

## VISIONING QUESTIONS WITH RESPONSES: (SEEDS by Cindy and Jim Monroe)

Per its website: SEEDS Ecology & Education Center is a 501©3 nonprofit established in 1999 to implement local solutions to global issues at the intersection of ecology, education, and design. SEEDS work focuses on place-based activities that regenerate habitat, prevent carbon emissions, develop talent pipelines for green industries, and invest in the next generation. Person interviewed was their director, Sarna.

### **1. What do you think are the strengths of Traverse City?**

Definitely its geography...the land water, resources. "We are a punch above our population weight in talent and resources."

### **2. What are some issues that need to be addressed?**

Housing, childcare, health care and mental health. Climate and weather are all implications. See the interconnections. Solution multipliers are not talked about enough.

### **3. How might our congregation be a part of meeting these needs?**

a. She recommends a Venn diagram of:

What are the needs?

What do we love doing?

What are we good at doing?

The section in the center will lead us to what we should do.

b. SEEDS uses some volunteers, matching each one with what SEEDS needs and what the volunteer likes to do...it could be administrative work, mentoring kids in a woodshop.

c. They can always use more donations.

d. They get hired by institutions to determine ways to reduce their carbon footprint

e. Maybe we could do more with organic waste management

f. We could request one of their speakers on solid waste management, perma culture, perennial planting, managing carbon emissions