

Conscious Collaboration Fundamentals

PURPOSE

What is the purpose of this collaboration?

- What is this collaboration in service of?
- What do you want to accomplish and why you are “better together”?
- What does success look like?

TRUST

Can you depend on each other?

- Is the collaboration grounded in mutual respect?
- Do you have the necessary perspectives, capabilities, and lived experience at the table?
- Are you able and willing to work through conflict?

BENEFITS

Are the benefits of the collaboration clear?

- What does everyone desire / need to get out of the collaboration—individually, institutionally (if organizations are involved), and collectively?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Are your accountabilities clear?

- Are you aligned around shared values (*how you do the work, including issues of equity and inclusion*)?
- Are you clear about decision-making?
- Do you have systems for communication and monitoring/adjusting plans?

RESOURCES

Do you have the necessary resources?

- Does the collaboration have adequate expertise, time, and money?
- Do you have skilled leadership (preferably shared rather than centralized in one person)?