Collaborating with Your Local Community

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Learning Objectives

• Explain the connection between local collaboration and potential for sustainability
• Describe the challenges and success of local collaboration
• List a variety of methods of collaboration based on the panel presentations
• Interact with presenters and peers in facilitated, interactive discussion
A Bit about Our Campuses:
Daytona State College

• Public; founded in 1957
• 18,000 FTE (60,000 enrolled)
• Commuter
• Started as a community college; became a 4 year college in 2006
• 7 campuses in Daytona FL area
• Counseling services decentralized and limited
A Bit about Our Campuses:

College of Menominee Nation

- Tribal, Community College; founded in 1992
- 235 FTE (774 enrolled)
- Commuter
- 2 campuses
  - Keshena, WI – Menominee Indian Reservation
  - Green Bay, WI – Oneida Indian Reservation
- No counseling services; referrals to community resources
A Bit About our Campuses:

Lawrence University

- Private; founded in 1847
- Undergraduate Liberal Arts (with Conservatory of Music)
- 1460 FTE (1475 enrolled)
- 98% residential
- Main campus in Appleton, WI
- Counseling center staffed by 4 licensed counselors
Common Starting Points

• No goals for community collaboration in our GLS grant proposals beyond limited MOUs
• No formal existing community collaborations around MH or Suicide Prevention
• Identified need for more resources, training, and coordination among community partners
First Steps

• Thoughtful reflection and exploratory conversations
• Identifying natural allies with similar interests
• Building on existing personal knowledge and relationships
• Understanding and honoring what others have begun
Key Next Steps

- Gaining a “seat at the table”
- Reciprocal support between campus and community
- Joining networks and coalitions with common goals
- Identifying “Champions”
- Identifying resources (e.g. local community foundations, state grants, philanthropists)
Successes

• We have become resources to our communities
• Our institutions are better appreciated locally
• Our campus colleagues (i.e. administration, faculty) know more about the important work we are doing
• Better coordination of services for students
• New opportunities for student community engagement (i.e. volunteering, internships)
Challenges

• Time and energy
• Differing priorities among community partners
• Lack of control in collaborative initiatives
• Scarcity of resources
• Local “politics”
• Be careful what you ask for!
Keeping It Going!

- Formal partnerships
- Spread involvement among campus colleagues
- Keep your PR/Communications colleagues in the loop
- Work with your Development colleagues to seek additional funding
- Cover training expenses, etc. during grant period
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Questions
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