

PARTNERSHIP SELF-ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Objective:

To help partners assess the status and quality of their efforts together

Intended Use:

This tool was developed to help new partnerships track their progress. It is intended for use four to six months after a partnership begins.

Audience:

- Leadership and staff of community-based partnerships

Outcome:

- Partners will improve the quality of their work together through an atmosphere of learning and self-reflection.

Context:

Partnerships take work. It's not always immediately clear what benefits will accrue from collaboration. Successful partnerships, like successful organizations, need to assess what is working well, and what is not. Only in doing so can they take the corrective actions needed for success.

The following assessment tool is designed to facilitate a dialogue among partners. It is generally helpful for individuals to complete the assessment by themselves first and then share their responses with the larger group. This reduces group pressure to agree up front. After filling out the self-assessment, group members should utilize the results to identify priority areas for improving their efforts together.

A PARTNERSHIP SELF ASSESSMENT

This tool was designed to help you assess the status of your current partnerships. Use the following scale to guide your assessment:

- 1 = we've barely done this
- 2 = we've talked about this issue, but haven't acted on it yet
- 3 = we've made some progress here, but need to make more
- 4 = we've successfully done this throughout our start-up work
- 5 = we've integrated this into the on-going operations of our team

ENGAGEMENT

- _____ We've built consensus about what the vision of the partnership's work will look like in our community among team members.
- _____ Team members have been involved in the preparation of strategic plans to guide our work.
- _____ There are people sitting at the table that our organization has never collaborated with before.
- _____ We've met with individual members of our team outside of regular meetings to build relationships with them, and understand their vision of what our partnership can be like.
- _____ We've used an existing relationship to open the door to a new relationship with an individual, organization, constituency we've never worked with before.
- _____ We've tried to "get in the back door" with stakeholders where we've initially met a road block.
- _____ We've learned new things about our community through our meetings.
- _____ Parents and other residents are actively participating in our partnership.
- _____ Law enforcement is actively engaged in our efforts.
- _____ Schools are actively engaged in our efforts.
- _____ We've adjusted meeting times to meet the needs of a diverse range of participants.
- _____ We've provided child care, food, and/or transportation to assist members' participation.
- _____ We've articulated clear roles and responsibilities for all partners.
- _____ We've created time-limited opportunities for participation in program activities.
- _____ We're sharing human and/or financial resources with partners to support their engagement.
- _____ We've drawn up memoranda of understanding regarding member's engagement in implementing specific components of our partnership.

TEAM BUILDING

- _____ We've utilized facilitation support to help us strengthen the team's functioning.
- _____ Our group leadership is skilled at building consensus among team members.
- _____ We've built structures into our team meetings so that all members have an opportunity to be heard.
- _____ People in the group feel comfortable disagreeing with one another.
- _____ We have a good time when we meet, and members look forward to our meetings.
- _____ We've created opportunities for members to utilize their distinctive skills in achieving our work together.
- _____ We've created opportunities for group members to learn from one another.
- _____ We've assigned specific tasks to specific team members to accomplish between meetings.
- _____ We've made a decision at each meeting that moves the work forward.