

What's the Key Ingredient for a Successful, Sustainable Coalition?

A diverse group of **people** working together to achieve a shared vision.

People in successful collaborative partnerships believe change is possible and goals can be achieved.

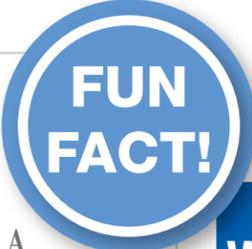
A sustainable coalition has a core team of at least 3—the *backbone* of the coalition. They're knowledge-keepers, connectors, and champions.



Coalition members belong to or are connected with at least one of the systems in the checklist.

- Among the members are people:
- With decision-making authority.
 - Connected to others with influence knowledge.
 - With first-hand experience as a family caregiver or care recipient.

The number of meetings people attend is **not** a reliable indicator of successful collaborations. A better indicator is the quality of the relationships within the group.



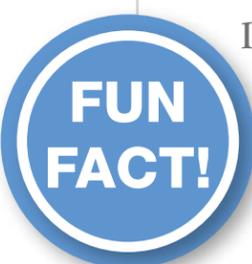
The coalition's most productive work usually happens outside of meetings



WHO are the people in your coalition?

- ✓ Do 50% of the members have the qualities in the blue columns?
- ✓ Does at least one member have political clout (direct or indirect)?
- ✓ Do members from key organizations have decision making power?

Your coalition should include or have strong connections with people in the following systems. Make sure each box on the left can be checked.		Personal experience with respite	Professional knowledge of respite	Political clout and connections	Decision making power
✓	Faith communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Private sector non-profit organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Private sector businesses and employers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Volunteer organizations and clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Health care sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Children's, aging, and disability groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Education community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Charitable foundations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Philanthropic individuals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Legislators and other policy makers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	Veterans and military families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Different sized groups work in different ways. **Pairs and threes** work well for focused tasks to be brought back to the larger group. **Four to 10** work well generating and refining ideas. **More than 10** brings a diversity of great ideas and influence, but larger numbers may inhibit reticent members from participating, and leadership struggles are more likely. (www.faculty.londondeanery.ac.uk)

