

Tennessee State University, College of Public Service

Initiative Name: **Community Democracy Project (CDP)**

Institutional Affiliations: **College of Public Service** and **Institute of Government**

Initiative Components:

- 10 member committee
 - 2 College of Public Service Faculty Members
 - 5 TSU Students
 - 3 Undergraduate Students
 - Urban Studies major
 - Social Work major
 - Outside CPS major
 - 2 Graduate Students
 - MPA student
 - MSW student
 - 3 Community Leaders
 - 1 public sector employee or elected official
 - 1 nonprofit sector employee
 - 1 local religious leader
- The committee will convene during the Spring 2017 semester. During this meeting, the committee will discuss strategies for generating student engagement, as well as how best to ensure optimal outcomes.
- The key activity of the Community Development Project is as follows:
 - Campus Needs Assessment Survey (designed by the CDP Committee)
 - Deployed from the first day of the Fall semester through the end of the Fall Student Study Break (end of September/beginning of October)
 - Student committee members will be tasked with helping to ensure a robust response from TSU's student population
 - The needs assessment will be for students-only
 - Analyzing Campus Needs Assessment Data
 - During October and November, the CDP Committee will analyze the data collected by the Campus Needs Assessment survey.
 - The goal is to identify the key themes that emerge from the collected data, and then create a priority list for the identified "action areas."
 - Development of Action Plans
 - During December and January, the CDP Committee will develop action plans that correspond to the Top 3 "action areas" on the Campus Needs Assessment Priority List.

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- Campus-wide Rollout of Action Plans
 - During the month of February, the CDP Committee will hold several sessions where they share:
 - the data that was collected via the Campus Needs Assessment Survey,
 - the priority list that was developed,
 - the Top 3 “action areas” that were identified, and
 - the strategies for taking action to improve TSU, Nashville, and Middle Tennessee.
 - Taking Action
 - During March and April, the CDP Committee will be heavily involved in ensuring that each of the Action Plans get initiated in a healthy and sustainable manner.
 - Reporting Out to TSU and the Community
 - In May, a report will be developed that captures the key information gathered during the Campus Needs Assessment Survey, as well as the Action Plans that are currently being deployed.
 - The 2017-2018 Community Democracy Project report will be hosted on the College of Public Service’s Institute of Government’s webpage(s).
- The current plan is to initiate this process every academic year.