



THRIVINGTOGETHER

NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

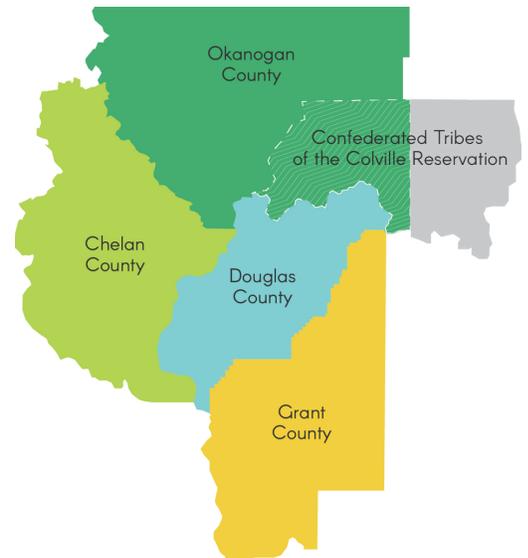
VITAL CONDITIONS NETWORK PARTNER AGREEMENT

OUR VISION

We come together as a network of individuals and organizations who live, work, serve, and invest in the North Central region. We are dedicated to a simple, measurable goal: All people and places thriving together - no exceptions.

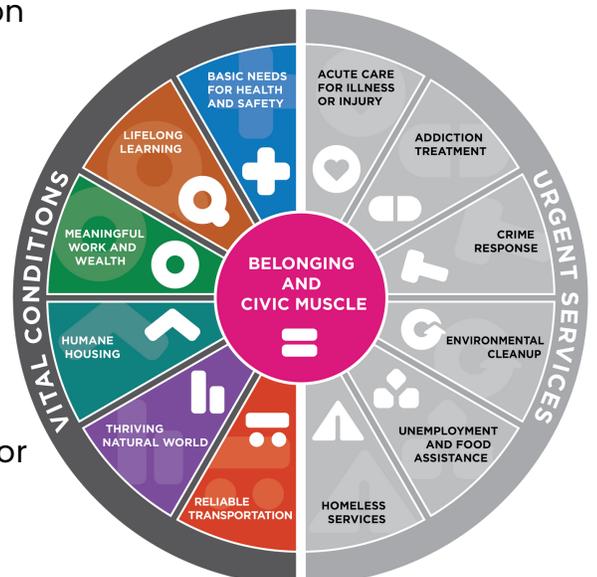
OUR REGION

North Central Washington includes Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan Counties and the Twelve Bands of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation: Chelan, Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce, Colville, Entiat, Lakes, Methow, Moses-Columbia, Nespelem, Okanogan, Palus, San Poil, Wenatchi.



OUR FRAMEWORK

Too many people in North Central Washington are struggling and suffering. Urgent services like emergency departments, food banks, and addiction treatment programs are a crucial part of the solution. Anyone might need them in a time of crisis, but urgent services can't by themselves produce health and wellbeing. For that, we need to build up the Vital Conditions that are essential for thriving. Each Vital Condition is connected to the others. When they decline, it drives demand for urgent services. By strengthening them and working "upstream", we can help people avoid crisis and lead their best possible lives. The Vital Conditions is an organizing framework for doing that in a strategic way.



OUR ACTION LEVERS

To build a future of thriving people and places, we rely on three main levers. They are rooted in a commitment of distributed leadership and a belief that power grows when it is shared. Thriving Together North Central Washington serves as a backbone organization for the network. Collectively, we will use the following levers to fulfill our vision of: All people and places thriving together – no exceptions.

1 Convene diverse partners for shared understanding, learning and action

It is important to have a common language and framework for understanding what drives the wellbeing of people and places – and what it takes to thrive. When we are able to build from a shared understanding, we are better positioned to take action together. When we create space for people and organizations to build relationships in new ways, we catalyze action and deepen trust. *We will:*

- Understand and explore the science of thriving together
- Learn about and extend the Vital Conditions framework and language across the region
- Create new narratives about what is possible, lifting up stories and examples of bright spots in our region

2 Measure and track wellbeing

We must hold ourselves accountable to each other and our communities by developing a deep understanding of wellbeing in the region. *We will:*

- Listen to and learn from local communities to identify meaningful indicators
- Measure community wellbeing to track progress toward our network vision
- Ensure that wellbeing data is accessible, credible, and actionable
- Support and complement existing data dashboards and community needs assessments
- Be guided by community experiences and aspirations for wellbeing

3 Identify and advance opportunities for collective action

By coming together to understand our mutual interests and goals for the region, we can better prioritize solutions and align regional investments around the Vital Conditions. *We will:*

- Contribute to and champion the network's capacities to strengthen the Vital Conditions throughout the region
- Balances priorities and investments in the Vital Conditions (upstream) with investments in urgent services (downstream)
- Connect local efforts and surface shared priorities to support sustainable action across the region



OUR COMMITMENTS

The Vital Conditions Network is open to all individuals and organizations who are committed to our shared vision and beliefs. We ask members to engage with an open mind and an open heart, with curiosity and excitement – and with an understanding that we learn as much from our failures as from our successes. Partners will contribute time, talent, and other resources to advance the network’s goals, understanding that everyone comes to the work with unique constraints and capabilities.



Big-Picture Focus | Partners are committed to understanding and supporting the interests of the entire region and all its residents, not just the needs of a particular group or organization. This includes a commitment to avoid narrow self-interest and to prioritize long-term gains over short-term benefits.



Equity | Partners know that disparities are driven by legacies of marginalization and exclusion. They are dedicated to changing unjust systems and being guided by those among us who are often left behind.



Advocacy | Partners will serve as vocal champions of the network’s vision and initiatives. We will try to speak with one voice and will encourage others to join us in the work.



Transparency | Partners will support mutual awareness and cooperation by communicating openly and sharing non-proprietary information and data from their organizations.



Mutual Understanding | Partners will communicate with one another in a way that is courteous and collaborative. The goal is to understand one another’s perspectives through dialogue, not to win arguments.



Engagement | Partners will actively participate in network activities and will work to advance the network’s vision within their own spheres of influence and through community engagement. We will strive to overcome obstacles to collaboration and will be creative in ‘getting to yes.’



Continuous Improvement | Partners will regularly conduct self-assessments to ensure that we are each working to put our beliefs into action and to center the voices and needs of our communities.

