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Community Development

Alice K. Johnson Butterfield

and Benson Chisanga

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Summary

Community development is a planned approach to improving the standard of living and well-being of disadvantaged populations in the United States and internationally. An overview of community development is provided. The objectives of community development include economic development and community empowerment, based on principles of community participation, self-help, integration, community organizing, and capacity building. Community building and asset-based approaches are recent trends and innovations. Community development is interdisciplinary, with models and methods derived from disciplines such as social work and urban planning. The entry examines linkages between community development and macro practice, including an increase in employment opportunities for social workers.

Keywords: [capacity building](#), [community](#), [interdisciplinary](#), [macro social work](#), [community development](#), [participatory approaches](#), [assets](#), [poverty reduction](#), [international](#), [urban planning](#)

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