

LEARN Community of Practice Kick-Off
Local Education Adult Resource Network

October 8, 2024
12:00 – 1:30 PM

Agenda

1. Welcome
 - Engaging: Networking in small group breakout rooms
 - Sharing: Responses from in-person convening survey
 - Learning: *“What Makes an Effective Partnership?”*
2. Wrap Up

Meeting Schedule

Monthly, 90 minutes from 12:00 – 1:30 PM

- November 5, 2024
- December 10, 2024
- January 14, 2025
- February 11, 2025
- March 11, 2025
- April 8, 2025
- May 13, 2025
- June 10, 2025

Information: <https://wsac.wa.gov/LEARN>

Contact: AdultPathways@wsac.wa.gov

LEARN Session #3 – October 8 Session Themes

In-Person Convening Survey

- Preference for full-day in the Greater Seattle area
- LEARN team will provide an update in November
- Interested in offering feedback: <https://forms.gle/ravzukoRZZJnD4ny9>

Partnership Panel Themes

Effective Strategies for Building and Sustaining Partnerships:

1. **Aligning Values and Mission:** Partnerships thrive when there is a shared commitment to common goals and values.
2. **Active Communication and Listening:** Successful collaboration is built on open communication, especially by listening carefully to partners' perspectives and needs.
3. **Internal Partnerships:** Developing strong internal relationships within your organization is just as important as external collaborations.
4. **Respecting Partner Needs:** Valuing and addressing the unique needs of each partner fosters stronger, more meaningful connections.
5. **Shared Language:** Establishing a common language ensures everyone is on the same page and can streamline collaboration.
6. **Understanding Boundaries:** A clear understanding of the boundaries within partnerships helps maintain focus and respect between parties.
7. **Recognizing Existing Partners:** Acknowledging and leveraging the contributions of current partners reinforces collaboration and encourages long-term commitment.

Key Factors for Success in Partnerships:

1. **Advisory Committees:** Engaging stakeholders through advisory committees offers valuable insights and guides the direction of partnerships.
2. **Defining Success:** Clearly articulating what success looks like ensures that everyone is working towards the same objectives.
3. **Regular Check-ins:** Consistent communication and partner check-ins help address challenges early and maintain alignment.
4. **Understanding Partnership Dynamics:** Recognizing the nuances of each partnership, such as power dynamics and roles, strengthens collaboration.
5. **"Slowing Down to Go Fast":** Taking time to carefully plan and develop partnerships at the start can lead to more efficient outcomes in the long run.

6. **Building Trust and Empowering Partners:** Partnerships flourish when trust is built, when partners feel empowered and share decision-making power.
7. **Leadership Investment:** Leadership's commitment to partnerships, demonstrated through time, resources, and support, is crucial for long-term success.
8. **Learning from Others:** Drawing on the experiences and best practices of others in your network helps refine and enhance partnership efforts.



Local Education Adult Resource Network (LEARN) Community of Practice

October 8, 2024





Agenda

- Small Group Networking
- Convening Survey
- “What Makes an Effective Partnership” Panel
- Wrap Up



Small Group Networking, 20 minutes

- You will select the breakout room you want to attend.
- This is *networking*. You will not have a dedicated facilitator.
- You can move to different rooms at any time, as many times as you want.
- Use the first few minutes for introductions, or be sure to introduce yourself as you participate.
 - Who are you? What type of work do you do?

Breakout Room Topics

- Short Term/Micro Credential Programs
- Implementation of Prior Learning Assessments
- Addressing Basic Needs/Wraparound Supports
- “Untopic”



In-Person Convening Survey

- Preference for full-day
- Greater Seattle area
- Areas of interest
 - Addressing barriers to postsecondary access and success
 - Innovative practices for supporting adult learners
 - Workforce and career pathway development
 - Building and scaling partnerships
- Primary reason for attending
 - Learning about successful strategies and programs
 - Networking with peers and experts
 - Sharing best practices and resources



Panel Discussion: Partnerships



Angela Pierce-Ngo



Dr. Christi Harter



Juliet Schindler



Dr. Kyle Winslow



Dr. Sherri Fujita



Wrap Up

- Letters of support
- Next session – November 5
 - Panel Discussion: Student and Apprentice Supports

Contact email: adultpathways@wsac.wa.gov

Website: www.wsac.wa.gov/LEARN