

*Enlightened*  
SOLUTIONS

# Asset Mapping Activity:

## Supporting Diverse Populations in Your Community

### Introduction

This asset mapping activity is designed to help participants from rural and semi-rural areas identify existing community assets that support diverse populations, including People of Color, Women, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people with disabilities, and neurodivergent people. It encourages reflection on community inclusion, barriers to change, and strategies for fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in these communities.

### Instructions

- This activity can be done individually or in groups.
- Complete each section thoughtfully and reflect on both the existing resources and potential gaps in your community.
- Focus on specific supports for marginalized populations and consider the inclusivity of your community.

### For each intersection:

1. Complete an asset map
2. Fill out the adjoining reflection questions.
3. Complete the community reflection questions
4. Prepare to report out your thoughts

## Institutions

Schools  
Universities  
Hospitals  
Libraries  
Social Service  
Agencies  
Nonprofits  
Museums  
Foundations

## Individuals

Community Leaders  
Trusted Voices  
Elected Officials  
Business Leaders  
Community Advocates  
Nonprofit/Civic  
Leaders

## Physical Space

Gardens  
Parks  
Playgrounds  
Bike Paths  
Meeting Centers  
Shelters  
Community Spaces

## Asset Map: Example

## Local Economy

Job Opportunities  
Chamber of Commerce  
Professional Associations  
Business Loans  
Entrepreneurship  
Support  
Investors  
Shops and Stores  
Housing

## Associations

Advocacy Groups  
Meetup Groups  
Care Networks  
Social Gatherings  
Local Online Groups

## Programs

Shelter Programs  
Awareness Campaigns  
Networking Groups  
Social Support  
Programs  
Housing Connections  
Food Banks

Institutions

Individuals

Physical Space

Asset Map:  
Disabled/Neurodivergent

Local Economy

Associations

Programs

# Part 1: Mapping Community Assets

## Disabled and Neurodivergent People

- Are there disabled and neurodivergent people in leadership roles in your community? Where do you see them represented?

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- What challenges do disabled and neurodivergent people likely face in your community? How are these issues being addressed?

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- What systemic barriers do Disabled and Neurodivergent people face in accessing existing community resources?

- Ex: transportation, diagnoses and healthcare support, mental health care access, job opportunities

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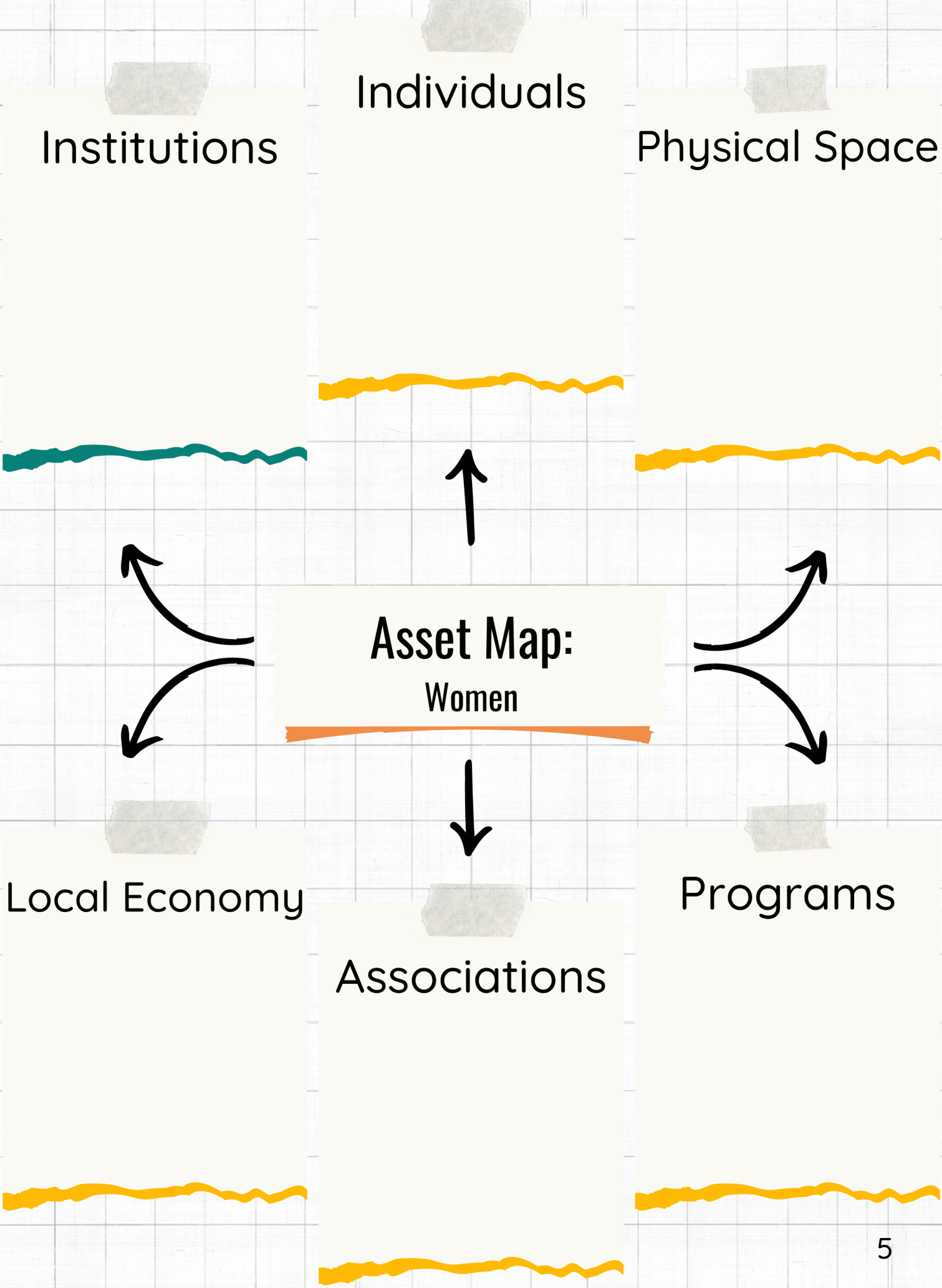
- What strategies could be used to build alliances and partnerships with local leadership to promote the inclusion of disabled and neurodivergent people?

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Institutions

Individuals

Physical Space

Asset Map:  
Women

Local Economy

Associations

Programs

# Part 1: Mapping Community Assets

## Women

- Are there Women in leadership roles in your community? Where do you see Women represented?

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- What challenges do Women likely face in your community? How are these issues being addressed?

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- What systemic barriers do Women face in accessing existing community resources?

- Ex: discrimination, traditional expectations, caregiving, transportation

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- What strategies could be used to build alliances and partnerships with local leadership to promote gender equity?

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Institutions

Individuals

Physical Space

Asset Map:  
People of Color

Local Economy

Associations

Programs

# Part 1: Mapping Community Assets

## People of Color (POC)

- Are there visible leaders or advocates for racial diversity? Who are they?

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- What challenges do People of Color likely face in your community? How are these issues being addressed?

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- What systemic barriers do People of Color face in accessing existing community resources?

- Ex: discrimination, language, socioeconomic factors

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- What strategies could be used to build alliances and partnerships with local leadership to promote racial equity?

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Institutions

Individuals

Physical Space

Asset Map:  
LGBTQIA+

Local Economy

Associations

Programs

# Part 1: Mapping Community Assets

## LGBTQIA+ People

- Are there LGBTQIA+ people in leadership roles in your community? Where do you see them represented?

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- What challenges do LGBTQIA+ people likely face in your community? How are these issues being addressed?

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- What systemic barriers do LGBTQIA+ people face in accessing existing community resources?

- Ex: discrimination, parental and familial alienation, housing, educational harassment

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- What strategies could be used to build alliances and partnerships with local leadership to promote LGBTQIA+ Inclusion?

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## Part 2: Reflecting on Inclusion

- **How inclusive is your community?**

- How would you rate your community's overall inclusiveness on a scale of 1-10?  
Why did you assign this rating?

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- **In what ways does your community actively support or exclude marginalized groups?**

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- **What barriers exist to greater inclusion in your community?**

- Ex: cultural attitudes, lack of resources, limited awareness, lack of investment

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- **What has been the community's response to past efforts for change? What have been effective strategies for building consensus?**

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