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| **Engage community organizations and supports** | * Partner with out-of-school-time leads to ensure that two-way communication structures are in place to help the school and provider learn from one another.
* Identify and reach out to organizations and advocacy groups that specialize in services and supports aligned with SEL, positive youth development, and/or students’ academic achievement and school success.
* Collaborate with community organizations that are able to provide specialized skills that may not be available in the school.
* Ask community groups to help teachers and other school staff learn about the local community and likely partners for an SEL initiative.
* Engage community partners to support the school’s understanding and delivery of tier 2 and 3 supports for students.
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| **Link families with community resources and supports** | * Identify community organizations, programs, or activities that support health, recreation, social support, and cultural sensitivity. These may include organizations that focus on youth development, college preparation, mentoring, tutoring, mental health and counseling, food banks, and clothing providers. Keep an inventory of assistance agencies available in the community and help families access them when needed.
* Utilize support from the district related to family involvement in the context of community organizations and services. This office may also be able to facilitate professional learning for school staff members focused on linking families with community resources.
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| **Create community-based experiences for students** | * Connect with local organizations to identify service-learning activities for students.
* Reach out to organizations or businesses to schedule opportunities for student apprenticeships, jobs, and summer internships.
* Partner with local organizations or businesses to identify opportunities for students to learn about how they operate, what it takes to be a leader in such an environment, and what the business or organization does to help support their community.
* Organize ways to demonstrate the school’s commitment to its surrounding community. For example, organize a clean-up event for the school grounds and surrounding area through an “adopt a block” program or participate in hands-on efforts like Habitat for Humanity (Jeynes, 2011).
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**TOOL: Partnering with Community Organizations to Support SEL**

**Collaborating closely with out-of-school time partners?**

See the [OST-enhanced version of this tool](http://schoolguide.casel.org/uploads/2019/01/tool-partnering-with-community-organizations-OST-.docx).

(<http://schoolguide.casel.org/uploads/2019/01/tool-partnering-with-community-organizations-OST-.docx>)