



Best practice research and lessons learned around sustaining partnerships

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*Never doubt that a small group
of thoughtful, committed citizens
can change the world. Indeed, it
is the only thing that ever has.*

*Margaret Mead
US anthropologist
(1901 - 1978)*



Strategies for strong partnerships

Have a plan:

1. To build capacity and sustain the partnership
2. To identify roles for partners
3. To monitor how the partnership is doing



If partnerships are to be successful they must have a clear purpose, add value to the work of the partners and be carefully planned and monitored.

The Partnerships Analysis Tool,
<http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/>



A continuum of partnerships

Continuum based on:

- commitment
- change required
- risk involved
- levels of interdependence
- power
- trust
- willingness to share turf



Networking

Coordinating

Cooperating

Collaborating

<http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/>

www.ohn.net



- The OHHP-Taking Action for Healthy Living works across Ontario to promote and support community based healthy living and chronic disease prevention programs.
- 37 community partnerships.
- Works toward developing healthy public policy within schools, work sites and community settings.
- Established before the Ministry of Health Promotion, this network has been a in promoting healthy living and disease prevention.



Success Indicators



1. Strong sense of collaborative partnership
2. Planning
3. Interpersonal Relationships
4. Flexibility
5. Champions
6. Communication
7. Health Unit Role



Whoas and Wows

- How is your community partnership doing with respect to these success factors?
- Identify one "wow" factor and one "whoa" factor.



Sustain the partnership

- Recruit constantly
- Keep your planning on track
- Offer training on hot topics
- Recognize Partners



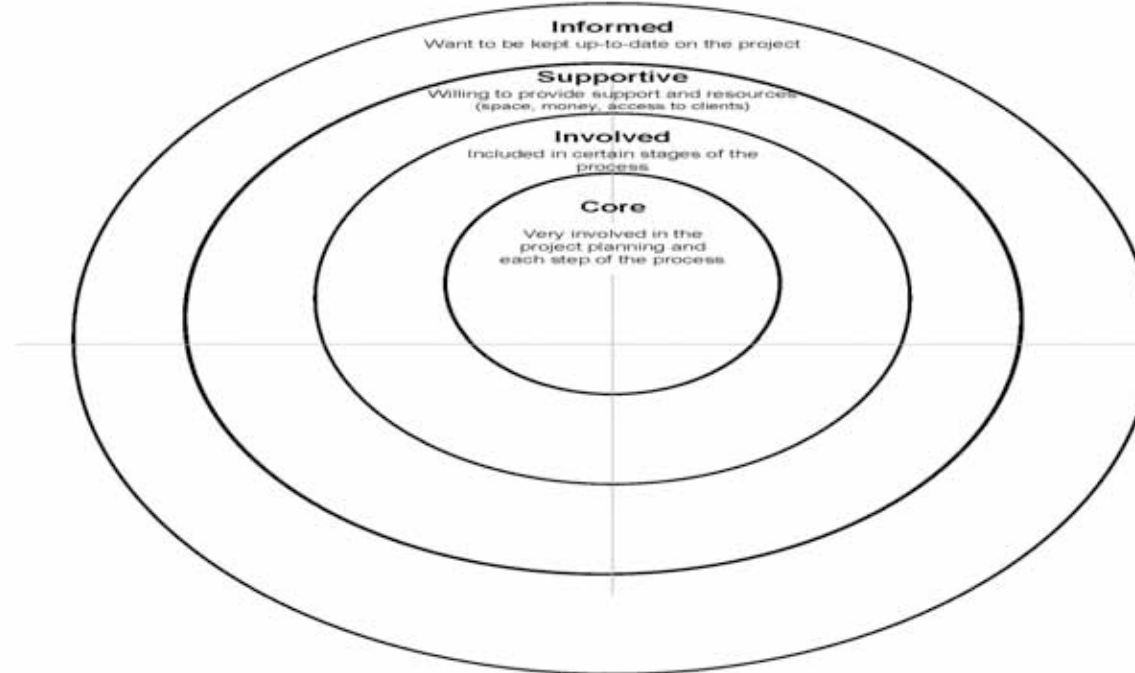


Identify Roles





Stakeholder Participation Wheel





Niagara's Partnership Form

Partnership Status:

- **Partner** – organizations, businesses and community groups who help plan, implement, or evaluate at least one Healthy Living Niagara program, event, or activity.
- **Member** – individuals, organizations, businesses, and community groups who are not able to be regularly involved in an initiative but wish to receive information about activities and issues.



Monitor the partnership





Partnership Assessment Tools

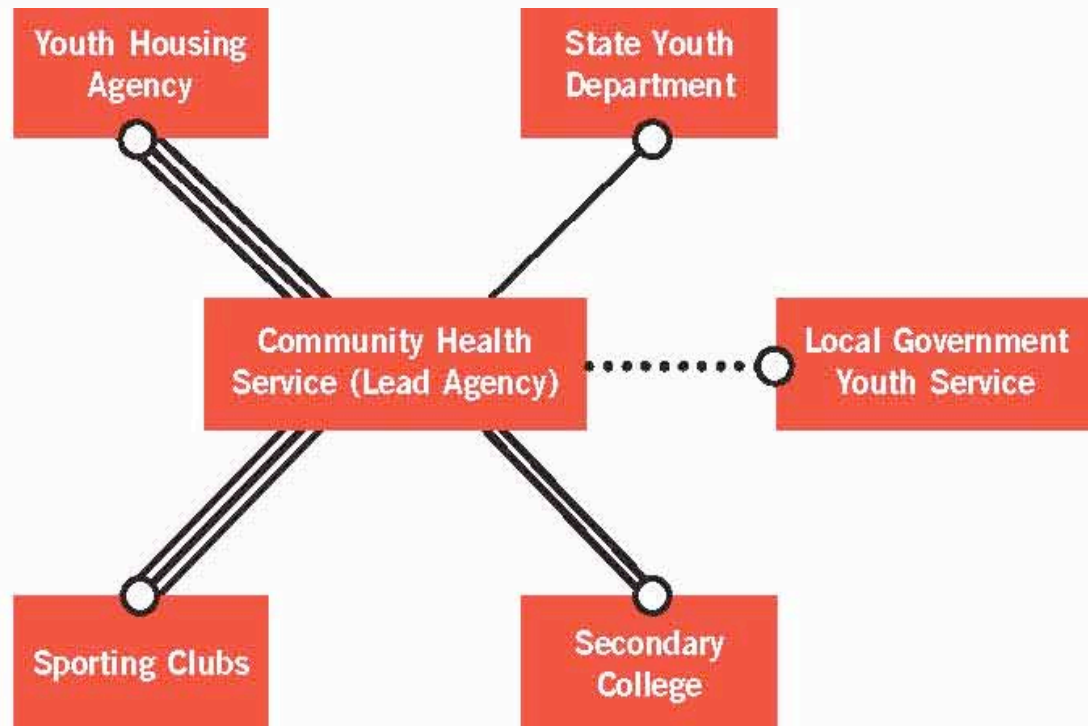
- Survey
 - www.surveymonkey.com/
 - The Partnership Self Assessment Tool -- Centre for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies
 - Health In Action: in-kind contribution from PHU Epidemiology
 - HLN: in-kind contribution from Brock University
- Mapping partner relationships



Partner Mapping

Legend

Nature of relationships between partners	
Networking
Coordinating	————
Cooperating	=====
Collaborating	=====



<http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/>



Benefits Identified in Niagara

- Enhance ability to serve the clients and community
- Acquisition of new skills, knowledge, funding or resources
- Development of new relationships
- Heightened public profile
- Enhanced influence in the community



Drawbacks Identified in Niagara

- Diversion of time and resources from other activities
- Frustration or aggravation in dealing with partners



Recommended Resources

- www.hhrc.net/skills/partnerships/cfm
 - Fact sheets and newsletters on partnerships
- www.healthycommunities.on.ca/publications
- www.healthnexus.ca/services/resources.htm
 - Tip Sheets on Capacity Building, Dynamic Partnerships and Community Action



Recommended Resources Cont.

- www.ohhn.net/content/SuccessStories.aspx
 - “Building Healthy Public Policy Through Community Partnerships” booklet. Success stories from the OHHP-Taking Action for Healthy Living
- www.cacsh.org
 - Centre for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies, including “The Partnership Self Assessment Tool”
- www.vichealth.vic.gov.au
 - The “Partnership Analysis Tool” and fact sheets are found under “VicHealth General Publications



Summary

Have a plan:

1. To build capacity and sustain the partnership
2. To identify roles for partners
3. To monitor how the partnership is doing