Identify the Right Partners

Identifying the "right partners" depends on the scope of your project. To pinpoint the best partnerships to pursue, you need clear goals and objectives, as well as sufficient information about your potential partners. Then, you can begin to identify the organizations and groups that can help you accomplish those goals and objectives. Think broadly so you don't miss non-traditional partners that could be in a position to help you advance your goals. You may even realize that some partners may not offer sufficient capacity to advance your initiative at this time—and that's okay, too.

For your objective, consider the timeframe, expertise, skills and capacity required, and other resources and access needed for each subtask or activity. Then, you can form a list the viable partners for each objective based on the information you have already gathered about each of them. The example below can guide you.

Objective: *(Example) Expand the number of people in the community able to recognize the warning signs and connect individuals in crisis with care*

Subtasks	Timeframe	Expertise, Skills, and Capacity	Other Resource and Access Needs	Potential Partner(s) for this Subtask
Offer gatekeeper training for community groups with access to high-risk populations	*1 year*	- *Time and resources to participate in gatekeeper training* - *Information on key community groups reaching vulnerable populations* - *Insight about the best way to engage vulnerable populations*	- *Access to high-risk populations* - *Requirement or desire to implement gatekeeper training for staff or members*	*Faith-based organizations*
				Community behavioral health organizations
				Department of Education

Objective:

Subtasks	Timeframe	Expertise, Skills, and Capacity	Other Resource and Access Needs	Potential Partner(s) for this Subtask

Objective:

Subtasks	Timeframe	Expertise, Skills, and Capacity	Other Resource and Access Needs	Potential Partner(s) for this Subtask