

# Community Organizer Self Evaluation

Are there useful traits for being a community organizer? Are you well suited to community organizing? Rank yourself on each of the following questions from 1 to 5, with 1 meaning you strongly disagree with the statement, up to 5 if you agree strongly with the statement.

**1-Strongly Disagree**

**2-Disagree**

**3-Neither**

**4-Agree**

**5-Strongly Agree**

1. \_\_\_\_ I like meeting new people.
2. \_\_\_\_ I am a good listener.
3. \_\_\_\_ I am a high-energy person.
4. \_\_\_\_ I like working with diverse groups of people.
5. \_\_\_\_ I am open to new ways of doing things.
6. \_\_\_\_ I am flexible.
7. \_\_\_\_ I am comfortable with little structure and not knowing what the outcome of something will be.
8. \_\_\_\_ I can walk up to a stranger and introduce myself.
9. \_\_\_\_ I like doorknocking to talk to residents about an issue.
10. \_\_\_\_ I like to see other people develop skills and grow.
11. \_\_\_\_ I am able to stay focused on an issue.
12. \_\_\_\_ I am action-oriented.
13. \_\_\_\_ I get energized when I'm around other high-energy people.
14. \_\_\_\_ I believe citizen involvement is important.
15. \_\_\_\_ I believe that everyone has something of value to contribute.
16. \_\_\_\_ I am comfortable telephoning total strangers to discuss an issue.
17. \_\_\_\_ I have great respect for volunteers.
18. \_\_\_\_ I like to help volunteers take leadership and receive recognition for their efforts.
19. \_\_\_\_ I don't get sidetracked easily.
20. \_\_\_\_ I don't get discouraged easily.
21. \_\_\_\_ I have a strong sense of humor.
22. \_\_\_\_ A sense of humor is important when doing community work.
23. \_\_\_\_ I need a sense of purpose or mission in my work.
24. \_\_\_\_ I believe we can change things.
25. \_\_\_\_ I am optimistic.

\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL POINTS**

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## What do your results mean?

Add up your score. A high score indicates that you possess many traits that are helpful to being a community organizer. A very low score may indicate that it will be challenging for you to become a community organizer. No one is likely to rank a 5 on all of these traits. You may also find that you get a different score at different times in your career. What areas do you score lower in? These are areas that you should be aware of in order to compensate for them.

<b>Your Score</b>	<b>What it tells you</b>
125	You're a natural! Get to work!
101-124	You are outgoing, flexible and enjoy being with people. You are also not afraid of new situations. You are likely to enjoy community organizing with all its joys and challenges!
76-100	You have many of the strengths required to be a good organizer. Pay attention to the areas that you scored low. Think about ways to improve in those areas or to compensate for them. Be aware of those areas so you can plan ways to be more effective, such as involving others who are strong in those areas, practicing what you are uncomfortable with, etc.
25-75	You may be uncomfortable with the interaction required of a community organizer. Is community organizing really the right career choice for you? Are there other ways you can contribute? You may be underestimating your strengths. Take a look at the questions again.
Under 25	Rethink your interest in community organizing as a profession.