

From Networks to Collective Impact: Which Form of Collaboration is Best for You?

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About the presenter...

Glen Este High School Graduate (Cincinnati, OH)

Ohio University - Athletic Training & Health Education (BSAT)

University of Minnesota - Educational Policy and Administration (MA)

Taught High School Health – Logan High School (OH)

Ohio University - Educational Research and Evaluation (PhD)

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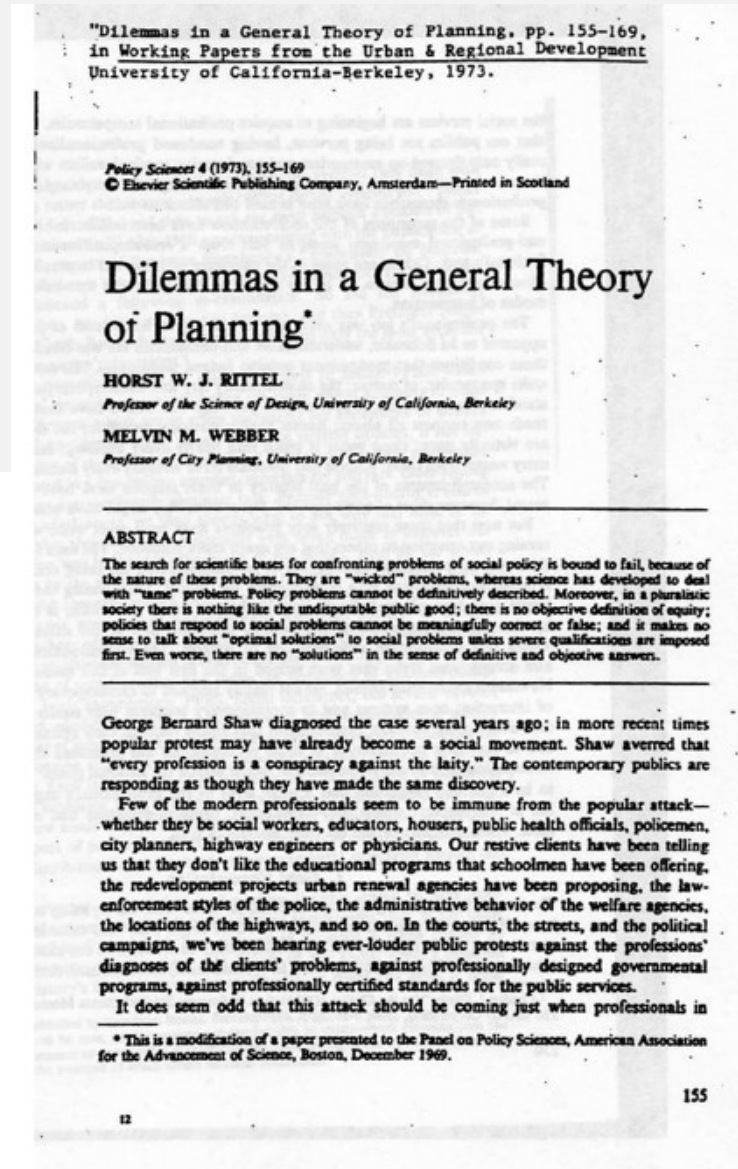
Hockey Mama, Marathon Mama, CrossFit Mama



Why do we need to work together?

Suicide is a complex, "wicked" problem.

SAMHSA began calling for a collaborative approach to suicide prevention in 2016.





Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SAMHSA
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)

IN BRIEF

2016

SUBSTANCE USE AND SUICIDE: A NEXUS REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

Suicide is a serious and preventable public health problem in the United States. Collaboration among prevention professionals across behavioral health fields has the potential to reduce suicide rates. Multiple factors influence suicidal behaviors, substance use—especially alcohol use—is a significant factor that is linked to a substantial number of suicides and suicide attempts. This "nexus" between substance use and suicide provides an opportunity for behavioral health leaders to develop a cohesive strategy within a public health framework to reduce suicidal behaviors and suicide rates.

This *In Brief* summarizes the relationship between substance use and suicide and provides state and prevention professionals with information on the scope of the problem, an understanding of traditional barriers to collaboration and current programming, and ways to work together on substance misuse suicide prevention strategies.

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM



nearly
1 in 12

Nearly 1 in 12 adults in the U.S. has a substance use disorder.

41,000+ More than 41,000 deaths a year in the U.S. result from suicide.



20%

Opiates, including heroin and prescription painkillers, are present in 20% of suicide deaths in the U.S.

Rates of suicide in the U.S. are almost four times higher for men than for women.



4x higher



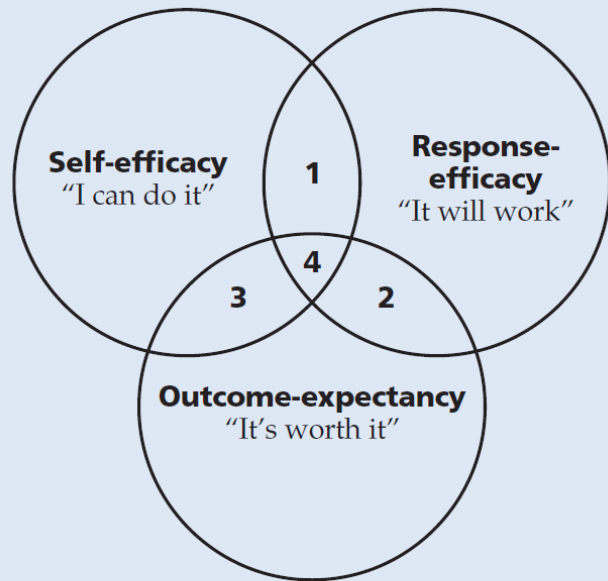
22%

22% of deaths by suicide in the U.S. involve alcohol intoxication.

Behavioral Health Is Essential To Health • Prevention Works • Treatment Is Effective • Pe

Figure 3

The Three Dimensions of Feeling Empowered



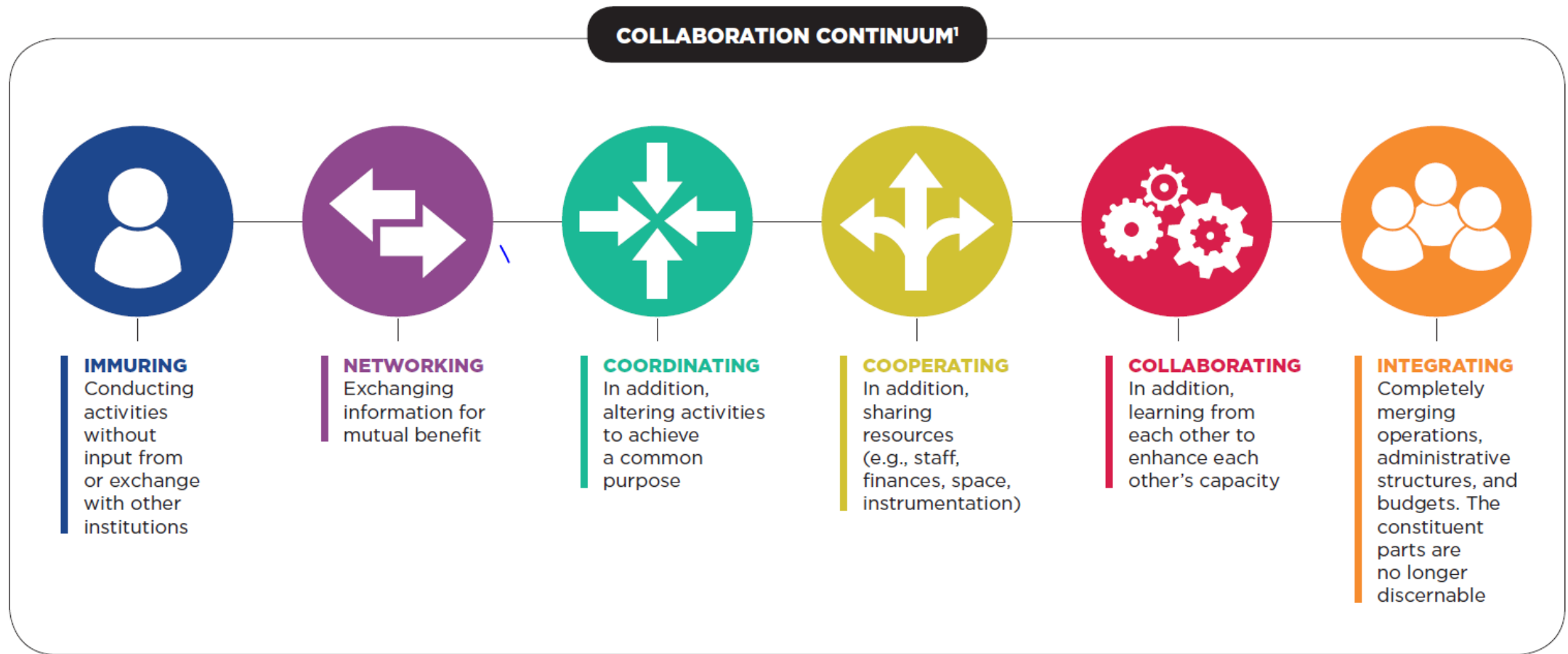
- 1) I can do it and it will work.
- 2) I’m motivated to make it work.
- 3) I can and want to do it.
- 4) I want to make a difference.

Which type of collaboration is best for you?

When faced with a new initiative, framework, idea, etc. ... ask:

1. Can I (we) do it?
2. Will it work?
3. Is it worth it?

Collaboration Continuum



Note: The original Collaboration Continuum, which included Networking, Coordinating, Cooperating, and Collaborating, comes from Arthur T. Himmelman, *Collaboration for a Change: Definitions, Decision-making Models, Roles, and Collaboration Process Guide*. January 2002, Himmelman Consulting, Minneapolis, MN.

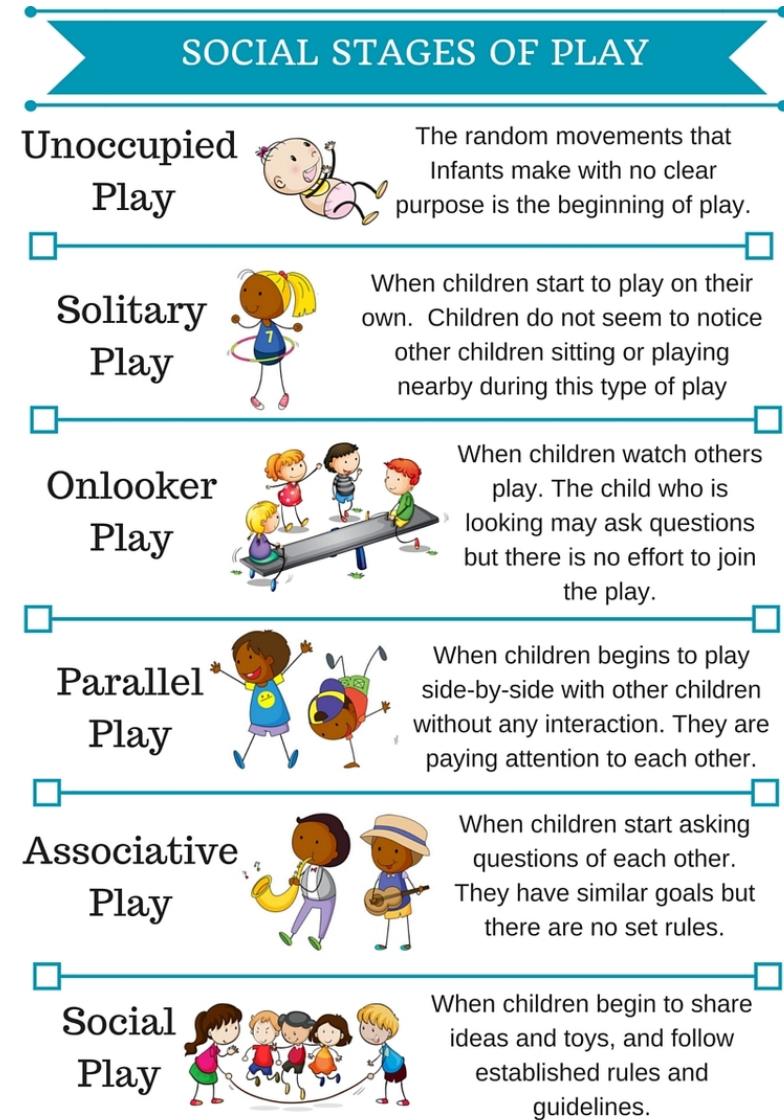
Reference: Mashek, D. (June, 2015). Capacities and Institutional Support Needed along the Collaboration Continuum. A presentation to the Academic Deans Committee of The Claremont Colleges, Claremont, CA

Collaboration is a learned skill and requires supports.

1. Capacities

2. Inter-institutional supports

3. Practice mindset



www.encourageplay.com

What capacities are needed?

IMMURING

NETWORKING

COORDINATING

COOPERATING

COLLABORATING

INTEGRATING

CAPACITIES NEEDED

Basic capacities for functioning within a single institution

Clear communication channels across institutions; strategies for identifying interested others at all institutions

Stated objective; known leadership structure through which activities and alterations are managed; plan for regularly evaluating the success of the group's work and goals and making needed adjustments

Stated process for managing budget and/or staff time; possibly written agreements and access to decision-making bodies

Regular opportunities to come together for reciprocal learning

Access to all resources and support available to groups contained within a single organization (e.g., decision-making bodies, leadership, visibility within each organization)

What inter-institutional supports are needed?

IMMURING

NETWORKING

COORDINATING

COOPERATING

COLLABORATING

INTEGRATING

INTER-INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT NEEDED

None

Administrative support for data collection and listserv, website, and publication preparation and upkeep; tools for connecting people

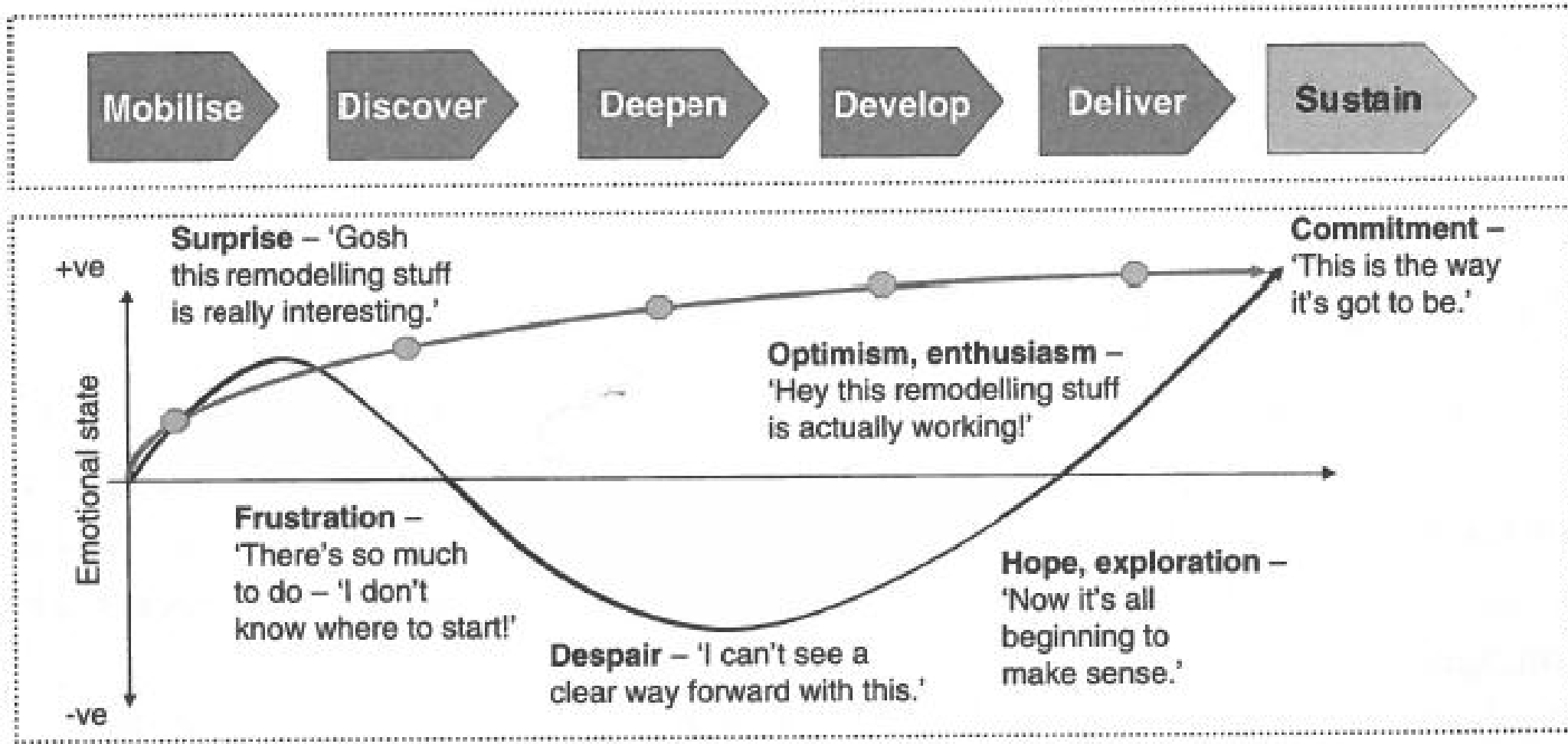
Professional development opportunities for articulating shared objectives, leading across institutions, assessing progress toward common purpose; incentives for participation; funds for program implementation

Professional development opportunities for budget development and management, working with staff; templates and explicit pathways for writing, endorsing, documenting, and archiving written agreements; direct liaisons to decision-making bodies; staff to coordinate and conduct assessments

Additional resources to support programming

Champions and sponsors in every institution; codified procedures to ensure stable access to all resources and support; clear pathways to request and vet changes to policy and positions

Collaboration is a practice.



What are the different ways to collaborate?

Networks	Coalitions	Movements	Strategic Alliances	Strategic Co-Funding	Public-Private Partnerships	Collective Impact Initiatives
People connected by relationships, which can take on a variety of forms, both formal and informal.	Organizations whose members commit to an agreed-on purpose and shared decision making to influence an external target, while maintaining autonomy.	Collective action with a common frame and long-term vision for social change, characterized by grassroots mobilization that works to address power imbalance.	Partnership among organizations working in pursuit of a common goal while maintaining organizational autonomy.	Partnership among organizations that work in pursuit of a common goal. This could mean aligning programs, functions, or adopting complimentary strategies.	Partnerships formed between government and private sector organizations to deliver specific services or benefits.	Long-term commitments by a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem.

Tips for Practitioners

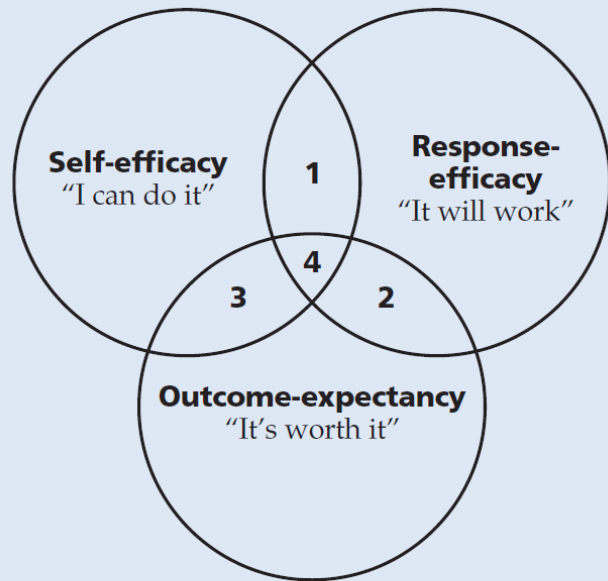
- Look in your area for existing collaborations and how your organizations “fits” into existing work. You may not need to start something new.
- While you have an agenda (eliminating veteran suicide) - others may be working on suicide prevention and postvention in a broader sense and you can be an important piece of the puzzle. Be open to seeing the bigger picture.
- Recognize that population-based prevention strategies require a different set of knowledge, skills, and attitudes than treatment and recovery. Listen and learn for others.

Tips for Funders and Policymakers

- There are many ways to collaborate. The best form of collaboration is whatever the community is ready for at the time. Be flexible when writing RFPs that require collaboration. Your vision of collaboration may not match the community's vision for collaboration.
- The idea of collaborating on suicide prevention may be new to you but it's likely not new to the communities you serve. Honor existing collaborations and don't require something new if its not needed.
- Collaboration is a skill. Collaboration requires inter-institutional supports. Embed training opportunities into funding requirements.
- Collaboration is an intentional practice. Collaboration takes time – allow for those relationships to nurture and evolve. People learn by working together. True collaboration might not come together until the end of the funding cycle.

Figure 3

The Three Dimensions of Feeling Empowered



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