

## Community Mapping

One tool we find helpful is community mapping. This exercise will highlight where there may be existing resources and activities, skills and talents of individuals and/or organizations, potential opportunities to leverage, and potential challenges to overcome. It helps to understand the characteristics of your community and the links that already exist or can be built between different parts of the community, associations, and agencies. Below is a sample of a community mapping chart:

Entity Name	What are they currently doing?	What is their motivation?	What special assets/abilities do they have?	How could they be engaged?
<b>School District</b>	Providing education from PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade; parenting education	School readiness	Relationships with families; trusted community organization; facilities; staff	Implementation site; teachers may be able to serve as coordinators; recruiting families
<b>Local Government Services</b>	Overseeing a wide variety of services to ensure a strong, healthy, secure community	Building a stronger community; Economic vitality	Able to bring together multiple partners; seek or supply grants/funding	Funding; recruiting implementation sites; creating community awareness of early talk

Other entities you may think of in your community are: libraries, health clinics and workers, YWCA/YMCA, universities, child care providers, employer groups, community associations, faith groups, and local branches of nationwide initiatives (i.e. Nurse-Family Partnership, Parents as Teachers, Campaign for Grade Level Reading, etc.).

**Use the chart below to map potential partners in your community.**

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