

## **Integrated Community Work**

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## **Integrated Community Work**

The Integrated Community Work (TCI) is part of the tools of the Popular Power in Cuba, at the same time that it constitutes a challenge for delegates, government officials and the assemblies, in its purpose of achieving superior results in the socioeconomic orders of our society.

This is not a new phenomenon, but it contains new dimensions, in accordance with the current needs of the country, underdeveloped and blocked by the United States, and with the objective of materializing a prosperous and sustainable socialism.

Specialists explain that not all action in a locality is Community Work, even when solving problems or needs of the population involves all or part of their neighbors in the execution of the task, neither because there are projects or financing, it is more than the intervention that involves solving a problem.

### **What, then, is Integrated Community Work?**

Although the definitions do not say it all, at least they give us an idea of what it is about. According to the Manual of Good Practices, "the TCI is a transformation process that implies human development, and that the community dreams, plans, executes and evaluates with full participation."

Reflecting on the subject, Cuban President Miguel Díaz Canel pointed out what should be a guide for the delegates: "the community is the main stage we have for work, which in the end arises from what is done in this and it is really where we can integrate all the motivations, all the aspirations, all the culture of the community's inhabitants with the plans of economic and social development, also associated with the plan of the economy, and of course, with the budgetary activity of each territory ... "

In our municipality, the Community Work has been planned and executed by the great part of the delegates obtaining positive results of impact on the population, micro-landfills have become organoponic, in parks, in connotation sites within the community, they have been created workshops for learning crafts, making dolls, reusing recyclable materials to make ornaments, among others, with the active participation of the population, since it is essential, since we must add tasks related to health, education , social assistance, and others that require everyone's attention.

Examples of positive events carried out in the communities are many;

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moreover, this Community Work process does not always take place with sufficient integrity to fully develop all the potential of the community, in which thousands of people remain: housewives, retirees, students, unemployed and self-employed, almost full-time, leaving reserves that need to be exploited.

Many citizens contribute their sweat for the many works that are being carried out, but there are still people in the neighborhoods who do not participate in any task, which represents a real challenge for the different factors of the community, which must not only work in the organizational and mobilizing aspect, but also to attract them and make them partners in the work that is carried out.

### On integrated community work

The People's Power Bodies in Cuba make possible the participation of the entire population in government management. Law 91/2000 of the Popular Councils in its article 38, establishes that it must be considered as participation.

- a) Systematically identify the problems and needs that affect the community and their possible solutions.
- b) Organize and promote the collective effort of the residents to solve their own needs, improve coexistence and quality of life.
- c) Decide the work strategy to develop, in a given period, the activities proposed.
- d) Carry out the evaluation and control of the results of the actions carried out.

On many occasions, statements are heard that refer to the low motivation of the population to participate in solving problems, and in the best case scenario, we see Delegates wearing themselves out, almost alone, sometimes with “good results”,



but they become executors and not

coordinators of the effort of the majority of the population.

The application of the Integrated Community Work method creates conditions for the population to offer opinions, criteria, ideas and “do things” for their well-being.

### How to apply this method?

These ideas have arisen from the study of different materials and from the experience of their practical application in constituencies of this province.

### CONCLUSIONS:

The application of the Integrated Community Work method will require a great deal of work by the Delegates and the leaders of the mass organizations in the initial stage, but it turns dozens of people into activists and protagonists of government management in the constituency, which makes the work of the Delegate more efficient.



The application of this method allows Delegates not to be seen “**alone in front of the world**” or accompanied by factors alone, but rather to be the “**coordinators of the world of people**” who participate: propose, decide and carry out activities for the well-being collective; It also enables the majority of residents in the constituency, the organizations and entities located there to work in an integrated way to achieve common objectives.

**"I want the first law of our Republic to be the cult of Cubans to the full dignity of man." Jose Marti**