

Please send your completed neighborhood block party grant applications to:

Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse
PO BOX 3026
1026 A Avenue NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Special Thanks

LCPSA would like to thank everyone who made this town hall meeting possible. To those who gave us a space to meet, food to eat, to those who presented, and especially, to everyone who attended—thank you!



Neighborhood Block Party Toolkit

Working Together for Positive Change

Linn County, IA

Dear Linn County Residents,

In this booklet, you will find the tools necessary to put on a neighborhood block party—one of the many tools you can use to reconnect with your neighbors and create safer and healthier communities for everyone.

We hope that this town hall meeting will be the first of many events focused on bring Linn County residents closer together, one neighborhood at a time!

Our mission is to provide a unified community effort for sharing resources, increasing awareness through education, building relationships, and advocating for people affected by substance abuse.

We urge you to contact us if you are participating in any activities related to our mission and/or substance abuse in Linn County—we are here to help you connect with other organizations, find and utilize resources, and make a difference in your community.

Sincerely,

The Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse

<http://www.lcpsa.com>

319-369-7815

Neighborhood Event Application

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cell / Work / Home

Email Address: _____

Work / Home

Date/time of event: _____

Type of event (e.g. barbeque, block party): _____

List three (3) goals of your event:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Do you need any assistance with planning/organizing your event? YES / NO

It is very important that others in your neighborhood are supportive of the event you are planning. Please provide the names, signatures and addresses of at least ten (10) of those individuals.

Signature: _____ *

Date: _____

*By signing this application, you agree to inform the Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse (LCPSA) of any significant changes to your event and to provide an event evaluation within one month of the event date.

Reconnecting Your Neighborhood: Tips and Tricks

- ◆ Put together a neighborhood directory. Who could you call in your neighborhood to:
 - ◇ Babysit?
 - ◇ Mow your lawn?
 - ◇ Fix your computer?
 - ◇ Help with carpool?
- ◆ Sign adults, teenagers, and children in your neighborhood up to play on a summer sports team
- ◆ Take a field trip! As a neighborhood, go see:
 - ◇ The Amana Colonies
 - ◇ Enjoy the nearest park, lake or river
 - ◇ An art, science, or history museum
 - ◇ The Iowa State Fair
(www.iowastatefair.com)
- ◆ Volunteer as a neighborhood at a soup kitchen, habitat for humanity, or a shelter
- ◆ Visit Cultural Corridor's website at <http://www.culturalcorridor.org> or call 1-800-650-ARTS for a listing of events happening in your area!



What is a Block Party?

A block party is when a neighborhood decides to come together to celebrate an occasion by blocking off a neighborhood street to traffic.

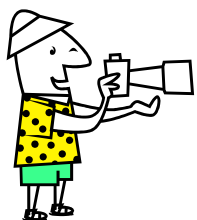


How to Plan a Neighborhood Block Party

- 1) Apply for a \$150 grant from the Linn County Partnership on Substance Abuse (application enclosed)
- 2) Pick a date and time
- 3) Talk to your neighbors!
- 4) Pick a theme
- 5) Party!

You can use the \$150 for ...

- ◆ Food — treat the neighborhood!
 - ◇ Rent a grill or pay for the charcoal or propane and let everyone help cook!
 - ◇ Rent a sno-cone machine for a fun summer treat!
- ◆ Party supplies & decorations
 - ◇ Sunscreen, bugspray, ice, plates, silverware, cups
- ◆ Games and Entertainment
 - ◇ Twister, Bingo, Trivia, Lawn games
 - ◇ Music and speakers
- ◆ Pay neighborhood kids to set up, clean up, run activities or games with younger children, or DJ
- ◆ Hire a lifeguard for a pool party
- ◆ Disposable cameras — capture the moments!



You can use your \$150 for anything and everything except . . . alcohol

Party Planning Ideas

- ◆ Beginning or end of summer
- ◆ Pre/Post-game celebrations for neighborhood sports leagues
- ◆ Meet and greet
 - ◇ Give a prize for the family or person who gets to know the most new people over the course of the event
- ◆ Tropical luau/Beach Party
 - ◇ Purchase tiki torches, plastic flower leis, and grass skirts. Barbeque or grill with lots of pineapple!
- ◆ Ragbrai
 - ◇ Send riders in your neighborhood off in style with a Tour de France themed party!
- ◆ Throw a fiesta!
- ◆ Celebrate the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Memorial Day, or any other national or local holiday

