FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW OF COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY CHANGE

Many individuals, organizations, and networks have turned to collaboration in order to enhance their effectiveness and better address complex social issues.

Service collaboration may be best understood as existing on a continuum ranging from low to high levels of integration among agencies.

Collaboration can, therefore, be distinguished from other forms of cooperation in that it involves a shared, collectively-defined vision and responsibility for achieving outcomes, and equal distribution of leadership among members who maintain their own identities and organizational independence outside of the collaboration.

Comprehensive Community Initiatives (CCIs)

- One form of collaboration that works comprehensively across geographical, social, and economic areas and across individual and systemic levels to build community and to address complex community issues.

CCIs...

1. Consider all stakeholders’ perspectives and relationships in developing their activities.

2. Enhance the ability to create large-scale change by collaborating across organizations, systems, and areas of activity, including sharing resources, perspectives, and expertise.