



## Partnerships

When we think about healthy relationship skills, we often focus on family and couple relationships. It's important to remember that interpersonal skills like communication and conflict management are equally as important in our professional lives. Effective communication is important among co-workers and colleagues. Managing partnerships also requires the ability to effectively communicate and occasionally resolve conflicts in a healthy way that doesn't damage long-term relationships. I hope the tips and resources below will be helpful to you as you develop and manage partnerships for the benefit of the families you serve.

Best Regards,

Robyn Cenizal, CFLE

Project Director



## Tip of the Month

Developing partnerships with other agencies in the community is a great way to pool resources and expertise for the benefit of families. The Resource Center has created easy-to-use [integration strategies](#) to help agencies that are interested in incorporating healthy marriage and relationship education into existing service delivery systems. Here are some tips on things to keep in mind when partnering from our [Level 2-Partnerships](#) section:

- **Selecting Potential Partners:** Consider organizations with a common purpose. A community asset map or environmental scan is a good place to start when attempting to identify potential partners serving the same population.
- **Assessing Organizational Infrastructure:** In order for public-private partnerships to be successful, there needs to be a culture of collaboration within the governmental agency and a structured environment within the community-based organization.
- **Partnership Structures:** Partnerships can be structured to be as informal or formal as desired. This could include sharing referrals, offering on-site services, or co-locating services.



## Featured Resources

The Resource Center's [Virtual Library](#) has collected approximately 1200 materials in a variety of formats including fact sheets, research-to-practice briefs, brochures, pamphlets, training resources, program reports or evaluations, and research materials.

Select the links below to view our featured August resources:

- **Collaboration Assessment Tool**  
Developed to assess the compatibility of a TANF office with Faith and Community Based Partners, this tool is a great resource for any governmental agency considering a partnership. The tool assesses organizational culture and leadership support for collaboration.
- **Promising Practices and Lessons Learned from the National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families Peer-to-Peer Networking Forum (Report)**

This report synthesizes the facilitated discussions from the National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families Peer-to-Peer Networking Forum, held in Washington, DC, on July 18 - 19, 2012. This report includes background information on healthy marriage and relationship education and summarizes Forum discussions around implementation, challenges to integration, and opportunities for

collaboration and partnership. It also highlights tools and products available through the Resource Center to support integration efforts.

- **Partnerships That Work: Preliminary Findings from the TANF Faith-Based Community Organization Initiative (Report)**

Funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance (OFA), this paper studies successful TANF and Faith-Based and Community Organization (FBCO) partnerships. The study gives an overview of five partnerships, identifying common themes, and the implications of future collaborations for low-income and at-risk families. This report on TANF initiatives will be helpful for other agencies within the federal government to assess their potential partnerships with FBCOs.



## Events

The Resource Center's [Events Calendar](#) offers a listing of Resource Center events and other national, regional, and community-wide events that might be of interest. Upcoming events include:

- **21st International Summit on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma Across the Lifespan in San Diego, CA, August 26-31, 2016**

This summit presents the latest research on prevention, assessment, and intervention techniques concerning various aspects of trauma and maltreatment across the lifespan as well as the long-term effects if untreated. Plenary and breakout sessions will discuss types of child, adolescent and adult trauma, dynamics of maltreatment and trauma at home or in the community, and the psychological, behavioral and neurodevelopmental effects.

Will you be attending? If so, be sure to come visit our exhibit booth!

- **Community Action Partnerships 16th Annual Convention in Austin, TX, August 30 - September 2, 2016**

Community Action Partnerships (CAP) mission is to strengthen, promote, represent and serve the network of member agencies to assure that no issues of poverty are ignored. From August 29 - 30, 2016, CAP is hosting in-depth partnership training during their 2016 annual conference. Tracks will include: Effective Administration and Governance; Promising Anti-Poverty Practices; Strategies to Increase Visibility; Research, Policy, and Action; and, Performance at the Front Line.

Will you be attending? If so, be sure to come visit our exhibit booth!

## Feedback and Technical Assistance

If you have suggestions or wish to speak with a Resource Center staff member, please [contact us](#) and we will be happy to assist you. If you would like to request technical assistance, please submit a [Training and Technical Assistance Request Form](#) and our Technical Assistance Coordinator will contact you.

To learn more about the Resource Center visit us at [www.healthymarriageandfamilies.org](http://www.healthymarriageandfamilies.org)

The National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families supports safety-net service providers as they integrate healthy marriage and relationship education skills into service delivery systems as part of a comprehensive, culturally appropriate, family-centered approach designed to promote self-sufficiency.

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