

See flip chart - Add Health and Wellness where ambulance was a concern and not being able to retain health professionals.
Prioritize what issues - Working on Social Rec, Outreach and Jobs.
Lois said that if there is a more successful business environment that an unattractive town will take care of itself.
Kim said that health care is still very unstable. Root causes of retaining health professionals is due to social recreation. People are coming from a more structured environment and outreach is part of that.
Montrose also has issues with retaining health professionals for the same reasons.
Is the group comfortable in prioritizing these issues.
Would like to talk more about Issues - SEE FLIP CHART.
Would like to focus on Lack of Job Opportunity, Lack of Social and Recreation, Lack of Outreach.
Kim said that living in the city, people work with a lot of their friends,
Size, distance, social isolation are issues here. Came up with the term social isolation. When you live in a rural community you can tell someone about everyone's family tree. This creates some of that barrier. Lack of social and recreation and lack of community outreach goes back to social isolation.
Lois if we had outreach and then add physical environment- would like physical environment added and outreach be part of all three - Jobs, Physical Environment, and Social Recreation.
Recognizing that there are a lot of cross overs of these issues. How are we building relationships and connections.
Out reach was originally called Lack of Tolerance. This issued had the fourth largest comments. Incoming people did not feel welcome and felt isolated.
Cecil said each thing that we can do is the ground work for a function. Facilities at fairgrounds each group can evolve from that. There are a lot of things that we can do but there is not a way to get them off the ground.
There is a root cause of Social Isolation and that is why people are asking for social events to solve the problem. Donna Mae thinks that the issues are fighting against each other. This is a McCoy kind of feud. There is not an understanding of coming from small communities. People will not sit down for a conversation and when they do, they will not open up.
Tera sees Social Isolation and Lack of Tolerance as some of the same issues.
The issues could become Lack of Job Opportunities and a second one of combining Lack of Social Isolation and Lack of Tolerance.
Even though some people wanted isolation but it is not healthy for everyone. People have to make themselves go out and take part.
Robbie said there is a similarity between the Native Americans and here. There is lack of self-confidence. We have wonderful values but they are not valued. It is not valued as to what Dove Creek has to offer. Everyone's contribution is very valuable. Some of the root cause is from people starting here to just survive and where is that valued in Dove Creek.
Tera wanted to talk about targeting solutions clearly.
Hearing social isolation can turn into mental issues. Suicide levels are double urban issues. People in the community are struggling because it is not easy to meet strangers.
Tree metaphor.
Physical/Geographic location isolation/Social isolation - Core issue
What if you addressed the isolation and the consequences
Outreach
What are the long term problems currently happening-
Less welcoming to strangers - Anyone who are not related to 5 families
Hispanics and Native Americans not as welcome. Kim did not feel this was the problem.
Geographical - lack of opportunity and resources
What happens to that lack of opportunity - More expensive to obtain resources. Must go out of the area. Rural areas have high transportation costs. Must have a car because there is no public transportation. Depression, addiction, suicide.
Questions that could be asked: What is the suicide rate here?
Need information from the clinic about addiction rates, suicides, etc.
Social rec comments - something to do to keep kids out of trouble. Adults need something to do. Need to make the case for solutions. Small towns not enough documentation. Lack of sense of belonging. Need to bring folks together to talk about this. Less welcoming to newcomers and not belonging. Youth being uncomfortable bringing ideas forward. Youth population does not volunteer. Youth leave area for education and jobs. Demographics of youth leaving and not coming back until later life. If there is nothing to create jobs, there is no way you have the necessary economics.
Cost associated with geographic location.
SEE FLIP CHART TREE.
We need to address the increase in the senior citizen population and their isolation. Seniors come in because of the lower cost of living. CAN WE BREAK OUT THE SENIOR CITIZEN INCOME.
What percent of senior population is living by themselves.
WHO IS DEALING WITH ALL THESE ISSUES.
Are there different people carrying more of the burden.
Geographical Isolation - Disconnection from other people.
Recognize the lack of communication.
Transparency in Community through gossip.
Outcomes of this could contribute to the decline of the community over time.
Effect - Lack of Self Esteem causes isolation/Community
Lack of Respect for community members, leading to bullying.
Gossip.
Issues - Lack of Job Opportunity
Isolation
World has left communities like Dove Creek. Devaluing of rural communities.

Next time will do the same thing with JOBS.
Discussed Kim's FLIP CHARTS of things she has been hearing.
These are solutions.
Tera asked that a presentation to group about economic dynamics in community.
What is current thinking around Jobs Dynamic.

Lois will draw up something for next meeting on Monday for Jobs.

We can take everything that everyone in the community is working on. Get the information down. We need to map that out. Work on different issues, what needs to be known, everyone's understanding. Map out what it is and where we see where we are.

Root causes - Outreach

Table Reports

Social and Recreation

Jobs

Outreach

Physical Environment

Governance

Community Agency Meeting Reports

County Commissioners - Robbie

DCDC - Cecil

DC Chamber of Commerce- Cecil, Donna Mae

School Board - Kim

Town Board - Lois

Meeting Evaluation - What went well, what would like to improve?

Adjournment - 7:20 p.m.