

NCCIC Is a Service of the Child Care Bureau

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INTRODUCTION

Early and school-age care services are delivered through a myriad of government agencies, organizations, and other key players at the State, Territory, and local levels. Collaborations among these players have become increasingly important in helping Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) grantees provide high-quality services to children and families most effectively. These partnerships help streamline services, meet identified needs, and allocate funding, among other benefits. However, successful collaborations are based on particular elements, which stakeholders must bring to the table to build and sustain these partnerships.

The Partnerships, Alliances, and Coordination Techniques (PACT) is an initiative of the Child Care Bureau's National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC). This initiative provides training and technical assistance (T/TA) to State, Territory, and Tribal CCDF grantees and their partners in order to help them develop, sustain, and evaluate successful collaborations.

TA and Training Materials

PACT T/TA is based on six modules that provide information and instruction for trainers to help CCDF grantees and their partners learn about specific collaboration techniques. Modules were designed for experienced T/TA providers, who can implement any or all of the components and resources, depending on the audience's needs. NCCIC recommends T/TA providers work closely with NCCIC PACT team members, who can provide further information about how to use the materials. In some situations, PACT team members may be available to provide onsite support. Contact information is listed at the end of this document.

Modules are made up of Microsoft PowerPoint presentations and related resources which include various activities and handouts and are general enough so that they can be applied to nearly any partnership situation. However, note that case examples involving specific groups (e.g., Head Start, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and child care/child welfare partnerships) are used for illustrative purposes only.

A matrix guides each module by mapping training objectives to specific PowerPoint slides, related handouts/tools, and activities. Presenters can pull together the pieces they need to customize their presentation for a specific audience and situation. Additional information for presenters including related activities, and additional materials and resources are included in the notes field of the slides.

The following is a description of each of the six modules:

- **Fundamentals of Collaborative Leadership** introduces leadership skills needed to build successful working relationships. It also includes information about individual leadership capacities.
- **Creating, Implementing, and Sustaining Partnerships** indicates necessary tools for organizing, managing, and sustaining partnerships; how to identify partners; and how to develop a shared vision and purpose. It also covers facilitator characteristics and competences and the importance of group dynamics.
- **Communication Strategies** presents information about creating sustainable partnerships by recognizing different communication styles, understanding the key concepts of a communication plan, and implementing problem-solving measures when conflicts arise.
- **Management Strategies for Successful Partnerships** provides information about initiating change, achieving desired goals, and developing plans for continuous improvement. It uses organizational principles, practical management strategies, and system-planning tools.
- **Financing** addresses financing strategies for early care and school-age initiatives through partnering. It includes examples from States and communities.
- **Building Capacity to Evaluate Partnership Initiatives** provides information about evaluating the effectiveness of partnership initiatives by focusing on evaluation protocols, measures, data collection, and communicating results.

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Additional Information

For more information, call NCCIC at 800-616-2242 or email info@nccic.org. Additional information about PACT is also available at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/pact/index.html>.