

# Facilitating Groups: Carousel Group Process

The carousel group process is used to generate a large number of ideas, alternatives or responses to a particular topic. This process is an active one where participants move around the space as they share ideas, responses or alternatives to a particular topic.

## Supplies Needed

- Flipchart paper with sticky back or newspaper pages for posting
- Markers or pens
- Tape to hold papers on the wall (if needed)

## Possible Topics or Questions for Carousel Group Process

- Community improvement ideas
- Marketing ideas for projects
- Ideas for creating awareness of community projects
- How to improve quality of life
- What are three wishes you have for your community/organization?

## Steps for Carousel Group Process

- Write a topic, statement or question to be explored on the top of separate flipchart or newspaper pages.
- Post the flipcharts or newspaper pages on the walls several feet apart. (Check to make sure flipchart paper or newspaper can be posted to the walls of the space you are in. If they can't be posted on the wall, consider using a tabletop or a window to post the paper.)
- Divide participants into groups (four or five people work best). Ask each group to stand next to one of the flipchart or newspaper papers. The group will stay together throughout the process.
- Have the group choose a recorder. Group members share their ideas on the topic for two minutes. The recorder writes down the ideas on the flipchart or newspaper paper.
- At the end of two minutes, have the group move to the right (clockwise) to the next flipchart or newspaper. Groups should read what is already written and then add their ideas to the list for two minutes. This process continues until all groups have been to all the flipchart or newspaper papers. Each group adds to the ideas of the groups before them.
- At the end of the process, group members do a "gallery tour" to circulate and read what other groups have generated for each page in the space.

Adapted from: QStP Tool Kit For Quality. (1995). Columbus, OH: Ohio Office of Quality Services.