

Partnership Assessment and Relationship Profile

State: _____

Agency/Organization: _____

What is the purpose of the adapted Partnership Assessment and Relationship Profile?

The purpose of the Partnership Assessment and Relationship Profile is to identify strengths and areas of needed growth across partners serving MCH populations. This tool will aid partners working in systems that serve MCH to do the following:

- Identify previous and current collaborations among partners serving MCH
- Determine the broad strengths and barriers to collaborations
- Create a plan to build on partnership-related strengths and address identified barriers

Ultimately, this tool will enable partners to align their individual efforts and collaboratively work together to improve MCH systems.

Who should complete the Partnership Assessment and Relationship Profile?

This Profile is designed to be completed by members of a **single organization**, e.g., state Medicaid, a single health plan, or the Title V program, to identify and assess collaborations with partner organizations. *If multiple organizations are convened together, have all organizations complete the Profile individually and then all stakeholders will share their answers with their state partners to strategically plan a course of action to address MCH systems.*

How do I complete the Partnership Assessment and Relationship Profile?

This tool is to be completed from the perspective of your affiliation and/or organization and should be used to assess the partners and collaborators you have identified. This allows you to identify common areas of work, discuss strengths and barriers to partnerships and develop a plan of action to improve your partnerships. Select a partner you wish to engage, list previous and current collaborations with the selected partner in the Shared Ventures column. Using the Five Levels of Collaboration¹ scale below, measure this partnership with the following characteristics in mind:

- **No Interaction** at all
- **Networking**: aware of organization; loosely defined roles; little communication; all decisions made independently
- **Cooperation**: provide information to each other; somewhat defined roles; formal communication; all decisions made independently
- **Coordination**: share information and resources; defined roles; frequent communication; some shared decision making
- **Coalition**: share ideas; share resources; frequent and prioritized communication; all members have a vote in decision making
- **Collaboration**: members belong to one system; frequent communication is characterized by mutual trust; consensus is reached on all decisions

¹ Frey, B., Lohmeier, J., Lee, S., Tollefson, N. (2006) Measuring Collaboration Among Grant Partners. *American Journal of Evaluation*, 27, 383.
http://www.signetwork.org/content_page_assets/content_page_68/MeasuringCollaborationAmongGrantPartnersArticle.pdf

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Using the designated columns, provide brief descriptions of unique strengths and specific barriers to your partnership. Using the last column, think about potential action steps needed to harness your strengths and overcome challenges to improve the system of care for MCH populations.

Partner, e.g., Medicaid, Family Orgs	Shared Ventures: Previous & Current Collaborations	Rank Partnership <i>Use Scale Below</i>	Describe Unique Strengths of Partnership	Describe Specific Barriers to Partnership	Addressing Barriers: Action Steps
		<input type="checkbox"/> No Interaction <input type="checkbox"/> Networking <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation <input type="checkbox"/> Coordination <input type="checkbox"/> Coalition <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration			
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