

Global-to-Local Partner Identification Tool



Issues of health transcend boundaries, as demonstrated most saliently during public health emergencies. Global solutions offer cost-effective, streamlined approaches for addressing pressing health matters such as depression, anxiety and substance use disorders. With proper planning, global solutions provide local health departments (LHDs) and other local public health organizations opportunities to quickly adapt evidence-based solutions that meet the needs of their communities.

Who Should Use This Tool?

The tool is intended to help leaders of LHDs and other public health entities including community-based organizations identify potential partners in adapting and implementing global interventions in the communities they serve.

Who Can Be Called a “Partner?”

Partners are people or organizations with a vested interest in the success of your program. Partners can offer diverse support for your program, including:

- Knowledge about the intervention’s implementation in its original context.
- Funding or in-kind support.
- Experiential and/or data-driven knowledge about the health issues of concern and the populations most impacted, including their priorities, values, and barriers to health services.
- Support in providing and analyzing data to demonstrate the success of your program.
- Access to critical resources, such as technical support and clinical or wraparound services, needed to initiate and sustain desired behavior change among those who receive the intervention.

Why Do I Need Partners?

Partners provide essential support and expertise to ensure the success of an intervention. They can play an instrumental role in aligning solutions adapted from different regions of the world to local structural, sociocultural, and behavioral concerns and norms. As a trusted source of information in the communities they serve, partners can provide a connection to the communities and audiences you are trying to reach. They also can help facilitate a health equity lens, mitigating barriers to services (e.g., stigma reduction, transportation access, etc.) for impacted and priority populations.

What Should I Expect from Partners?

When identifying partners, focus less on what you can gain and more on the synergy possible to maximize impact and provide a voice for the community.

Global-to-Local Partner Identification Worksheet

The following worksheet walks you through the selection of partners for your global-to-local intervention.

Step 1: Assess Current Needs

1. Consider your current organizational capacities and what is required for the intervention.

- What organizational gaps exist (e.g., in terms of staffing or expertise, reach, etc.)?
- What do you need your current and potential partners to provide to maximize the new intervention's success?

2. What types of partners are in your community? Which are best to implement or support this intervention? Consider the expertise you will need to implement, disseminate, and evaluate your intervention.

Partner Type	Definition	Examples
Implementing Partners	Those who will help implement and evaluate the program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intervention staff• Case managers• Clinical providers and potential referral organizations
Leaders/Strategists	Those with responsibility for strategic planning decisions for their organization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief executive officers• Board members• Original intervention developers
Advisors/Advocates	Those who actively support and/or have an interest in the program or people served.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisory board members• Community advisors and leaders
Funders/Grantors	Organizations that are vested in the proposed intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government funding agencies• Private foundations• Individual donors
Community Members	Members of the community experiencing the health issues of concern and will be directly impacted by the intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local residents• Current and past clients of a LHD or service delivery organization

3. What experiences, skills, and infrastructure does each existing or potential (new) partner prioritize? Do these priorities speak to the needs of the communities you serve? Will this partnership:

- Provide insight into the lived experiences of the populations of concern?
- Facilitate linkages to key populations?
- Facilitate access to resources to implement the intervention?

- Support other programs and services?
- Address wider social determinants of health driving disparate distributions of disease in your community?

4. What new capacities will each partner bring? Examples include:

- Insight into the lived experiences of priority populations.
- Connections to trusted community leaders with expertise working with priority populations.
- Knowledge and experience in addressing gaps in care and services in the communities that will receive the intervention.
- Diversified and/or expanded service delivery.
- Greater representation of and cultural responsiveness to the communities served.

Step 2: Use Your Responses to Questions from Step 1 to Complete the Chart Below:

- Identify your partner, noting the organization name and any contact person(s) as appropriate.
- Indicate whether they are a current or potential partner.
- Identify what type of partner they are. Partners may fall into overlapping partner categories. (e.g., someone on your board might also represent a current funder).
- Note the jurisdiction served by the partner. Are they a local organization? Do they have a national reach?
- List the populations, including priority populations, reached/served by the partner.
- Detail the gap(s) to be filled by the partner.
- Describe how your organization/health department will benefit from the partnership.
- Describe how the partner may benefit from the partnership.

1. Potential Partner	2. Current or New?	3. Partner Type(s)	4. Jurisdiction Served	5. Populations Reached/ Served	6. Gap Filled by Partner	7. Benefit to Your Organization	8. Benefit to Partner



Step 3: Move Forward with Initiating the Partnership Engagement Process

The following tips will help you maximize the time and resources you expend during outreach:

1. Rank and prioritize organizations according to their interest and ability to influence the successful implementation of the intervention.
2. Hold initial meetings with each current and potential partner on the list to discuss the intervention, roles of the organizations and how you can best collaborate to serve the priority populations in your community. Be sure to note the partner's willingness and readiness to participate and any notable facilitators or barriers to their collaboration. Below are some example questions to facilitate these meetings:
 - In what way would you like to collaborate on the intervention? Are there certain aspects of the intervention that appeal to you or do not appeal to you?
 - What populations in your community will benefit most from the intervention? (e.g., racial/ethnic groups, sexual gender minorities, persons with substance use disorders, persons experiencing housing insecurity, etc.).
 - What resources do you think your organization can commit to this intervention now? In the future? (e.g., access to funding, staffing, participants, evaluation expertise, decision-makers, policymakers, and other in-kind support).
 - What do you hope the intervention will accomplish?
 - What evaluation questions would you suggest to measure the program's success?
 - How will you use the results of this evaluation?
 - What questions do you have at this time?
3. Once you finish the interviews, adjust the ranking and prioritization of your partner list.