# WILDER COLLABORATION FACTORS

### **Collaboration in Action**

Pathways Learning Session - April 29, 2021 Carlie Houchen, M.P.H. and Tatiana Lin, M.A., Kansas Health Institute Ty Kane, M.P.H., A.S.Q., C.Q.I.A, Wichita State University, Community **Engagement Institute** 











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# **LET'S TALK ABOUT COLLABORATION**

#### When you think about Collaboration, what is most important to you?

- **Process and Structure** refers to the management, decision-making and operational systems of a collaborative effort.
- Membership group, as well as the culture and capacity of the organizations that form the collaborative group.
  - Communication -
- refers to the channels used by collaborative partners to send and receive information, keep one another informed and convey opinions to influence the group's actions.

# **OBJECTIVES**

- Learn more about the Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory
- Explore resources related to the Factors prioritized by Pathways Coalitions
- Learn about technical assistance support for coalition development available through the Pathways Initiative
- Bonus objective: explore an online collaboration platform!



### **ABOUT THE WILDER FACTORS**

- 44 Items
- 22 Factors
- 6 Topics

#### **Collaboration:** What Makes It Work

#### **3rd Edition**

Featuring: The Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory

A review of research literature on factors influencing successful collaboration

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FIELDSTONE



Collaboration is a mutually beneficial and well-defined relationship entered into by two or more organizations to achieve common goals.

The relationship includes a commitment to mutual relationships and goals; a jointly developed structure and shared responsibility; mutual authority and accountability for success; and sharing of resources and rewards.

Coalitions are collaborative groups. A coalition is a group of individuals and/or organizations with a common interest who agree to work together toward a common goal.

# **COALITIONS ENGAGE IN DIFFICULT WORK!**

Identify community needs	Enhance community awareness	Stimulate community involvement	Develop community-wide vision and plans
Foster networking and collaboration	Mobilize neighborhoods and communities	Change organizational practices	Promote service integration
Influence policy and legislation	Pool existing community resources	Develop new community resources	Sustain long-term focus on an issue

# **WHY DO COALITIONS SUCCEED?**

- Strong, continuing leadership
  Broad, diverse leadership
  Clear mission, goals, and roles,
  Diversified funding sources
- 5. ...

# **WHY DO COALITIONS FAIL?**

- Lack of compelling issue
  Inadequate leadership
- 3. Inadequate planning
- 4. Poor communication
- 5. ...

# **COALITION CAPACITY BUILDING**

For change to happen, a community must engage in a process known as capacity building, or a process in which communities or organizations work to improve their collective skills and resources.

Engaging in capacity building can improve community readiness for members to do the things they need to do for change to happen.



### **Coalition maintenance**

https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/assessment/promotionstrategies/maintain-a-coalition/main

### Why organize?

https://press.rebus.community/introductiontocommunitypsychol ogy/chapter/community-organizing-partnerships-and-coalitions/

# **CATEGORY: PROCESS AND STRUCTURE**

Refers to the management, decision-making, and operational systems of a collaborative effort. Wilder Factors include:

- Members share a stake in both process and outcome
- Multiple layers of participation
- Flexibility
- <u>Development of clear roles and policy guidelines</u>
- Adaptability to changing conditions
- Appropriate pace of development
- Evaluation and continuous learning

# **DEVELOPMENT OF CLEAR ROLES AND POLICY GUIDELINES**

DESCRIPTION: The collaborating partners (coalition) jointly develop a set of shared operating principles. They clearly understand their roles and responsibilities and are committed to carrying them out.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

- 1. Agreement on roles and responsibilities for partners.
- 2. Conflicts will arise as partners navigate their coalition role and their organization role; these must be addressed.
- 3. Ensure roles and responsibilities aren't too rigid.
- 4. Consider partners strengths and interests when making assignments.

Place a Sticky Square under the phrase that reflects your coalition's greatest CHALLENGE related to this Factor. Be prepared to say more about your choice! :)



# **MEMBERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS**

Skills, attitudes and opinions of the individuals in a collaborative group, as well as the culture and capacity of the organizations that for the collaborative group. Category includes Factors like appropriate cross section of members, mutual respect, understanding and trust and members see collaboration as being in their selfinterest.

# **APPROPRIATE CROSS SECTION OF MEMBERS**

Collaborative includes representatives from each segment of the community that will be affected by its activities.

• Engages at the right TIME

• Engages at the right LEVEL

### **MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION**

Engages at the right <u>TIME</u> & Engages at the right <u>LEVEL</u>

### What barriers prevent you from engaging with member<mark>s?</mark>





### **OTHER TACTICS**

- $\cdot$   $\,$  Review who needs to be involved in the collaborative.
- $\cdot$   $\,$  Invite key people to become partners or to participate in the collaborative in some way.
- $\cdot$  Continuously monitor whether or not to bring new groups or individuals into the collaborative.
- $\cdot$  A formal orientation and integration plan for new members should be developed

Source: Collaboration: What Make it Work, 3rd Edition, p 17.

### **KEY QUESTIONS**

- Who is missing from your collaborative table? Why are they not present? What interests and perspectives are you losing without their participation?
- Have you explored engaging some stakeholders in a time-limited, or less intensive way?
- Are people in your collaborative group willing and ready to have open and honest conversations about norms, values, limitations and expectations?

Source: Collaboration: What Make it Work. 3rd Edition. Annendix E.

Includes Factors like open and frequent communication and established informal relationships and communication links.

#### **Important for Pathways**

Transparency



#### TRANSPARENCY MODEL

#### 1/MOTIVATIONS



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#### **Open Communication**

Not just what and how much is communicated but also who is receiving the communication!

### **Communication Eco-System**

- A robust list of stakeholders
- Multiple modes of communication





Includes Factors like open and frequent communication and established informal relationships and communication links.

- Are you operating with the greatest transparency possible?
- Have you created opportunities for people to develop informal relationships?
- When you talk with collaborative members, do they have the key information they need? Do they feel like they are being kept in the loop?

Source: Collaboration: What Make it Work, 3rd Edition, p 97

### **CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PATHWAYS COALITIONS**

- Customized capacity building support for all Pathways Communities.
- **Provided by CEI or other TA providers.**
- Training topics/needs determined by Pathways coalitions/coordinators.



### **CONTINUE THIS DISCUSSION!**

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