



Community Resource Mapping

What is community resource mapping?

Community resource mapping is the process of creating an inventory of local, MTSS-B-related community services and resources that support youth and families' social-emotional well-being. The goal of community resource mapping is to help improve awareness and utilization of existing services and to identify resource gaps and duplication of services in the support of student and family social-emotional and behavioral health.

What counts as a “community resource”?

A community resource map should include organizations and resources that clearly support youth and family social-emotional well-being and behavioral health. Resource types to consider include:



Afterschool programs



Mental & behavioral healthcare providers



Childcare providers



Other health and wellness healthcare providers



Community or neighborhood coalitions



Juvenile justice/diversion programs



Early childhood programs



Social services



Higher education institutions



Substance misuse prevention & treatment programs/services



Tutoring services



Violence prevention programs



Emergency or crisis services



Youth arts organizations



Employment services



Youth athletic organizations



Family/child advocacy groups



Youth leadership & development programs



How does a community resource map inform MTSS-B implementation?

Community resource maps, especially when paired with local risk and protective factor data, equip decision-makers with knowledge about existing assets and gaps relevant to their MTSS-B efforts. This knowledge is vital in early MTSS-B planning efforts and should be revisited annually to inform MTSS-B strategies and partnerships throughout the implementation process:

- In the early stages of MTSS-B implementation, a community resource map could help an Exploration Team determine which organizations should be represented in a District-Community Leadership Team (DCLT).
- Once a DCLT is established, it can use a community resource map to inform district-wide goals and priorities. By understanding existing assets and gaps, DCLT members can more accurately envision how to secure the supports and resources needed for MTSS-B implementation. A completed resource map will inform many elements of the DCLT's action-planning phase.
- Individual schools may want to revisit their district's community resource map - or start their own - if they are looking to pursue partnerships with organizations that are specific to activities or practices they will be implementing locally.
- A community resource map should be revisited and updated each year to reflect change over time. Refreshing a community resource map can remind the DCLT of untapped resources and identify persisting gaps in local resources.

How do we complete a community resource map?

The **MTSS-B Community Resource Map** tool provides a template to guide teams through community resource mapping. The process involves creating a list of MTSS-B-related community organizations, assessing available services and resources already provided and the district/school's existing level of connection with each organization, and responding to a series of prompts to generate insights and action steps to inform planning.