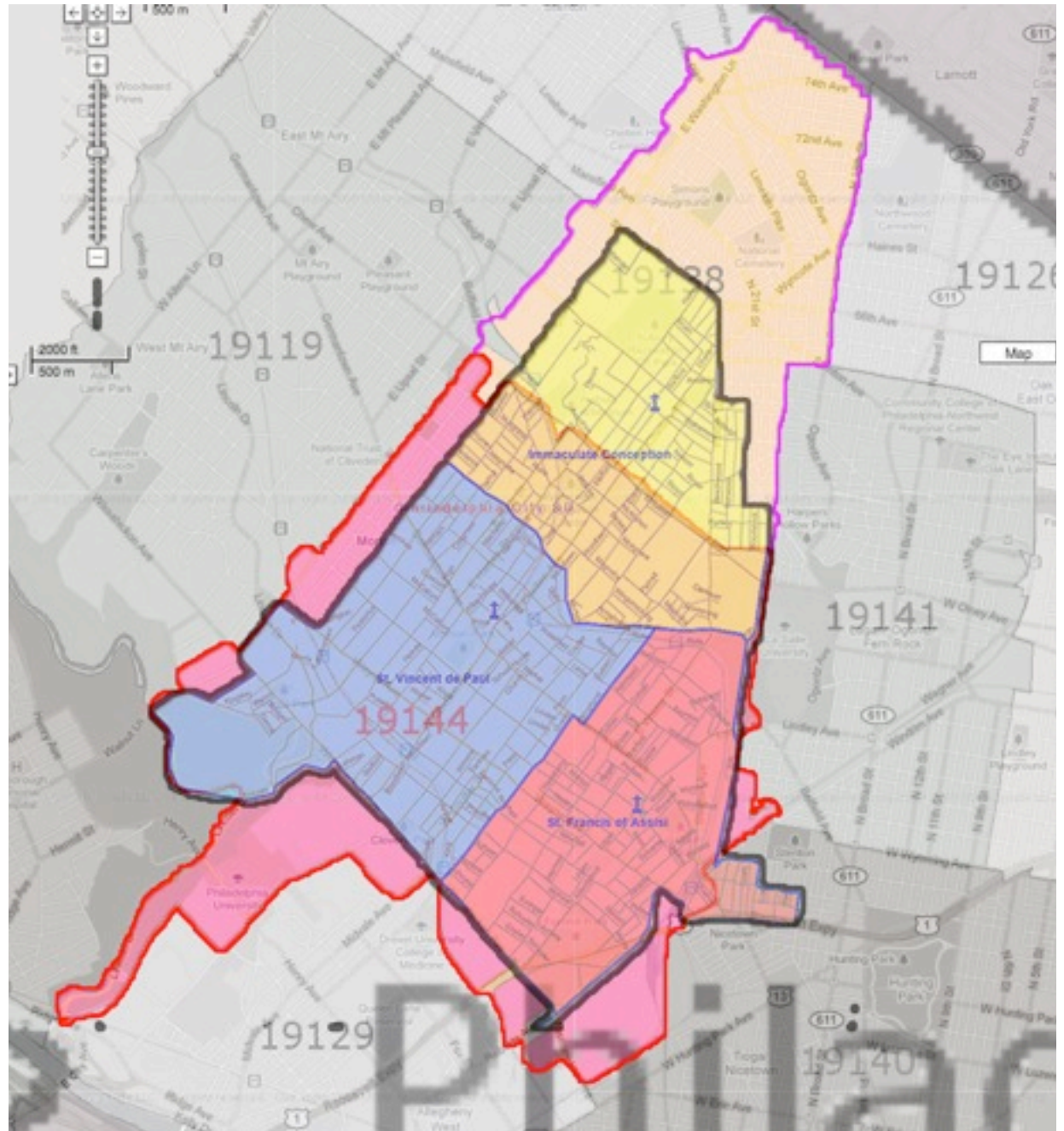
3  
parishes



2 zip codes



Combine  
d area



# Working Definitions

- \* “Vincentian ministry”: one which concretely takes as its mission Vincent de Paul’s charism in its service with those living in poverty
- \* These ministries include those:
  - \* sponsored by a branch of the Vincentian family
  - \* located on the site of one of the Vincentian parishes
  - \* intentionally working out of the Vincentian charism



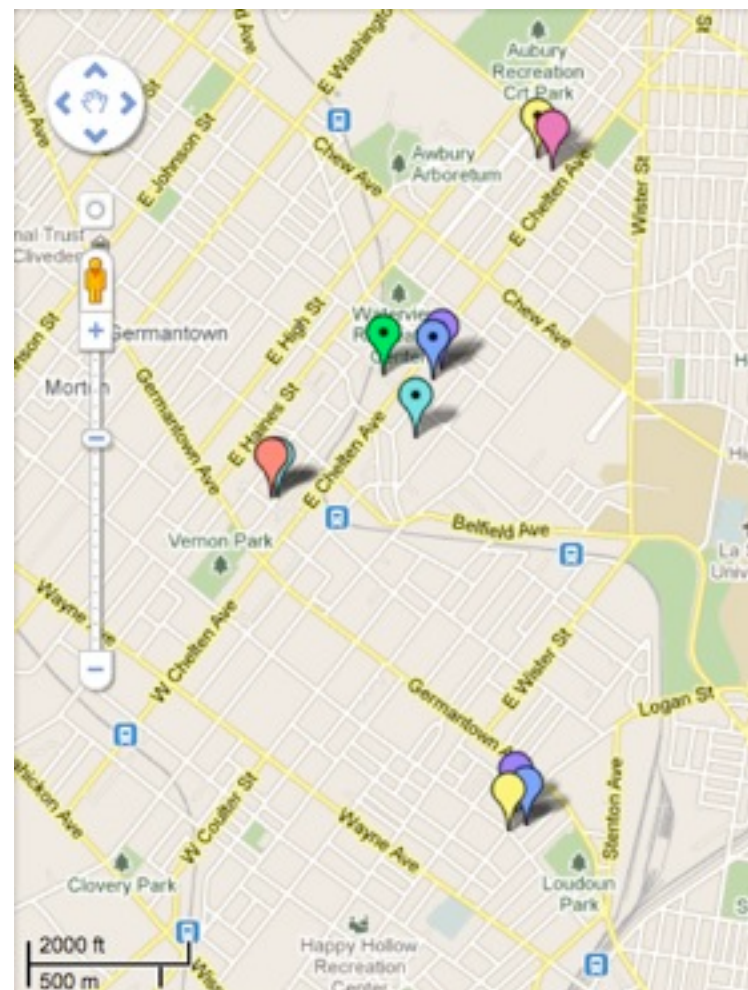
# Vincentian Ministry Map

Google map of Vincentian ministries:

<http://bit.ly/gtown-map>

Includes:

1. Inn Dwelling
2. Vincentian Center for Youth and Young Adults
3. St Vincent De Paul Center
4. DePaul USA Inc
5. The DePaul Catholic School
6. St. Vincent De Paul Society
7. St. Francis of Assisi Parish
8. St Francis of Assisi
9. St. Vincent de Paul Parish
10. St Vincent's Church
11. Immaculate Conception Parish
12. Shrine of the Miraculous Medal
13. Daughters of Charity
14. De Paul Novitiate
15. Saint Vincent's Seminary
16. Face to Face Germantown





# Identifying Potential Collaborators / Existing

- \* Start with Vincentian ministries then move toward a comprehensive list of resources in the Germantown area
- \* List of links bookmarked on <http://www.delicious.com/gtownvins>  
(92 organizations)
- \* Community & Government Resource Guide of 203rd Legislative District State Representative Dwight Evans

# Identifying Potential Collaborators / Existing

- \* Community & Government Resource Guide of 203rd Legislative District State Representative Dwight Evans – 98–page document, downloadable
- \* 12 resource categories:
  - \* Business Associations and Entrepreneur Support
  - \* Employment Services and Opportunities
  - \* Emergency Food, Shelter and Preparedness
  - \* Fuel and Utility Assistance
  - \* Government
  - \* Housing and Credit Information
  - \* Health Services
  - \* Legal Assistance
  - \* Neighborhood Beautification, Safety and Support Services
  - \* Older Adult Services
  - \* Parent Support and Education Programs
  - \* Youth Services

# Vincentian Networking Group Tasks

✱ Information sharing

✱ Feast Day

Celebration

✱ Website



# Information Sharing

- \* Suggest periodic meetings throughout the year
- \* Formation of a committee to oversee the form and frequency of the meetings
- \* These meetings include representatives from each Vincentian ministry
- \* Purpose: sharing updates, exploring ways to support each other, and discussing more

# Feast Day Celebration



- \* Yearly community outreach celebration/carnival
- \* Around the feast of St. Vincent de Paul (Sept. 27)
- \* Purpose: to raise the profile and awareness of the Vincentians in Germantown
- \* Day would include food, games, tables,

# Website

- \* Work in progress
- \* URL will be [germantown.vinfamily.org](http://germantown.vinfamily.org)

# Next Steps

- \* Our networking group has scheduled future meetings to continue to refine and serve our purpose
- \* Next meeting is May 18 at 10:00 AM
- \* Continue to develop website







# Systemic Change Germantown

## Needs Assessment

# Three Priorities

- What data already exists?
- Do we need to collect neighborhood needs through one-on-one meetings?
- Are grants available?

# Progress

- What exists
  - Mike Clark – Quantitative data collection
    - Food
    - Housing
    - Employment
    - Income
    - Education
    - Healthcare
    - Crime

# Food

- Fresh Food
- Food banks

# Housing

- Renters vs. Owners
- Vacant Properties
- Loan vs. value of property  
(foreclosure threats)

# Employment

- Unemployment rate  
(vs. city, state, national)
- Underemployment rate  
(vs. city, state national)
- Education levels
- Income
  - Percentage earning living wage
  - Percentage below poverty level

# Education

- Charter Schools enrollment and acceptance rate
- Applications for financial aid
- Current and desired Education levels

# Healthcare

- Prenatal Care
- Free Health Clinics
- Dental Care
- Percent medically underserved



# Crime

- Usage of FBI data for type of crime breakdown

# Next steps

- Timing



# Vincentian Community Listening Process

Proposed May 12, 2011

# Why Listening?

- To hear the people's story & create new narrative
- To identify common themes (of hope, struggle)
- To invite participation & identify potential leaders
- To build relationships, community, social capital

# How Listening?

- One-on-One Conversations
  - Representatives Teams of Trained Listeners Meet with People Face to Face and ask similar questions
- Small Group Sessions

# One-on-One Conversations

- Intentional, face to face meeting
- Start with people you know (not cold calls or door knocking)
- 30 to 60 minutes
- In the home or on neutral ground, like at the church or school.
- Relational, conversational (not a questionnaire)
- The 80–20 rule

# One-on-One Conversations

- Set-Up (schedule beforehand, not spontaneous)
- Credential Yourself and the Effort
- Relationship Building
- Identify Self-Interest (and Skills, Leadership potential)
- Get Referrals

# Small Group Conversations

- After masses, during coffee hour, etc.
- At a Home & School Meeting
- In a home, inviting a small group of neighbors or parishioners
- At another gathering place (Face to Face Dining Room, etc.)
- Same general rules as One-on-Ones, perhaps using a set of questions that each person takes turns answering.

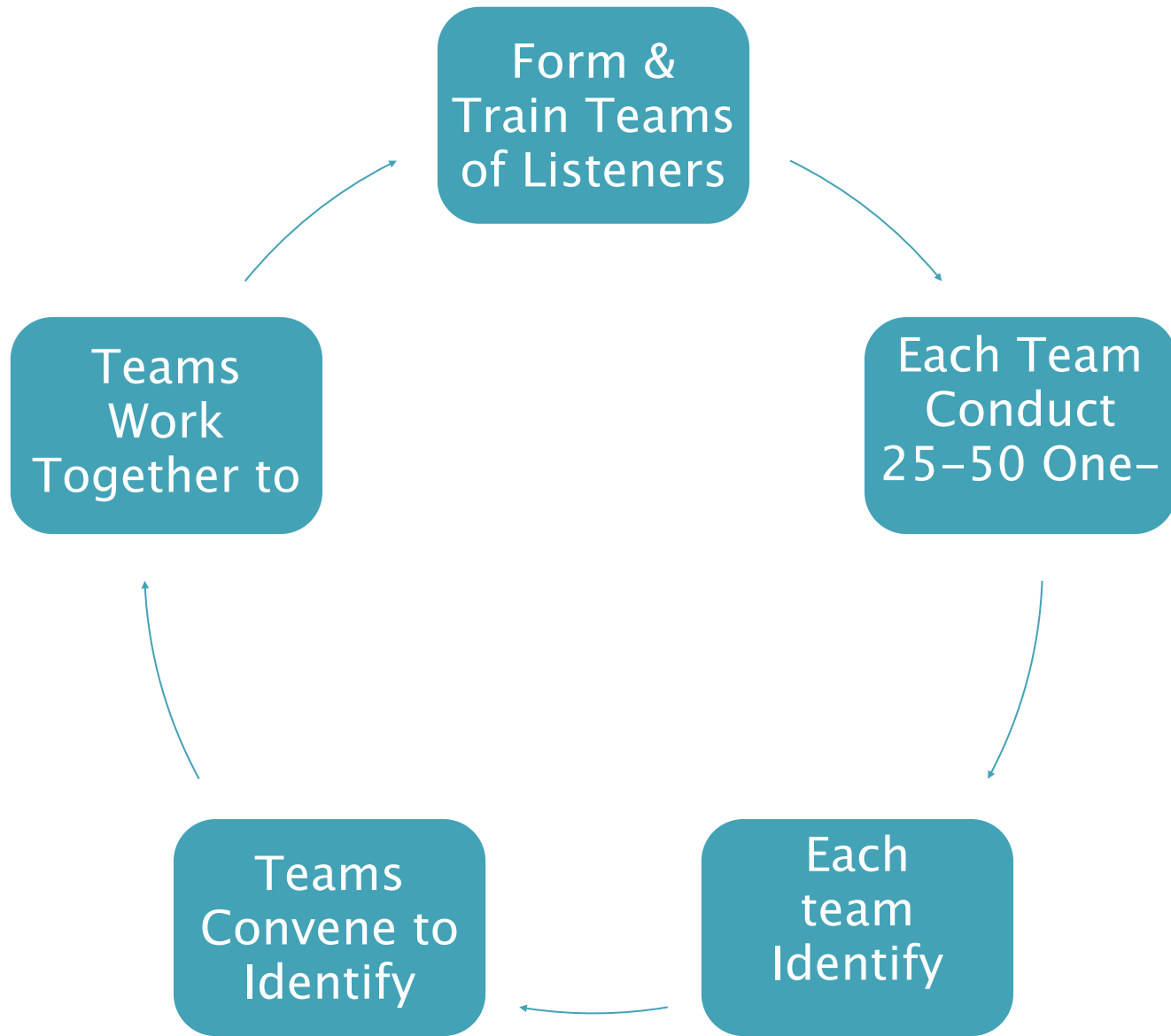


# Questions to Build Relationships & Identify Self-Interest

- Relational – how long have you lived here . . .
- Focus Questions – what is your main worry . . . ?
- Observation Questions – what do see . . . ?
- Feeling Questions – how does it feel . . . ?
- Visioning Questions – can you imagine . . . ?
- Change Questions – what would you change . . . ?
- Parish-specific – how does this affect your

# Proposed Process

- Each Institution Forms a Team of Listeners (5–10 ea.)
- Joint training/preparation
- Each team to listen to 50 people within their institution/community
- Set timeframe
- Reconvene to share stories, identify common themes, potential leaders



# Proposed Process

DePaul School Listening Team

Students

Parents

Staff

Neighbors

# Proposed Process

Immaculate Conception Listening Team

Youth

Parishioners

Others  
Served by  
Parish

Neighbors

# Proposed Process

Common Story, Common Vision for Change

Parish  
Listening

School  
Listening

Service  
Provider  
Listening

# What Happens After

- Common Themes → Vision for Change
- Research & Analyze those Themes
  - Why are there no after-school programs in G-town?
  - Why do we have the highest youth unemployment rate?
  - Why are there abandoned houses in our community?
- Power Analysis

# What Happens After

- Collective Action
  - Can we organize ourselves to be in relationship with those in power?
  - Can we organized ourselves to bring resources to bear on these issues?
- What form will this take?
  - Advocacy?
  - Social service?
  - Community building?





**ermantown Community Connection, Inc.**

*"We are stronger together than we are apart!"*

[www.germantowncc.org](http://www.germantowncc.org)