



# GROWING THE COLLABORATIVE WORK TO BETTER SERVE THE NEEDS OF FARMERS WITH DISABILITIES

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Partners

*NC Assistive Technology  
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*NC Agromedicine*

*DisAbility Partners*



# *Collaborative Work*



“If you have an apple and I have an apple and we exchange these apples then you and I will still each have one apple. But if you have an idea and I have an idea and we exchange these ideas, then each of us will have two ideas.”

*George Bernard Shaw*

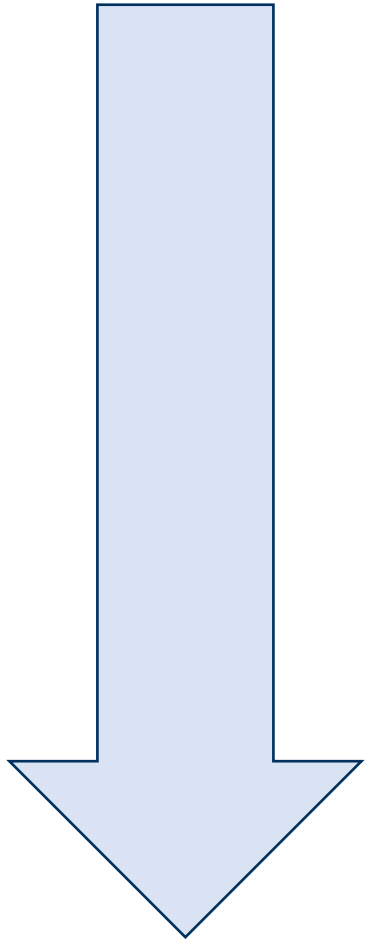


# *Advantages of Collaboration*

- Bringing diverse organizations and programs together
- Gathering and sharing resources, ideas, and information
- The diversification of talents and capabilities of individuals between agencies
- The limiting of overlap in services and the coordination of existing services
- Gaining access to skill sets of a person or group of people that may only be required for a certain project
- A unique chance to gain a better understanding of other organizations in the community.



# *Intensity of Partnership*



Cooperation

Collaboration

Integration



# *Are you Ready to Collaborate*

- Vision for the collaborative effort
- A firm commitment
- Time
- An open organizational culture
- Adequate funding or contribution



# *Unexpected Collaborations*

*Collaboration is a means to an end*

Joint efforts between dissimilar organizations are useful in terms of enhancing

1. agencies' focus
2. centralizing processes
3. improving communication within and between organizations
4. augmenting the chance of achieving the desired goal on the first try.





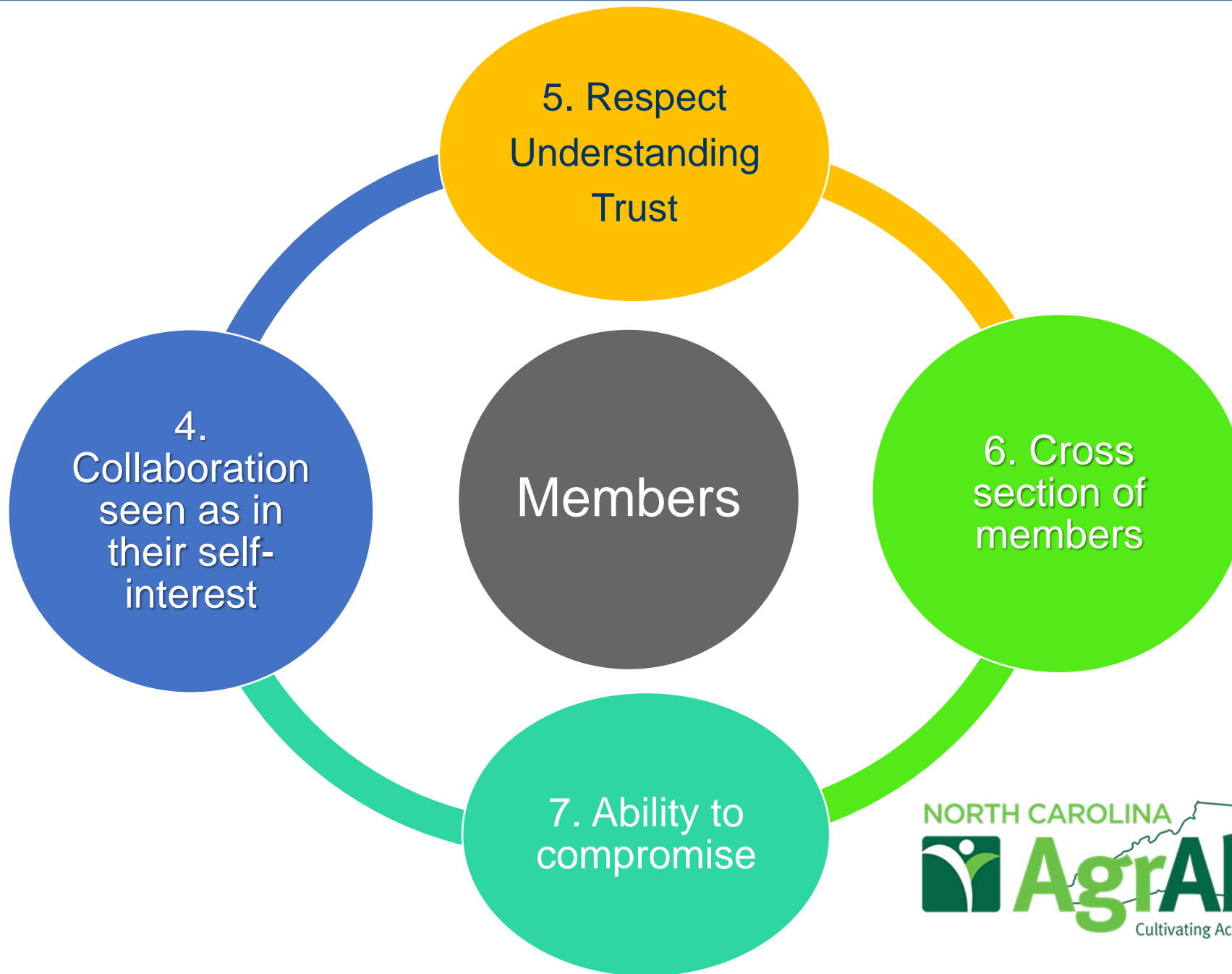
# *Advantages of Collaboration*

## Environment



1. A history of collaboration or cooperation in the community
2. Legitimate leader in the community
3. Favorable social and political climate

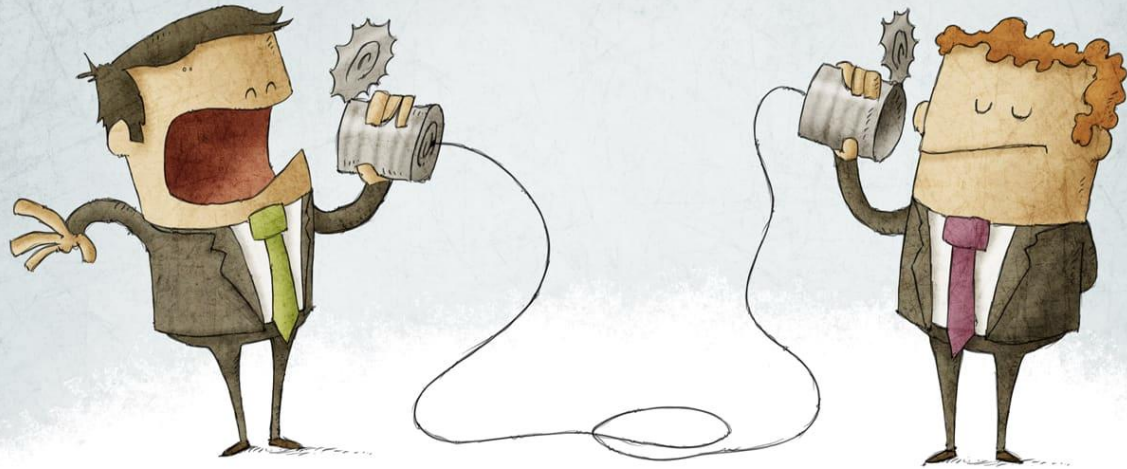




## Process and Structure

8. Members feel “ownership” of both the way the group works and the results or products of its work.
9. Multiple layers of participation
10. Flexibility
11. Development of clear roles and policy guidelines
12. Adaptability of collaborative partners
13. Appropriate pace of development

## Communication



14. Open and frequent communications

15. Established informal relationships and communication links

## Purpose

16. Concrete, attainable goals and objectives

17. Shared vision

18. Unique purpose

# Resources

19. Sufficient funds, staff, materials and time

20. Skilled leadership

# *Problem Solving*

## **The most common conflicts are**

- ❖ Progress is not being made
- ❖ Imbalance of power

Let's strength and increase  
our partnerships

