



Key Network Terms and Definitions

As we move into discussions around building effective networks it might be helpful to understand the lexicon surrounding networking. These terms and their definitions have been recommended by Kristin Johnstad and will help set the stage for our discussions and presentations during the virtual conference.

Coalition - Often focused on external advocacy and short-term in nature, coalitions are comprised of an alliance of member organizations who commit to an agreed-upon purpose and shared decision-making to influence an external institution or target. Collaboration: What makes it work (Mattessich and Johnson, 2018)

Collaborative - A clearly defined commitment of multiple organizations that work together towards a common goal. Collaboration: What makes it work (Mattessich and Johnson, 2018)

Intentional Network - Engaging people and organizations that are working on the same issue or vision, together with the structures that have been created to mobilize the energy of those organizations. Network Weaver Handbook: A Guide to Transformational Networks (Holley, 2012)

Network Weaving - The act of deliberately connecting the separate, isolated or siloed individuals and organizations in a community in an effort to strengthen and grow relationships and the potential for collaborative problem solving and innovation. Network weaving is a process of building community and strengthening relationship capital in a community by bringing together and connecting the existing and potential actors in the network to bring about change in the community. Network Weaver Handbook: A Guide to Transformational Networks (Holley, 2012)

Network Weaver (Network Leader) - A person who takes responsibility for making networks healthier by connecting people and organizations, coordinating self-organized projects, facilitating the actions of the network, and protecting the viability of the network itself – being a guardian. Network Weaver Handbook: A Guide to Transformational Networks (Holley, 2012)

Sources:

Collaboration: What Makes It Work (Mattessich and Johnson, 2018)

Network Weaver Handbook: A Guide to Transformational Networks (Holley, 2012)