**Taking Community Partnerships to the Next Level**

**Learner Guide**

**Event Description:** Community partnerships have the power to meet your library’s strategic goals, expand your reach and amplify what’s great in your community. You already pursue partnerships, but you can take them to the next level, or beyond! Help your community achieve its aspirations by creating partnerships built on solid relationships, mutual respect and SMART goals. Learn from the successes, failures and lessons of real-world examples. You will forge stronger community-led libraries where goals and values are aligned, and collaboration leads to innovation.

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| **What are your goals for viewing this webinar?** |
| **Personal Goals** |  |
| **Team Goals** |  |
| **Identifying Organizations for Partnership** |
| List a few important organizations in your community. These can be organizations you already partner with or that you would like to start working with. Focus especially on organizations that already have trust with an audience you'd like to reach. Pick one to focus on for the rest of these questions.1. 2.3. |
| **Aligned Goals and Values** |
| What are the goals and values of that organization? How do those align with the goals and values of your library?  |
| **Pre-Assessing Partnership** |
| How do you work with the organization now, if at all? Where does that work fall on the [Spectrum of Public Participation](https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf)? * If you work with them already: Brainstorm a few ways you might move your relationship towards "Collaborate" or "Empower."
* If you don't work with them now: Brainstorm a few ways you might you get to know them and build trust.
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| **Discussion with Community Partner** |
| Meet with your (current or hopeful) community partner. Discuss your shared goals and values, and brainstorm ways you might work together in a full partnership. Consider:* What will you accomplish together? Make sure your goal is SMART - Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound.
* What role will each organization play - how will each contribute and benefit?  How will decisions be made?
* What are your milestones and timeline?
* What are the challenges likely to be, and how will you deal with them?
* How will you communicate?
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| **Reflection**  |
| Reflect. How did your partnership go? What did you learn? What will you do differently next time? What will you do again?  |
| **Repeat!** |
| Go back to the top, pick another organization, and do it all again!  |