BUILDING YOUR SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE

Caroline Savage
Institute for Community Sustainability
Indiana State University
Terre Haute, IN
WHY PARTNER?
1 MAJOR OBSTACLE TO PARTNERING
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (1)

List all offices, organizations, or community partners you are or want to be connected to.
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (2)

Rank each group/person from 1-5:

1: Very strong relationship
3: Neutral relationship
5: Relationships that you would like to strengthen
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (3)

On cardstock, write your office in the middle and draw a circle around it.
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (4)

Starting with your “1” organizations, write them in around your office connected by a line.
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (5)

Make two columns on your scrap paper:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I Give</th>
<th>I Receive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What you give and what do you receive from your 1s and 2s?
### Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I Give</th>
<th>I Receive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>Credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint events</td>
<td>Help writing grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students to research their operations</td>
<td>Facilitates dialogue with others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next to your 4s and 5s, note:

• What are their goals?
• What are their needs?

If you don’t know, note that as well.
• Then find out later!
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (7)

What could you give to your 4s and 5s if you had 100% of your time to devote to their success?
YOUR ALLIANCE MAP (8)

Connect your 4s and 5s to others on your diagram.
NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES

• Address issues, don’t wait for them to explode

• **Ask questions**
  - What needs (real or perceived) are being unmet?

• **Separate action from intention**
  - Can you find a shred of good in their motivation?

• **Use “I” statements**

• Make specific, realistic requests/suggestions for change
TRY IT: NVC

• Ask your neighbor to tell you about a need they have. Try reflecting it back to them using “I” statements.

• Check in: How did it feel to have your needs reflected back to you?
BUILDING YOUR SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE

• What one thing are you going to do to build stronger partnerships when you get home?
• Turn to your neighbor and share. Then, set a deadline by which you’ll check in with each other to see how it’s going.
BUILDING YOUR SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE

1. The one thing I am going to do to build my alliance when I get back home:

2. My support person’s name and commitment is:

3. Support person’s phone/email:

4. Phone/email:
QUESTIONS, DISCUSSION?

Thank you!

Caroline.Savage@indstate.edu
DISCUSSION AND NOTES

From conversation during the workshop 3/30/15
WHY?
- more impact
- leverage resources
- exchange ideas
- wider net
- maintenance
SUCCESS!

- collaboration
- something bigger
- match made in heaven
- wide variety of strengths
- network of existing sustainability friends
- Fellowship
CHALLENGE (accepted)
- Institutional barriers
- Apathy
- Making it easy
- Volunteers
- Funding!
- Time
- Changing roles/responsibilities

- Empowerment
- Social norm
- Communication
- Semantics
IDEAS

- connecting partners
- more voices, + knowledge
- celebrate!
- resources + new audience
- institutionalization
- 'less work'.
MAINTENANCE

- Talk (face to face)
- Time = celebration!
- Support
- Listen
- Show up
- Learn about them