

## A MULTISECTORAL APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTING STATEWIDE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAMMING:

Strengths, challenges, and strategies for success from Alaska




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## PRESENTER DISCLOSURES

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**(1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:**

No relationships to disclose

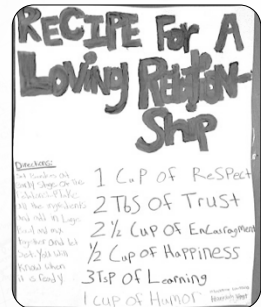


## TODAY

- Identify strategies for successful multisectoral collaborations when implementing a program or initiative statewide
- ...by way of the Alaska Fourth R Evaluation Project

## ALASKA FOURTH R EVALUATION PROJECT

- Three year project 2011 – 2014
- Statewide
- Evaluation of 9<sup>th</sup> grade health curriculum




## PARTNERS

- State of Alaska, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
- State of Alaska, Division of Public Health, Section of Women's Children's and Family Health
- Strategic Prevention Solutions
- University of Western Ontario



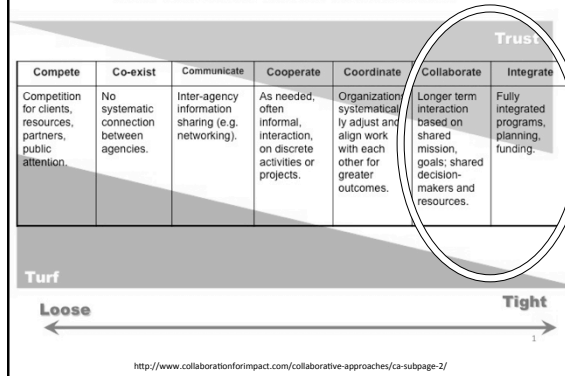
## STATEWIDE DATA COLLECTION



### WHY COLLABORATE?

- Necessary to leverage funding of statewide program implementation and evaluation
- Enabled more rigorous program evaluation
- Resulted in process that benefitted all partners within their own program priorities and funding structures

### The Collaboration Continuum



### WHAT IS A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP?

- An alliance among people and organizations from multiple sectors, such as schools and businesses, working together to achieve a common purpose.
- Collaborative partnerships take many forms, including that of our Alaskan colleagues, which would be represented as an "alliance among service agencies"

Himmelman, A.T. (1992). *Communities working collaboratively for a change*. Humphrey Institute Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

### SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Several factors determine rate at which a collaborative partnership affects community and system change:

- **Clear vision and mission**
- Action planning
- **Developing and supporting leaders**
- Documentation
- **Technical assistance**
- **Resources**
- Making outcomes matter

Roussos, S.T. & Fawcett, S.B. (2000). A review of collaborative partnerships as a strategy for improving community health. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 21: 369-402.

### SUCCESS IN ALASKA LOOKS LIKE...

- 3 years of funded statewide evaluation
- Shared data
- Additional collaborative grant proposals


"Our work across agencies on this project led to a broader project than what we started out to do – prevention is now becoming institutionalized in the state; I wouldn't think about making a decision without reaching out to our partners" - Government partner

### METHODS – How is this collaborative working?


- Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders from each of the organizational partners (n=5)
- Consistent with CBPR principles, used feedback from a consensus-building activity of stakeholders (n=8) at a meeting in April, 2014
- Interview data are being coded and themed by the authors using directed content analysis (Hsieh and Shannon, 2002).
- Today, we are sharing main themes from consensus building activity

### CLEAR VISION AND MISSION

Agency missions were different



Yet working on a project that met their agency needs



A good leader holds the shared vision

### DEVELOPING & SUPPORTING LEADERS

<b>Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared leadership can take more time to negotiate and build consensus</li> <li>• Balancing various agendas or priorities</li> <li>• Lack of clarity with shared leadership</li> <li>• Takes energy to process</li> <li>• Role clarity with turnover</li> </ul>	<b>Advantages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared leadership between agencies and collaboration for implementation, trainings, etc.</li> <li>• Shared vision</li> <li>• Roles and responsibility clarification</li> <li>• Turnover managed well</li> </ul>
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### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

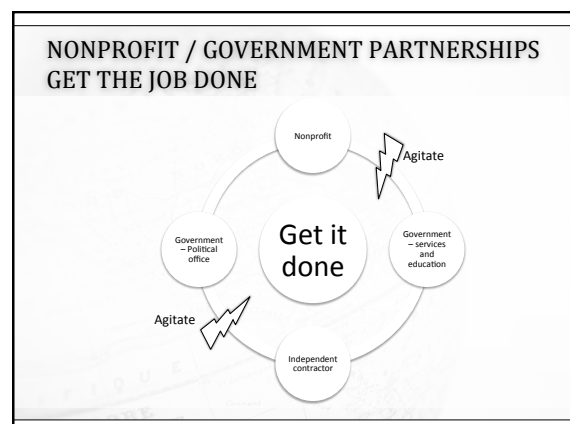
- Built in naturally by structure of the "Evaluation Team"
- Regular team conference calls and action-item notes seen as key to:
  - Keep project on radar
  - Keep partners accountable
  - Keep connected when partners in different places (and travel often)

### COORDINATION & COMMUNICATION

<b>Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes time</li> <li>• Sometimes not sure where things were at</li> <li>• Location</li> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Parental permission</li> </ul>	<b>Advantages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular audio scheduled</li> <li>• Honest communication</li> <li>• Have systems (implementation committee)</li> <li>• Shared work and responsibilities – everyone feels a part of</li> <li>• Efficient</li> <li>• Leverages resources (e.g., data collection)</li> <li>• Identified roles/responsibilities through MOUs</li> <li>• Online tools for distance collaboration</li> </ul>
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### MULTISECTORAL

<b>Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limitations on outcomes or focus on areas (including sex)</li> <li>• State politics</li> <li>• Differing levels of authority / approval</li> <li>• Deadlines / timing of funding</li> </ul>	<b>Advantages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strength for comprehensive policy development beyond project</li> <li>• Shared load and reach</li> <li>• Concerted effort and advocacy</li> <li>• Finding common programmatic goals helps frame the work holistically</li> </ul>
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## RESOURCES

### Challenges

- Travel and data collection
- Evaluation followed second to implementation
- Local staff
- GF implementation
- Political agendas (both federal and state)
- Stipulations attendant to funding receipt
- State fiscal year calendar
- Started piece meal
- Hard to know best efficiency with schools, districts

### Advantages

- Shared resources – funding, staffing, expertise
- Federal funding – PREP
- Multi-sectorial non-profit vs state spending restrictions and guidelines
- Political agenda (president and governor) – teen pregnancy prevention (ACA)
- Evaluation – 3 years of funds
- Governor's initiative

## KEY THREAD: RELATIONSHIPS

Personal relationships

Social capital builds institutional expectations



Organizational relationships

## CONCLUSIONS

- Key factors contribute lack of national success in reaching population health goals
- Alaska provides an example of a multisectoral partnership that gives way to shared public and private responsibility for population health improvement
- Relationship, relationship, relationship



## MORE INFORMATION

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