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TIP SHEET

Forming Multi-sector Collaborative

What?

A multi-sector collaborative is a group of organizations from different sectors with the same goal. Pushing aside geopolitical concerns and competition, collaborative groups come together to achieve a common objective. These groups enable members to embrace the power and benefits of shared aims and priorities, emphasizing collaborative effort, impact and success.

Why?

Create a multi-sector collaborative to:

- meet federal and state community health needs assessment requirements;
- advance health equity;
- solidify community partnerships for value-based purchasing and integrated care delivery;
- harness the power of the collective impact model to help advance regional goals, especially in the area of chronic disease;
- uncover unusual but productive partnerships that expand reach across sectors; and
- improve the health of your region's population.

When?

Forming a multi-sector collaborative takes time and diligent follow-up. There is no right or wrong time to get started. Embrace an opportunity to connect with individuals from other sectors whenever it happens. Keep in mind that this will be a time-consuming initiative that could take months.

HELPFUL TIP:

Ask yourself questions that require you to think outside of the box.

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How?

Formulate a succinct pitch using these steps:

- know your potential collaborator organization's mission and needs;
- reinforce each collaborator's vital role in the collective effort;
- remind them that all sectors have areas that overlap;
- communicate often that joint success stems from each individual's success — and everyone can take credit;
- emphasize that the backbone entity takes the lead in terms of focus, coordination and streamlining efforts — meaning less burden on individual collaborators; and
- all sectors contribute to the health of the community. For example, think of how providers now recognize the role of social determinants of health in patient outcomes.

Who?

Diverse representation is key to forming a multi-sector collaborative. Some of the most prevalent sectors include:

- advocates;
- business;
- city government;
- college;
- community-based organizations;
- consumers;
- faith institutions;
- federally qualified health centers;
- Head Start;
- health insurance plans;
- hospitals and healthcare providers;
- housing;
- K-12 schools;
- law enforcement;
- legal services;
- local governmental units;
- local health departments;
- media;
- neighborhood leaders;
- office for the aging;
- patients;
- pharmacies;
- philanthropy;
- senior centers;
- social services;
- students;
- transportation; and
- others.

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One Empire Drive, Rensselaer, NY 12144
1.844.328.2436 | www.datagen.info

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