# **Community Systems for Prevention**

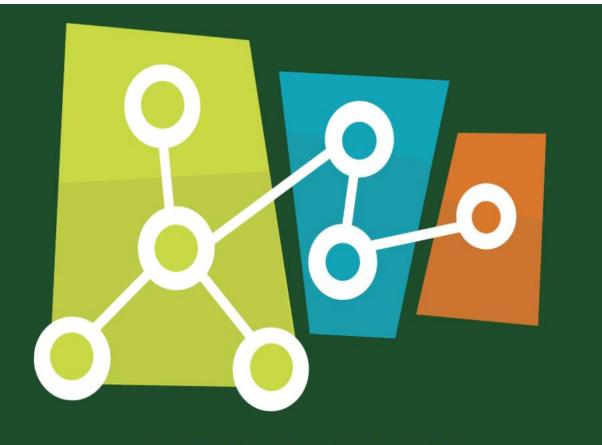
David MacPhee Colorado State University Prevention Research Center "Many of the problems that affect the health and well-being of people in communities ... cannot be solved by any person, organization, or sector working alone."





Why do communities need to be active partners in prevention research?

Key ingredients of community-based programs' long-term, strong effects?



#### LEARN. PLAN. ACT. TOGETHER



**Community-based** participatory research: Engagement **Needs Assessment Available Resources Sustainability** 





### Community Buy-In & Readiness

Activate a Coalition Linkages to Infrastructures Shared Intervention Goals & Resources

Extension: A Key Linking Agent Community Delivery Systems PROSPER & Communities That Care

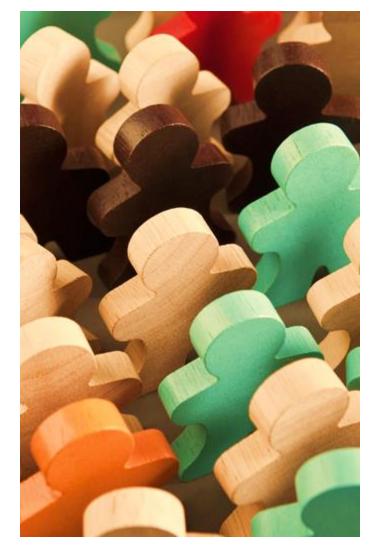


### Attributes of Effective Community Systems

Trust & mutual self-interest Clearly defined, manageable goals Infrastructure & tech expertise Effective leadership Long-term partnerships Financial resources Lessons RE resources (PROSPER)

## **Skills & Knowledge Essential to Collaboration**

- Respect, conflict resolution, embrace diversity.
- Skills/knowledge to build effective programs—of local community, of prevention science.
- Leadership skills + a champion/advocate.
- Community X Extension X University
- Foster-Fishman et al.: 67 "critical skills!"
- Equally long list of methods to promote them

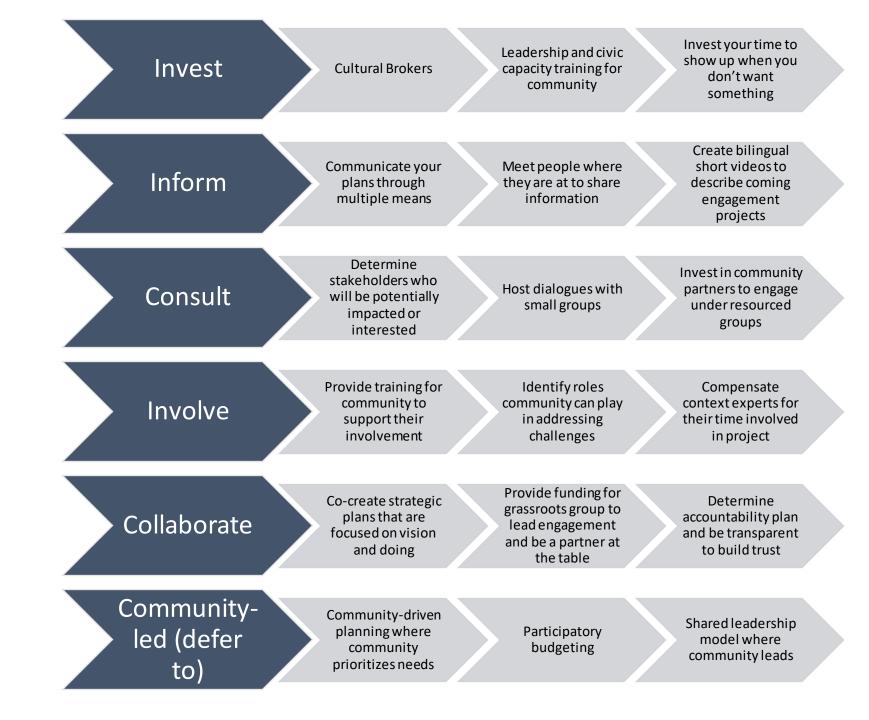


#### **Community Conversations Key to Community Resilience**

"Communities with robust social networks often have a greater ability to coordinate disaster recovery, and as such, the interaction among human and social capital is key to resilience." Anita Chandra 2020

Partnering with Community

Adapted from the Spectrums of Engagement created by IAP2 and Rosa González, *Facilitating Power* 



#### **Lessons From a Community-University Engagement Center**

- Articulate a vision & common purpose but ...
- Boundary spanning but... turf, jargon, hierarchy
- Distribution of power; equal participation
- Commitment, accountability, rewards
- Mutual respect, flexibility
- Provide partners with useful services readable research summaries re local needs, grant opportunities, professional development





## Partnership-Related Benefits

Collaboration across contexts = more effective in communities Contributes to practice-based research



#### **Create a Culture of Collaboration**

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