



TOOL 12

Align with Partners

TIME COMMITMENT

2–4 hours

PEOPLE

Park organization staff

SUPPLIES

Align with Partners worksheet (link included in this tool download)

INTRODUCTION

Are current and potential partners a good match?

Evaluate the goals and values of collaborators to determine which partnerships are a good fit for your organization.

This tool is designed to help evaluate how a potential collaborator’s values and goals match with your own—do they share a commitment to racial equity, is this evidenced in their work? Tracking these alignments—or misalignments—can be helpful in discerning whether a proposed partnership is a good fit for your organization. It is also a way to hold others in positions of power accountable. Completing this tool is a good precursor to discussions with prospective partners.



TOOL 12

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TIPS FOR USING THIS TOOL

- Note: You will be prompted to create a copy of Tool 12, Align with Partners. Please click on Make a Copy. The new file should automatically open in your internet browser.
- This tool is about helping you prioritize who to partner with so your activities and outcomes have a through line.
- It's important to figure out how to avoid redundancy between your partners and your organization. This will help you build stronger relationships and a healthier institutional ecosystem in your community.
- Although outcome alignment with a partner is important, the driving force behind a partner organization and yours may not be aligned. Establishing shared values will help you understand if it's worth pursuing a partnership or not.

INSTRUCTIONS

This **Align with Partners** worksheet has space for you to enter details about each of your partners, and identify areas of alignment.

To fill out the column with the heading “What equitable impact outcomes are you pursuing?” use one of the following equity categories:

- Thriving Civic and Cultural Life
- Affordability and Economic Equitable Development
- Health, Wellness, and Resilience
- Equitable Organizational Growth