



learning the indicators of successful youth-adult partnerships

purpose • To identify the intangible (or not so obvious) indicators of a successful youth–adult partnership by exploring the ups and downs of youth–adult partnerships

time 45 minutes

group size 6 to 25 participants

materials • Flip chart and easel
• Markers

introduction

Explain to the participants that often success is defined as meeting a stated goal or finishing something that was started. Success might include the following accomplishments:

- Making money
- Winning a ball game
- Completing an assignment
- Creating something
- Making a new friend
- Getting a good grade
- Ask for other examples



step one

Ask the group the following questions:

- What feels good about these accomplishments?
- What motivates you to be successful at any of these accomplishments?
- Why are they considered success?
- What do you get out of the experience for the effort you put into an accomplishment?

step two

Divide the participants into groups of two to four people; have each group discuss the following questions, writing their answers on a sheet of flip chart paper:

- When we think of success in our youth–adult partnership work, what comes to mind? (Think of six different things.)
- How do you know when success is happening?
- What behaviors do you see? What do you hear? What is written down? These are called indicators.

step three

Ask each group to share five indicators with the large group. Write them on the flip chart.

reflection and discussion

Ask the group the following questions:

- What indicators stand out for you?
- What were surprises for you?
- What did you learn?
- How are these indicators of success the same or different for you in other groups?
- What can you do to be more aware of your indicators of success and build on them?

End with each small group devising a 1-minute group pantomime of a successful youth–adult partnership in which indicators can be observed. Have the other participants name those indicators.