

Collaboration and Partnerships in

Collaboration and Partnerships in Community Health

Community Health

1. Introduction

- Collaboration brings together different actors to address complex health needs that no single group can solve alone.
- Partnerships pool resources, expertise, and reach to strengthen community health.

2. Types of Partners

- **Government agencies:** provide policy direction, funding, and regulation.
- **Non-governmental organisations:** deliver services and mobilise communities.
- **Private sector and academia:** offer technology, research, and financing.

3. Principles of Effective Partnership

- Shared vision and clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
- Mutual trust, transparency, and equitable distribution of benefits.
- Regular communication and joint decision-making.

4. Benefits

- Avoids duplication of effort and maximises limited resources.
- Builds sustainability and broadens community ownership of programs.

5. Challenges

- Conflicting priorities, power imbalances, and unequal funding.
- Poor coordination and unclear accountability can weaken outcomes.

6. Summary

- Strong partnerships are built on trust, shared goals, and clear agreements.
- Effective collaboration multiplies the impact of community health work.