Best Practices of Community Partnership-Building

- Engage in long-term relationship building and sustained commitments to partnerships, recognizing that sustainability is necessary to impact complex real-world challenges.

SUSTAINABLE

- Honor the validity of both academic and community knowledge and seek to teach and learn both ways of knowing.

CO-LEARN

- Center investment and maintenance of relationships rooted in trust, authenticity, and honest, ongoing communication and feedback.

RELATIONAL

- Ensure work is inclusive of and accessible to diverse communities.

INCLUSIVE

- Strengthen existing capacity in the organization, and build on the assets of higher education - the knowledge, research methods, and creative methods of academic disciplines.

ASSET-BASED

- Attend to inequities between communities and higher education institutions, sharing resources and using interpersonal strategies to avoid reinforcing power dynamics.

EQUITABLE

- Share decision-making and meaning-making in all phase of the collaboration.

CO-CREATED

- Clearly and explicitly identify goals and expectations, and hold all stakeholders accountable to specified intended impacts.

PURPOSEFUL

- Ensure the partnership is mutually beneficial, balancing student learning and community impact.

RECIPROCAL

- Address community-identified needs, as communities are best equipped to identify their own challenges and priorities.

COMMUNITY-CENTERED