



Community Coalitions

Ways to Collaborate with
Community Coalitions

[What is a Coalition?]

“A formal arrangement for cooperation and collaboration between groups or sectors of a community, in which each group retains its identity but all agree to work together toward a common goal of building a safe, healthy and drug-free community”.

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)

www.cadca.org

[What do they do?]

- Create community partnerships
- Focus on community problems
- Involve multiple sectors in the community
- Utilize multiple strategies to reach everyone in the community

[How do they work?]

- No perfect model
- It depends on the community
- They work best if they are “collaborative”

[What is collaboration?]

- Learning to work with others
- Convincing others to work with you
- Not doing the job alone
- Getting results

[Collaboration Continuum]

- **Communication** – Sharing information
- **Coordination** – Getting different groups to do parts of your task

[Collaboration Continuum]

- **Cooperation** – Deciding the agenda together and dividing the work
- **Collaboration** – Sharing ideas and decisions equally so that interests of each group are accomplished

[Collaboration Advantages]

- Encourages ownership of the activity
- Builds trust
- Eliminates turf issues
- Empowers the individuals, the organizations they represent and the community

[Collaboration Difficulties]

- It takes time
- Conflict must be faced directly
- Leaders must leave their egos at the door
- Everyone must see the good for the community, not just their organization

[Sample Activities]

- Choose Wisely
- Jam Fest
- Rochester Villas Summer Camp
- Internet Safety Town Hall
- Press Releases
- Budget Line Item

[Final thoughts]

- *It's not who is in the room that matters, but what they do that counts*
- *We can't do the job alone*
- Prevention pays
(For every \$1 spent on prevention you can save \$7 in law enforcement, healthcare, and treatment costs.)



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