**The Partnership Ecosystem Toolkit: Early Adopters Project**

**February 2017-June 2018 Cohort**

**Project Description**

***The Vision:*** *Authentic and vibrant partnerships between schools and youth-serving organizations provide every young person the opportunity and support they need to be successful.*

**The Youth Development for Education Results** workgroup of **the Road Map Project**, staffed by Youth Development Executives of King County (YDEKC), has been working to identify resources and strategies that are integral to creating and sustaining thriving, authentic partnerships between schools and youth-serving organizations. This toolkit is a collection of these resources. It is intended to help schools, school districts, and youth-serving community based organizations (CBOs) to build the web of partnerships that can provide every young person the opportunity and support they need to learn, lead, connect, contribute, and thrive.

**Project Goals:**

* To strengthen the organizational capacity of each participating organization to develop sustainable partnerships toward shared site-specific student outcomes.
* To create a peer learning group for CBO/site-based coordinators focused on school-community partnerships to share and gain expertise.
* To give participants the opportunity to test the Partnership Ecosystem Toolkit within CBO-school partnerships and provide feedback to improve its accessibility and efficacy.

**Eligibility Guidelines:**

* Youth-serving CBO that offers programming at a school (or, a CBO with a non-school-based program serving students at a specific school, where a partnership has been established with school administrators).
* School/program site is located in the Road Map Region (Auburn School District, Federal Way Public Schools, Highline Public Schools, Kent School District, Renton School District, Seattle Public Schools—South Region, Tukwila School District).

**Expectations of CBO/site Coordinators:**

* Implement tools from the Partnership Ecosystem Toolkit and report feedback about their accessibility and efficacy.
* Engage in the peer learning group, including attending meetings, sharing success stories and challenges, asking questions, and building relationships.

Peer Learning Group meeting dates, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.:

* February 14, 2017
* March 7, 2017
* April 4, 2017
* May 2, 2017
* June 6, 2017
* August 1, 2017
* October 3, 2017
* December 5, 2017
* February 6, 2018
* April 3, 2018
* June 5, 2018
* Participate in intake and exit interviews and/or surveys to identify individual and organizational needs and changes in practice and partnerships.
* Identify the need for, and request up to 12 hours (per participating site) of, technical assistance and coaching on site-specific challenges.

**YDEKC’s Role and Responsibilities:**

* Select a diverse group to participate in the cohort (no more than 2 sites per individual community-based organization, no more than 2 schools per school district).
* Convene participants with opportunities for networking and exchange of learning.
* Provide direct technical assistance and coaching to individual leaders.
* Provide an orientation to the tools and professional development focused on school-community partnerships.
* Contribute $3,000 to each participating organization to offset staff time and mileage, develop partnership activities, or otherwise support the organization.

Applications will be reviewed and a diverse cohort selected to participate in the project. Applicants will receive notification by January 31, 2017.

**The Partnership Ecosystem Toolkit: Early Adopters Project Application**

Organization Name:

Program Name:

School Site Name:

School District:

CBO/Site Coordinator Name:

CBO/Site Coordinator Position/Title:

CBO/Site Coordinator E-mail Address:

CBO/Site Coordinator Phone Number:

How would you describe the type of partnership that you currently have with your school site? (Circle one.)

* **Cooperative:** Partners operate autonomously from the school. Program goals are primarily established by the partner agency, though they may share one or more goals with the school.
* **Collaborative:** The partner shares goals with the school, and communicates about progress on a semi-regular basis. The school and the partner organization maintain ultimate decision-making authority over their own activities.
* **Integrated:** The partner plays a major role in site planning processes, and shares data, resources, and decision-making authority with the school.
* **None of the above** (please describe):

In more detail, how would you describe your partnership with the school?

What challenges do you have with developing the partnership with your school?

What other partners exist at your school and how (if at all) do you work with each of them?

Who coordinates partnerships at your school site?

What vision and/or outcomes do you have in common with the school?

How frequently, with whom, and about which topics do you communicate with your school and/or other site-based partner(s)?

What kind of student-level data do you track, and how do you use it?

What would you want to learn by testing the Partnership Ecosystem Toolkit at your site?

CBO/site coordinators benefit when organizational leaders support their involvement in professional development opportunities such as this one, so we ask that the Executive Director of the Community Based Organization is informed and in support of the program coordinator’s participation in the Partnership Ecosystem Toolkit: Early Adopters Project.

Executive Director Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*For questions or more information, contact Anne Arias, Project Manager, YDEKC, at* *aarias@ydekc.org**. Scan and submit your application via e-mail to* *aarias@ydekc.org* *or fax to the attention of YDEKC/Anne Arias at 206-323-7997* ***by January 20, 2017****.*