

Local Level Up

Community Model



OVERSIGHT & FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY

Out of the Dark Inc.

COLLABORATION

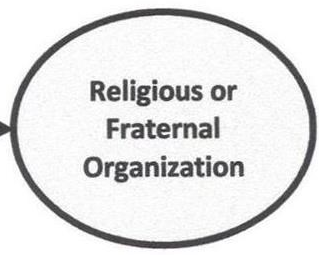
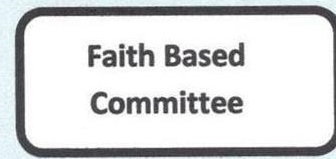
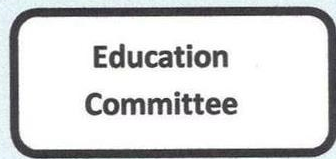
ADVOCACY

**OUT OF THE DARK
COALITION**

STANDING
COMMITTEES

CURRENT
COLLABORATORS

CURRENT
COLLABORATORS



"Local Level Up"

Community Model

WHAT IS IT? Over the past couple of years Out of the Dark Inc. has been developing a community model to address drug abuse/chemical addiction issues at the local level. The "*Local Level Up*" model is unique in that it incorporates a functional working relationship between all the sectors that make up a community through an Out of the Dark Coalition (ODC). A community is defined as all the communities within a county. This allows smaller towns to benefit from the resources of the larger cities in a united effort to address drug abuse/chemical addiction issues throughout an entire county.

Also, the "*Local Level Up*" model allows several counties to network together in a coordinated manner through their ODC to address drug abuse/chemical addiction issues at the regional level under the umbrella of the Out of the Dark Movement.

HOW DOES IT WORK? For the "*Local Level Up*" community model to work people have to invest in their community to establish an ODC and the volunteer sector committees that represent each sector of a community. Each of the sector committees are charged with:

- ◆ Identifying local drug abuse/chemical addiction issues within their sector;
- ◆ Establishing at least three (3) local "*demand and supply reduction*" plans per year to address the issues within their sector; and
- ◆ Provide recommendations to the ODC (community at large) as to how the "*demand and supply reduction*" plans should be implemented.

Each sector committee is chaired by a volunteer that sets the agenda and committee meetings for their sector. All of the committees meet quarterly as the Out of the Dark Coalition to discuss how the community will implement the "*demand and supply reduction*" plans.

Out of the Dark Inc., a 501(c)(3) volunteer nonprofit, is charged with overseeing the operations of the ODC and with raising operational funds through private donations, sponsorships and other legitimate funding opportunities.

WHY DO WE NEED THIS? The collateral damage caused by drug abuse/chemical addiction has reached epidemic levels in every community and it is the responsibility of the community to stop this monster that has been roaming the streets stealing their children away.

THERE IS POWER IN NUMBERS!

www.outofthedark.org

Solutions are made at the Local Level.

The ugly truth is that we have historically been treating drug addiction issues as a moral “*will power*” problem rather than a medical/mental health problem, despite the overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Most people understand that drug addiction is an illness, however, we have established our public policies over the past 50 years by relying on a false premise, that this is not an illness. When we base our public policies on a false premise, coupled with the type money involved in our federal and state policy making process, we create a cocktail for disaster. And that is what we have right now, one big public disaster.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the collateral damage caused by substance use disorders and the illness of drug addiction is now a national epidemic in every community. Our present situation was best described by Joseph Rannazzisi, DEA Deputy Chief of Operations Office of Diversion Control at the 2012 National Rx Summit:

“We’re gonna lose a whole generation of kids to heroin because they started with hydro(codone).”

Until we get the premise right we will never stop the rapid growth of the collateral damage caused to our communities from the illness of drug addiction. However, if each community will get involved to address their own local problems through the Out of the Dark organization then we can stop this monster that has been stealing so many of our children away.

