Powerful Partnerships – Tools for effective collaboration

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Agenda

• What is Collaboration?
  – Our own definition
  – Benefits
  – Common situations
• Steps to a Successful Collaboration
• Ending the Collaboration
• Questions
What do we mean by “Collaboration”?
The Benefits of Collaboration

• Reduces gaps in and the overlap of services
• Enhances relationships among all members of the community
• Focuses on the strengths of organizations, thus promoting optimism and motivation
• Increases the community’s capacity to address needs
Common Collaboration Situations

• The organization recognizes a community need or responds to community leaders’ requests
• The organization recognizes that a collaboration will help it fulfill its own goals
• The process of building a collaboration is required, for example, by a grant mandate
Steps to a Successful Collaboration

- Decide if collaboration appropriate
- Find the right partner(s)
- Set preliminary objectives/goals
- Process steps
- Step back
- Maintain group vitality
- Make improvements through evaluation
Is Collaboration Appropriate?

- Is it the right tool?
Finding the Right Partner(s)

- Aligned Culture
- Shared Priorities
Setting Objectives and Goals

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."
-Wayne Gretzky
Process Steps

- Funding
- Approvals
- Resources
- Timing
- Reporting
- Messaging
- Documentation
• Contract/MOU
• Confidentiality Agreement
Sample Collaboration Agreement

Contains –
- Purpose Statement
- Duties & Responsibilities
- Term
- Termination
- Modification
- Effective Date
- Execution
Take a Step Back

• What are the biggest hurdles in launching the program?
• What are our biggest worries about this initiative?
• What’s the worst-case scenario here?
• What most excites us about this initiative?
Maintain Group Vitality

- Note and address difficulties
- Share power and leadership
- Recruit and involve new members
- Provide training
- Bring challenging and exciting new issues to the group
- Celebrate and share successes
Evaluation
Know When to Fold ‘Em
And Remember To...

KEEP CALM AND COLLABORATE