# 1.5 Potential Network Partners

**Purpose:** This list includes examples of local, county, regional, and national resources, such as government, quasi-government, nongovernmental, and private sector agencies and organizations that may represent or serve functional needs populations in your community.

**Directions:** When building your network, start with a few organizations that represent each functional need and expand as your work continues. Choose the organizations with the largest reach first. Refer to online lists of agencies and organizations for names of local chapters.

## Functional Need: Transportation

* Air services, if applicable
* Amtrak
* Commuter rail
* Emergency medical transport services
* Ferries
* Human service providers
* Metropolitan planning organizations or regional planning councils
* Non-emergency medical transportation services (e.g., dialysis)
* Private coach companies
* Public and private transportation providers
* Rural transportation agencies
* Schools
* State departments of transportation
* Transit and paratransit agencies
* Transportation Coordinating Councils
* Transportation planning departments
* Transportation service providers (e.g., cab and taxi services)
* United We Ride initiatives
* University transportation centers

## Functional Need: Communication

* Agencies serving people who are deaf and hard of hearing
* Agencies serving people who are blind or have low vision
* Agencies that work with individuals with disabilities, immigrants and children, and other human service agencies
* Assistive communication technology programs and services
* Business resources (ethnic grocers, translation services)
* Centers for refugees and immigrants
* Colleges and universities
* Culture-specific faith organizations
* English as a second language programs
* Ethnic media
* Literacy programs
* Local affiliations of national advocacy organizations; for example, organizations serving people who are blind and visually impaired, deaf/blind
* Local ham radio operator network (e.g.,
* Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service)
* Minority Health Offices
* Multicultural community centers and chambers of commerce
* National Council of La Raza and its Affiliate Network

## Functional Need: Maintaining Independence

* Agencies that provide home-delivered meals (e.g., Meals on Wheels)
* American Red Cross
* Area Agencies on Aging/aging services
* Catholic Charities
* Disability organizations and agencies that work with individuals with disabilities
* Faith organizations
* Farm bureaus
* Food banks, homeless shelters
* Hotels, tourism, and visitors organizations
* Independent Living Centers
* Nonprofit organizations – state and local
* Retirement communities
* Salvation Army
* Tribal agencies
* Urban and rural ministries
* Utility services (e.g., water, electric)
* Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)
* Welfare and income assistance programs (e.g., Women, Infants, and Children [WIC] Program)

## Functional Need: Supervision

* After school programs and volunteer programs (e.g., Big Brothers Big Sisters, YMCA)
* American Association of Retired Persons local chapter
* Area agencies on aging/aging services
* Assisted living facilities
* Behavioral and mental health agencies
* Centers for developmental disabilities
* Child and adult day care centers (contact the state agency responsible for licensing child care providers)
* Child and family services
* Early childhood development centers and learning programs
* Pre-schools
* Schools (public and private, charter, and magnet schools)
* Senior centers
* Social service agencies

## Functional Need: Medical Care

* Federally qualified health centers
* First responders
* Health departments
* Hospice and home health services
* Medical clinics and programs
* Hospitals and other health care facilities
* Nursing homes
* Rural health initiatives
* Substance abuse centers and programs
* Suppliers of durable medical equipment
* Veteran’s Hospitals
* Veterans’ organizations
* Visiting Nurse Associations