

# Developing Community Collaborations

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# Course Purpose

**To prepare you to establish Collaborative relationships that contribute to coordinated disaster response and meet the needs of the people who have been affected by the disaster.**

# If ...

- You needed to act as a liaison TODAY for a community collaboration, how confident would you be to do the job?
- Scale of 1 – 5
  - » 1 = Hesitate
  - » 3 = Confident
  - » 5 = Eager



# Collaboration

**Process whereby several agencies and/or organizations make a formal, sustained commitment to work together to accomplish a common mission.**

# Collaboration ...

- Requires Commitment
- Agreement to share decision-making & allocation of resources
- Structure – how to plan & act together

# Collaboration ...

- **Style of work – deliberately deciding to do things together as a whole**
- **Sense of community – Complementary & Mutually supportive contributors to the whole community & not as competitors**

# Liaison Definition

- **The Contact or connection maintained between organizations in order to ensure concerted action, cooperation, etc.**

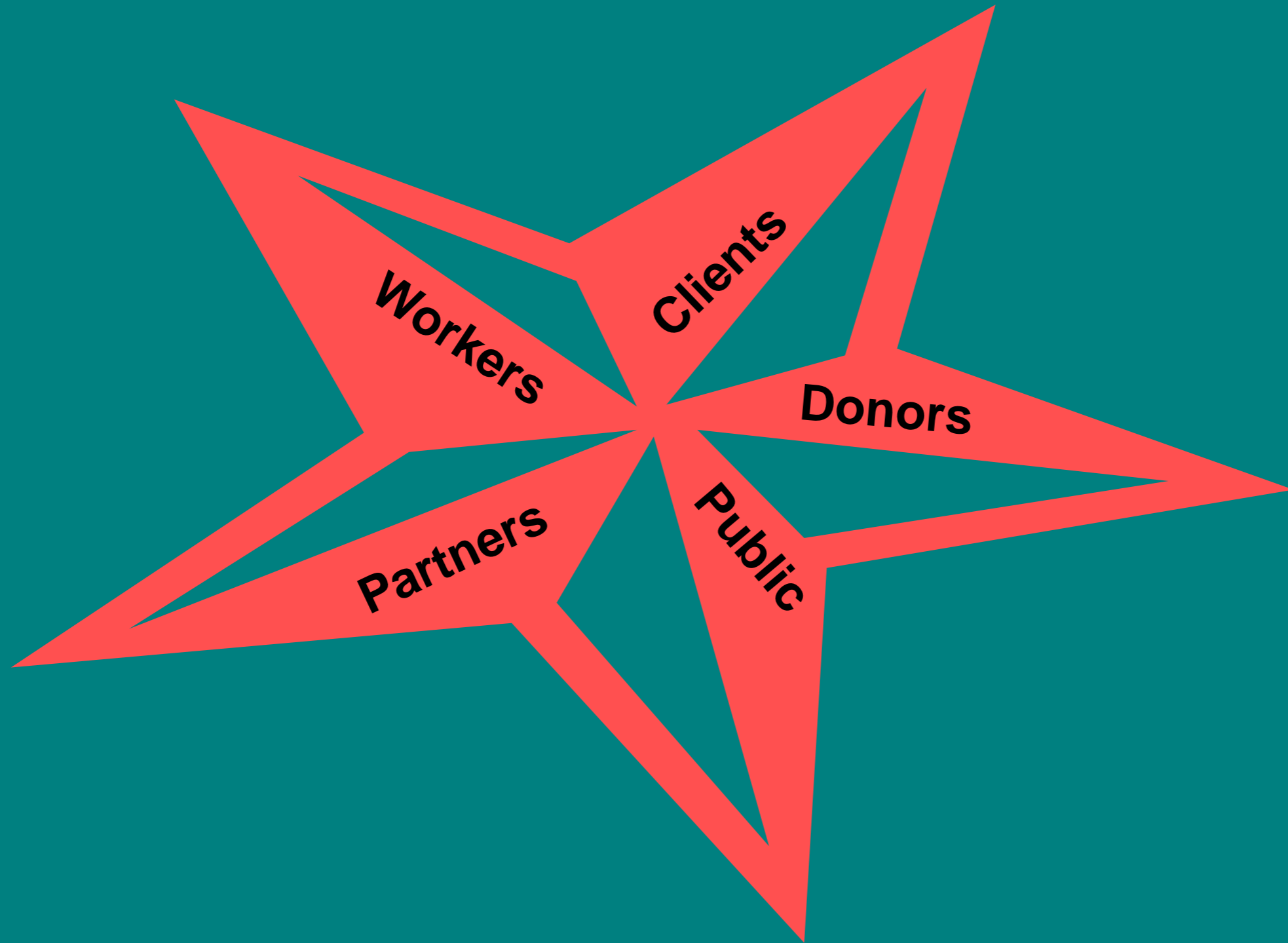
# Roles of the Liaison Activity

- **Ambassador: Representative**
- **Advisor: Facilitates decision-making**
- **Firefighter: Resolves acute problems**
- **Arbitrator: Mediator**
- **Problem-solver: Uses resources to assist in-depth problem-solving**
- **Intelligence officer: Sleuth**

# GROUP ACTIVITY

- **What if there wasn't a person to play this role?**
- **What if we selected an inappropriate role for the liaison?**

# Stakeholders



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# Four Phases of Disaster



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

**Why is collaboration important to  
Emergency Management?**

- **Single Family Fires**
- **Resources Management**
- **Community Recovery**
- **Community Mitigation**
- **Community Preparedness**

# *Why Do It?*

## **Benefits of a Collaboration**

- **Combine efforts of many, often in the face of scarce resources**
- **Opportunities to share resources**
- **Better understanding of your community needs**

# *Why Do It?*

## **Benefits of a Collaboration**

- **Multiplying beyond One**
- **Greater chance of mobilizing larger segments of the community to affect change**
- **Brings diverse opinions together**
- **Other Benefits?**

# Let's name five ways an organization can kill a Collaboration...

# Barriers to Effective Collaboration

- **Negative past experience with collaboration efforts**
- **Difficult past or current relationships among possible member organizations**
- **Competition and turf issues**
- **Personality conflicts**
- **Racial or cultural polarization in the community**

# Factors for a Successful Collaboration

- **Clearly defined purpose mutually agreed upon by all**
- **Active involvement of participants in establishment of goals, objectives & activities**

# Factors for a Successful Collaboration

- **Clearly defined operating procedures & member's roles**
- **Communication system**
- **Common ground**

# Keys to Success

- **Shared Vision**
- **Skilled Leadership**
- **Process Orientation**
- **Diversity (race, ethnicity & culture) & Inclusiveness**
- **Membership-driven agenda**
- **Multiple Sectors**
- **Accountability**

# Shared Vision

- **MUTUALLY identified need**
- **Consensus on the definition of the need or problem**
- **Develop a statement of purpose that guides the group**
- **Trust among participants – understanding that everyone has their own agenda**

# Skilled Leadership

- **Founders of the group**
- **Important to “grow people”**

# Process Orientation

- **Keep the focus on what the group has agreed upon**
- **Meeting participants' need**
- **Conflict is natural**
- **Find a way to turn conflict into useful solutions**

# Diversity & Inclusiveness

- **Helps to overcome assumptions & prejudices**
- **Collaborations provide common ground**
- **Be INCLUSIVE**
- **New perspectives & creative solutions**
- **YOU must reach out to cultural groups**

# Membership-Driven Agenda

- **She who has the most resources holds the most power – NOT**
- **The power of 2 is greater than the power of 1**
- **Every organization contributes resources.**

# Multiple Sectors

- **Too Many versus Not Enough**
- **Be more inclusive as opposed to exclusive**
- **Strength comes from diversity of the collaboration**
- **Sectors of your community to consider?**

# Accountability

- **Collaborations exist to achieve certain specified results**
- **Decided early on about anticipated results**
- **Monitor progress throughout**
- **EXPECTATIONS, EXPECTATIONS, EXPECTATIONS!**
- **Don't be afraid to change – but get consensus**

# Remember why we collaborate



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# What is your motivation?

# Why know yourself?

## Allows You to –

- Anticipate possible interpersonal differences
- Avoid use of ineffective behaviors
- Avoid imposing values

## Helps You to –

- Achieve some objectivity
- Identify things to improve

# Self-Awareness

**The extent to which you know yourself is  
the extent to which you will purposefully  
and consistently USE yourself  
effectively in relationships**

# COMMUNICATION

## Conversations Consist of Language

- Nonverbal
- Verbal
  
- 10 % what is said.
- 30% how it is said.
- 60% non-verbal.

# Measuring Success

- **Five Alarm Fire, 60 Elderly Residents Evacuated, not able to return for weeks, Health Concerns, Living Condition Concerns, Economic Concerns.**
- **HOW CAN YOU COLLABORATE AND MEASURE SUCCESS?**

# Community Collaborations Action Plan

## Inventory-Identify-Initiate-Implement-Maintain & Grow

<p>Step 1. Inventory Skills/capacity gaps</p>	<p>Identify unit capacity gaps such as language, disability-related knowledge/expertise, age-related involvement, inclusions of different communities, racial/ethnic representations, etc. Some examples of gap are: Skills, Expertise, Language, Training Information Material Board Members Employees Vendors/Consultants, etc.</p>
<p>Step 2: Identify Opportunities</p>	<p><b>Seek org, with potential for filling your org. capacity gaps. Determine their areas of interest and match their needs and concerns to your mission.</b> <b>Examples are:</b> <b>Youth, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Faith groups, Seniors, African American, Asian, People with Disabilities, Limited English Proficiency, Other</b></p>

# Community Collaborations Action Plan

## Inventory-Identify-Initiate-Implement-Maintain & Grow

<p>Step 3. <i>Initiate</i> Conversations</p>	<p>Schedule meeting with potential partners to discuss the findings from the steps above and begin to jointly outline areas for collaborations</p>
<p>Step 4. <i>Implement</i> Action Items</p>	<p>Implement action steps outlined</p> <p>Build Language capacity, Extent reach</p>

# Action Plan

Potential Partners	Opportunities	Conversations	Action	Follow-up
Who can we get involved with?	How can they help us? How can we help them?	When? With Whom?	What are we going to do? Who is involved?	What is the plan to maintain a long-term relationship?

# Thank You !!!

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Add leadership buy in and fear to the lists

Email without pictures to Joe and city business card Tampa.

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