**Partnership readiness questionnaire[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Why this questionnaire?**

This questionnaire is not mandatory. However, **assessing your readiness for community partnerships** allows you to consider your individual and Program strengths and limitations. Answering these questions will put you in a better position to know what you can, and you cannot offer to your community, and what gaps need to be filled by your Program.

As part of this, you may identify possible barriers or challenges to the relationship-building process. So, in the following stages, you will be prepared to LISTEN to your potential partners’ voices and jointly choose the best path toward a mutually beneficial partnership. This tool will help you reflect on your readiness to move forward.

**Guidelines**

Below is a list of questions to consider to help you assess your personal and organizational readiness to form a partnership. Answer each of the questions below twice, first from your perspective and then from your Program's perspective.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Question | Yes | No | I do not know |
| 1. Are you genuinely interested in and committed to the community partnership?
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Why do you want to form a community partnership?
2. Meet a community partner to meet funding requirements.
3. Need to recruit individuals from marginalized populations for a study.
4. Need credibility that may come from partnering with others.
5. Need resources that come with the partnership.
6. Other:
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Does your mission, culture, and priorities encourage, support, and recognize the value of partnerships?
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Do you have a previous history of working with the community? Is this a positive one?
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Do you know about the community (for example, culture, norms, politics, and socio-demographic characteristics?)
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Do you have existing relationships with the community?
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Do you have the time to engage the community and form a partnership?
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Do you have the skills to begin and sustain a partnership?

(Check one or more)1. *Communication*. Ability to provide and receive feedback. Strong listening skills. Ability to be a clear and effective verbal and non-verbal communicator.
2. *Cultural competence*. It is a set of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that allows you to work effectively with diverse social groups.
3. *Cultural humility*. It is a lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and self-critique to sustain mutually respectful partnerships with communities.
4. Ability to share power and control over decisions.
5. Group facilitation and interpersonal skills.
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Can you contribute any of the following to the partnership:
2. Staff and? or volunteers
3. In-kind resources (e.g., meeting space, technology)
4. Connections to key community leaders and resources
5. Knowledge of the issues/topics to be addressed.
6. Training and technical assistance
7. Other (e.g., financial resources)
 |  |  |  |
| 1. What are the potential benefits of a community partnership for your Program and project?
 |  |
| 1. What are the benefits of the partnership to the community?
 |  |

1. This assessment was developed by the GENE Project (2007). More information can be found at Making Community Partnerships work: a toolkit. https://aapcho.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Giachello-MakingCommunityPartnershipsWorkToolkit.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)