

Bay County Health Department PARTNER Project

The Bay County Health Department (Bay CHD) was a pilot site for PARTNER (PROGRAM to ANALYZE, RECORD, and TRACK NETWORKS to ENHANCE RELATIONSHIPS), a social network analysis tool to measure working relationships between community partners. Through PARTNER, the Bay CHD was able to visualize our public health network by frequency of interaction, strategic value each partner brings to the collaborative, level of trust within the network, and resources each partner brings to the collaborative. The information gained from the survey was one of the elements used in the development of our strategic plan. The PARTNER tool enabled us to see where we are currently and enables us to evolve with direction.

Various departments and programs within the health department were asked to identify community partners with whom they worked. This input formed our PARTNER survey list. Organizations were defined by categories such as government, services, medical, education, environmental health, media, military, faith based, law enforcement, business, preparedness, and dental.

- 78 partners invited to complete PARTNER Survey
- 51% overall participation
- 46% completed at least 50% of survey questions

Assessing the quality of our partnerships with other agencies and our performance level were essential in order to move forward with our vision of developing a healthier community. We learned that our network is highly centralized with moderate density. An increase in trust score will be seen as members of the collaborative work together in a meaningful way by sharing resources and knowledge.

Degree

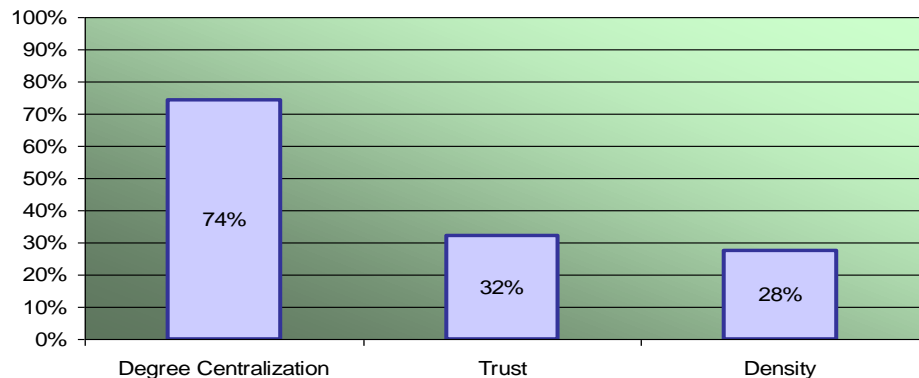
Centralization:

74.30%

Degree Centralization measures how well the collaborative is connected as a whole. This score reflects that our collaborative is centralized and equally

interconnected as a whole. This may also be an indication of likelihood to support collaborative goals.

Results of Partner Project



Trust: 32%

This score represents the level of trust among the collaborative as a whole. 100% trust score would mean every member of the collaborative fully trusts all other members

Density: 27.6%

This score represents overall cohesiveness among the partners in our collaborative. A score of 100% would mean that everyone is connected to each other. It is a representation of how many network ties exist to the number of possible ties in the entire network.