

Service Partners

Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (KACCRRRA)

Kansas Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (KAIMH)

Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL)

Kansas Division for Early Childhood (KDEC)

Kansas Head Start Association (KHSA)

Kansas Parents as Teachers Association (KPATA)

Evaluation Partner

University of Kansas (KU)

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION ASSESSMENT PROCESS (C)

This set of three assessment tools is designed to help communities and teams to measure three dimensions of collaboration and partnership that are important to early childhood services. When used together, these tools provide for a powerful, multi-dimensional assessment of a number of system-related factors. These dimensions include:

- **Dimension 1:** Levels of Collaboration Scale ¹ (essentially, this is related to the structure of your collaborative, how people communicate, awareness, and decision-making, etc.)
- **Dimension 2:** Partnership Assessment Tool ² (this measures the culture of your collaborative such as beliefs, values, etc.)
- **Dimension 3:** Focus of Services Scale ³ (this focuses on whether the collaborative has a comprehensive and integrated system of services and how these services are focused)

Directions:

- 1. On the following pages please take the time to complete the various assessment tools.**
- 2. Teams should decide on one person to record consensus votes, and arrive at consensus scores for each item.**
- 3. Each item gets only one score.**
- 4. There is room on each item to document strengths and opportunities for improvement.**

The information from this set of tools will form the foundation of the team's planning work later in the day.

Thank you

The Kansas Early Learning Collaborative

LEVELS OF COLLABORATION SCALE *

Awareness and Information Sharing					
0	1	2	3	4	5
No interaction	Most people are aware of community agencies	Agencies provide each other with information	Agencies share information and resources	Agencies share ideas, information and resources	Members belong to one system
Strengths			Opportunities for Improvement		

Professional Roles					
0	1	2	3	4	5
No interaction	Roles are loosely defined	Roles are somewhat defined	Roles are clearly defined	Roles are clearly defined and integrated	Members belong to one system
Strengths			Opportunities for Improvement		

Communication					
0	1	2	3	4	5
No interaction	Little communication	Formal communication	Frequent communication	Frequent and prioritized communication	Frequent communication characterized by trust
Strengths			Opportunities for Improvement		

Decision-Making					
0	1	2	3	4	5
No interaction	All decisions are made independently	All decisions are made independently	Some shared decision-making	All members have a vote in decision-making	Consensus is reached on all decisions
Strengths			Opportunities for Improvement		

PARTNERSHIP ASSESSMENT SCALE

Principle 1: Recognize and Accept the Need for the Partnership

Scoring Scale

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1

To what extent do you agree with each of the following six statements?	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been substantial past achievements within the partnership. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The factors associated with successful working are known and understood. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principal barriers to successful partnership working are known and understood. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent to which partners engage in partnership (working voluntarily or under pressure) is recognized and understood. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a clear understanding of partners' interdependence in achieving some of their goals. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is mutual understanding of those areas of activity where partners can achieve some goals by working independently of each other. 		
Scores Total		

Principle 2: Develop Clarity and Realism of Purpose

Scoring Scale

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1

To what extent do you agree with each of the following six statements?	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our partnership has a clear vision, shared values and agreed service principles. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have clearly defined joint aims and objectives. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These joint aims and objectives are realistic. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership has defined clear service outcomes. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reason why each partner is engaged in the partnership is understood and accepted. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have identified where early partnership success is most likely. 		
Scores Total		

Principle 3: Ensure Commitment and Ownership

Scoring Scale

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1

To what extent do you agree with each of the following six statements?	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a clear commitment to partnership working from the most senior levels of each partnership organization. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is widespread ownership of the partnership across and within all partners. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to partnership working is sufficiently robust to withstand most threats to its working. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership recognizes and encourages networking skills. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership is not dependent for its success solely upon these individuals. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not working in partnership is discouraged and dealt with. 		
Scores Total		

Principle 4: Develop and Maintain Trust

Scoring Scale

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1

To what extent do you agree with each of the following six statements?	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The way the partnership is structured recognizes and values each partner's contribution. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The way the partnership's work is conducted appropriately recognizes each partner's contribution. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits derived from the partnership are fairly distributed among all partners. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is sufficient trust within the partnership to survive any mistrust that arises elsewhere. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of trust within the partnership are high enough to encourage significant risk-taking. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership has succeeded in having the right people in the right place at the right time to promote partnership working. 		
Scores Total		

Principle 5: Create Clear and Robust Partnership Agreements

Scoring Scale

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1

To what extent do you agree with each of the following six statements?	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is clear what financial resources each partner brings to the partnership. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resources, other than finance, each partner brings to the partnership are understood and appreciated. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each partner's areas of responsibility are clear and understood. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are clear lines of accountability for the performance of the partnership as a whole. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational partnership arrangements are simple, time-limited and task-oriented. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership's principal focus is on process, outcomes and innovation. 		
Scores Total		

Principle 6: Monitor, Measure and Learn

Scoring Scale

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1

To what extent do you agree with each of the following six statements?	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership has clear success criteria in terms of both service goals and the partnership itself. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership has clear arrangements effectively to monitor and review how successfully its service aims and objectives are being met. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are clear arrangements effectively to monitor and review how the partnership itself is working. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are clear arrangements to ensure that monitoring and review findings are, or will be, widely shared and disseminated amongst the partners. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership successes are well communicated outside of the partnership. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are clear arrangements to ensure that partnership aims, objectives and working arrangements are reconsidered and, where necessary, revised in the light of monitoring and review findings. 		
Scores Total		

FOCUS OF SERVICES SCALE

<u>Effective Workforce</u>: The partnership has an effective workforce capable of meeting focusing on the needs of children and families (circle the score that best describes your consensus).			
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1
Strengths		Opportunities for Improvement	

<u>Nurturing and Responsive Relationships</u>: Members of the partnership focus on building and sustaining nurturing and responsive relationships between and with children and families (circle the score that best describes your consensus).			
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1
Strengths		Opportunities for Improvement	

<u>High Quality Supportive Environments:</u> The partnership agencies focus on building and sustaining high quality and supportive environments for children, families, and staff (circle the score that best describes your consensus).			
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1
Strengths		Opportunities for Improvement	

<u>Targeted Social/Emotional Supports:</u> The partnership has the resources to provide high quality targeted supports to children and families (circle the score that best describes your consensus).			
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1
Strengths		Opportunities for Improvement	

Intensive Interventions: The partnership has the resources to provide high quality intensive interventions to children and families for challenging needs.			
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4	3	2	1
Strengths		Opportunities for Improvement	

1. Frey, B.B., Lohmeier, J.H., Lee, S.W., and Tollefson, N. (2006). Measuring collaboration among grant partners. *American Journal of Evaluation*, 27(3), 383-392).
2. Hardy, B., Hudson, B. and Waddington E. (2000). *What makes a Good Partnership? A Partnership Assessment Tool*. Leeds: Nuffield Institute for Health.
3. Adapted from the Pyramid Model of Partnership from the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL), Office of Head Start and the Child Care Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.