

The Social Planning Council of Sudbury: **Who We Are and What We Do**



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of Sudbury

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de Sudbury

30 Rue Ste. Anne Road Sudbury ON P3C 5E1 705-675-3894

It is not uncommon for people to think that the Social Planning Council organizes social functions like weddings.



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Or activities for seniors.



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On any given day, the Social Planning Council can be found gathering data and bringing people together to solve tough social issues.



**Social issues come in all
shapes and sizes.**



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Sometimes the problems affect the whole community.

• Lack of affordable housing

• Poverty

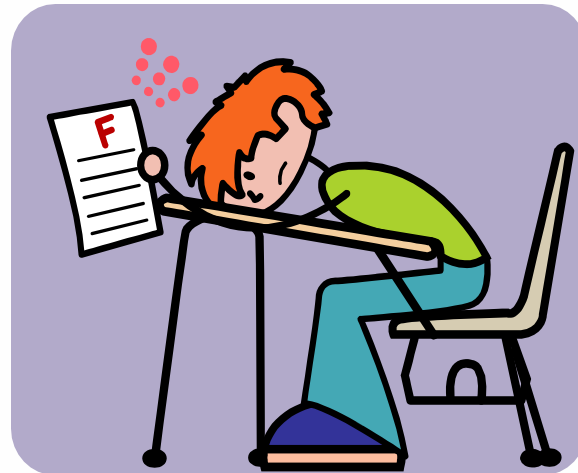


• Unemployment

• Global warming



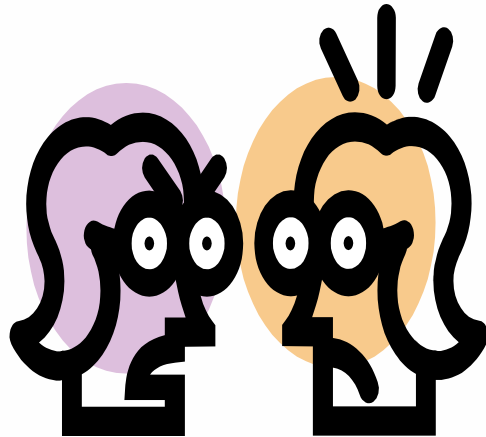
Sometimes the problems are specific to a particular group within a particular sector.



•high school students (youth) who are dropping out of school (education sector).



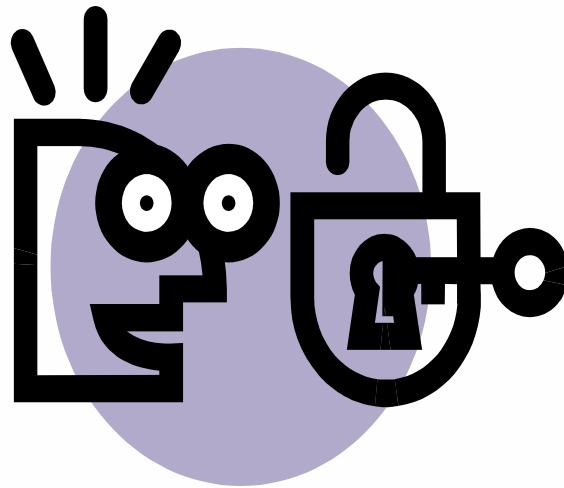
And sometimes the problems are being experienced by the groups themselves.



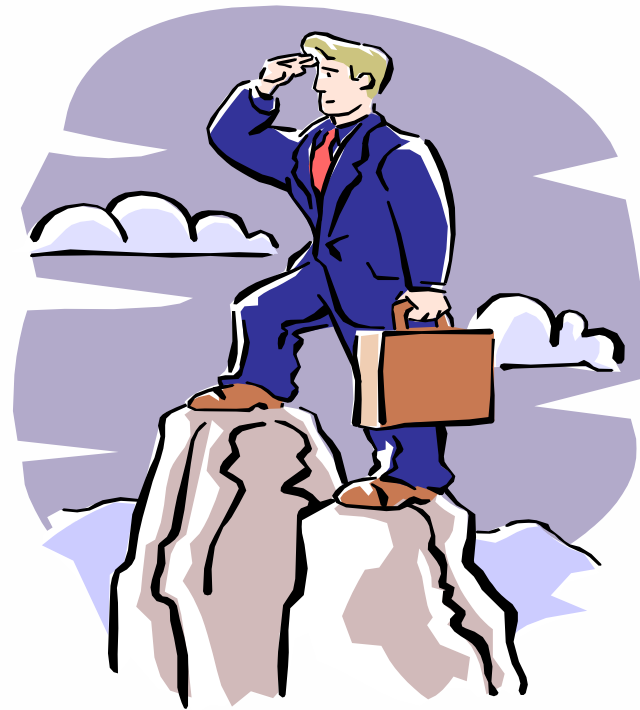
- **low income earners who don't have enough money to buy healthy food**



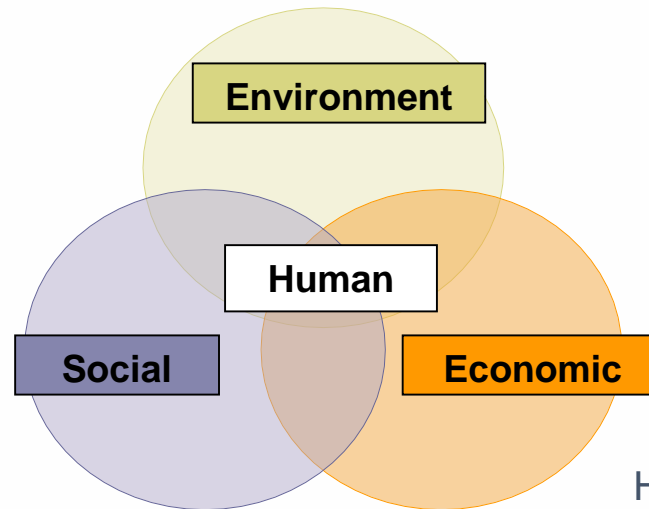
**The SPC helps people
solve social problems in a
number of different ways.**



1. We help people see the big picture.



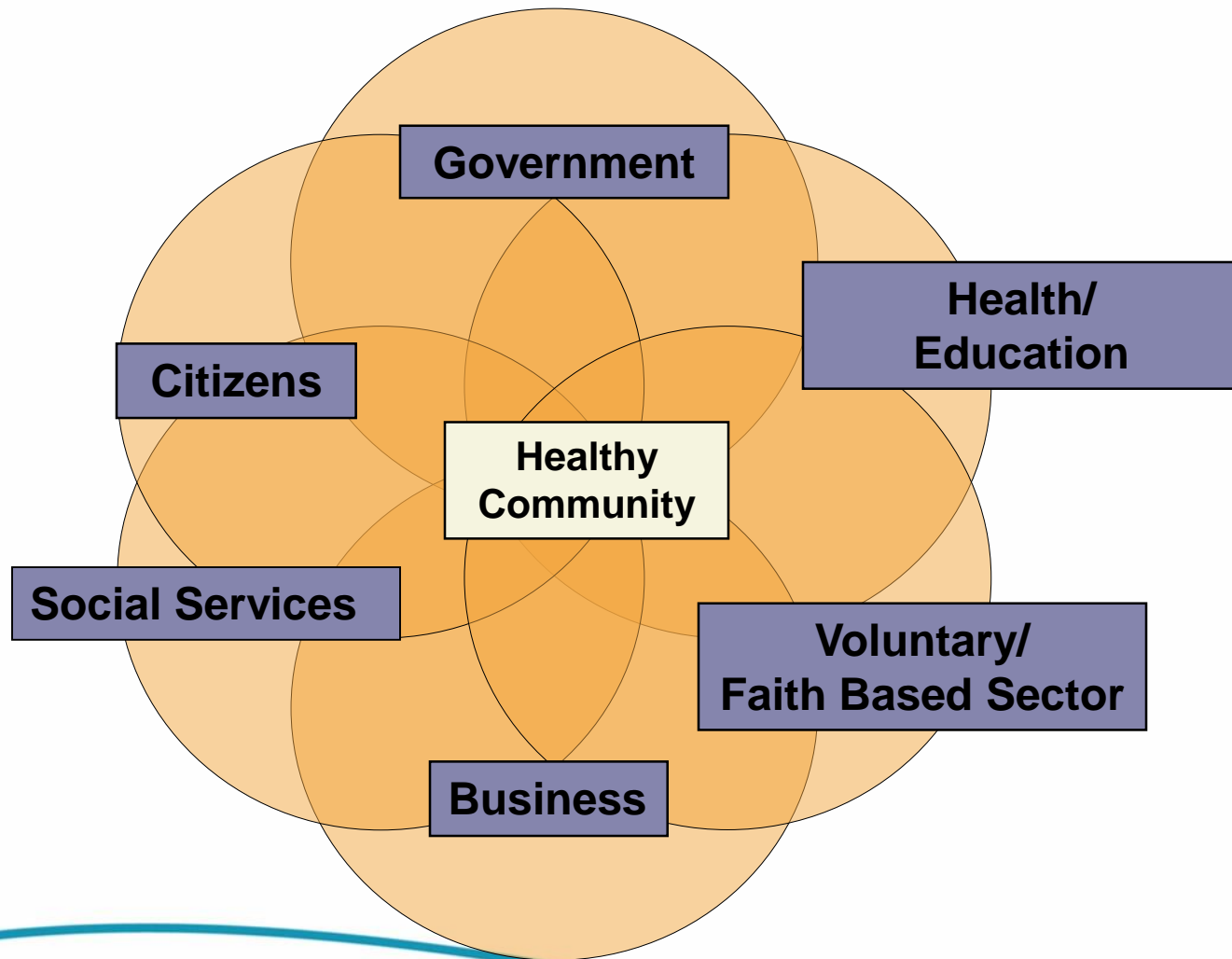
2. We help people look at problems in new ways.



Dr. Hancock's
Healthy Community
Model



And to see that solutions come when people with different perspectives work together.



3. We help people to value process.



4. We show people that social problems, like any other problem, respond to good planning.



5. We help people ask themselves tough questions so they can become empowered.



- Are all available resources being utilized?

- Are there groups who could be partners?

- Is more information about this problem needed?

- What is the timeline for achieving goals and how will progress be evaluated?



6. We take community concerns to tables where they can be heard and acted upon.

If no such table exists, we work to create them (community development and education).



7. We work with our partners to ask various levels of government to change their rules or create new ones that will serve people better (social policy advocacy).



8. We help identify when new or more information is necessary to solve a problem (research/evaluation and coordination).



9. We support the non-profit sector by supporting the use of technology, providing networking opportunities and providing a link to provincial information

- Data Consortium

- GIS Mapping

- Social network analysis



- Connection to Ontario Non Profit network

- HIFIS

- Community Engagement sessions i.e poverty reduction



10. We bring diverse groups together to get things done (convening and facilitating).



Ultimately, the SPC's goal is to raise awareness, and engage the community (leaders & all citizens) to act on information (which is always changing) in order to move our community forward towards a healthier future.

