

Local Government Collaboration

Hamilton County Shared Services Summit November 22, 2019

Background Information

Founded: 1990

Participation: 58 Member Governments

Mission:

To improve public service delivery by the cities, townships, and villages in the Greater Cincinnati metropolitan area, especially among its member jurisdictions, through improved information exchange, cost reductions, shared resources, inter-jurisdictional collaboration, and new approaches to capital equipment and skills acquisition.

Background Information

Membership Driven Organization

- Membership is on an annual basis.
- Members pay yearly dues to participate in CLG. Dues are based on the size of a government's operating budget
- Any City, Village, Township, County, Joint Fire District, or Park District in CLG's 10 County Membership Area may become a member

CLG Services

- CLG Provides Services in 3 main areas:
 - Training
 - Information Sharing
 - Shared Services

CLG Information Services

Current Information Sharing Services

- Pay Data Tracking (100+ positions)
- Benefits and Pay Practices Benchmarking
- Human Resources Google Group
- Spot Surveys
- Best practices benchmarking (e.g. traffic calming)

CLG Training Services

Current Training Services

- CLG Leadership Academy
- Municipal Training Academy Partnership
- Justified Use of Force Simulator Collaborative
- Human Resources Luncheon Series
- Administrative Professionals Luncheon Series
- Specialty Training Series
 - 2014: Engineering for Non Engineers
 - 2015: Planning and Zoning for Non Planning Professionals
 - 2018: Cyber Security
 - 2019: Mental Health in the workplace

CLG Shared Services

Current Shared Services

- CLG Benefits Pool (Health Insurance)
- Southwest Ohio Regional Refuse Consortium
- Public Works Mutual Aid Pact
- CLG Electricity Consortium for Facilities
- Treasury Asset Management Consortium
- Internship Facilitation

Highlights: Shared Services

- Center for Local Government Benefits Plan (CLGBP)
 - Operating Since: Ongoing (Started 8/1/2009)*
 - Participants: 17 governments
 - Description: Self insured pool for health insurance. This pool functions within the larger Jefferson Health Plan pool. Horan functions as benefits consultant. United Healthcare is TPA.
 - Why a Healthcare Pool? Governments can better control health care costs by spreading risk over multiple agencies.
 Being self insured gives them greater control over administrative costs.

Highlights: Shared Services

- Southwest Ohio Regional Refuse Consortium (SWORRE)
 - Operating Group A: 1/1/2016-12/31/2021; Group B: 1/1/2018-12/31/2023; Group C: 1/1/2018-12/31/2023
 - Participants: 5 governments (Group A); 3 governments (Group B); 5 governments (Group C)
 - Description: Aggregated solid waste and recycling collection contract. Governments aggregate the cost of household collection, but have specialized services still intact.
 - Why a Solid Waste Consortium? Collectively bidding solid waste collection increases competition and drives down prices.

Highlights: Training

- Center for Local Government Leadership Academy
 - Operating Since: 2014
 - Participation: 114 alumni from 42 governments
 - Description: Six class academy covering leadership and upper level government management for middle managers who have been identified as future leaders in their organizations.
 - Why a Leadership Academy? Transition planning and the identification of future leaders has become more important as retirements begin to increase. This program will help groom future leaders and mitigate the brain drain.

Shared Services: Can they save money?

- Shared services CAN save money, but they are not exclusively designed for that purpose
 - Shared services, if deployed correctly, can enhance efficiency.
 A result of that is potential cost savings
 - It is good to think of shared services as an efficiency tool more than a budgetary tool. Certain initiatives may help your community run better, but are difficult to track from a cost savings perspective

Shared Services: Can they save money?

Examples

- CLG Firearms Training Consortium
 - No requirement for JUFS training, but officers get experience that can be used in the field

Northeast Fire Collaborative

 While there are cost savings associated with this program, the joint training and incident command protocols are an added efficiency

Deploying Shared Services

Studying the feasibility of a service

- Shared services should be studied on a service-by-service basis.
 - And then deeper than that: by comparing the smaller elements that go into service delivery
- What works for one community may not work for another
- A feasibility study needs to be in good faith.
 - Sometimes the results will say to do it, but other times they will say that something shouldn't be pursued

Planning Shared Services

Taskforces!

- Whenever CLG develops a service, we utilize a taskforce of representatives from our governments
- This ensures we are developing services that will add value and be utilized by our members.
- This also means that our governments help design our programs. This helps with buy-in.

Contact Information

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Thank you very much

