

# Collaboration

## Challenges:

- No central database, results in duplicated svcs. - would be able to better support wrap around svcs.
- Updated directories of services, lack of info for clients
- Encouraging agencies to collaborate rather than starting own programs - no duplication
- Lack of capacity in rural areas - lack of time
- Movement outside of meetings
- Fear of the extra work collab. may bring
- Knowing who your partners are - big metro areas  
- where do I start?

## What's worked?

- Mous w/ partners
- Leadership on board/buy in
- clear goals - what are we trying to achieve, take time to build relationships
- Advocacy agendas - support <sup>+ partner with</sup> other groups leading the way on other policies - housing/wages/etc. healthcare
- Volunteers - buy in, share vision, ask for support, empower strong training - client interaction
- Community mapping, understand local resources
- Formalize coalition roles + responsibilities
- How to keep groups engaged?
  - ↳ why are people involved?
  - ↳ concrete results that relate to everyone's day to day

What can you do?

- Community mapping - shared transportation
- partner w/ local universities for volunteers

Collaborate on the bigger scale - not just food

## Biggest Challenge of Collaborate

- territorialism - foodbanks, cafes, associations etc
- knowledge of who is out there - need more network opportunities
- difficult to coordinate - get in one group while recognizing individuality
- time - I feel stretched

## Ideas that have worked (organizing & galvanizing)

- Being aware of local political movements
  - identify & bring folks together to work on the issue
  - strategically time your work
- Service Integration / Coalitions / non profit EDs groups
  - share newsletters, events, resources
  - collaborate calendars in events & fund raising
- Encourage folks to work together &
- creating a website of resources & opportunities as an information hub
- featuring local businesses/orgs on

what can we do

- How what could you do as a region to work towards
- Join + bring concerns to the table to larger collaborations
- WA Food Coalition
  - Seattle food committee
  - Feeding America
  - Just & Healthy Food Systems - Puyallup watershed

Bring in Producers

1-3 things each group can do

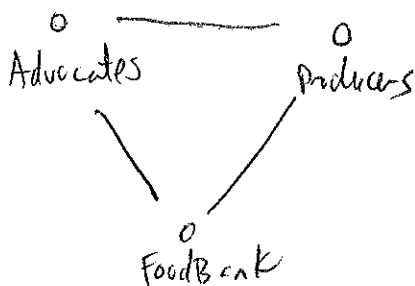
- research whats in place (asset mapping of groups)
- reach out to producers
- join coalitions (local + regional)

Close HG network support you

- smaller versions / regional conferences like these
- producers are missing - is a big voice

Specific challenges/opps in region

- preserving farmland
- connect with producers



sharing a vision:

example reducing dependence on unethical stores, then increasing support of local producers

# COLLABORATION

Rhea - Central Co-op

Anna

Chris - State Dept. of Ag - Farm to School

Noe - SF School District

Virginia - Luthern Church

Pat - Retirement Community

Unette - Growing Gardens

Vanya - IRC

Al. Meyer - OFB

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- IRC seeking help to find land - Connection from actors.
  - County Eligibility Advocacy for Schools
  - As a co-op, seeking ways to help that are non-financial.
    - Barriers to sell garden-produce from home and community gardens.
    - Double-up bucks
  - Establishment of @ Washington Farm to School + School Garden Network
  - Collaborators with shared leadership and expenses, means less risk in terms of sustainability
  - Collaborates of complementary missions.
  - Council of orgs with youth contact + schools.
  - How to reduce competition for resources?

