# Adobe Connect Audio Tips

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptom</th>
<th>Quick Fix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You cannot hear others</td>
<td>• Check mute settings in Adobe and on headset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Turn up volume on computer and/or headset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Check audio settings in computer control panel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Turn off other video conferencing software</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long delays in speaking or hearing</td>
<td>• Switch from Wi-Fi to Ethernet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Restart computer</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>• Open only essential programs</td>
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About MANY

MANY is the only national network of its kind, convening organizations across sectors to strengthen outcomes for youth and young adults at highest risk for victimization and/or delinquency.

- **Increase Cross-sector Collaboration**
  - Generate innovative solutions that move organizations from working in single-issue silos to working across issue sectors.

- **Unearth & Share Innovation**
  - Identify, evaluate, and share effective practices that clearly communicate what works, and what doesn’t.

- **Cultivate Evidence**
  - Support implementation of evidence-based practices and foster strong bases of evidence.

- **Improve Outcomes**
  - Achieve real changes in the lives of youth, young adults, and their families on issues facing this population today.
Youth Services Field
12,000 (50 states)

Training & Consulting
3,000 (50 states)

Membership
206 (48 states)

Sub-grantees
Dana Goodrow

TA Manager, MANY
Pittsburgh
www.manynet.org

“Dana knows how to bring the best minds together to tackle some of the hardest social service issues out there.”
“Mentors matter and my aim in life is to be an advocate for positive change in any way possible.”

Tina McGuinness
Executive Director,
Gunnison Valley Mentors,
Colorado
www.gunnisonmentors.com

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Kathy Schwartzhoff

Mentoring Coordinator, Helping Services for Youth and Families, Iowa

www.helpingservices.org

“I love connecting with others to share my knowledge while learning new things in that exchange.”
Chad Butt

Executive Director,
Mobius,
Vermont

www.mobiusmentors.org

“Chad champions a culture of contagious energy and leads the charge to grow mentoring programs to their fullest potential.”
Laura Laabs

Grants Director, Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Wyoming
www.wyobbbs.org

“Laura applies her love of data and successful writing skills to serve youth in mentoring programs.” - Endorsement
AGENDA AND GOALS
Agenda

• What We Know
  • Challenges of Mentoring in Rural Communities
• Creating a Plan for Success
• Next Steps
Goals

• Discuss potential challenges and strengths specific to mentoring in rural communities.
• Discuss ways to overcome challenges and harness strengths.
• Develop strategies to create successful programs.
• Develop tools and resources that can turn strategy into action.
• Gather additional insight from the field on best practices for rural mentoring programs.
WHAT WE KNOW

THE REALITIES OF MENTORING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES
Mentoring in Rural Communities

• All children and youth can benefit from mentoring.
• Rural communities inherently have unique strengths and challenges.
• These characteristics can impact the ability to create and run effective mentoring programs.
• There are few resources or tools designed specifically to address the needs of rural mentoring programs.
Mentoring in Rural Communities

Benefits:

• Can reduce physical isolation.
• Provides opportunity for experiences outside of one’s own environment.
• Can bridge the gap between socioeconomic groups in a community.
• Addresses some of the issues that are prevalent in rural populations, such as substance abuse and teen pregnancy.
Rural programs:
• Are more likely to require year-long matches than urban programs (83 percent to 70 percent)
• Are more likely to expect weekly or more frequent content (72 percent to 58 percent)
• Have a longer average match length (23 months to 17 months)
• And have a higher percentage of matches last their intended duration (79 percent to 75 percent)
Mentoring in Rural Communities

Challenges:
• Limited resources
• Vast geographical distances
• Distrust of outsiders
• Limited infrastructure
• Small population base
Mentoring in Rural Communities: Traveling the Distance to Facilitate Your Program

Challenges identified:
• Recruitment and retention
• Transportation
• Finding resources for activities
• Privacy
CREATING A PLAN FOR SUCCESS
Building on Evidence: What We’ve Learned

Based on conversations from rural mentoring staff around the country:

• Some challenges are inherent; strategic thinking and planning are key.

• Solutions fall into three categories:
  1. Drawing on the strengths of rural communities
  2. Messaging and marketing
  3. Collaborations and partnerships
What are some of the inherent strengths of rural communities?
1. Drawing on the Strengths of Rural Communities

- Access to resources and activities
  - Existing resources
  - Planning

- Mentoring Center

- Recruitment
  - Youth-initiated/Natural mentoring
  - Mentoring ambassadors
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Recruitment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Calendar Template</td>
<td>• Youth Initiated Mentoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SWOT Analysis</td>
<td>• Natural Mentoring Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Discount card program template</td>
<td>• Ambassador training</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Local newspaper calendars</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Community Asset Mapping</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Sample Community Asset Map</td>
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Community Asset Mapping

• An asset/strength based approach to looking at the community
• A way to interconnect you, your agency, allies, stakeholders, other agencies, and the community
• A tool to identify, know, and track resources
• A tool to clarify gaps that may exist
• A tool for growth and development
2. Messaging and Marketing

• Recruitment
  • Everyone recruits, all the time
  • Marketing tips

• Privacy/Confidentiality
  • Reducing stigma around mentoring
  • Protecting privacy of program participants
# Tools

## Privacy
- Tip Sheet for Reducing Stigma
- Promoting Your Program to Increase Participation
- Sample confidentiality policies

## Recruitment
- 7 Simple Steps to Recruit Volunteers
- Ten Time-Tested Volunteer Recruitment Tips that Still Work
- 10 Awesome Marketing Ideas for non-Profits
- 12 Best Low-Cost Marketing Ideas for Your Non-Profit
3. Partnerships and Collaboration

- Activities/Transportation
  - Coordinating events
  - Leveraging partnerships

- Recruitment
  - Creating opportunities

- Funding
What partnerships have been most useful to you?
## Tools

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<th>Recruitment</th>
<th>Funding</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Sample MOU</td>
<td>• Recruitment Plan</td>
<td>• 7 Ways Small Businesses Can Help Nonprofits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Letter of Agreement Template</td>
<td>• Fundraising Q&amp;A: Approaching Small Businesses for Support</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transportation tip sheet</td>
<td>• Tip sheet: Approaching foundations</td>
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NEXT STEPS
Bringing Focus to Rural Communities

- Gather further insights from the field
- Develop resources specific to mentoring in rural communities
- Advance the evidence base for best practices in rural mentoring
Resources

• Mentoring in Rural Communities: Traveling the Distance to Facilitate Your Program
• Delivering Quality Mentoring Services in Rural and Tribal Settings: A Case Study of the North Dakota Tribal Rural mentoring Partnership
• Youth-Initiated Mentoring
• Does Mentoring Work in Rural Areas?
• Building a Strong Connected Rural Mentoring Program
2018 MANY Membership

Become a MANY Member to receive discounts, special invitations, and so much more!

25% off all MANY webinars for all Members.

Up to 25% off MANY trainings and consulting services, including proposal review services, for Organizational Members.

Access to opportunities for sub-contracts through intermediary grants awarded to MANY, for Organizational Members.


For the full list of member benefits, visit:
www.MANYnet.org/Membership

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Upcoming Places to find MANY

• RHYTTAC Conference – November 14-16, 2017
• MENTOR Summit – January 24-26, 2018
• 2018 Federal Funding Webinar series – more info coming soon!
Evaluation

Please complete the evaluation:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NQC8WY9
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