

PRESCHOOL COLLABORATION MEETING VISIONING ACTIVITY

*This activity is a companion resource to *ISBF's Preschool Collaboration Sample Meeting Agenda*.

A critical step in conducting effective community collaboration is to establish a common vision for the group. Also known as "identifying the common good" establishing a vision together unites community partners around a common purpose that focuses on what is best for children and families.

Introductions & Establishing a Vision

Put people in teams of two making sure individuals are paired with someone not from the same organization. Have one person interview the other and then reverse the interview. Individuals ask their partner the following questions and prepare to share their partners' answers with the rest of the group.

1. What is your name, the stakeholder group you represent, and what is your area of expertise?
2. Keeping in mind the focus is on *what is best for children and families* - Five years from now what do you hope to see in terms of preschool services for children and families in our community? What would it look like? What would you see?
3. Why is this important?

Determining the common vision:

As partnered teams share out, the facilitator charts important words or key phrases on two different pieces of chart paper for questions 2 & 3.

Question 2:

Facilitator reviews and summarizes Question 2 answers. The summary of the responses are used to establish "the common good" or vision for the group. A finalized vision statement can be drafted and presented back to the group at a later time.

Question 3:

Facilitator reviews and summarizes Question 3 responses next. These responses establish the rationale and importance of the group's work and can also be drafted later into a short statement to be used along with the vision statement.

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