

Why Organize?

This guide has been designed to help in the creation of Organized Citizen Groups. It will show you the basic steps to get your group up and running.

Before you begin asking your neighbors to get involved, they must first be shown some of the reasons and benefits for forming a group. Organized Citizen Groups will:

- Receive notice of proposed development projects and policy changes and have the right to represent residents in land-use cases.
- Be the point of contact for Adams County staff when creating neighborhood plans.
- Supply a channel through which neighborhood needs and goals can be met.
- Help to unify the neighborhood.
- Provide an effective communication link with the county government and other influential groups.
- Help residents work together for the preservation and improvement of their neighborhood.
- Other Organized Citizen Group activities may include expressing neighborhood views on land-use issues, providing input on county policies and programs, establishing neighborhood watch programs, coordinating with the Sheriff's Office on crime and safety projects, neighborhood clean-up and beautification and organizing social or cultural functions such as neighborhood picnics and block parties. Organized Citizen Groups may also apply for funds through the Community Development Block Grant program if their project meets HUD criteria and is in an area eligible to receive funds.