



Rural
VIOLENT CRIME
REDUCTION INITIATIVE

**Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative -
Knowledge Sharing Event:
Introduction to Rural Community &
Economic Development**

October 19, 2023



Acknowledgement/Disclaimer

This project is supported by Grant #5PBJA-21-GK-03941-RURA awarded by the Office of Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.

Event Logistics

- Event is being recorded
- Event survey
- Questions and Answers



Agenda

- Rural LISC Introduction
- Reflection from the field (Borough of Tamaqua, PA)
- Q&A



RURAL LLSC

We Believe in Rural America



Agenda

- Intro
- Rural LISC Priorities
- Success Story:
Borough of
Tamaqua (PA)
- Questions



Definition of Rural

The geography where we work makes us unique.

Communities with USDA defined **population size** of **50,000 or less**

Distance from a metro area and **limited range of economic activities**

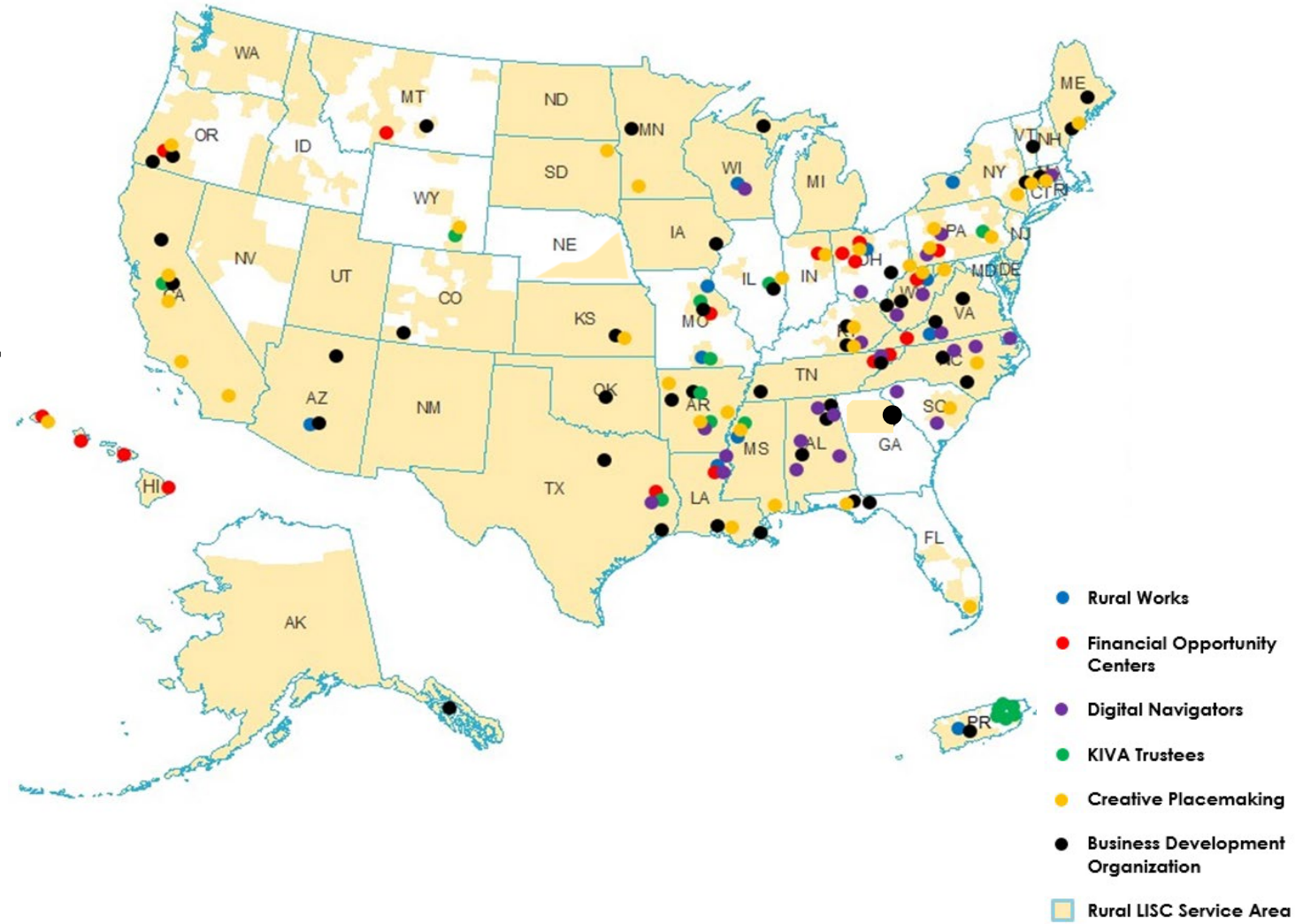
Considerations of **overall local resources** and available **federal funding**



For over 25 years Rural LISC has worked with and through grassroots partners located in rural communities and regions.

We are a **connector** and **cross-pollinator** for our partners, linking them to national opportunities, to each other and aggregating resources they might not otherwise access without our network.

Working closely with partners helps us cover a large national footprint.



***150+ local partners across 49 states and Puerto Rico**
[Click here](#) to view our interactive partner map.

The Rural Landscape

20 percent of our country's population resides in rural places. That's 60 million people who live and work in rural communities.

From the standpoint of a competitive America, we must recognize and leverage the extraordinary talent and assets of the vast part of the nation that is rural.

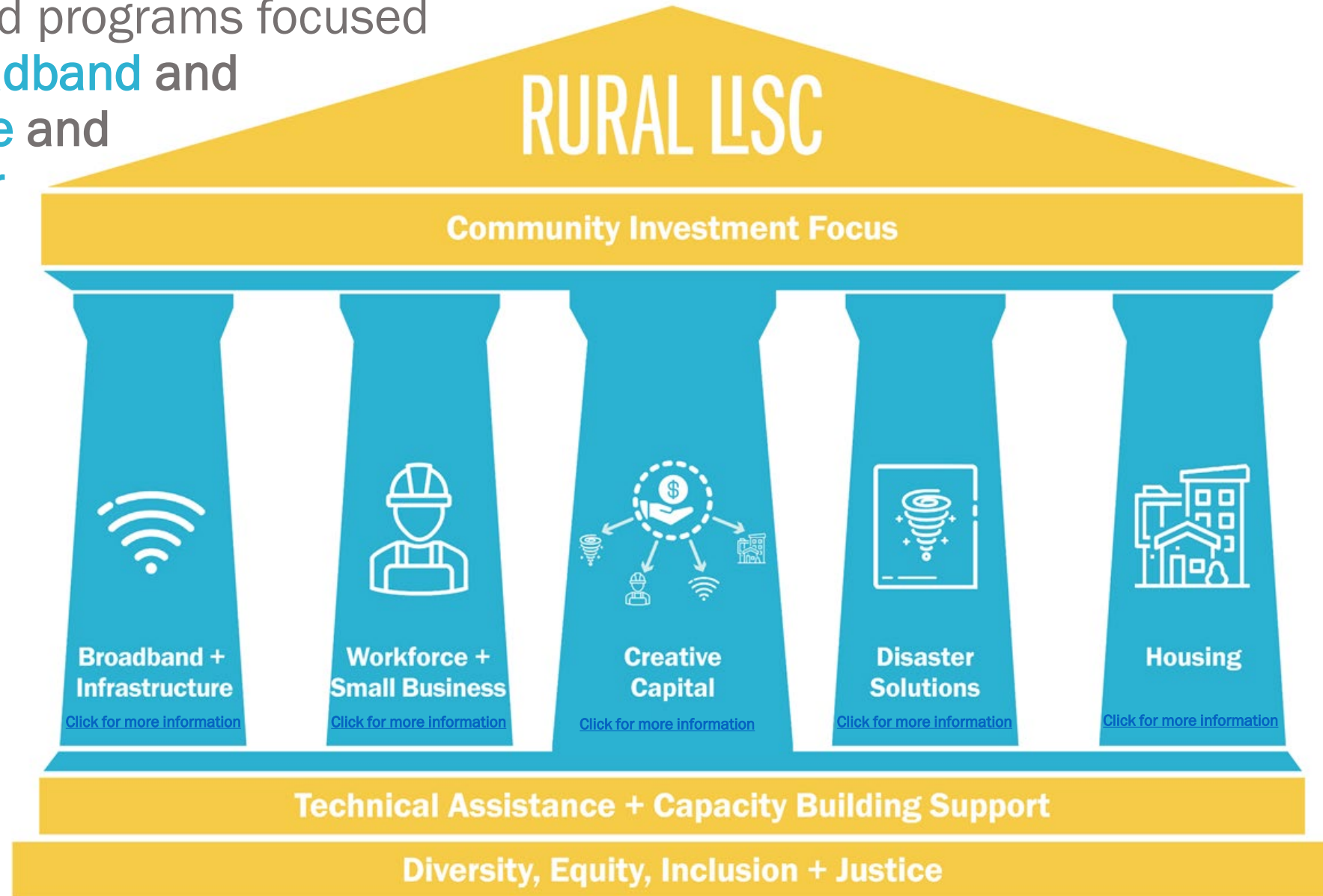


When discussing impact, not scale, you have to set the stage for impact measurements using a different context. Add one talented special education teacher, one full-service grocer, and the gains may well spread, like ripples in a rain puddle, to the furthest reaches of the community. We know this because we've seen it many times.



Rural LISC strives to identify priorities and opportunities to **meet local needs** through integrated strategies and programs focused on **creative capital, broadband and infrastructure, workforce and small business, disaster supports, and housing.**

Our work is built on a foundation of **Technical Assistance & Capacity Building Strategies** and intentional **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice** practices.



In partnership with Rural LISC...



Local community organizations increase their capacity and knowledge.



Funding is leveraged from all levels for community-based solutions.



Small businesses become long-term community staples.



Families become homeowners.



Communities rebuild and recover after disasters.



Communities close the digital equity gap.



Individuals and families increase their net income and net worth.



Individuals increase their job skills and career advancements

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice are the core values that encompass the cornerstone of who we are, what we do, how we measure impact, with whom we partner, how we earn trust, and show up in our community. Rural LISC values listening to and engaging neighborhood residents and community members, and incorporating their input and feedback into the design, creation, and execution of LISC's work.

We will strive to cultivate leadership, organizational capacity and technical skills of residents, practitioners and community-based organizations to help make life outcomes more equitable; and to support and expand the impact of BIPOC leadership, identify and counteract systemic racism, and foster partnerships to advance systems change and racial justice in rural America.



When Rural LISC works in a community, all available resources are deployed at all levels of a community's development plan.

Rural LISC resources are integrated and are proven to leverage funding and partnerships for continued community development.

A holistic and comprehensive approach is taken with every community.

Wealth Building: Rural LISC's Financial Opportunity Center network works to increase the financial well-being of individuals and families, with 60% of their clients increasing their net income and 68% increasing their net worth in 2022.

Local Government: LISC runs the U.S. HUD Distressed Cities Technical Assistance program, investing more than \$12M in small units of local government to increase their internal capacity and address barriers to community development.

Broadband and Infrastructure: Rural LISC works with community leaders, elected officials and stakeholders to map out a community's broadband and infrastructure needs, and how to maximize on historic public dollar investments coming into rural communities today. In the last year, \$80M has been leveraged for rural broadband projects.

Regional Employers: Rural LISC's workforce development programming strengthens a rural community's workforce ecosystem. Since 2021, Rural Works resulted in more than 3,500 job placements, leveraging more than \$12M in additional supports.

Housing: Since 1995, Rural LISC has supported the development and preservation of 52,904 affordable homes across the Rural LISC network. LISC and its affiliates have invested more than \$2.75B in grants, loans, lines of credit, recoverable investments, and equity for the development of affordable housing.

Commercial and Community Property: 8.8M square feet of commercial and community facilities has been built through creative capital projects across the Rural LISC network.

Capacity Building: To date, Rural LISC has deployed more than \$2.75B to partner organizations, including \$99.9M in capacity building grants for local community-based partners.

Community Anchors: Rural LISC has trained 120 Digital Connectors with anchor institutions like rural libraries and community-based organizations. These hubs help residents get connected to low-cost Internet and devices, resulting in enhanced digital skills.

Small Business: Since 2020, Rural LISC has helped keep rural Main Street open for business by providing more than \$40M in grants, capital, and technical assistance to a variety of small businesses.



Incorporating Safety & Justice



**Communities
increase their site
attractiveness**



**Communities
address historical
population
disinvestment**



**Individuals increase
their job skills, career
advancements, and
financial
opportunities**



**Provision of
affordable and
safe homes**



Collaboration Success - Tamaqua



Introductions



Micah Gursky, Director



Michael Hobbs, Chief of Police

CAP Index Score **140** in 2013 and **81** in 2022

CRIMECAST Map - 1:3 Methodology

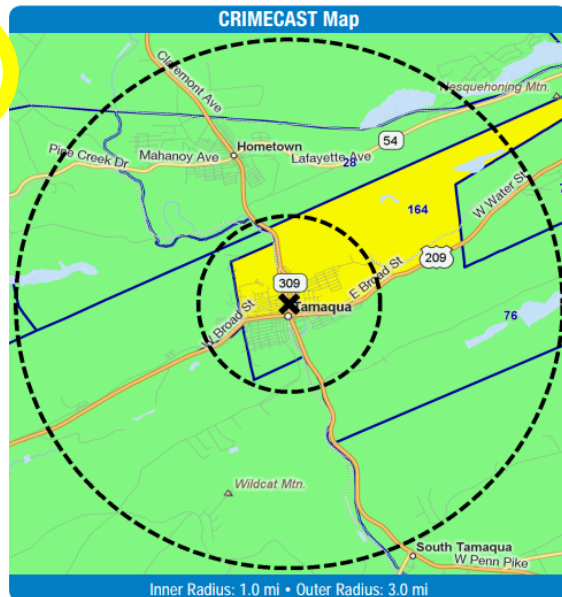
CRIMECAST premium

This site's Current 2013 National CAP Index Score is

140

St Luke's Orthopaedic
137 N. Railroad Street
Tamaqua, PA 18252

Lat: 40.79925, Long: -75.96959



Score Ranges: 0-99 100-199 200-399 400-799 800-2000

CRIMECAST Scores are based on a scale of 0 to 2000, with 0 representing the lowest risk and 2000 the highest - 100 is average. A score of 600 is 6 times higher than average, and a score of 25 indicates that the risk is 1/4 the average.

National

CRIMECAST CATEGORY	This Site's Scores
	CURRENT 2013
CAP Index	140
Homicide	235
Rape	172
Robbery	134
Aggravated Assault	137
Crimes Against Persons	135
Burglary	80
Larceny	110
Motor Vehicle Theft	56
Crimes Against Property	88
CAP INDEX SCORE	NATIONAL
Past - 2010	114
Current - 2013	140
Projected - 2018	123

Creation Date: December 03, 2013

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MAX-3 SITE MAP

SITE NAME: TAMAQUA MEDICAL CENTER
ADDRESS: 137 NORTH RAILROAD STREET, TAMAQUA, PA 18252

CRIMECAST BASIC

2022 NATIONAL CRIME RISK SCORES

THIS SITE'S CAP INDEX® SCORE:

81

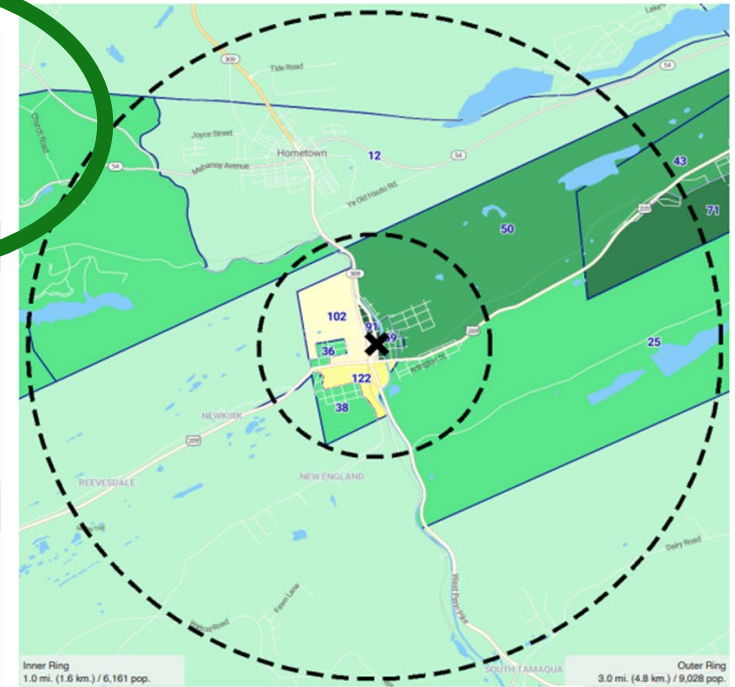
THE CRIME RISK AT THIS SITE IS 0.81 TIMES THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 100.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

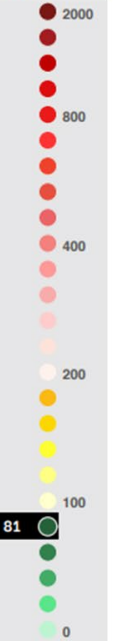
Homicide	122
Rape	64
Robbery	84
Aggravated Assault	79

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

Burglary	127
Larceny	104
Motor Vehicle Theft	54



CAP SCORE SCALE



Creation Date: November 30, 2022
Database Year: 2022

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MAX-3 SCORE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: TAMAQUA MEDICAL CENTER

ADDRESS: 137 NORTH RAILROAD STREET, TAMAQUA, PA 18252



The Score Summary includes a total of 90 risk scores - 10 for each of 3 geographic levels and three time periods. The National Scores provide the site's risk in comparison to all 50 states and the District of Columbia broken down by crime category, while the State Scores compare the site to the state averages and the County Scores to the county averages. Past, Current, and Projected risk scores are provided to allow for trending.

GEOGRAPHIC LEVEL	UNITED STATES			PENNSYLVANIA			SCHUYLKILL COUNTY		
	PAST 2010	CURRENT 2022	PROJECTED 2027	PAST 2010	CURRENT 2022	PROJECTED 2027	PAST 2010	CURRENT 2022	PROJECTED 2027
CAP Index® Score	88	81	72	100	87	79	165	154	144
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	91	80	72	108	95	87	159	142	136
Homicide	134	122	94	125	101	80	189	157	122
Rape	63	64	59	88	87	78	126	124	120
Robbery	92	84	74	101	87	78	172	162	151
Aggravated Assault	97	79	72	118	101	93	163	135	132
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY	115	103	93	194	165	149	248	236	224
Burglary	129	127	121	217	192	185	244	208	217
Larceny	116	104	93	188	164	146	252	260	241
Motor Vehicle Theft	84	54	46	187	109	93	225	156	140

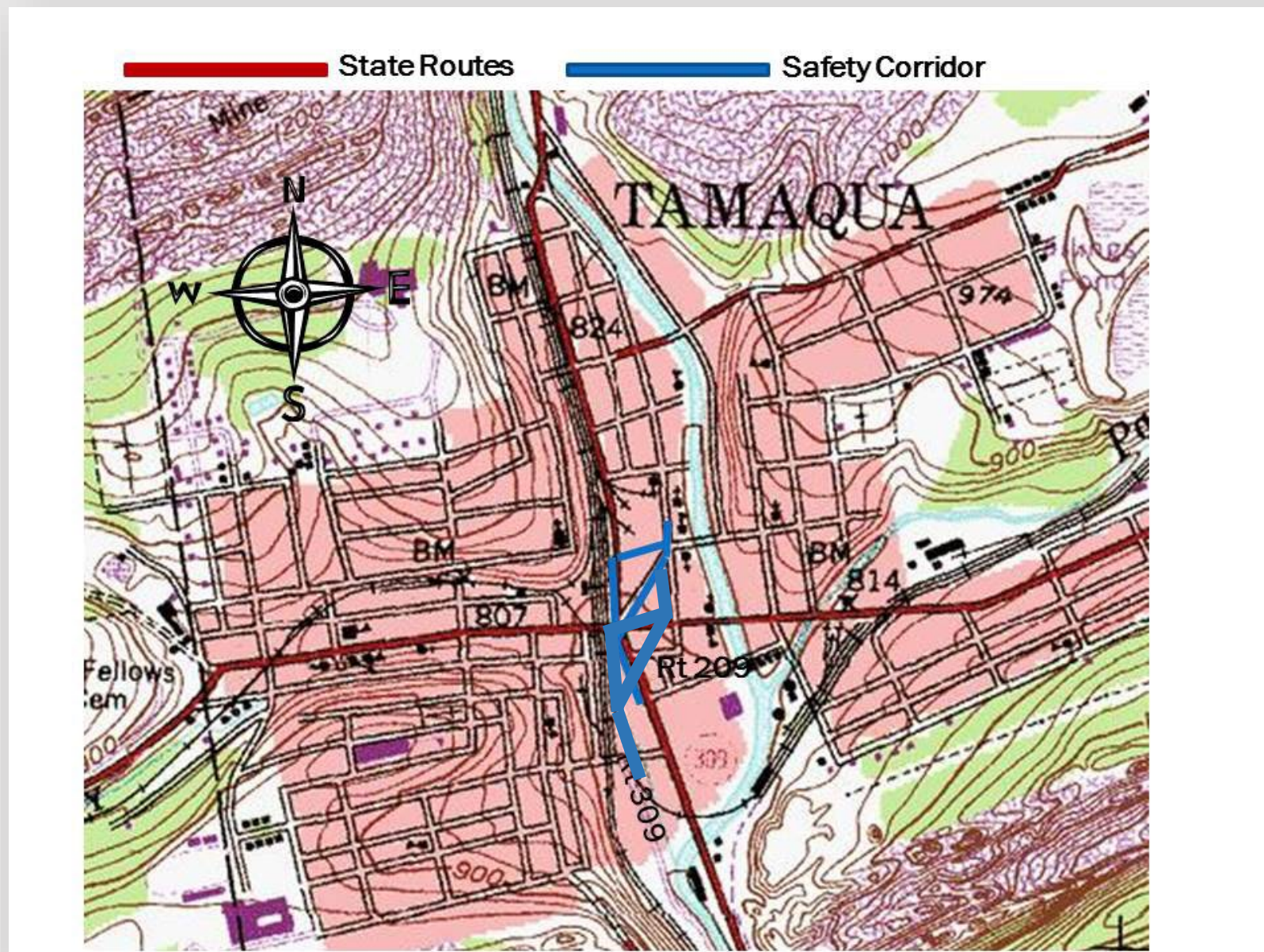


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Tamaqua Safety Initiative “Safety Corridor”

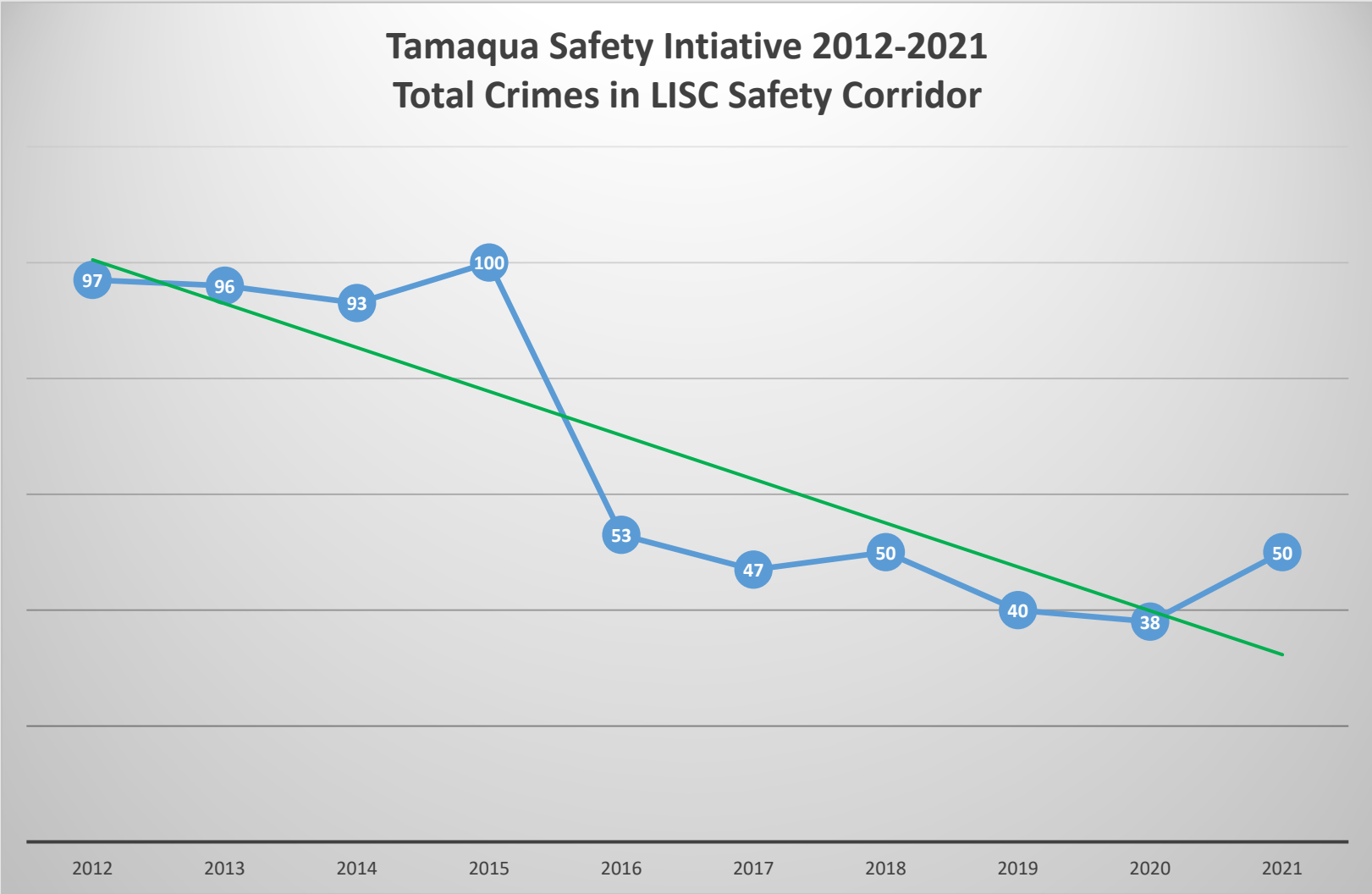
100 Block of Pine, Mauch Chunk & Railroad St to 20 Center Street





Number of Reported Crimes in Tamaqua's Safety Corridor, 2009 to 2021

100 Block of Pine, Mauch Chunk & Railroad St to 20 Center Street



LISC Community Safety & Justice Initiative



LISC Community Safety & Justice Initiative

Tamaqua group visits Ulster County, N.Y. to study revitalization efforts



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES NEWS

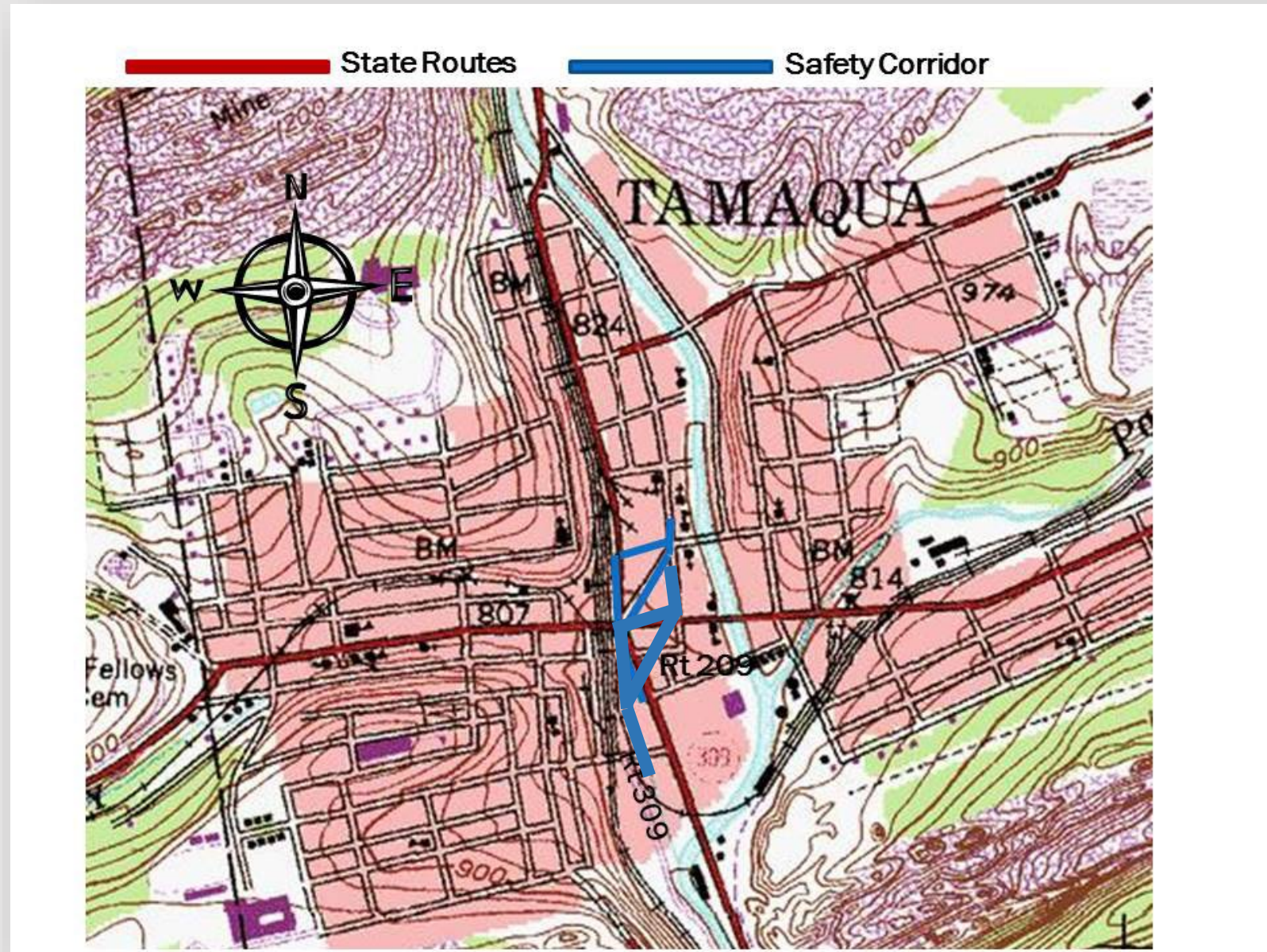
A group of members from the Tamaqua Community Partnership, Tamaqua Chamber of Commerce, local government and other local business-oriented organizations visited Ulster County, New York, to learn more about what their community is doing to revitalize their downtown, preserve historic resources, promote healthy living and to see how they collaborate toward community growth. Viewing community improvements in downtown Kingston, N.Y., are Christine Verdier, Schuylkill Township supervisor; Linda Yulanavage, Downtown Manager and Executive Director of the Tamaqua Area Chamber of Commerce; Al Martinez, West Penn Township supervisor; Margaret Martinez, Maureen Donovan, Lehigh Carbon Community College; Guy Kempe, Director of Community Development for Rural Ulster County Preservation Company; Bonnie Coyle, St. Luke's Community Health; Jacqui Shafer, South Ward Neighborhood Committee; Micah Gursky, Executive Director, Tamaqua Area Community Partnership; and Lee Shafer, Tamaqua Area Community Partnership.



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES NEWS

Pictured is the Kirkland Building in downtown Kingston, N.Y.

Tamaqua Safety Initiative “Safety Corridor”



THE S.A.R.A. MODEL

OF PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING

ASSESSMENT

evaluate the effectiveness of the response



SCANNING

identify and prioritize the problem



ANALYSIS

use relevant data to pinpoint root causes of the problem



RESPONSE

identify and select interventions; develop and implement an action plan



CRIMINAL JUSTICE
KNOW HOW

LISC Community Safety & Justice Initiative



Green Dot Bystander Training

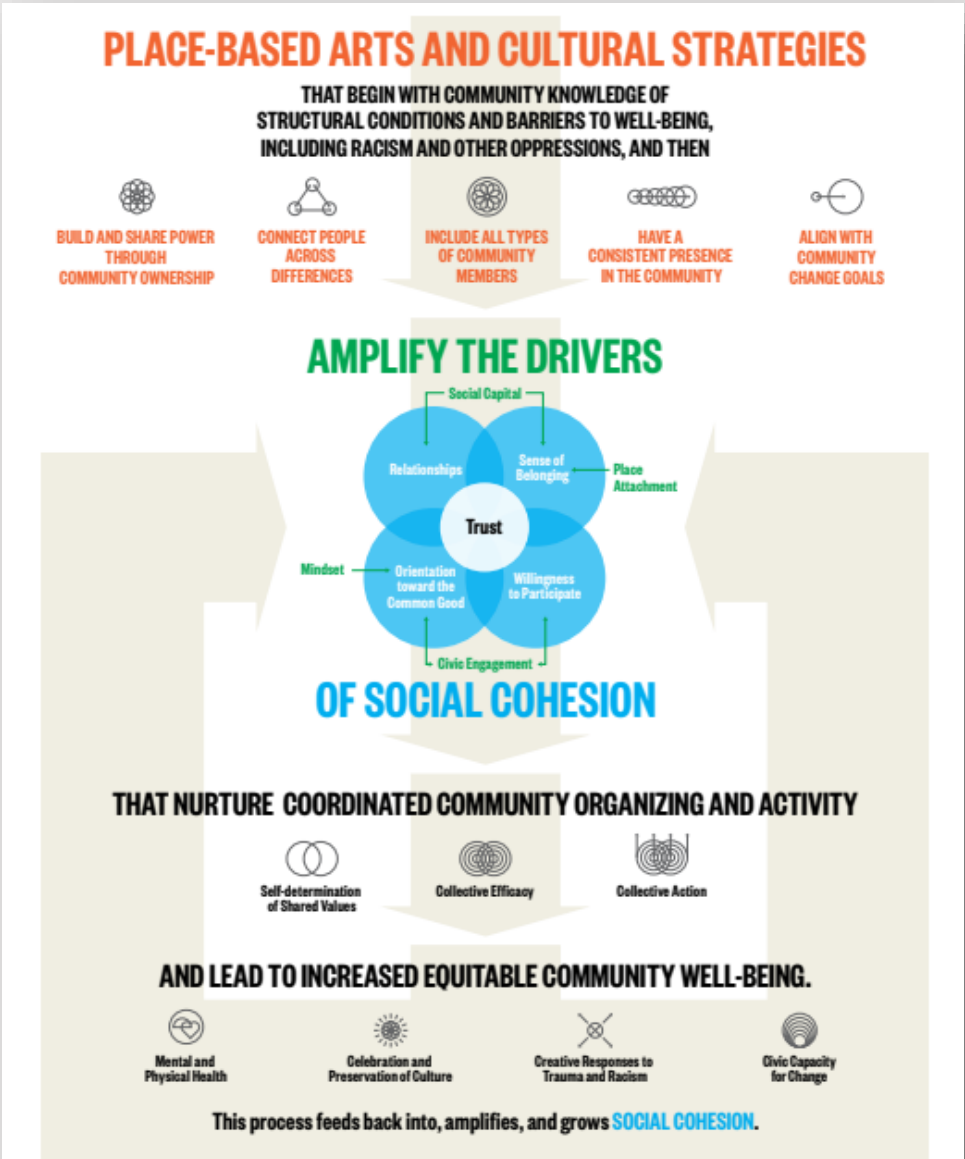


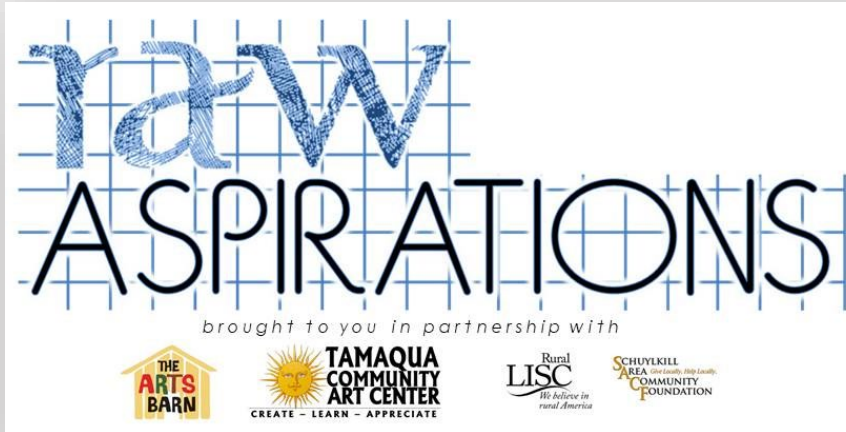
No one has to do everything.

But everyone has to do something.

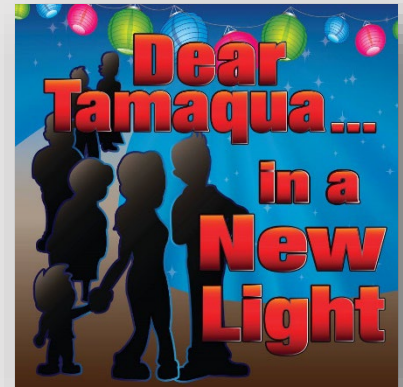


Creative Placemaking/WE-Making

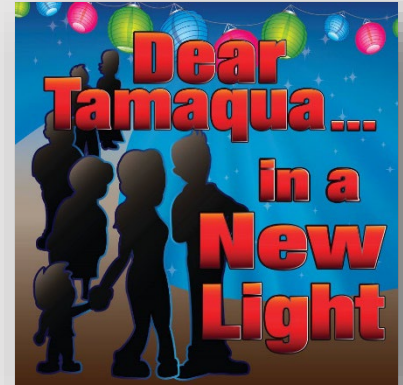




Dear Tamaqua



Dear Tamaqua



Dear Tamaqua...

I would like drugs all
you! to help our community,
we need more people to
care & respect our community!

TAMAQUA sucks!

The people need to
change, then the town
will

Tell the motherland what's on your mind!

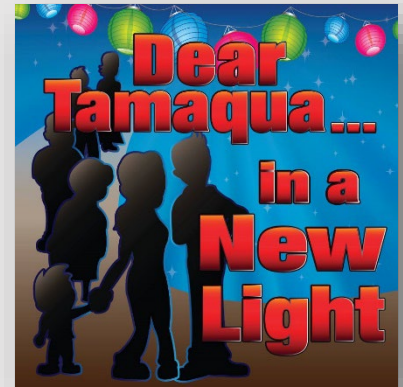
Dear Tamaqua



Tell the Motherland what's on your mind!

When I grow up I would be
a teacher, because the teacher
I have today helps me
witho my problems. So I
can help other children.

125 Pine Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252 * 570-668-1192 * www.deartamaqua.com



Dear Tamaqua



Dear Tamaqua



Dear Tamaqua



Dear Tamaqua



Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education

TAMAQUA COMMUNITY REPORT - 2016

Social Capital & Rural Economic Development Project

In 2011, Penn State University surveyed Tamaqua residents about their perceptions of various aspects of local life. This spring, we replicated that survey. In this brief report, we describe the findings from the latest survey and compare them to our previous study. The report is divided into five sections: social networks and divisions, highlighting how community members interact with one another and their feelings about any perceived divisions in the area; trust and reciprocity, or how individuals identify with their fellow community members; citizen impact on the community and outlook for the future; views about local industries and institutions and perceptions of the community as a whole; and finally community involvement, length of residency, and commute time, explaining the responders' connection to and history with the community. Finally, we summarize the open-ended comments that some respondents made at the end of the survey.

Social Networks and Divisions

Not surprisingly, when respondents were asked who they would rely on in an emergency, the most popular response was family. This was followed by friends, their church, charitable organizations, co-workers, and their neighbors. The majority of respondents would turn to one or two groups at a time like this, which mirrors findings from 2011. When asked about their perceptions of divisions within the community, respondents indicated that there are moderate divisions due to religion, race/ethnicity, social class, level of education, political affiliation, and age. In particular, about half of all respondents indicated that Tamaqua was divided due to social class, level of education and race/ethnicity to a moderate or large extent. This was also the case in 2011 and may be attributed to religious and ethnic diversity, encouraged historically by coal companies in order to drive down labor prices and prevent labor organization. It may also be due to recent in-migration by ethnic groups such as Latinos who are drawn to the community because of the low cost of living compared to urban areas.

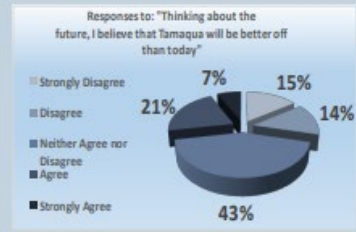
Trust and Reciprocity

When asked about how they feel about their fellow community members, respondents indicated that there is little trust amongst Tamaqua residents. Over half

of all respondents said that they could trust the people in Tamaqua to only a small extent or not at all. In addition, trust across race/ethnicities is low. While 55 percent of respondents indicated that they can trust people of the same race/ethnicity to a moderate or large extent, only 26 percent indicated that they could trust people of a different race/ethnicity to the same extent. These findings have not changed since 2011. Although trust across race/ethnicities is low, trust among Tamaqua community members who are in the same social networks is high. For example, among those who go to the same church, just under 60 percent of people said that they can trust fellow church members to a moderate or large extent. Nearly 35 percent of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement that people in Tamaqua share the same values. In the survey completed in 2011, close to 50 percent of respondents answered the same way. A total of 27 percent of respondents reported that they agreed or strongly agreed that residents tend to look out for their own welfare, compared to 35 percent in 2011. In both surveys, nearly 70 percent of respondents in Tamaqua agreed or strongly agreed there is support for community events and festivals.

Citizen Impact and Outlook for the Future

Approximately 64 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that people like themselves can have an impact in making Tamaqua a better place to live. This figure is up from 2011, when 58 percent agreed with this statement. Just over 68 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that people in Tamaqua can



have an impact on decisions that affect the area. This figure is also up slightly from 2011. Additionally, only 28 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their household would be better off in the future than it is today. This figure is down slightly from 2011, but whether the decline represents a change in local conditions or a sluggish national economy is unclear. In 2011, about 40 percent of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement that the community would be better off in the future than it is today. In 2016, only 29 percent felt this way, suggesting that perceptions about the community's future have improved over the past five years.

Local Industries and Institutions

When residents were asked to indicate which industries have had the biggest positive impact on the community, they listed coal mining, railroads, agriculture and manufacturing. The industries that were perceived to have little to no impact on the local economy were timber harvesting, natural gas extraction and oil extraction. These findings mirror the results from the 2011 survey. Respondents were unsure about tourism's impact on the local economy. About a third indicated

Community Involvement, Length of Residency, and Commute Time

On average, respondents participate in approximately two to three voluntary organizations. Approximately 50 percent of survey respondents have lived in the community for all their life and 33 percent have lived there for more than 20 years. They have an average commute time of 27 minutes. These figures are similar to the findings from 2011.

Open-Ended Comments

At the end of the survey, we left room for respondents to leave comments if they chose to do so. We received 50 comments. And while they were mixed, the comments were, on the whole, more positive than was the case in 2011. On the positive side, several respondents noted that in recent years there seems to be more

activity geared toward improving the community and creating a better quality of life. As one respondent remarked, "There is a lot beginning to happen to improve life in Tamaqua." Another respondent noted that people are becoming more involved in community development activities: "I am grateful for the citizens of Tamaqua who put their time and effort into making it a

better place to live. I know I'd like to be more involved in the future – and that is what it takes – involvement! Most people who complain about the area have either never lived anywhere else and have no other place of comparison and/or are not involved in making it better. I've lived in many places and our town has a lot of room for improvement. But guess what – it is happening! Tamaqua has come a long way – and outsiders have told me they notice too." In a similar vein, another respondent remarked that "Tamaqua has become a much more vibrant community than many surrounding municipalities. Many positive things are happening in our community thanks to the efforts of local organizations and dedicated volunteers. We have good county and state officials that look out for our best interests. There is still potential to improve and develop our community even more. History, tourism, arts, culture and outdoor recreation and cultural assets are areas that offer the most opportunities for further benefits in this area. Tamaqua continues to be a leader in the region and admired by surrounding towns. Still, we have much more work to do."

The other most prominent positive comments focused on the character of the people in Tamaqua and the small town quality of life. As one person noted,

"Tamaqua has come a long way - and outsiders have told me they notice too."



Tamaqua Has Heart



TAMAQUA
HAS HEART
Little Town. Big Heart.

Tamaqua Raw Aspirations



Casey Lutz Photography

raw
ASPIRATIONS

brought to you in partnership with

THE ARTS BARN
CREATE - LEARN - APPRECIATE

TAMAQUA COMMUNITY ART CENTER
CREATE - LEARN - APPRECIATE

Rural LISC
We believe in rural America

SCHUYLKILL AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

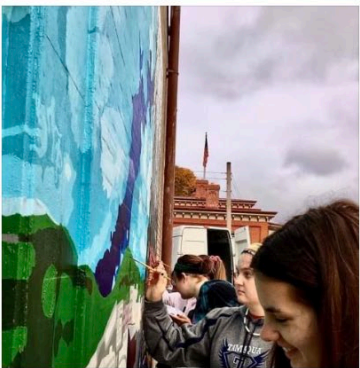
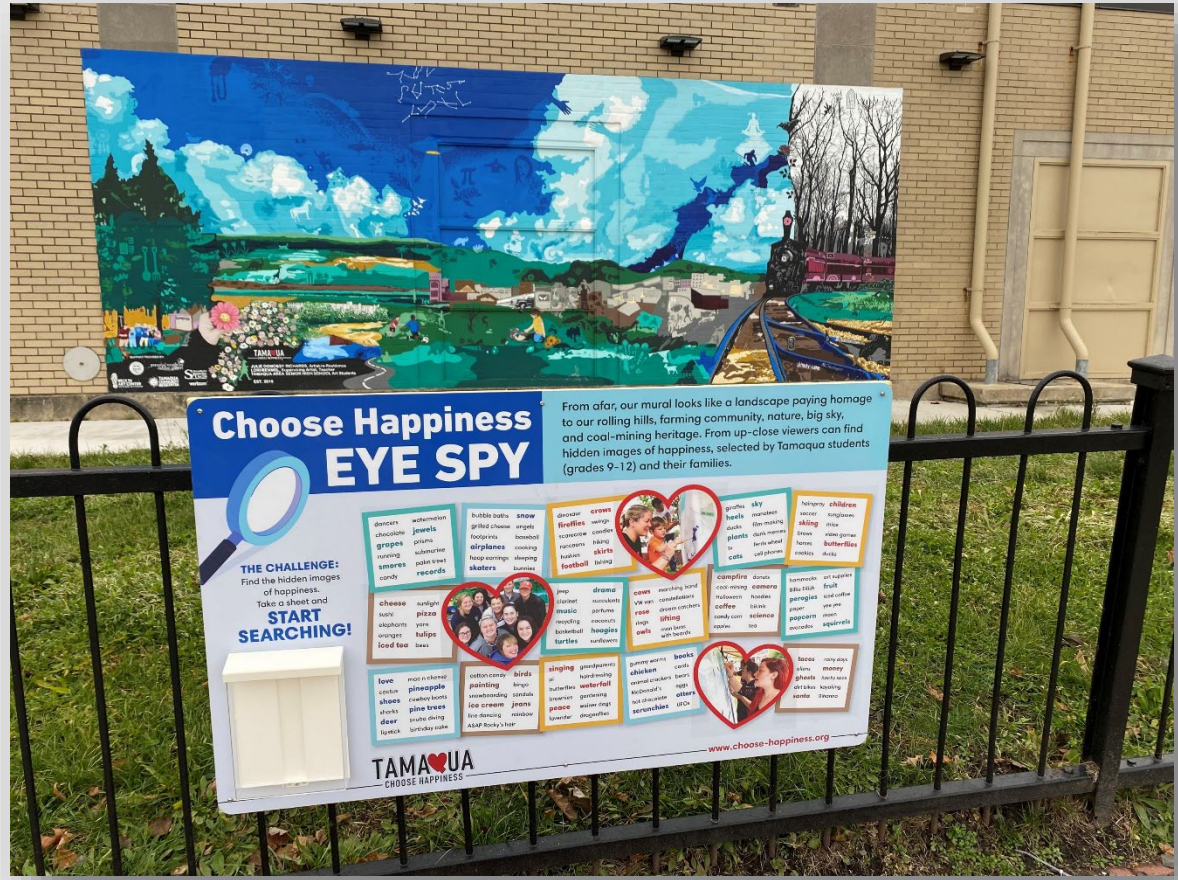


Casey Lutz Photography

Tamaqua Escape Room



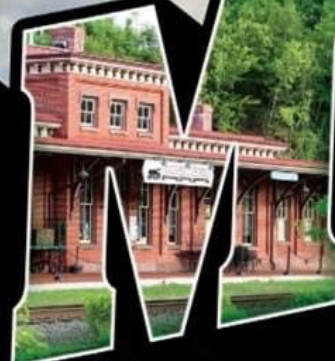
Tamaqua Choose Happiness



Greetings from Tamaqua



Greetings from



TAMAQUA ARTS CENTER
Creates • Learns • Appreciates

St Luke's **TAMAQUA**
The Genetti Family CROSSING HAPPINESS
RURAL LISC

© Tamaqua Arts Center 2022

National Night Out



Hope & Coffee



Communities That Care

“How do I guide
my child to make
positive choices?”

**Start with a
conversation.**

Start Making The Difference.

Learn More.

PAStart.org

Commonwealth Prevention Alliance **CPA**

Paid for with Pennsylvania taxpayer dollars.

**Raiders
PROMISE Project**

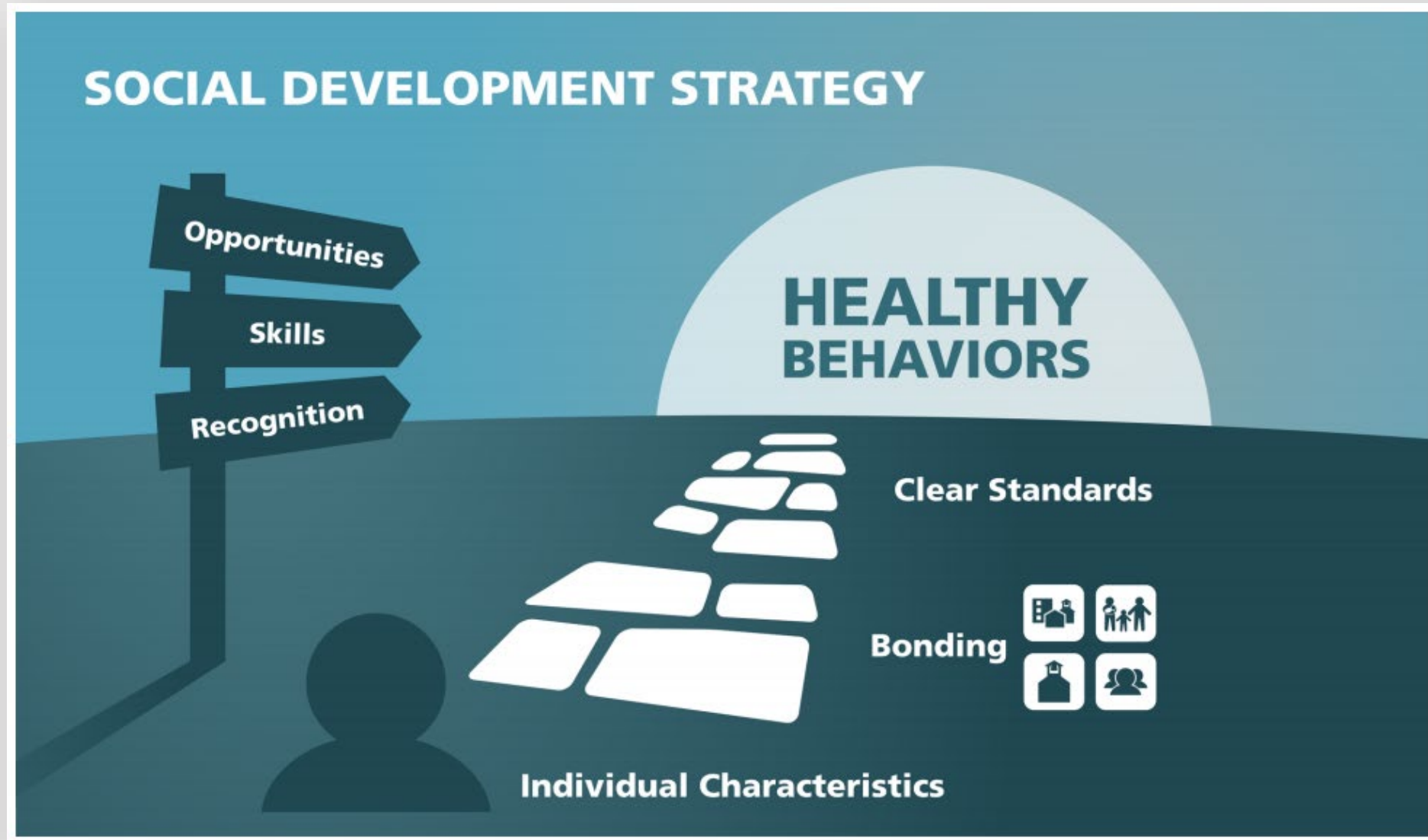
570.449.2563

kspofford@coginc.org

fb.me/raiders.promise.project



Communities That Care: Social Development Strategy



Communities That Care: LifeSkills® Training



Evidence-Based Prevention Programs for Schools, Families, and Communities

When **Effectiveness** and **Quality Count...**
Botvin LifeSkills Training is the only choice.



Communities That Care: Strengthening Families



Role of Police Department

Community Engagement Strategies

- Coffee with a COP
- National Night Out
- Increased Interactions with Youths – (lemonade stands, sports, stickers)
- “Slow Patrols” – Drive under 9 mph

Strengthening Partnerships

- Get more personal!
- Open to other ideas
- Finances for the greater good

Crime Assessment

- Statistics
- Diligent Enforcement



Crime Risk Index Score

140 in 2013 to 81 in 2022

CRIMECAST Map - 1:3 Methodology

CRIMECAST[®]
premium

This site's Current 2013
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140

St Luke's Orthopaedic
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National

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MAX-3 SITE MAP

SITE NAME: TAMAQUA MEDICAL CENTER

ADDRESS: 137 NORTH RAILROAD STREET, TAMAQUA, PA 18252

CRIMECAST[®]
BASIC

2022 NATIONAL CRIME RISK SCORES

THIS SITE'S CAP INDEX[®] SCORE:

81

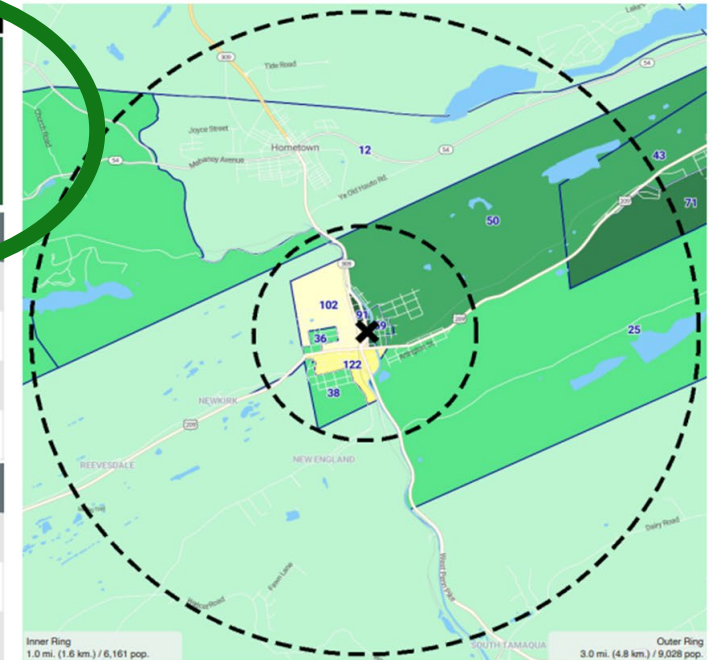
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CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

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CAP SCORE SCALE



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Rural

VIOLENT CRIME
REDUCTION INITIATIVE

Focused on training to respond to and prevent sexual violence in Tamaqua.



Questions?

Contacts & Resources

Julianne Dunn
Program Officer – Workforce
jdunn@lisc.org

- E-Newsletter: lisc.org/rural
- Federal Reserve Research:
federalreserve.gov/consumerscommunities

