








COMMUNITY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT TOOL



This tool helps Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention programs reflect on strategies for identifying and engaging community partners and supporting and sustaining these partnerships over time. Use it to:

- Discover effective methods for identifying suitable community partners.
- Explore strategies for engaging and maintaining strong, productive relationships with these partners.
- Explore best practices for providing ongoing support to community partners and recognize their contributions.
- Learn how to address challenges in partnerships and sustain long-term collaboration.
- Use feedback from community partners to continuously improve program implementation.



Identifying and Engaging Community Partners


QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>What strategies has your organization used to identify potential community partners for your PREP programming?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Use community asset mapping to identify existing organizations and groups that align with your program goals. 💡 Develop a clear understanding of potential partners' missions, values, and previous collaboration experiences to ensure alignment. 💡 Conduct a partner analysis to assess the influence and interest of potential partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Tool Box: Chapter 9 - Developing an Organizational Structure for the Initiative  • Engaging Your Community: A Toolkit for Partnership, Collaboration, and Action  • The Exchange: Increase Your Impact: Creating Mutually Beneficial Partnerships with Schools 	<p>What additional methods will you use to identify potential community partners? How will you improve the alignment between your program goals and potential partners' missions?</p>

QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>What methods do you use to engage community partners once they have been identified? Do you have specific approaches to ensure initial engagement is effective?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Host introductory meetings and joint planning sessions to build trust and establish clear roles and responsibilities. 💡 Use Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to formalize partnerships and outline expectations. 💡 Create regular communication channels such as newsletters or meetings to keep partners informed and involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging Your Community: A Toolkit for Partnership, Collaboration, and Action  • Community Involvement  	<p>How will you enhance your methods for engaging community partners? What new approaches will you take to ensure initial engagement is effective?</p>
<p>How do you maintain relationships with community partners over time? What communication strategies have proven effective for ongoing engagement so far?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Schedule regular check-in meetings and progress meetings to review goals and address any challenges. 💡 Use diverse communication methods, including emails, phone calls, and face-to-face meetings to cater to different preferences. 💡 Show appreciation for partners and recognize their contributions regularly to foster a sense of value and belonging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining Community-Based Initiatives: A Toolkit for Success  • 10 Tips for Effective Community Partnerships  • How to Create an Effective Stakeholder Communication Plan  	<p>What strategies will you implement to strengthen relationships with community partners over time? How will you improve your communication strategies for ongoing engagement?</p>


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<p>Do you share your goals and intended outcomes for the partnership with your partners and ensure they are aware of best practices?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Highlight clear goals and mutual benefits as key elements of successful partnerships. 💡 Emphasize open communication and flexibility to adapt to changing needs. 💡 Showcase shared successes and collective impact to reinforce the value of the partnership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Studies in Successful Community Partnerships  • Engaging With Communities- Lessons (Re)Learned From COVID-19 • The Exchange: Building and Strengthening Partnerships Podcast 	<p>How will you ensure your partners are aware of your goals and best practices? What steps will you take to emphasize open communication and adaptability?</p>
<p>What challenges have you faced in identifying and engaging community partners, and how have you addressed these challenges?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Address potential conflicts by fostering a culture of open dialogue and mutual respect. 💡 Build capacity through training and resources to ensure partners can contribute effectively. 💡 Implement feedback mechanisms to continuously improve and address concerns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcoming Barriers to Nonprofit Partnerships: Building Strong Collaborations for Social Impact  	<p>How will you overcome challenges in identifying and engaging community partners? What new strategies will you employ to address potential conflicts and build capacity?</p>



Supporting Community Partners

QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>How do you provide support to community partners to ensure they are able to contribute to the program effectively?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Establish clear roles and responsibilities to ensure accountability and clarity. 💡 Provide continuous professional development opportunities to enhance skills. 💡 Foster a collaborative environment that encourages sharing and peer support. 💡 Provide regular training sessions and workshops tailored to partners' needs. 💡 Offer technical assistance and access to resources such as toolkits and guides. 💡 Establish mentorship programs to share expertise and support development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Partnerships Online Toolkit • Capacity Building Toolkit for Community-Based Organizations • Engaging With Community Partners Tipsheet  • Making Community Partnerships Work: A Toolkit  	<p>How will you enhance support for your community partners to ensure effective contribution? What new development opportunities will you provide?</p>
<p>What feedback mechanisms do you have in place to understand the needs and concerns of your community partners?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Use surveys and focus groups to gather comprehensive feedback from partners. 💡 Implement regular feedback sessions (in-person or virtual meetings) to discuss challenges and areas for improvement. 💡 Create anonymous feedback channels to ensure honest and open communication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tools for Planning Community Partnerships • Using Surveys and Focus Groups to Gather Feedback 	<p>How will you improve your feedback mechanisms to better understand your partners' needs and concerns? What new channels will you establish for honest and open communication?</p>



QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>How do you recognize and celebrate the contributions of your community partners?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="592 191 1035 297">💡 Organize appreciation events and awards ceremonies to recognize partner contributions. <li data-bbox="592 313 1003 418">💡 Publicize success stories and partner achievements in newsletters and social media. <li data-bbox="592 435 1031 540">💡 Provide certificates and personalized thank-you notes to show appreciation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1073 199 1457 264">• Motivating, Recognizing and Celebrating Partners  <li data-bbox="1073 280 1394 313">• Engaging Stakeholders 	<p>How will you enhance your methods of recognizing and celebrating your community partners' contributions? What new ways will you use to show appreciation?</p>

Sustaining Community Partnerships

QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>What strategies do you use to ensure the sustainability of your community partnerships? How do you plan for long-term collaboration?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="592 1026 1035 1131">💡 Develop sustainability plans that include long-term goals and resource allocation. <li data-bbox="592 1148 982 1253">💡 Regularly review and adapt strategies to meet changing needs and contexts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1073 1034 1442 1099">• Fostering Partnerships for Community Engagement  <li data-bbox="1073 1115 1358 1148">• Sustainability Toolkit 	<p>How will you ensure the sustainability of your community partnerships? What new strategies will you develop for long-term collaboration?</p>

QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>How do you measure the impact of your community partnerships on your program goals?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Develop and use specific, measurable indicators to assess the impact of partnerships on program goals. 💡 Implement regular data collection processes to track partnership activities and outcomes. 💡 Establish feedback mechanisms with partners to continually assess and improve the partnership's effectiveness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership Impact Evaluation Guide  • Partnership Evaluation Guide: Building Productive Relationships Through Evaluation  	<p>How will you measure the impact of your community partnerships more effectively? What new indicators and data collection processes will you implement?</p>
<p>What challenges have you encountered in sustaining community partnerships, and how have you addressed them?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Maintain regular, transparent communication with partners to address issues promptly. 💡 Be adaptable and open to changes in the partnership structure or activities to meet evolving needs. 💡 Ensure adequate resources are allocated to support and sustain partnerships over time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and Sustaining Collaborative Community Relationships 	<p>How will you address challenges in sustaining community partnerships? What new approaches will you take to ensure long-term collaboration?</p>

Continuous Quality Improvement

QUESTION	TIPS	RESOURCES	FUTURE STRATEGIES
<p>What role do community partners play in your program’s continuous quality improvement (CQI) efforts?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Involve partners in all stages of CQI, from planning to implementation and evaluation. 💡 Work with partners to set shared goals and objectives for quality improvement. 💡 Hold regular meetings with partners to review progress, share feedback, and plan next steps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CQI Self- Assessment Instrument • The CQI Cycle of Learning and Improvement Worksheet 	<p>How will you enhance the role of community partners in your CQI efforts? What new strategies will you use to involve partners in all stages of CQI?</p>
<p>How have you used feedback from community partners to improve program implementation?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 💡 Conduct regular surveys to gather detailed feedback from community partners. 💡 Create a structured process for integrating feedback into program planning and implementation. 💡 Act on feedback promptly and communicate changes to partners to show their input is valued. 💡 Establish a consistent schedule for evaluations, such as after every collaboration, quarterly, or annually. 💡 Use comprehensive surveys that cover various aspects of the partnership and program implementation. 💡 Share evaluation results with partners and outline steps taken based on their feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documenting Progress and Using Feedback  • Developing an Evaluation Plan  	<p>How will you improve the use of feedback from community partners in program implementation? What new processes will you establish to integrate and act on feedback?</p>

This tool was developed by RTI International under contract #HHSP233201500039I Task 3 with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau.

Suggested Citation: Albert, J. & Hull, K.J. (2024). *Community partner engagement tool*. Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau.

