

ACTIVITY

Sharing Expectations and Concerns

This simple exercise at an early meeting of stakeholders is a way of learning more about member organizations. Have members pair-up with someone who they don't know very well. In pairs, spend 10 to 15 minutes exchanging responses to the following unfinished sentences:

1. The reason my organization is represented at this meeting is...
2. An important ideal or value of my organization that is pertinent to the issues being discussed here is...
3. Concerns I/my organization have about this potential partnership group are...
4. Hopes I/my organization have for this potential partnership group are...

Then have each pair introduce one another to the rest of the group using the information gained in the previous discussion. Sometimes sharing this information in the total group can provide a useful base for future negotiations and for building trust and a sense of identity.