ASSESSMENT TO ACTION (A2A)

2026 IMPACT & PROGRESS REPORT

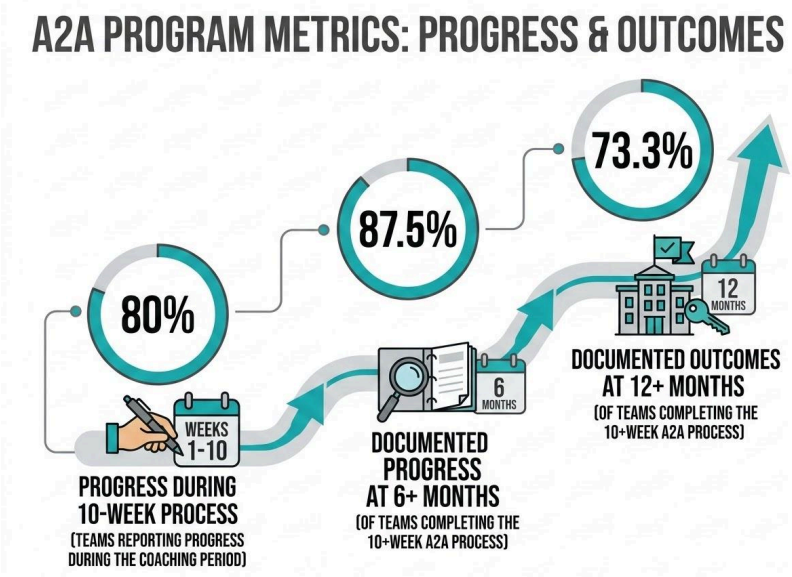
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BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES THROUGH LOCAL LEADERSHIP



Since launching in 2023, Assessment to Action (A2A) has helped Wyoming communities tackle complex economic challenges by strengthening local leadership, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.

A2A combines a two-day workshop with ten weeks of coaching, helping teams identify underlying problems, engage stakeholders, test solutions, and take practical action.



In 2026, A2A's impact extended well beyond the initial training. New teams formed, earlier participants continued advancing projects, and several communities expanded their efforts into regional collaborations. Most importantly, communities are increasingly using what they learned to lead change independently.

A2A launched	2023
Total team entries	24
Number of participants attending the 2-day workshops	135
New teams in 2026	5

Early participant evaluations also found that **100% rated A2A effective in identifying underlying problems**, 85% reported valuable headway, and 80% reported progress during the ten-week coaching period.



2026: NEW TEAMS, EXPANDING IMPACT

Southwest Wyoming — Regional Infrastructure Solutions

What began as a Sweetwater County effort to address industry infrastructure has expanded into a multi-county initiative. The team continues meeting weekly, exploring cooperative options, coordinating legislative testimony, and educating policymakers. The group operates independently, demonstrating how A2A can help communities organize around and build capacity to tackle complex regional economic challenges.



Platte County — Building a Countywide Coalition

Beginning with four participants, Platte County's initiative grew to nearly 30 people representing communities throughout the county. The coalition is organizing around business environment and infrastructure priorities, laying the foundation for coordinated countywide economic development.

Meeteetse — Connecting Housing to Community Sustainability

Meeteetse expanded its initial housing focus into a broader assessment of population, workforce, industry, school enrollment, and community trust. The team is now connecting with neighboring communities to explore regional housing solutions.



Niobrara County — Finding a Path Forward

Niobrara County is identifying practical ways to increase the economic benefit of existing tourism traffic. Both illustrate the importance of clear priorities, local leadership, and achievable first steps.

EARLIER TEAMS: LASTING RESULTS

Some of A2A's strongest outcomes in 2026 came from communities that completed their initial training in previous years.



- **Greybull:** Shifted from a museum concept to addressing housing shortages. Established BrightBlock, developed a comprehensive housing inventory, built partnerships with schools and businesses, and began regional collaboration.
- **Lovell:** Established Basecamp Lovell, a community coalition advancing outdoor recreation, tourism, and coordinated economic development.
- **Gillette:** Strengthened economic development coordination through organizational restructuring, shared priorities, and formal funding commitments.
- **Thermopolis and Burlington:** Continued applying A2A learning to local economic development planning and joined efforts toward a Northwest Wyoming housing collaborative.
- **Hudson:** Advanced infrastructure, community improvement, and economic development initiatives, supported by the creation of Hudson Heroes.
- **Sheridan and Glenrock:** Incorporated A2A approaches into ongoing city decision-making and business retention and expansion efforts.



These results demonstrate that A2A's value is not limited to individual projects. Communities are developing organizations, partnerships, and practices that can support future economic development.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING

"This process is life changing."

— Danae Bales, Greybull A2A

"What was most valuable were the relationships and collaborations built along the way."

— Katie Mullen, Sweetwater County

"City staff has used the process itself in addressing those larger issues facing our community, other than housing. I look at issues differently than before."

— Bev Leichtnam, Sheridan City Council

LOOKING AHEAD

The 2026 results highlight three opportunities for A2A: expanding countywide and regional collaboration, connecting communities through Communities of Practice, and developing additional facilitators and coaches to reach more Wyoming communities.

A2A will continue emphasizing locally led solutions while strengthening the leadership capacity needed to sustain progress.

THE BIGGER IMPACT

A2A is helping Wyoming communities move from identifying problems to taking ownership of solutions.

The strongest evidence is what happens after the workshops end: teams continue meeting, partnerships grow, new organizations emerge, and communities apply their learning to new challenges.

A2A is not simply helping communities complete projects. **It is helping them build the confidence, relationships, and skills to shape their own economic futures.**