



## learning the indicators of successful youth-adult partnerships

**purpose** • To identify the intangible (or not so obvious) indicators of a successful youth–adult partnership by exploring the ups and downs of youth–adult partnerships

**time** 45 minutes

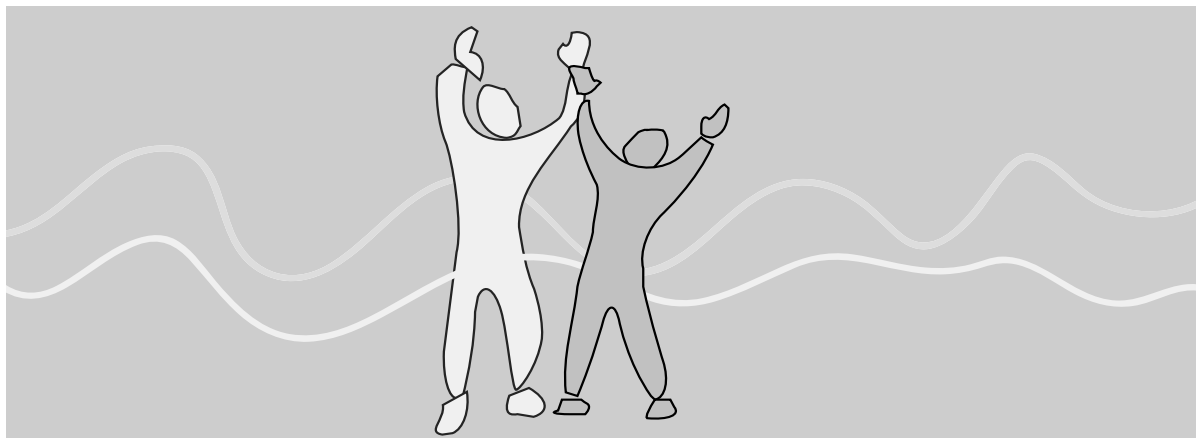
**group size** 6 to 25 participants

**materials** • Flip chart and easel  
• Markers

### introduction

Explain to the participants that often success is defined as meeting a stated goal or finishing something that was started. Success might include the following accomplishments:

- Making money
- Winning a ball game
- Completing an assignment
- Creating something
- Making a new friend
- Getting a good grade
- Ask for other examples



### **step one**

Ask the group the following questions:

- What feels good about these accomplishments?
- What motivates you to be successful at any of these accomplishments?
- Why are they considered success?
- What do you get out of the experience for the effort you put into an accomplishment?

### **step two**

Divide the participants into groups of two to four people; have each group discuss the following questions, writing their answers on a sheet of flip chart paper:

- When we think of success in our youth–adult partnership work, what comes to mind? (Think of six different things.)
- How do you know when success is happening?
- What behaviors do you see? What do you hear? What is written down?  
These are called indicators.

### **step three**

Ask each group to share five indicators with the large group. Write them on the flip chart.

### **reflection and discussion**

Ask the group the following questions:

- What indicators stand out for you?
- What were surprises for you?
- What did you learn?
- How are these indicators of success the same or different for you in other groups?
- What can you do to be more aware of your indicators of success and build on them?

End with each small group devising a 1-minute group pantomime of a successful youth–adult partnership in which indicators can be observed. Have the other participants name those indicators.