

Community Focus Statement B: Develop and improve parks and recreational facilities and services for all ages.

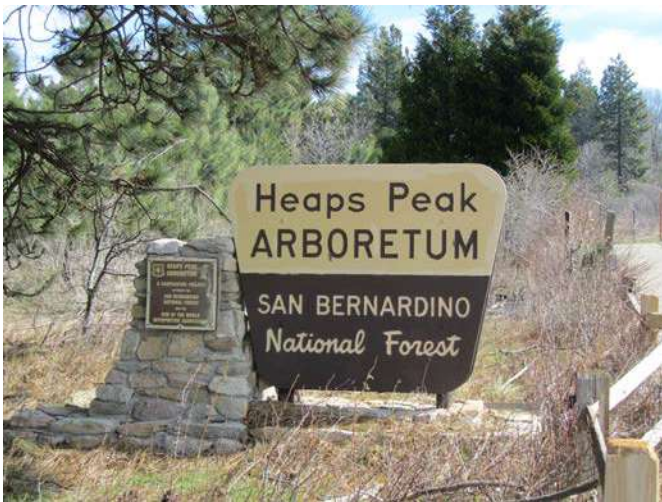
Action Statement B.1: Identify recreation needs, including facilities and programs, by working with residents from all age groups and abilities.

B

Benchmark: A recreational facilities task force works with the Rim of the World Recreation and Park District and community members to inventory community assets and identify recreational or programming needs with annual updates.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: \$4,000–\$5,500



Recreational opportunities provided by U.S. Forest Service. Photo source: Michael Baker International

In order to develop and improve parks and recreational facilities and services for all ages, residents in the Lake Arrowhead communities should be actively engaged in identifying interests and needs. This engagement would allow for the identification and provision of recreational opportunities and facilities specifically geared toward residents in the communities.

In partnership with the Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, interested residents and community members can be involved in the process of creating an asset database, identifying recreation needs and recreational programming, including sustained involvement in outdoor activities, and filling gaps as needed. Parks and recreational resources can be directed toward facilities and programs that local residents want to use, instead of investing time and resources on facilities that are underutilized.

There are several health benefits to increasing community involvement in recreation and recreational programming, especially at a time when obesity rates are at an all-time high. Physical activity can diminish the chance of disease, build self-esteem, and reduce stress. In addition to health benefits, studies also show engaging in recreational programming can decrease juvenile delinquency, providing youth with constructive activities to participate in outside of school. Through engagement in recreational facility and programming development, residents can make a tangible contribution to the development of the Lake Arrowhead communities. Their contributions would help enrich the involved citizens, as they are invested in the health and success of the Lake Arrowhead communities.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Contact residents and organize volunteers to work with the Rim of the World Recreation and Park District and serve on a recreational facilities task force.	Champion with Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, with support from community members	Month 1	Building Communities from the Inside Out, by Kretzmann and McKnight Rim of the World Recreation and Park District http://rim-rec.org/
2. Select a leader to serve as chair of the recreational facilities task force.	Recreational facilities task force	Months 1–2	San Bernardino County Regional Parks, Parks Advisory Commission http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/aboutus/parksadvisorycommission.aspx
3. Meet with community groups to create an asset database of inventory and identify recreation needs and gaps within the Lake Arrowhead communities.	Recreational facilities task force	Months 2–4	San Bernardino County Regional Parks http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Home.aspx
4. Engage with the community to understand needs and wants for recreational facilities and programming. Be sure to include residents of all ages and abilities.	Recreational facilities task force with support from Rim of the World Recreation and Park District	Months 2–6	National Recreation and Parks Association, The Benefits of Recreational Programming on Juvenile Crime Reduction: A Review of Literature and Data https://www.como.gov/ParksandRec/AboutUs/documents/nrpa-report-juvenile-crime-reduction.pdf
5. Connect asset capacity information to community groups that could fulfill identified recreational or programming needs.	Recreational facilities task force with support from Rim of the World Recreation and Park District	Months 4–8, on-going	
6. Partner with local schools and recreational programs on opportunities for additional recreation centers, mutual benefits, and capital improvements.	Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, recreational facilities task force	Months 6–10, on-going	
7. Revisit the asset inventory to reassess and update it as necessary.	Recreational facilities task force	Annually	