

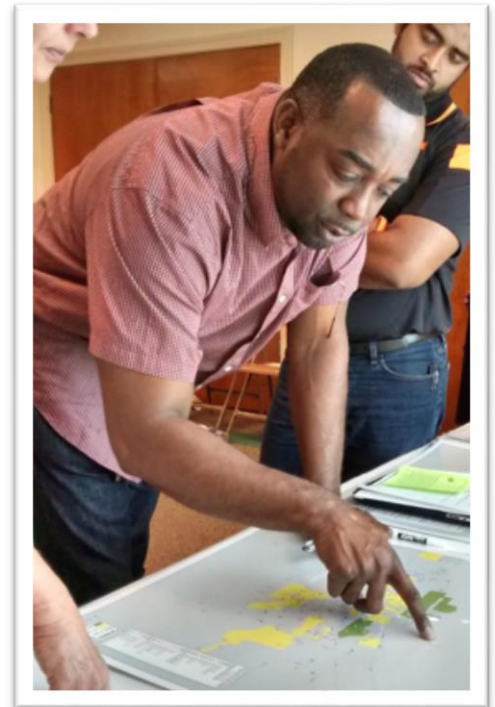


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HEALTHY CHOICES ADD UP

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Community Partner Engagement

Developing partnerships that meaningfully contribute to community-based work is imperative to instigating and sustaining successful change. Here are some tips to cultivating strong and fruitful partnerships:



TOP 5 HINTS

1. Know your partner and their history with your organization.
2. Build trust through mutual contacts and repeated engagement.
3. Give before taking.
4. Be quick and clear with requests and explanations.
5. Act and follow through. Always keep your promises or explain if you can't.



When gathering partners for meetings, the following actions may contribute to increased engagement in the short and long term:

1. Be sure you're not just "meeting to meet."
2. Find purpose! Both shared and individual (agency/organization).
3. Reference your shared mission.
4. Follow up and through (stay on their radar, but not a nuisance ... they have deadlines, too).
5. Ask about their busy vs. slow times of the year.
6. Make it easy to meet. Offer phone and video conference options when possible. You want and need them ... not the other way around.
7. Share in the joyful rewards of the hard-won achievements.