

## stages of youth—adult partnerships

**purpose** • To gather information from participants about what they think are the knowledge and skills needed to start, sustain, and advocate for youth–adult partnerships

**time** 45 minutes

**group size** 10 to 40 participants

**materials** • Three flip charts with easels  
• Markers  
• Tape

### introduction

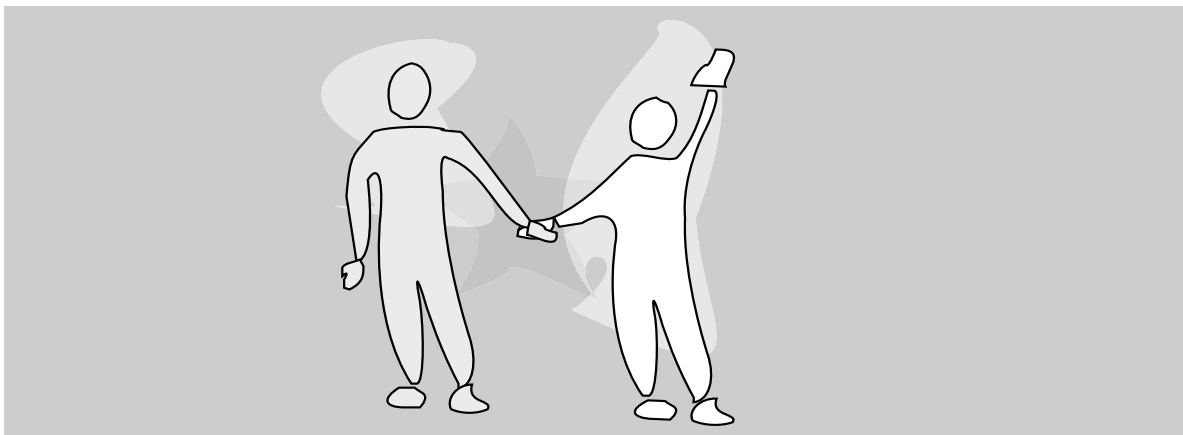
Remind the group that everyone has various levels of experience with youth–adult partnerships. You could say, “As I look around the room, I can only imagine the variety of experiences each of us has had working in partnerships during our lifetime. This exercise has been created to help us share our knowledge and skills as we develop our work in youth–adult partnerships. Different skills, knowledge, and experiences are needed for different stages of youth–adult partnerships.”

### step one

Prepare three flip charts.

**The first chart reads,** What are the skills/knowledge/attitudes needed to start a youth–adult partnership?

**The second chart reads,** What are the skills/knowledge/attitudes needed to sustain a youth–adult partnership?



**The third chart reads,** What are the skills/knowledge/attitudes needed to advocate for youth–adult partnerships?

### **step two**

Ask the large group for one or two ideas for each flip chart.

### **step three**

Divide the participants into three groups, and assign each group to one flip chart. Ask each group to do a quick, yet thorough, brainstorm and to record every idea presented in the group on the flip chart. After 5 minutes, ask a member from each group to post its flip chart in the front of the room and take turns presenting the group's ideas.

### **reflection and discussion**

Process the activity in the large group using the following questions:

- What ideas stand out for you?
- What ideas are familiar?
- What ideas are new to you?
- What ideas are similar across the three stages?
- What is missing from our lists?
- How can these ideas help you start a youth–adult partnership?  
Sustain one? Advocate for a partnership?