

Leveraging Community Partnerships for Sustainable Impact

**Gabby Ryan, Office of
Neighborhood Services**



hello
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Welcome

About me:

I have worked in the Office of Neighborhood Services for nearly 5 years. Prior to working in ONS, I was a part of the East Central Neighborhood Council. I have been involved in community-focused work in Spokane for 10 years.

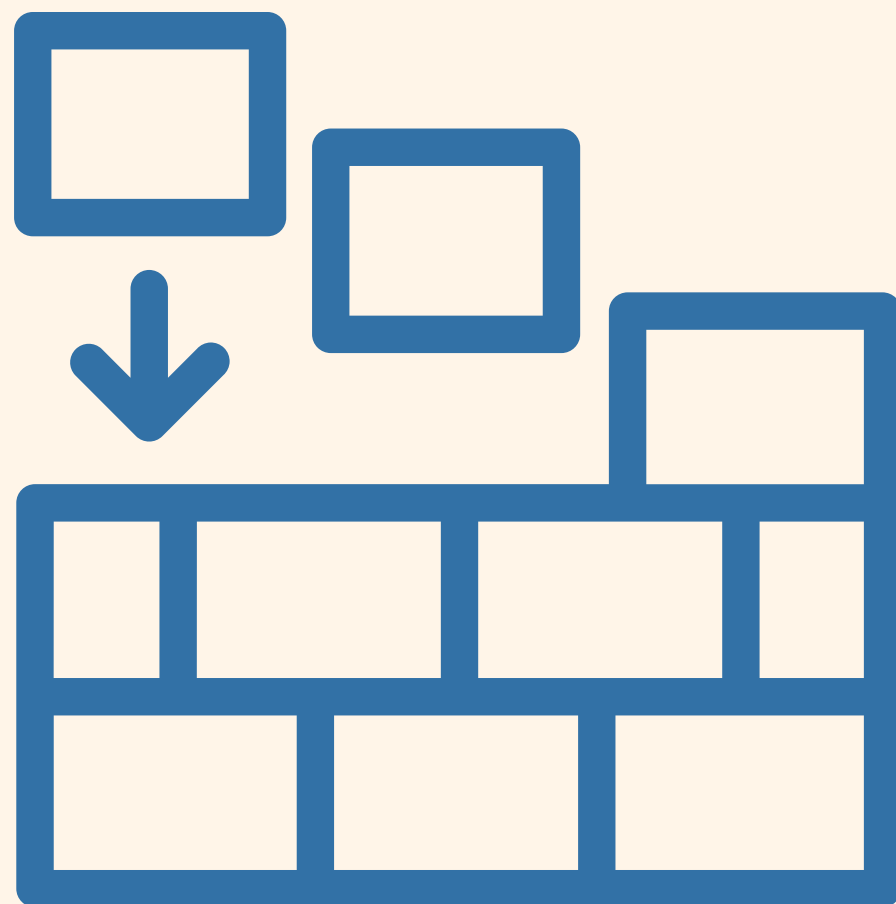
My current role includes overseeing the Community Engagement Grant Program and supporting Gonzaga with the Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy.

**Our community partnerships are
the most powerful force we have
for positive social change.**



What kind of partner are we?

Building the foundation of your Neighborhood Council



Mission

Values

Assets

Knowledge

Vision

Resources

Nonprofits, businesses, schools, community centers, and community-based organizations all play a role in providing services to your neighborhoods. They have a vested interest in a healthy, vibrant neighborhood.

How do we find a good partner?

Intentional Partnerships > Many Partnerships

Tools for Finding a Good Partner:

- **Online Resource: United Way's Volunteer Spokane (nonprofit agencies in Spokane County)**
 - volunteerspokane.org
- **Activity: Neighborhood Asset Mapping (Recommended through the lens of the Community Capitals Framework)**
 - <https://tinyurl.com/UNLCCF>
- **Activity: I Love My Neighborhood Journal's Neighborhood Gifts page.**



So you found a partner...

What are some key aspects of a good partnership?

- Shared goals (these should be mutually agreed upon!)
- Collaboration and communication at every level
- Mutual understanding and respect
- Meaningful and equitable contributions from all parties involved (varies depending on work, might change/adapt as partnerships progress)
- Partnership agreements (this includes evaluations)

From SoapboxEngage: “When determining the parameters of the partnership, you should review the goals you set at the start. Work with your community partners to agree on how the partnership will be defined, as well as the sharing of resources and capacities. Outlining roles and responsibilities is an essential part of any community partnership action plan. Start slow. Building relationships takes time. Agreeing to key objectives to evaluate regularly can prevent or lessen conflicts or disagreements as the partnership blossoms.” ([Source](#))

“Reciprocity requires a continuous and intentional practice of valuing and drawing on the various forms of knowledge, resources and other assets that each person contributes to the shared activity and outcomes to a degree that the experience is felt by all to be equitable (adapted by Janke from Janke & Clayton, 2012).”
(Source)

“A reciprocal practice includes partners in collaborative conversations throughout all phases of the activity, including the development of ideas and plans to pursue jointly conceived efforts, the implementation of the activity, the analysis or interpretation of what was discovered or created, or the assessment of the project’s and partners’ shared efforts. Reciprocity demonstrates the value of the relationship, and the experiences of all partners are expressed by appropriate and relevant inclusion at key moments of the partnership, such as when decisions are being made about how to work together, who will do what, and assessments of how we know we are succeeding in our efforts along the way. In this way, reciprocity builds the hard to earn relationships and partnerships.” (Source)

Reciprocity & Community Partnerships



thank you

Contact Information:

Gabby Ryan

509-625-6858

gryan@spokanecity.org

