

“the action of working with someone to produce or create something”
The Oxford Dictionary



What is a Collaboration?

- A contractual relationship
- Each party has an equal share of the risk as well as the reward



What is a Partnership?



MOUs

- Roles
- Responsibilities
- Benefits
- Length of Time
- Communication requirements



Contracts



Why Should Organizations Form Collaborations and Partnerships?

- To gain classroom resources
- To improve program outcomes
- To fulfill a missing piece to your services
- To create community awareness of the importance of your program

Evaluate the Data to Determine Your Needs

- Self assessment
- Observation
- Parent evaluation
- Staff evaluation
- Child assessment

Quality Improvement Plans



Assessment Tools

- Program Assessment
- Leadership/Management Assessment
- Classroom Assessment

CHILD ASSESSMENT

State Requirements/Approvals

Staff Evaluation

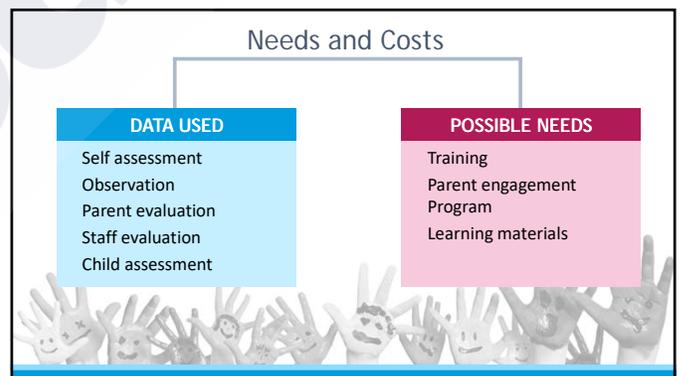
- Free resources
- In-house evaluations

Family Evaluation

- Free resources
- In-house evaluations

Take all the data and create a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)

- Improvement goal
- Who is responsible?
- Timeline
- Cost



Possible Collaborations/Partnerships for Meeting Space

- Churches
- Libraries
- Community Centers
- Senior Citizen Centers
- Community Colleges/Universities




Meeting Space Example - COMMUNITY CENTER

SHARED Events

Possible Collaborations/Partnerships for Shared Events

Libraries	United Way
Community Centers	Resource and Referral
YMCA	Health Department
Extension Offices	Other Early Learning Programs

Event Example Fall Festival - EXTENSION OFFICE



Benefits to Extension Office:

- Venue for class recruiting

Benefits to Program:

- Engagement
- Recruitment
- Food
- Additional adult support

- Libraries
- Extension Offices
- Other Early Learning Programs



Collaborations/Partnerships for Shared Training

- School Districts
- WIC
- Health Department
- United Way



Collaborations/Partnerships to Share DATA

Data Example

BENEFITS TO COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS	BENEFITS TO PROGRAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Networking ▪ Shared data to learn how to better serve children and identify special needs ▪ Eventual grant funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Networking – recruitment ▪ Shared data to learn how to better serve children and identify special needs ▪ Free training on how to use the screening tools



- School Special Education Program
- School **4-Year-Old** Program
- Head Start

Collaborations/Partnerships to Share Early Childhood Programs



Program Sharing - Special Education

BENEFITS TO SCHOOL	BENEFITS TO PROGRAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Space ▪ Meeting space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support for child(ren) ▪ Teachers offered assistance with understanding IFSP/IEP ▪ Items provided to assist with child's needs ▪ Support for field trips



Program Sharing - New Immigrant Families

BENEFITS TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION	BENEFITS TO PROGRAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Space ▪ Meeting space ▪ Identifying families in need of service ▪ Providing information to community ▪ Child care during parent programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support for child(ren) ▪ Language assistance ▪ Items provided to assist with families' needs – i.e. health/dental ▪ Financial – Grant funding



Program Sharing - Head Start

BENEFITS TO HEAD START PROGRAM	BENEFITS TO INDEPENDENT PROGRAMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Space ▪ Shared marketing ▪ Administrative support ▪ Built in substitutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase in enrollment ▪ Money for rent ▪ Blending of County and Federal Funds ▪ Save on the cost for teacher ▪ Some equipment provided ▪ Parent support and engagement activities



Program Sharing - 4-Year-Old Kindergarten

BENEFITS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT	BENEFITS TO PROGRAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Space ▪ Shared marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase in enrollment ▪ Money for rent ▪ Save on the cost for teacher ▪ Some equipment provided



- Resource and Referral Services
- Courts

Collaborations/Partnerships to Share Parenting Classes

Parenting Class Example - County

BENEFITS TO COUNTY	BENEFITS TO PROGRAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer the services in a neutral location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Money for curriculum and training ▪ Possible recruitment



Reciprocal Relationships

- Shared responsibilities
- Equal rights



- Call
- Visit
- Share your elevator speech

Introduce Yourself




Find out who, what, why, and where meetings will be happening

Bring your business cards

Participate in Community Meetings



Memberships

Participate in Online Communities



Invite others to join you
Discuss your needs

Create Your Own Groups

Know what is going on in the community
Know who has grant funding
Know organization leaders



Be in the Know

Don't be afraid to ask for what you need
Share data about your perceived benefits



Be Courageous

Even when the answer is no, you still leave an impression.

Accept that sometimes the Answer is NO

Measuring the success of a collaboration/partnership?

- Data collection
- Observation
- Financial impact



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

-Helen Keller

Resources

1. Program administration scale: Measuring early childhood leadership and management. New York: Teachers College Press. Talan, T. N., & Bloom, P. J. (2011).
2. NAEYC Self-Assessment Family Survey, National Association for the Education of Young Children, <http://www.dhcdc.org/pdf/NAEYCFamilySurvey2012.pdf>.
3. NAEYC Self-Assessment Teaching Staff Survey, National Association for the Education of Young Children, http://bpearlychildhood.weebly.com/uploads/1/0/1/3/10131776/teaching_staff_survey_-_self_assessment.pdf



NEXT webinar



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION Spring 2021 Webinar Series

What's the Difference? Culturally Responsive Teaching & Learning in Early Childhood Education

March 2021

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