

# THE QUICK PARTNER GUIDE

## PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITIES FOR YOUTH



As school leaders, you play a key role in youth mental health. But you don't have to do it alone. We believe when a community comes together, difficult issues are easier to solve. Communities for Youth works with schools, parents, and kids using a community approach to promote mental health. We collect data on risk and protective factors for mental health to identify how to directly benefit kids in your community...and we support you every step of the way.



**Worth Noting:** The above process brings community members, local leaders, and policymakers onboard, which typically takes 1 year to complete. It is recommended to repeat this cycle each year to continue supporting youth mental health.

# YOU HAVE QUESTIONS. WE HAVE ANSWERS.

**Why should we work with Communities for Youth?**

We've spent over a decade building relationships and sharing accountability to understand and address youth mental health. Our team consists of prevention scientists, adolescent health specialists, communication experts, and multi-sector collaboration professionals.

**What is the point of surveying students?**

By asking specific, researched questions, we can better understand what is causing students to struggle with mental health issues in a local community. Each community is different, so why kids struggle is not the same everywhere. Once survey data is collected, we work together with you and the community to figure out how to best help **your** youth feel supported, healthy, and hopeful. All student data is collected anonymously.

**What do you do with the data collected?**

We create summary reports for your school community and work with you and other community partners to determine next steps. Sometimes, if there are information gaps or other unfilled needs, we work with partners like St. Luke's Health System, Idaho State Department of Education, and Idaho Health and Welfare to fill those areas.

**Will this take a lot of my time?**

We do the heavy lifting. Throughout this process, we aim to coordinate the details in a way that takes a minimal amount of your resources and time, because we know you have so much important work to do.

**Does Communities for Youth have an agenda?**

Our only agenda is to promote youth mental health in Idaho communities. Communities for Youth is not affiliated, associated, authorized, endorsed by, or in any way officially connected with any social, religious, or political associations.

Our process is **fully customizable** to the unique wants & needs of your school community.

**GET STARTED NOW!**

Reach out to us at [mlsmith@boisestate.edu](mailto:mlsmith@boisestate.edu) or [www.communitiesforyouth.org](http://www.communitiesforyouth.org)