

5 Step Pathway to Multisector Partnerships

STEP 1: UNDERSTAND YOUR WHY

Steps	Questions	Resources
<p>Develop a clear understanding of the value of multisector partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your motivations/interests to partner with community development and other key collaborators? • What are the pain points facing your institution that would benefit from partnerships with other sector players? • What is your long-term vision of community health in your region and what is your role in achieving that vision? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Power of Multisector Partnerships to Improve Population Health • The Need for Cross-Sector Collaboration • Multisector Partnerships in Population Health Improvement • Multisector Partnerships Such as ACHs: How Can They Improve Population Health and Reduce Health Inequities? • Multisector Partnerships Need Further Development to Fulfill Aspirations for Transforming Regional Health and Well-Being
<p>Build a holistic understanding of the vital conditions framework to support investment in upstream solutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which of the vital conditions is most relevant and potentially impactful in your geography? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital Conditions for Health and Well Being

STEP 2: MAKE COMMITMENTS

Steps	Questions	Resources
<p>Commit to a community engagement process that center community voice and power</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What community-based partners are already in your network? Which partners are not yet in your network? • Do you have a commitment for long-term relationship building? What would it take to get there? • How can you put the views and voice of the community at the center? What strategies could you deploy to support community capacities (analyze and use data, organize stakeholders, and communicate a community-rooted vision) • What are ways you can share power and decision-making with communities? • Do you have a community engagement strategy? What components does it entail (internal capacity, external partnerships, strategies, community governance and decision-making roles, resources to support community leadership, etc.)? • Which groups have been historically included and which have been excluded from community partnerships? Consider geography, language, race and ethnicity, religion, ability, gender, sexuality, front-line workers, and other considerations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership • Community Engagement Framework • Assessing Meaningful Community Engagement: A Conceptual Model to Advance Health Equity through Transformed Systems for Health • Promising Practices: A Companion Guide for Principles to Advance Equity through Shared Measurement • Intro to Research Justice Toolkit • Rise to Health Coalition
<p>Commit to organizational strategy that embeds equity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What capacity are you building within your institution to apply a racial equity lens to your work? • How will you ensure inclusion of all community groups, especially those that have been historically excluded due to race or ethnicity? • What commitments can you make now to demonstrate your intention to act in partnership with communities? • What are ways your organization can create, expand, and sustain meaningful investments, beyond a transactional project-by-project approach? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racial Equity Tools from Government Alliance on Race and Equity • Centering Racial Equity in Measurement and Evaluation • Build Healthy Places Network RePAIR Framework • Centering Community: Policy Process Evaluation for Equity

STEP 3: ASSESS

Steps	Questions	Resources
<p>Assess your organization's strengths and interests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your internal capacity to create long-term partnerships and who are the departments/staff that need to be involved (e.g., real estate, treasury)? Where does the authority lie within your organization to make executive decisions about community partnerships? • What specific resources and assets held by your institution might be positioned for community ownership or collaborative, participatory action with community partners? • What other assets does your organization have to bring to a partnership (e.g., unused land, grant dollars, community clinics that are underutilized, system wide funding for social determinants of health and/or vital conditions)? • What team members within your organization are involved in the community on a local or state level (nonprofit boards, fundraising committees, statewide initiatives, etc.) and could be a helpful resource to help jump-start multisector partnership opportunities? • What data can you offer to document needs and potential outcomes? What barriers can you help address to accelerate data sharing with partners as well as with health administrators and boards? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHPN's playbooks to support partnerships • Building Organizational Capacity to Advance Health Equity • Social Justice Framework for Public Health Practitioners • SWOT Analysis: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
<p>Assess institutional perception</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has your organization clearly named and acknowledged past and present harms toward communities of color? • How is your organization perceived by the community? What is your historical relationship with community-based organizations? Is there trust? Are there power imbalances? What are the strategies to mitigate those imbalances? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying Local Power Structures to Facilitate Community Development • Changing Power Dynamics among Researchers, Local Governments, and Community Members • Activities to Deepen Your Power-Building Analysis

STEP 4: MAP AND NETWORK

Steps	Questions	Resources
<p>Identify community bright spots and assess local inequities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the economic or cultural assets of the communities you serve? • What are the inequities beyond health data (e.g., employment, housing, environmental data)? • What existing power dynamics can impact a partnership? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHPN's MeasureUp toolkit • PolicyMap • County Health Rankings and Roadmaps • Rural Health Information Hub • Opportunity Atlas • Opportunity360 • Child Opportunity Index • Distressed Communities Index
<p>Map potential partners and resources in your region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are the key actors in your community? What are their strengths, capacities, and assets? What are their challenges, needs, and priorities? • Are there philanthropic, government, financial, or national organizations that could help with partnership development? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHPN's Partner Finder • Toolkit for Stakeholder Asset Mapping • Identifying Stakeholders • BHPN: Jargon Buster
<p>Gather intel on initiatives in your region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the aligned initiatives or collaboratives with a focus on social determinants of health and vital conditions in your geographic focus? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research initiatives in your area using these keywords: social determinants of health, community health, health equity

STEP 5: BUILD YOUR PARTNERSHIP

Steps	Questions	Resources
Explore shared interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What goals and vision do you share? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coalitions: Visions, Bridging and Belonging • “Where we Thrive” Resources from Purpose Built Communities
Build trust among partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can you create a culture of belonging? • How can you expand conversations about equity and inclusion, grounded in mutual values of fairness, shared prosperity? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare Anchor Network Toolkits • Principles of Trustworthiness
Develop the value proposition that shifts power to communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the sources of power and how can power-sharing be used to support communities' needs and priorities? • What are the benefits to call partners? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHPN: Principles for Building Healthy & Prosperous Communities • Investing in Community Health: A Toolkit for Hospitals
Structure and implement partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is responsible for what? • How could you use community-driven data tools and stories to reflect the lived experience of residents and allow for transparent data sharing to inform decisions? • What will success look like and to whom? Where are you ensuring the community sees your proposed outcomes as success? • How can you sustain the partnership over time? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHPN: Community case studies • Learnings on Governance from Partnerships That Improve Community Health