

Community Partnerships in Third Spaces of Human Connection

A Worksheet for Museum Programmers for Partnership and Program Check-in and Planning

Use this worksheet to foster impactful relationships with community organizations, especially those which are outside the museum's realm of specialty.

- What is the project you are working on or would like to pilot?
- Why is this important or relevant to your institution?
- Why is this important or relevant to your visitors?
- What community partners are you currently working with or planning to work with?
- What is your budget and staff capacity to help shape your initial planning?
- What staff should be at the table from the start of the project?

Reminders

When meeting with partners

- Dedicate your efforts to a mutually beneficial mindset.
- Affirm the knowledge and expertise of all partners.
- Maintain a humble stance of learning from and with them.
- First, ask about their needs, struggles, and capacity to partner or contribute, and how the museum can be supportive.
- Start discussions with these reciprocal goals and community needs when suggesting possible concepts and programming dates.

Before or after meeting

- Seek out a community artist who is facilitating a road-tested project related to the organization's focus and/or needs that you can bring to your cultural institution as a starting point.

After the program

- Invite all collaborators to a post-event evaluation to brainstorm next steps and keep the momentum going.

Shared during the presentation "Destigmatize Addiction Disorder: Fostering Museum Partnerships for Systemic Change" on Friday, May 17, 2024 at the AAM conference in Baltimore. By Patty Bode and Xoe Fiss. <https://www.rememberloverecovery.org/>