

Quality-of-Life

Seeking and Finding a Place Where We Belong

Quality-of-Life (QOL): Public Service/Engagement

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- *Understand some of the motivations behind people choosing to get involved in community organizations and initiatives.*
- *Explore ways that long-standing structures and community culture(s) can inhibit community involvement.*
- *Identify ways to invite new voices (cultural, generational, etc.) and new ideas into community conversations.*
- *Assess your desire to serve on boards and/or pursue elected offices.*

QUESTIONS — — — —

Who and how do people get involved?

Do we prefer individual endeavors or enjoy working in groups? Do we embrace people either way?

Do we welcome new voices, new ideas, and questions that may challenge tradition and status quo? Do we pursue these voices or wait for them to show up?

Do our organizational and institutional structures get in the way?

Is there a tendency to constantly create new groups rather than working with or through existing entities? Why is that?

How can we engage younger people to become involved in community service and leadership opportunities, including elected positions?

For the class — What is holding you back from getting more involved in organizational, community, or state opportunities?