



Creating a Plan for Partnership Building

What consumer rights or economic justice issue are you trying to address? (write below)

Coerced Debt

*Be specific about what the issue is and what survivor population you're focused on (e.g. barriers to housing for undocumented survivors)

Partnership Mapping

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Who are your partners and allies in this work? (see below for a primer to help brainstorm current/potential partners)</p> <p>local Credit Union Volunteers of America Consumer Counseling with Lutheran Social Services Hope House, a local shelter Minnesota FAIM (statewide IDA program) Mid Minnesota Legal Aid Volunteer attorneys</p> | <p>What would you like them to do?</p> <p>Help address specific debt-related issues (e.g. garnished wages due to a court order related to debt that the survivor never knew about)</p> <p>What do you value about your partners? What benefits do they offer for survivors?</p> <p>They do things we can't (e.g. tax advocacy) They bring different expertise to the table They understand complex situation</p> |
| <p>In what ways do you currently engage or work with them?</p> <p>We partner with a couple of other non profits in the area which give courses on debt and financial handling</p> <p>When we provide space in either emergency or permanent housing, we do have grants which assist with partial rent assistant to allow the client to save some income.</p> <p>Coordinating cases (e.g. tax issues)</p> | |
| <p>What has worked well in the past?</p> <p>Cross-training or in-service training</p> <p>Write grants together to provide advocacy in each others' locations.</p> <p>Reserve some grant budget to provide cash assistance to survivors.</p> <p>Identify key issues where you need legal or technical expertise (e.g. taxes)</p> | <p>What hasn't worked well in the past?</p> <p>Volunteer attorneys not willing to take on challenging things on survivors' credit reports.</p> <p>Finding partners to help with survivors from out of the country (debt issues and credit access looks very different)</p> <p>Capacity to build relationships, even for large organizations</p> |
| <p>What other strategies to build or enhance partnership could you try?</p> <p>Use the resources that can be helpful to our participants (pool resources?)</p> <p>Put together clinics with partners to explore issue more while addressing it (e.g. Identity theft issues with Spanish speaking survivors)</p> | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Are there other partners you should/could enlist in this work? Who are they?</p> <p>Volunteer lawyers projects</p> | | <p>...and for what purpose?</p> |
| <p>What else do you need?</p> | | |
| <p>What could your statewide coalition do? Other statewide or national agencies?</p> | | |

Brainstorming Partners & Allies: Primer

Below are a few stakeholder groups to help you brainstorm a list of current and potential partners to engage in the systems advocacy efforts you have identified.

| Stakeholder Group | Unique Perspective & Brainstorm List | |
|---|--|--|
| Survivors | <p>WHO MIGHT THEY BE? Think about various identity groups, communities, and in which programs/services you interact with survivors.</p> <p>WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT? Only survivors can explain the rich complexities of their lived realities, and experiences of violence, as well with navigating various service and safety systems.</p> | |
| | <p>BRAINSTORM LIST (be specific):</p> | <p>What do you value or believe about them? What do you think they value or believe about you? What perspective do they bring / what do they offer?</p> |
| Advocates, attorneys, and other practitioners | <p>WHO MIGHT THEY BE? Advocates, attorneys, social workers, counselors/therapists, educators, prevention educators, community engagement, or those who work directly with survivors or their communities. Think about those from <i>within</i> your organization, in other organizations, and across movements, e.g. immigrant rights, racial justice.</p> <p>WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT? Stakeholders who work regularly and directly with survivors are critical for identifying trends, or common issues they see and hear from multiple survivors. They also have an understanding of what works and what doesn't in terms of remedying particular problems.</p> | |
| | <p>BRAINSTORM LIST (be specific):</p> | <p>What do you value or believe about them? What do you think they value or believe about you? What perspective do they bring / what do they offer?</p> |
| Program | <p>WHO MIGHT THEY BE? Program managers/directors, legal directors, executive</p> | |



| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| directors /executives | <p>directors, or other executive roles. Think about from within your organization, in other organizations, and across movements, e.g. immigrant rights, racial justice.</p> <p>WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT? These stakeholders often bring expertise in how systems, programs, policies, and laws function and impact your organization. They also have decision-making power within their organizations and influencing power across.</p> |
|------------------------------|--|

BRAINSTORM LIST (be specific):

**What do you value or believe about them?
What do you think they value or believe about you? What perspective do they bring / what do they offer?**

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Community members | <p>WHO MIGHT THEY BE? Important or long-standing community members, civic leaders, religious/spiritual leaders, volunteers, etc.</p> <p>WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT? Community stakeholders bring diverse perspectives on how an issue may be experienced (the same or differently) by different groups. They understand where resources and community assets lie and can be important champions in getting the community engaged in efforts.</p> |
|--------------------------|--|

BRAINSTORM LIST (be specific):

**What do you value or believe about them?
What do you think they value or believe about you? What perspective do they bring / what do they offer?**

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Systems actors | <p>WHO MIGHT THEY BE? Gatekeepers to key resources (e.g. public benefits caseworkers) or key decision makers about how services and systems are implemented (e.g. Directors of housing, transportation, judges, chiefs of police).</p> <p>WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT? They have a say in policies about key resources, legal cases, or influence the ways resources are distributed and how survivors experience service provision.</p> |
|-----------------------|---|

BRAINSTORM LIST (be specific):

**What do you value or believe about them?
What do you think they value or believe about you? What perspective do they bring / what do they offer?**

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Other stakeholder groups? | <p>WHO MIGHT THEY BE? Policy/Law makers, elected officials, educators or education official, health care providers or health system directors/advocates, other social justice advocates, state and national advocacy organizations, etc.</p> <p>WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT? They might work on a similar issue but with different populations or communities. They might have access to different resources, skills/abilities, networks, power, etc.</p> |
|----------------------------------|--|

BRAINSTORM LIST (be specific):

**What do you value or believe about them?
What do you think they value or believe about you? What perspective do they bring / what do they offer?**

Partnership Building

Of the partners you listed above, where would you place them on this map below? Given the issue of focus, where would you *like* them to be? What strategies can you think of to utilize partners in meaningful and effective ways? What strategies can you think of to build new partnerships?

