# Citizen Participation Scale

The chart developed by Jakes (1998) depicts increasing levels of citizen participation. Rate the community program using this chart pre and post community development activities. Program levels of citizen participation should fall within a specific category below. Indicators for each level could be randomized and put into Likert scale to give participant to assess perceptions of encouragement of participation.

| Level | Programmatic Elements |
|---|---|
| 1 | Non-participation - therapy and manipulation. <br>• The community member comes in for educational program and has no role in forming those programs. |
| 2 | Non-participatory needs assessment <br>• Do needs assessment using statistics and pick an issue to program on based on agency ability or funding |
| 3 | Tokenism <br>• Token community members are brought in to serve on board (inadequate representation). <br>• Program developers have a program in mind - try to get participant feedback for modifications <br>• Do a participatory needs assessment in community (to meet funding requirement) |
| 4 | Cooperative program development and planning <br>• Program developed according to participant identified need <br>• Adequate number of representatives of participants involved in committees or coalitions to address need <br>• Programmers work to develop their own understanding of community culture, strengths, diverse needs, and abilities to contribute |
| 5 | Partnership in program planning and implementation <br>• Participants help in the program planning and staffing decisions <br>• Participants aid implementation, serve as volunteer staff |
| 6 | Delegated power <br>• Participants are paid staff <br>• Program is initiated in the community, bottom up, and implementation is aided through resources from Cooperative Extension |
| 7 | Citizen Control - full ownership of community project <br>• Participants take ownership of the program as it becomes self-driven- they are the experts and Cooperative Extension resources are utilized as needed <br>• Community is mobilized to identify and meet its own needs <br>• Citizens are organized to identify and meet ongoing needs |

Levels of citizen participation in extension programming. (Jakes, 1998. Levels adapted from the work of Jakes, 1997 and Arnstein, 1969)