



Steps to Establishing a Community Service Network like Becoming ABBAville:

1. **Bring the community together. Becoming ABBAville** began when a local business, Stoll Industries, sponsored a two-day training on Transformational Leadership (Ford Taylor). This experience inspired many from the community to want to collaborate on ways to continue developing personally and as a community. Building faith and promoting wholeness in the Abbeville community formed the network's key mission and focus for its work.
2. **Meet consistently.** Monthly meetings were held to offer a forum for discussion and learning.
3. **Build the team(s).** Smaller teams were formed to focus support for key areas of community support – education, business, government/politics, faith, family and the larger community. Focus teams worked on initiatives for positive impact on their respective areas while the collective group participated in offering larger, community-wide opportunities for building relationships and forging greater partnerships.
4. **Start small.** Partnership and support for Abbeville County School District began with Becoming ABBAVILLE providing leadership resources for the superintendent, his leadership team, and eventually every teacher (per district request). That act led to sponsoring a back-to-school professional development event with great detail given to making the teachers' return to school special and memorable and affirming.
5. **Prioritize relationships to build trust.** In looking for ways to serve and bless the district, Becoming ABBAville focused on building relationships that led to more community volunteers coming into the schools to provide support in the classrooms. This service and support has evolved to include providing facilitators for a character and goal setting curriculum called [GoodLIFE](#) that this year will also include mentorship. Funding began through a local, non-profit group- Harvest Christian Ministries and then was supported through a Stronger Connections grant awarded to the school district from the SC Department of Education

Have Questions?

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