



Exemplary Practices in Creating Successful Collaborations: *Lessons Learned from the National Girls Collaborative Project*

PREPARE *to collaborate*

1. Reflect on past collaborations and the characteristics of successful or ineffective collaborations.
2. Create a short summary of your program/organization and resources for easy sharing when you first meet potential collaborators.
3. Identify your program/organizational strengths and challenges.
4. Identify the program/organizational resources you have to offer.
5. Identify the program/organizational needs you have.

LOOK *for collaborators*

1. Locate the “home” for the audience who can benefit from your program and resources.
2. Identify assistance, resources or guides that can help you.
3. Network with purpose.

PLAN *for a successful collaboration*

1. Be flexible and patient.
2. Be explicit about project benefits for each partner.
3. Create a collaboration agreement.

BUILD *a successful collaborative project*

4. Communicate frequently to move the work forward.
5. Adapt as project personnel, plans, and needs change.
6. Celebrate successes.
7. Debrief the collaboration.

Collaboration References and Resources

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Wilder Foundation Collaboration Resources
<https://www.wilder.org/collaboration>