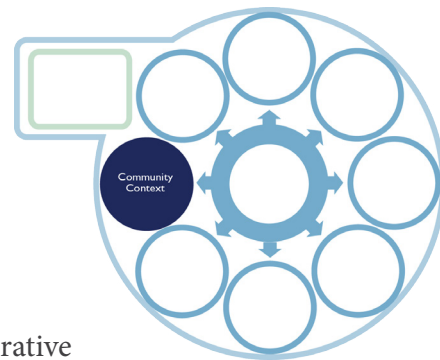


WORKSHEET I: *Explore Community Context*



STOP ⚡ Download, save, and work in your saved worksheet!

What is the Desired Outcome or Condition?

Mutual and reciprocal support and respect exist between agency staff and the community; the agency workforce feels valued and supported within a collaborative network.

How well is your agency doing in this area?

The following are indicators of an agency’s level of performance in this area. For each indicator below, consider and discuss the extent to which you think your agency’s policies and structures promote your agency’s overall performance, based on a scale of 1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good.








<u>Indicators of Agency Level of Performance</u>	<u>Rating</u> 1 = Poor 2 = Fair 3 = Good
Staff at all levels foster positive, mutually respectful relationships within a network of community providers and stakeholders (e.g., courts, law enforcement, schools, private nonprofit agencies, and faith-based institutions).	
Staff at all levels take a proactive and active approach to communicating the professionalism of the workforce and the positive impact of their work with children, youth, and families and in the community.	
Staff at all levels proactively engage community members, partners, and stakeholders to recruit a workforce reflective of the diversity in the community and its local culture and languages.	
Staff at all levels actively partner with community members, providers, and families on program development, decision making, and problem solving to maximize opportunities to collaborate on services for children, youth, and families.	
Notes/Comments:	

What strategies should your agency consider to strengthen this component?

The following examples include promising or effective strategies designed to address workforce gaps impacting an agency.

For each strategy:*

- First, consider and note in the table below: A = Agency Already Engaged, B = Interested in the Strategy, C = Not Applicable (NA) or Not Interested At This Time (NI).
- Next, consider how difficult it would be for you and your team to work within the agency or with partners to implement or strengthen its performance based on 1 = Readily Doable, 2 = Feasible But Will Take Some Effort, and 3 = Difficult.

<u>Examples of Promising or Effective Strategies</u>	<u>Implementation</u> A = already engaged B = interested C = NA or NI	<u>Level of Difficulty</u> 1 = readily doable 2 = feasible with effort 3 = difficult
Actively respond to biased or inaccurate  media accounts and offer factual and positive information about the role and successful impact of the agency on families to impact  public perception.		
Host a Community Resource Fair to promote reciprocal education and collaboration and educate the community and families about resources and supportive services.		
Target recruitment efforts using local and community media that are reflective of the  diversity of the community and groups historically underrepresented among agency staff.		
Support a reciprocal commitment to serve on internal and external workgroups and committees. Actively  engage community stakeholders , providers,  families , youth, and foster care alumni on boards, advisory committees, workgroups, etc. to promote shared decision making and model the importance of an  inclusive agency within the community.		
Other Strategies? Click  MyNCWWI for additional strategies, resources, and tools.		
Notes/Comments:		

* This particular rating (considering whether the agency is already engaged or interested and then the “doability”) was adapted from the excellent resource *Self-Assessment Workbook for Building a Stable and Quality Child Welfare Workforce* by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (2006).