

Move Head Start and Child Care Partnerships Forward

1. Recognize and speak often about the strengths and shared goals of your partner.
2. As partners, identify the things that you can't relinquish.
3. Communicate ideas clearly and concretely. Value each other's thoughts, ideas and feedback.
4. Be flexible and reasonable. Respect all individuals.
5. Think in new ways about the possibilities of the partnership and about programming - think outside the box.
6. Communicate positive ways of useful improvement ideas. Show a positive commitment to evolving growth and change, learning from experience.
7. View the partnership as an opportunity to learn and to reflect on each other's practices.
8. Listen and be respectful of each other's opinions and beliefs. - Acknowledge that environment influences the individuals within it and that individuals influence the environment.
9. Support efforts and celebrate success. Revisit where you started and how far you have come and reflect together regularly.
10. Know that the ventures "stretch" you in new ways. Change takes time, energy and patience.
11. Hold on to the vision about what is best for children and families.
12. Set and support standards of professional staff excellence.