



Quick-Start Guide for New Communities

Hometown Pride enhances Iowa communities while giving residents the skills and resources to better their towns. We have worked with 109 communities in 16 counties, providing them with a “community coach” who activates teams of local volunteers to do community betterment work.

Learn what Hometown Pride has done in towns like yours: [Project Examples](#)

Step 1: Gather your Hometown Pride team

Recruit volunteers for a committee. Reach out to individuals in your town who are passionate about your community and ready to get to work. Name your group “[your town name] Hometown Pride.”

How-to: [Forming a committee](#)

Step 2: Make an action plan

Discuss your town’s strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement. Brainstorm a list of things you could do to help the town, then pick 1 or 2 to start working on.

How-to: [Creating a Vision and Action Plan](#)

Step 3: Get to work (and collaborate)

Hold meetings with your committee and your “[coach](#)” to plan how to accomplish your goals. Your work may include fundraising, publicity, getting approvals, recruiting volunteers, or hands-on labor.

Reach out to other local organizations that have similar missions and may wish to work with you (or share advice). Early collaboration will help avoid “stepping on toes” and strengthen your cause.

Step 4: Share your story

As you take steps to accomplish your goals, make sure to share the news! Tell others what you’re working on and continue to bring in new volunteers and supporters.

Step 5: Keep it up!

Follow our tips for [Succession Planning](#) and [Volunteer Retention](#) to build up a strong committee that will last! Once you’ve completed your first goals, keep going and find the next project to tackle.

Hometown Pride provides funding for a “community coach” for the first 5 years, but the goal is for your committee to continue well beyond that.