Student and Faculty International Exchange: International Collaboration

By
Aja Tulleners Lesh, PhD, RN
Renee Pozza, PhD, RN, FNP
Azusa Pacific University

Sigma Theta Tau International Conference
Dublin, Ireland
2017
Goal

The goal of international collaboration is to bring individuals and members of communities, agencies and organizations together in an atmosphere of support to systematically solve existing and emerging health care problems within a global environment.
Challenge

To support collaboration among universities, faculty and community agencies to directly respond to the economic, social, and human stresses faced by families and to facilitate the development of strategic initiatives based on research to improve health care from a global perspective.
Vision

While problems may be the initial catalysts in forming a collaboration, moving from problem driven solutions to vision driven solutions offers greater potential for maximizing resources, developing sustainable outcomes and greater ownership and commitment in the courses of action.
Effective Collaborations

- Building relationships is fundamental to the success of collaborations.
- Effective collaborations are characterized by:
  - building clear expectations
  - defining relationships
  - assists in identifying tasks, roles, responsibilities
  - identify work plans
  - reach agreement on desired outcomes.
Major Components

• Vision - an image of the desired future -- a Vision is a picture of the future, described in the present tense, as if it were happening now.

• Mission - the purpose of the collaboration. The Mission represents the fundamental reason for the collaboration's existence.

• Values and Principles - the beliefs individuals and the group hold. Values and Principles are the guides for creating working relationships and describe how the group intends to operate on a day-by-day basis.
Types of International Cooperation

Cooperation or Alliance
* Match needs and provide coordination
* Limit duplication of services
* Ensure tasks are done

Coordination or Partnership
* Share resources to address common issues and develop resources
* Merge resource base to create something new

Coalition
* Share ideas and be willing to pull resources from existing systems
* Develop commitment for a minimum of three years

Collaboration
* Accomplish shared vision and impact benchmarks
* Build interdependent system to address issues and opportunities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| Cooperation| * Central body of people as communication hub  
            * Semi-formal links  
            * Roles somewhat defined  
            * Links are advisory  
            * Group leverages/raises money  
            * Facilitative leaders  
            * Complex decision making  
            * Some conflict  
            * Formal communications within the central group |
| Coordination or Partnership | * Central body of people consists of decision makers  
                                      * Roles defined  
                                      * Links formalized  
                                      * Group develops new resources and joint budget  
                                      * Autonomous leadership but focus in on issue  
                                      * Group decision making in central and subgroups  
                                      * Communication is frequent and clear |
| Coalition  | * All members involved in decision making  
            * Roles and time defined  
            * Links formal with written agreement  
            * Group develops new resources and joint budget  
            * Shared leadership  
            * Decision making formal with all members  
            * Communication is common and prioritized |
| Collaboration | * Consensus used in shared decision making  
                            * Roles, time and evaluation formalized  
                            * Links are formal and written in work assignments  
                            * Leadership high, trust level high, productivity high  
                            * Ideas and decisions equally shared  
                            * Highly developed communication |
Collaborative Outcomes

Initially defined desired outcomes:

1. Education
2. Research
3. Services
EXAMPLE OF THE USE OF A LOGIC MODEL TO ESTABLISH PROGRAM AND OUTCOMES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Characteristics of the Target Population:
Describe the characteristics of the population:
Examples:
- Demographically diverse, low income, minority, predominantly female, infants and young children
- Needs of women in the target population (financial resources, jobs, education, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, social networks and support, health services)
- Needs of children in the target population (safety, child care, health care, parenting)

VALUES & ASSUMPTIONS

Philosophy
Provide a philosophical framework, which might include:
- Beliefs about the issues
- Beliefs about what is needed
- Beliefs about the impact

INTERVENTIONS

Service Providers
Intended Activities
Resources and funding,

OUTCOMES

Individual Outcomes

Service Integration Strategies
Research based interventions to identify best practices
Exchange of information
Provide training opportunities
Co-location of services
Simplified referral process between agencies
Create forum for exchange of information
On-going needs assessment
Coordinate outreach

Systems Integration Strategies
Networking within the international community
Planning and designing new systems or restructuring old ones
Gaining knowledge and skills across partners
Clear expectations, roles and responsibilities
Common vision and impact benchmarks
Activities intended to increase coordination and joint decision-making (consensus building)
Improved communication
New or shared resources

Systems-Level Outcomes
Evidence of policies and procedures that support and sustain on-going efforts
Systems development
Resource development and acquirement of resources to address homelessness
Diversity of participation
Improved capacity
Evidence of impact on individuals and collaboration

Characteristics of the International Setting
Describe the International setting:
- Geographically
- Funding Lack of coordination of service systems
- Diversity of culture and language
- Views and values

Integration of Values and Beliefs
Examples
- Easily accessible
- Comprehensive and coordinated services
- Developmental appropriate
- Holistic
- Sustainability of services
- Evidence-based practices
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real People Impacts</td>
<td>The behavior changes occurring within individuals, among groups, families, and within communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Development</td>
<td>The evidence of policies and procedures that support and sustain ongoing efforts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Systems Development</td>
<td>Organizations, agencies and groups of people who work together in a common cause.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Development</td>
<td>A range of resources including skills, time, people and money realigned to focus on common issues.</td>
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Summary

- As previously noted, a collaboration is a process of participation through which people, groups and organizations work together to achieve desired results.
- A vision articulates a picture of the future that the group seeks to create.
- Outcomes address specific "conditions to be achieved."
- Outcomes are often, but not exclusively, defined following the development of the shared vision.
- Using the Logic Model as part of the collaboration increases its effectiveness.
Evaluation

- Effectively meeting the desired outcomes is the primary objective of a collaboration evaluation.
- Data must be collected which establishes benchmarks for future impact and outcome analysis.
- Reviewing examples of other successful models of collaboration will help in adopting or customizing a collaboration model.
- Evaluation efforts are essential to monitor progress related to the group's goals and objectives and to make modifications where necessary.
- Numerous methodologies may be employed in this process including quantitative, qualitative, and participatory strategies. Strategies for communicating program impacts must be established.
Select Effective Measurement

Social network analysis (SNA)

- Illustrate the development of connectedness among members of a network based on the responses of the member to questions.
- A baseline survey illustrates how members of a network of community providers are connected, and subsequent measures can provide an on-going assessment of the effectiveness of their working strategies and collaboration as it changes over time.
- The network perspective gives formal definition to social structure and patterns of relationships. The SNA approach to measuring strengths in community collaboration helps make explicit the pathways of change and demonstrates how and why collaboration works.
- Use multi-dimensional scaling techniques (MDS) and mapping illustrates the collaborative relationships and non-technical audiences can visualize at a glance the interactions.
Sustainability

- In order for collaborative efforts to be sustainable, it is essential that systems be instituted to provide sustained membership, resources, and strategic program planning.
- Formal operational agreements may be necessary.
- Resource development efforts must be ongoing to assure that the appropriate level of revenue, time and people are available to conduct the group's programming efforts.
- Planning must be both short-term and long-term. The collaboration must be able to identify emerging trends and issues and develop strategies for needed expansion.
Lessons Learned
Next Steps
Questions?