



# TOWARD COMMON GROUND: BASELINE EVALUATION FINDINGS

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### DESCRIPTION

Toward Common Ground (TCG) is a collaborative initiative in Guelph-Wellington that champions and/or supports strategic action in the social and health service sector. Toward Common Ground is comprised of 14 partners from the social and health services sector.

This project was an evaluation of the functioning and impact of Toward Common Ground. We were particularly interested in the perspective of participants in terms of what practice will look like when the partners are working together intentionally and strategically to:

1. Understand the issues and/or needs of a population
2. Address the issues and/or needs of a population
3. Strengthen our ability for meaningful impact

Quantitative methods (Partnership Self-Assessment Tool Questionnaire (PSAT); Weiss et al., 2002) and qualitative methods (open-ended questions) were used to collect data. The PSAT included several questions that were answered on a 5-point scale (extremely well, very well, somewhat well, not so well, and not well at all). The qualitative section involved participants' responses to seven open-ended questions pertaining to processes and outcomes of working together, challenges in implementing the work of TCG, hopes for the project, and unexpected outcomes from TCG's work to date.



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## IMPACT

The goal of this evaluation was to assess the baseline collaborative partnerships within the TCG initiative, and to examine the progress of the TCG partners in working more strategically and intentionally together to create meaningful impact within our community. This project collected baseline data from the active TGC participants. Baseline information aids in the identification of gaps, barriers, and challenges of the TCG initiative. Knowledge of such issues is crucial in making progress to meet our goal of strategically working together to understand, address, and strengthen our ability for meaningful impact in the community.

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