

As our 8 dimension of self (the person) passes through the 5 stages of life we are pushed and pulled by the 4 layers of The Village.

## The Person

## The block upon which all is built



The building block of society is the person. A community is just a group of persons who share something in common: space or arts for example. Often when we speak or think of people (persons) we speak of their group, ie, white, black, urban, suburban, rural, American or Nigerian. When we do this, we often lose sight of the person who becomes a member of the "group". But of course, we are more complicated than that. As community development advocates, as human

service providers, as community organizers, as neighbors we do well as we think of our groups (block clubs, renters, seniors, early life, etc, etc), to not lose sight of the individual person.

Beautiful and complicated, SAMSHA says we each have 8 dimensions of wellness.



#### The Person: in eight (8) dimensions of wellness

- **1. Spiritual** with a continually deepening understanding, connecting to our place in the Omnipotence and Omnicience of God *pastor Simmons* definition (Expanding a sense of purpose and meaning in life, connected to the super, *samsa definition*)
- **2. Emotional**—Coping effectively with life and creating satisfying relationships
- **3. Environmental**—Good health by occupying pleasant, stimulating environments that support well-being
- **4. Financial**—Satisfaction with current and future financial situations
- **5. Intellectual**—Recognizing creative abilities and finding ways to expand knowledge and skills
- **5. Occupational**—Personal satisfaction and enrichment from one's work
- **7. Physical**—Recognizing the need for and engaging in physical activety, healthy foods, and sleep
- **8. Social**—Developing a sense of connection, belonging, and a well-developed support syste



## Life Stages

- Early life (conception to 8)
- School age (5-18)
- Early Adult (18-38)
- Mid Life (37-59)
- Senior Life (60 and up)

Time forms a frame around through the framework of stages. As we progress strategy, the emphasis, the change. For example Those so concerned with social life (60 and up).







our lives. We grow time, passing through through life's stages the things that matter most in early life (0-8) are not security as those in late

We must honor these differences as we strive to work together on those things all ages require: Food Shelter Clothing and Hope.

As individual persons, we are impacted as we age by many forces in society. At the Brightmoor Alliance we call these all together "The Village", ranging from our parents, siblings to the President, Congress and our social norms. see below.

# The Village The forces that lean on A Person from the personal to the macro systems of society

As **individual** persons, we influence ourselves. In addition, we are most directly influenced by the

**Micro** dimension of the village: our family, church, close friends.

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Above but not directly impacting us as individuals is the **Macro** dimension of the Village: Federal Government, Social Norms and Values, in between the Macro and the Micro and individual, is the **Meso** dimension.

The **Meso layer** is peculiar since it is an area of interactions where the large social systems (Macro) and the institutions close to us (Micro) interact. Those interactions, the law and police for example, ripple down upon us, pushing and pulling. This layer of interactions and relationships is called the **Meso** layer. This view of society's systems of influence is taken from Uri Bronfenbrenner.