

Toward a Community Solution: Fostering Strategic Partnerships to Prevention Violence Against Women Eight Steps to Effective Coalition Building Learning Activity

Objective: This exercise is intended to help you use Eight Steps to Effective Coalition Building to enhance the effectiveness of your coalition.

Directions: Considering your coalition, answer the questions to determine how you can strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of your coalition.

STEP 1: Clarify coalition objectives & appropriate activities A. What are the goals/objectives of your coalition? STEP 2: Recruit the right people B. Considering your objectives, are there additional individuals or organizations that should be brought into the coalition? Who are they?

Eight Steps to Effective Coalition Building

STEP 3: Devise a set of preliminary objectives and activities

C. What activities will you focus on? You can use the <i>Spectrum of Prevention</i> to develop multifaceted activities.
For a copy of the Spectrum of Prevention go to:
http://www.preventioninstitute.org/tools.html#spectrum
For a copy of the worksheet from the last training:
http://www.calcasa.org/fileadmin/Programs/PreventConnect/Post_forum_worksheets.pdf

D. Have you identified some activities that will result in short-term successes? What are they?
STEP 4: Convene the coalition
E. If new, how will you convene the coalition? If ongoing, how will you orient new members in joining the coalition?
STEP 5: Anticipate the necessary resources
F. How can you leverage existing resources to ensure necessary coalition progress?
STEP 6: Define elements of a successful coalition structure
G. How will you communicate the "life-expectancy" of the coalition in a way that will engage members in a meaningful way at the necessary level?

H. How many meetings do you need to hold and how long do they need to be in order to achieve the objective(s) you have established?
I. How will decisions be made in the coalition to achieve the objective(s) sought?
J. What kind of agendas will maximize your coalition's results?
K. How will you engage members between meetings in the necessary activities (i.e. subcommittees, phone conversations, outreach responsibilities etc.)?
STEP 7: Maintain coalition vitality
L. What are the positive dynamics in your coalition that can be built upon?
M. What are the problematic dynamics, if any, that need to be addressed?
N. Considering current and newly identified coalition membership, are there any TURF issues that need to be taken into account?

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O. How do you take care of yourself and maintain your vitality as the coalition leader or a participant (which ever is applicable)?
P. What successes do you have to share and celebrate?
STEP 8: Make improvements through evaluation Q. What information do you have about the coalition's effectiveness?
R. What information do you need to make effective decisions? How will you get this information?