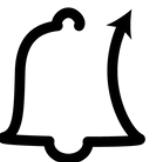


PARTNERSHIPS 101

Building Strong, Collaborative Relationships



Beyond School BellsTM
nebraskachildren

WHO'S IN THE ROOM?

In the chat share:

- Name
- Organization/Role
- What's one partnership your program currently has (or your dream partnership)?

STEPHANIE VADNAIS

- Assistant VP Beyond School Bells- ELO Strategy & Partnerships
- I love building new partnerships and fostering existing ones!



Stephanie, age 10



- A program of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation
- Nebraska's Statewide Afterschool Network
- Supports high quality, locally sustainable Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs)

WHY PARTNER?

**Partnerships multiply impact
and resources for youth!**

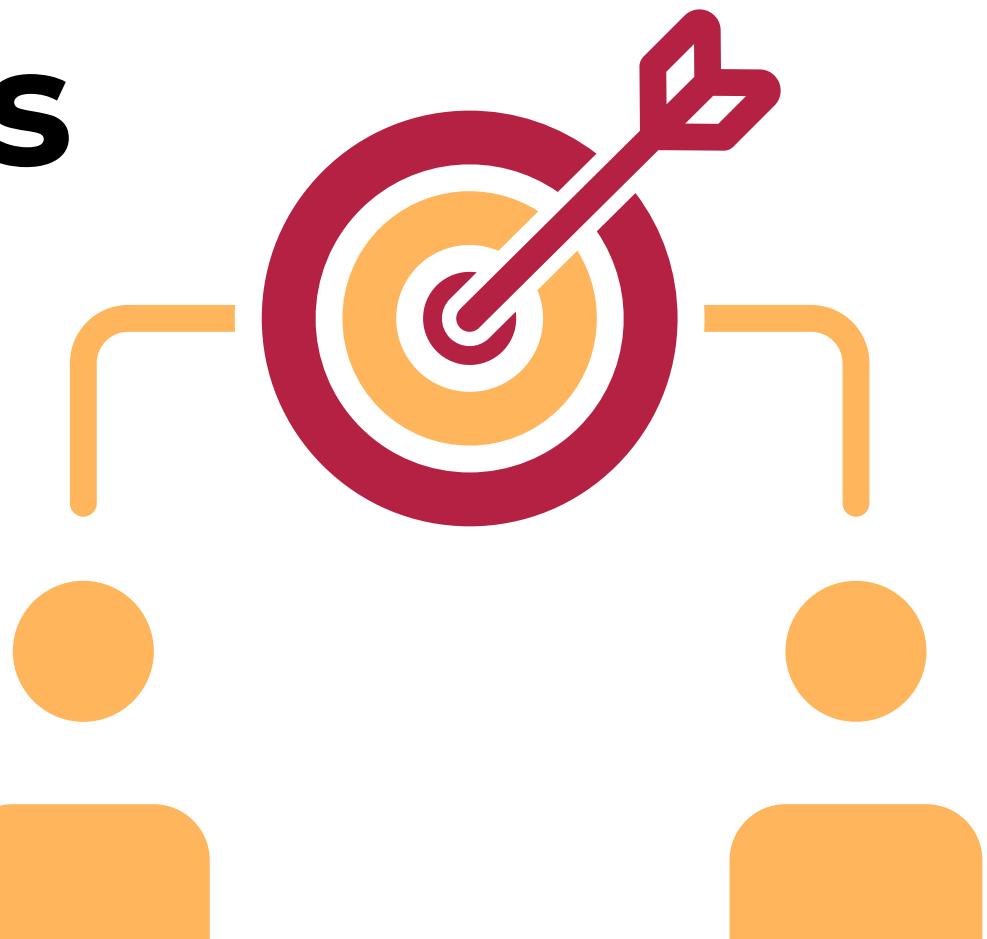
We really are better together

WHAT ARE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARTNERSHIP?

CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARTNERSHIP

1. Shared goals and values

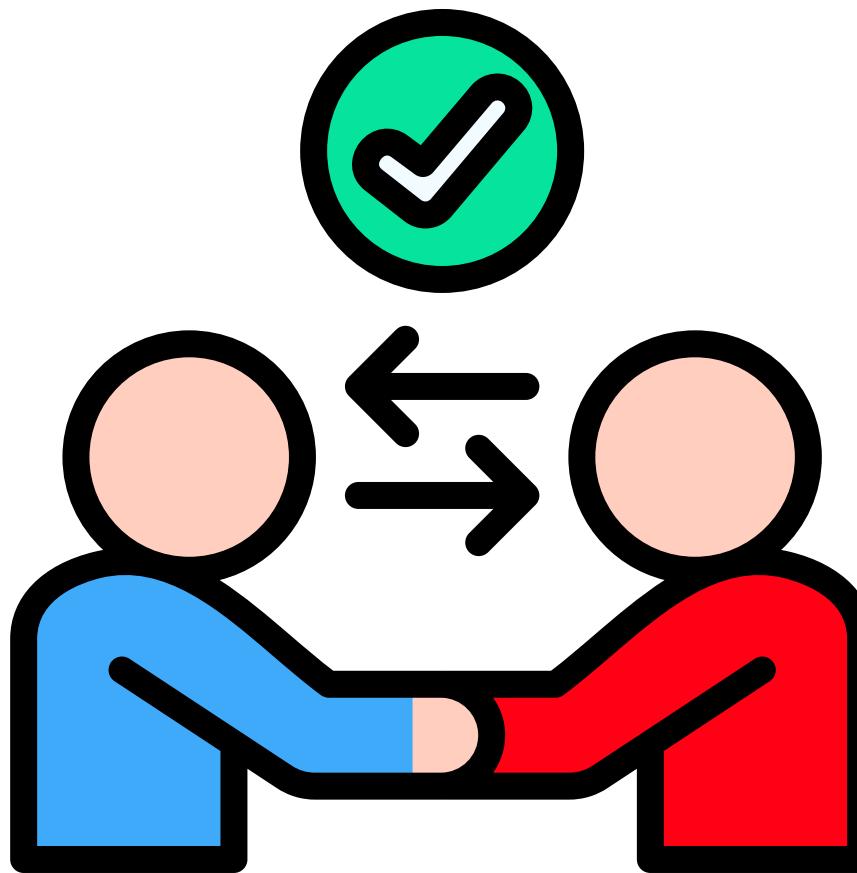
Not *identical* missions, but
compatible



CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARTNERSHIP

2. Mutual benefit

Not one-sided



CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARTNERSHIP

3. Clear communication and expectations



CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARTNERSHIP

4. Trust and reliability



CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD PARTNERSHIP

5. Complementary strengths



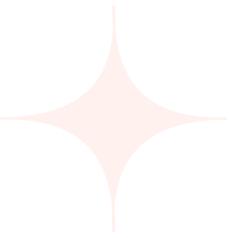
What you bring + what they bring =
more than either alone

WHO'S IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



- Use the worksheet or a blank piece of paper
- **2 Minutes:** Brainstorm potential partners in your community
- **2 minutes:** Pick one and identify- What do they have? What can my program or organization offer? What could we create together?
- Quick share out!

STARTING A PARTNERSHIP



Do you homework

Research the organization and understand their goals

STARTING A PARTNERSHIP

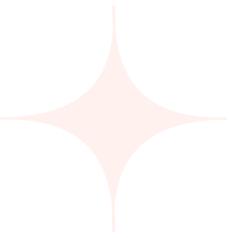
Make the initial contact



Warm introduction vs.
cold outreach

Transformative vs. Transactional

STARTING A PARTNERSHIP



Lead with curiosity



“How can we support each other”

Not an ask

“Here’s what I need”

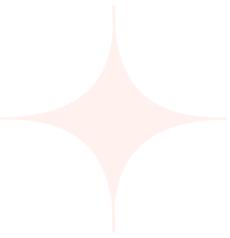
STARTING A PARTNERSHIP



Start Small

Pilot a project before making
a long-term commitment

STARTING A PARTNERSHIP



Get it in writing

Outline clear expectations and roles
MOU or Email agreement

PARTNERSHIP RED FLAGS

1. Misaligned values
2. Partners who don't communicate
3. Partnerships that feel extractive or exploitive
4. Unreliable follow-through

PARTNERSHIP TOP TIPS

1. Show up and follow through
2. Communicate proactively
3. Give credit generously
4. Think long term
5. Know when to say no

REMEMBER

You don't have to do it all alone!

The best partnerships start with a conversation. Who will you reach out to this week?



LET'S CONNECT!

Stephanie Vadnais

svadnais@nebraskachildren.org

THANK YOU!

