

## Understanding the community

**Understanding the community is entail understanding it in a number of ways**

**It is important to understand the specific community you're with.**

**You have to get to know its people.... Their culture, their concerns, and relationships----- and to develop your own relationship as well.**

*For example, an Eritrean woman may become an intensively involved member of the ethnic and cultural community of her Italian husband. Whichever community defines your work, you will want to get to know it well.*

**Know the physical characteristics:**

- **Get a map of the community and drive and/or workaroud**
- **Gather information as much as possible**
- **Describe the characteristics of**

**Taking the time and effort to understand your community well before embarking on a community effort will pay off in the long term.**

**A good way to accomplish that is to create a community description:**

- **A record of your exploration and findings it is good to gain a comprehensive overview of the community....**
- **What is now, what it's been in the past, and what it could be in the future?**

**Through these information .....via survey, interview, knowing who you should contact.**