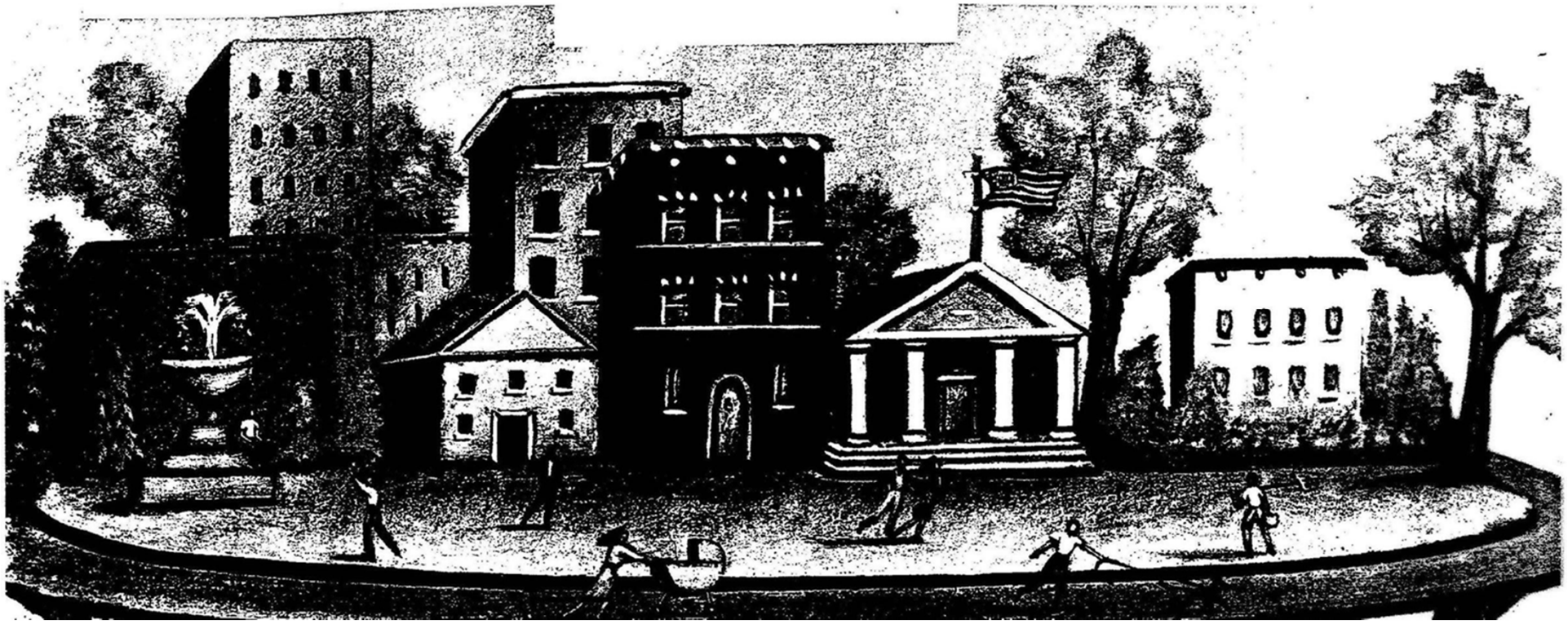
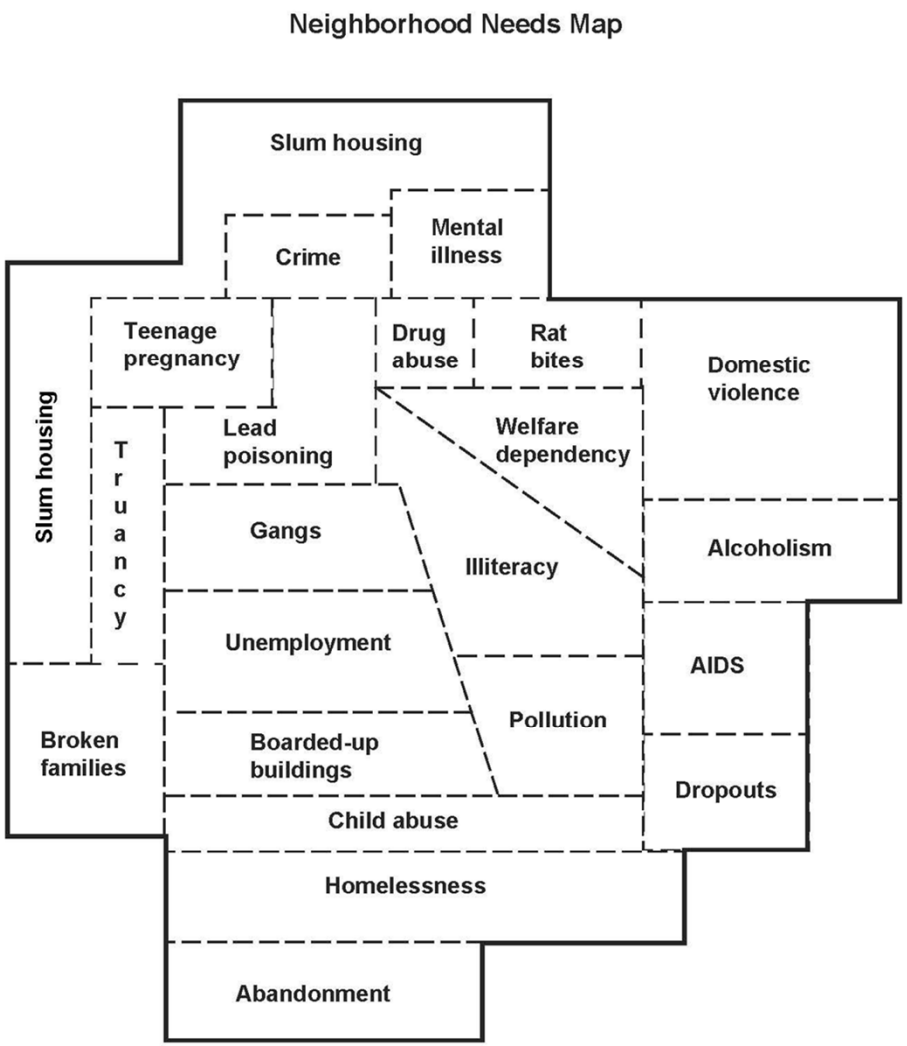
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

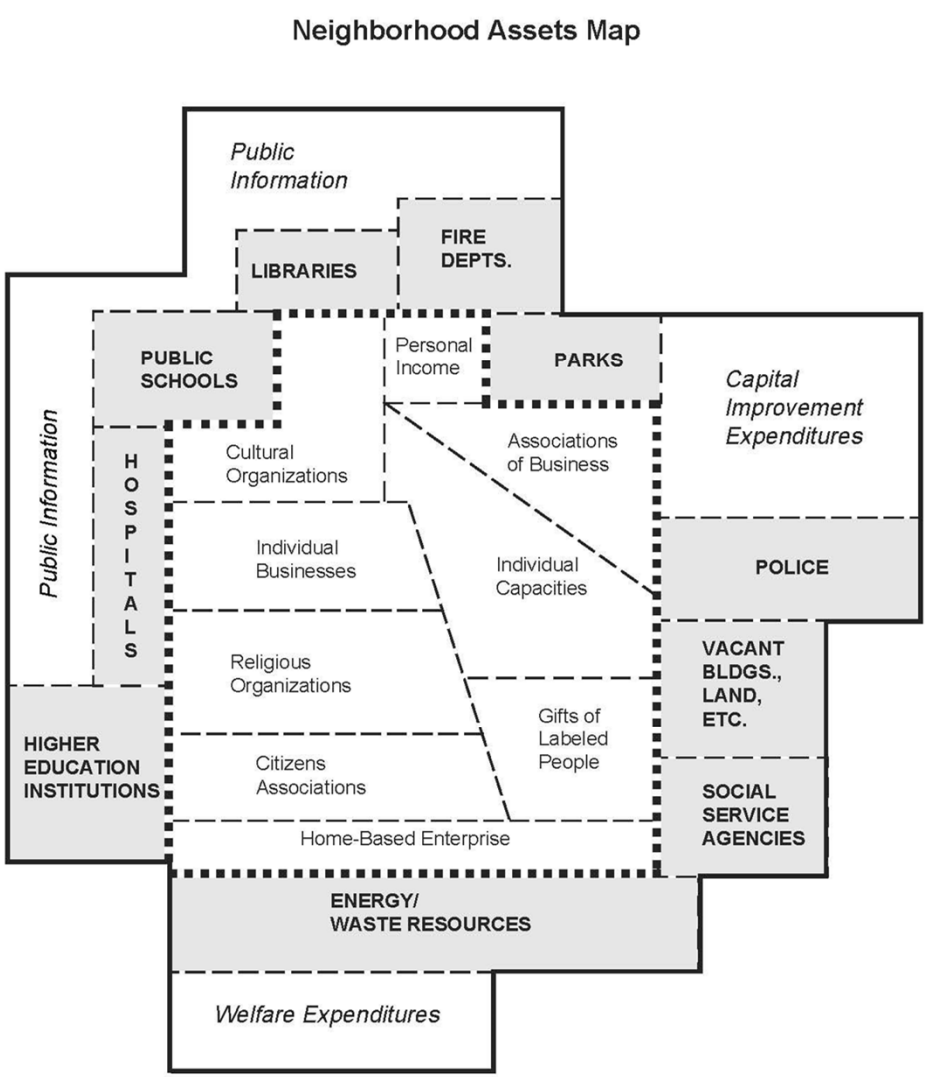
“There’s nobody we don’t need”

Tom Mosgaller



Needs Vs. Assets



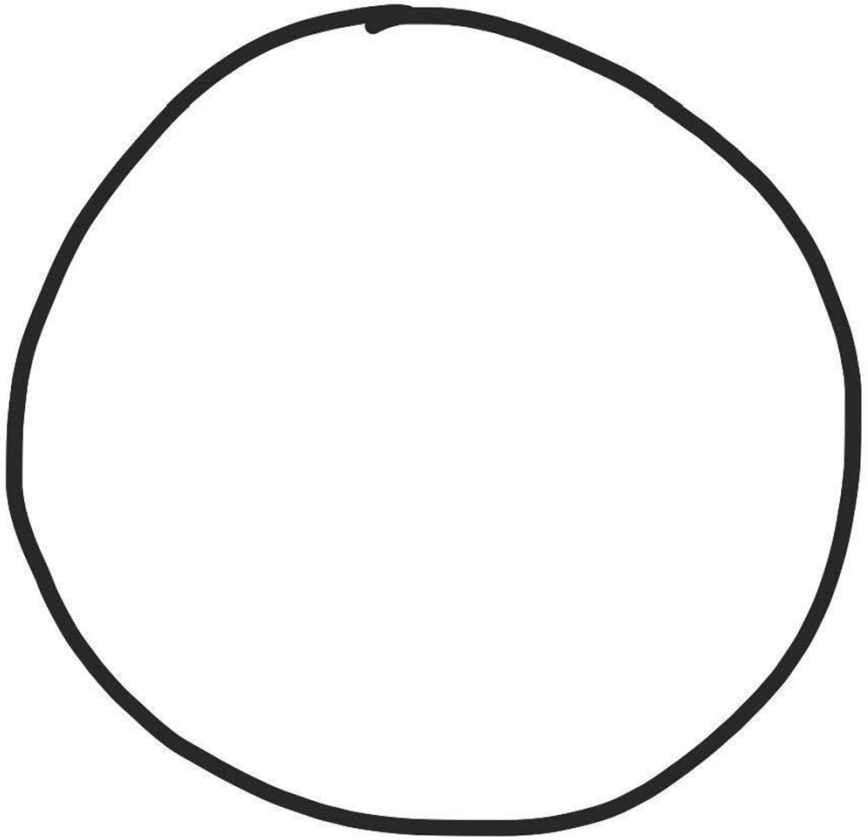


Why an asset based approach

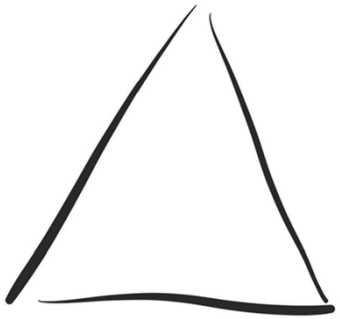
1. When people discover what they have, they find power
2. When people join together in new connections and relationships, they build power
3. When people become more productive together, they exercise their power to address problems and realize dreams.

The Geometry Lesson

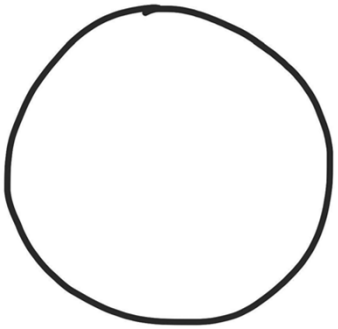
In the beginning



Then…



Two Paths



- Make a lot of the same thing
- Hierarchy
- Predictability
- Procedures
- Risk mitigation
- Needs/services
- Consumers
- Rugged individuals

- Value uniqueness

- Relationships
- Surprise
- Story
- Try things
- Assets
- Citizens
- Associations

4 Principles

- Inside Out
- Bottom Up
- Citizen Led
- Asset-based

5 Asset Domains

- Individuals
- Associations
- Institutions
- Local Economy
- Physical World

6th Domain

The Gift of Story

People

Places

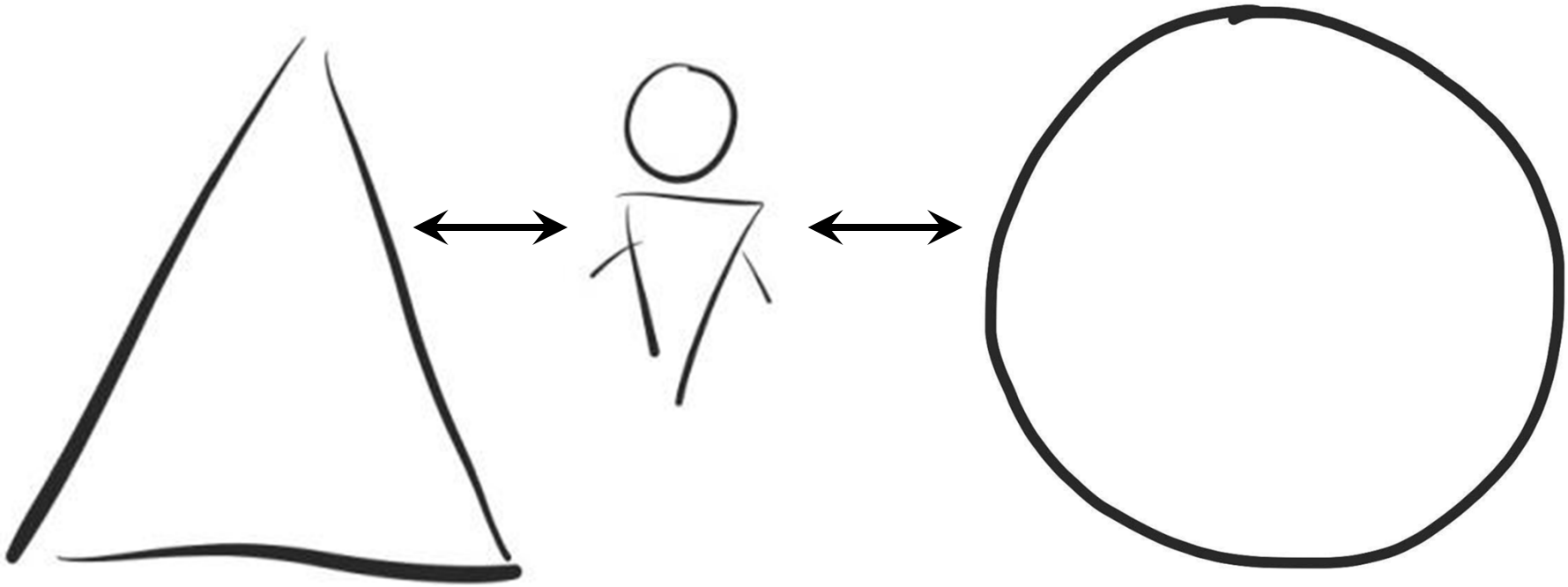
Events

Culture

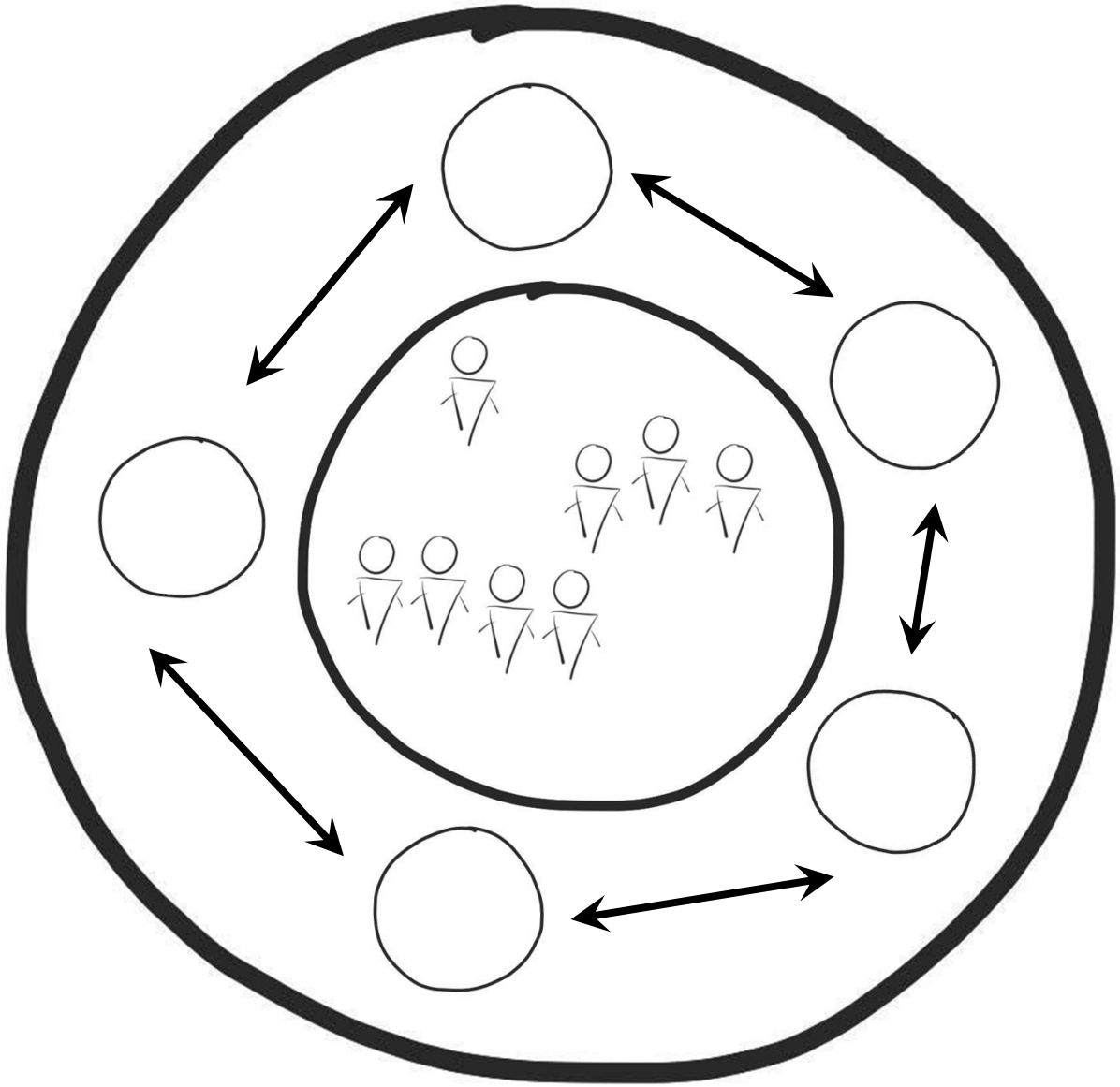
Universals of relational organizing

- Intentional
- Mutual
- Require care
- Grounded in trust and forged in action
- Built before they are needed

The essential role of leaders is to connect the assets in a community (catalyst, connector, capacity builder)



Key Responsibility



3 Questions

What can you do for yourself?

What can you do with a little help?

What do you need someone else to do?

"Thus in all ways, I will transmit my community greater and more beautiful than it was transmitted to me.“

-from the Athenian Oath

Pericles, Mayor of Athens, Greece over 2000 years ago