



BUILDING BETTER PARTNERSHIPS

Presented by UWM Student Involvement

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**"CREATING THE PERFECT
PARTNERSHIP TAKES
UNDERSTANDING,
SIGNIFICANT EFFORT, AND
ABOVE ALL A SINCERE DESIRE
TO MAKE IT WORK."**

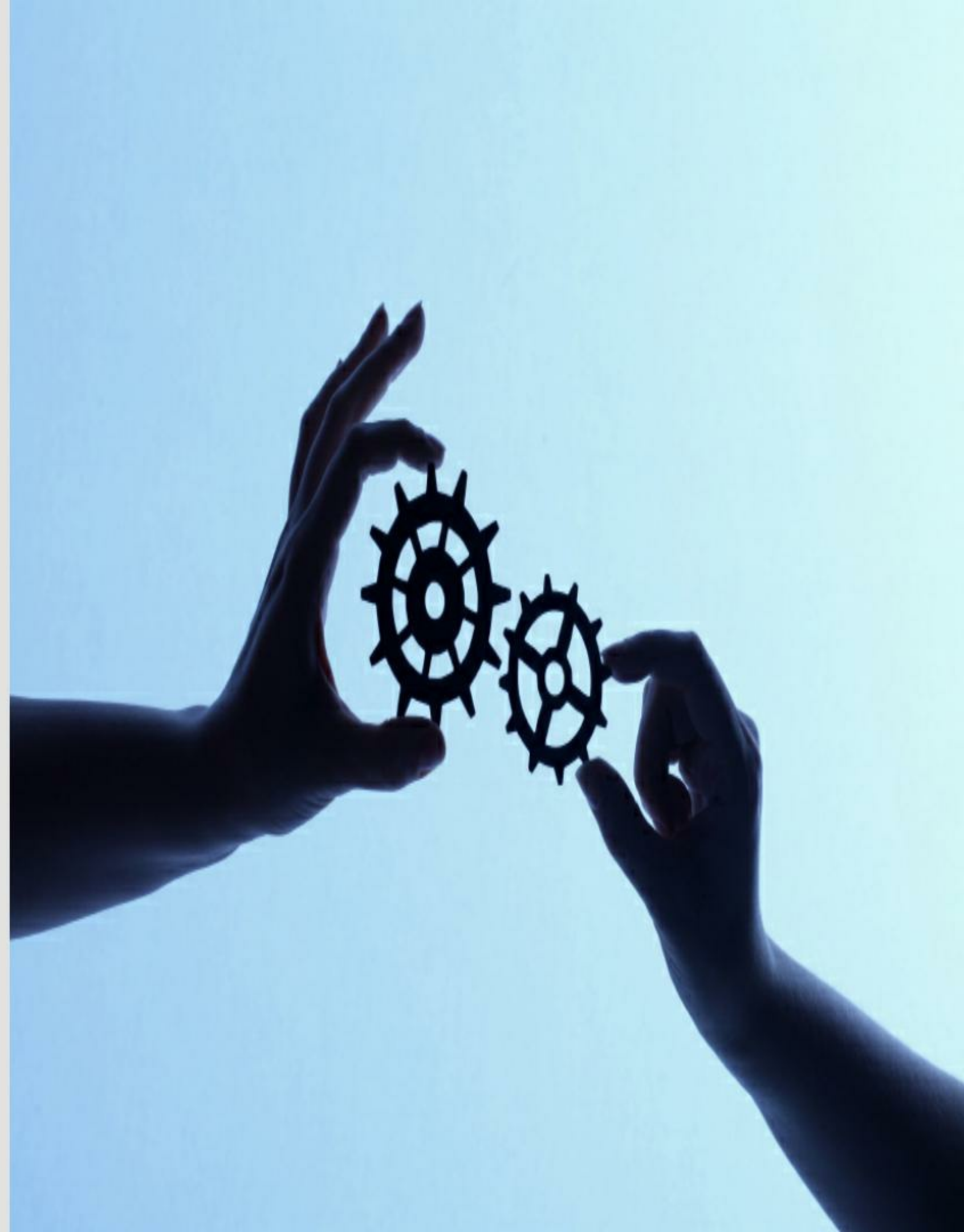
- STEPHEN KEY

STEPS TO BUILDING BETTER PARTNERSHIPS:

- Identify strengths, weakness, and values
- Define long-term and short-term goals
- Determine roles
- Set boundaries
- Create clear communication
- Show appreciation

IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Start by listing what you and your organization bring to the table and where gaps may exist. Partnerships should be complimentary. Knowing your own strengths and weaknesses helps in choosing the right partners.



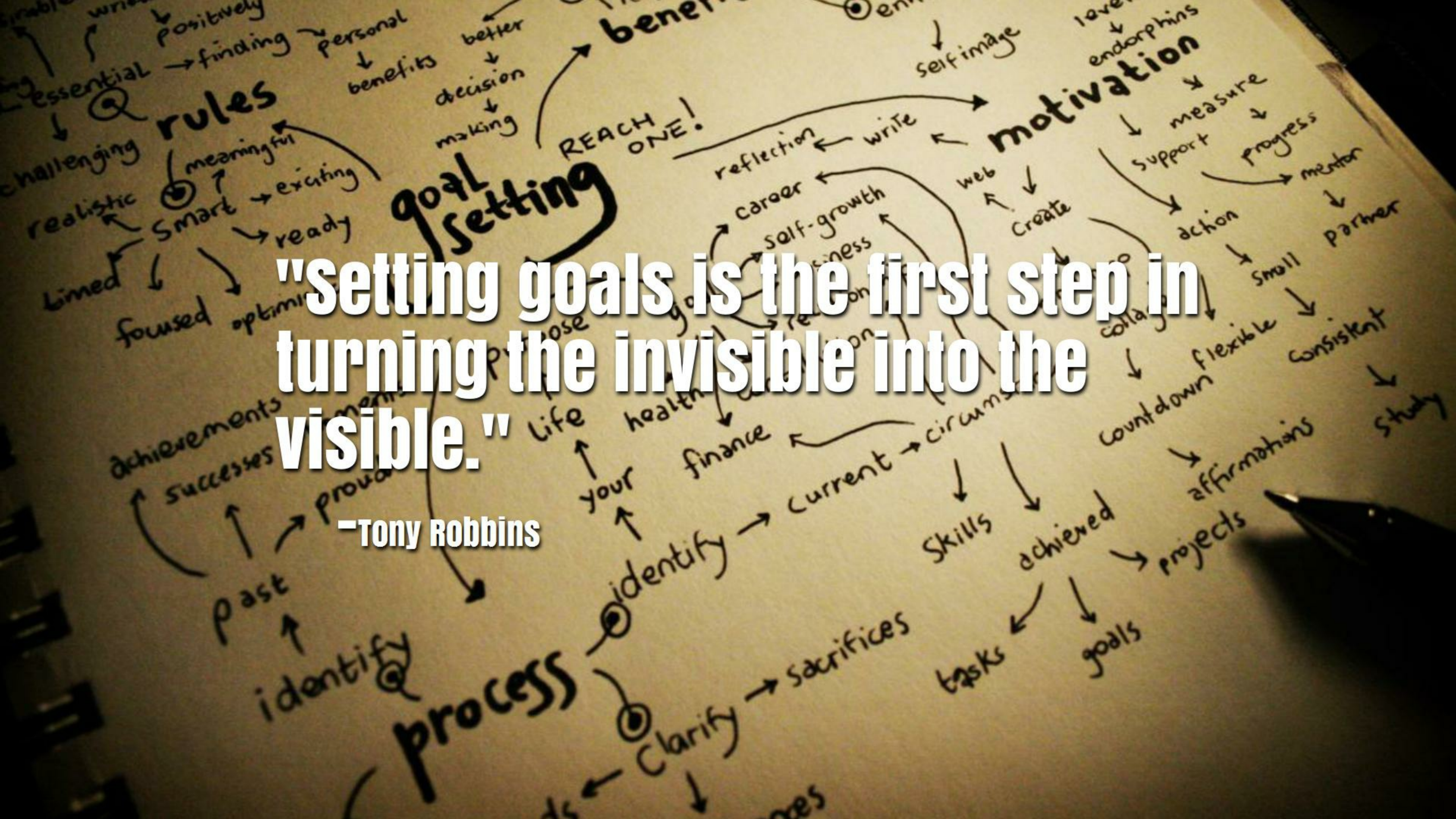
SHARING VALUES

Values are important in relationships because they can be used to make tough decisions and resolve difficult situations. Ask yourself, your org, and your potential partners about their values.



"Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible."

—Tony Robbins





SETTING GOALS

Whether they be long- or short-term, setting goals establishes expectations and level of commitment. Discuss goals upfront and determine if they are compatible and if you can work together to achieve them.



SETTING GOALS

Once you've agreed on what you want to achieve together, put it in writing. Doing so provides a structure to make decisions and manage future expectations and outcomes. Be clear and concise with your goals so as to erase any ambiguity.

DEFINING ROLES

Before getting started make sure that everyone in the partnerships knows who is responsible for what. Take time to define responsibilities and ensure that there is no overlap in your efforts



DEFINING ROLES

Roles may change over time and having flexibility to adjust to those changes will aide in your collaborations. Be sure to support each others efforts as well. Avoid the "work together separately" mindset.



SET BOUNDARIES

Once goals and roles are set the next step is to set boundaries. Ensure all parties know where the limits of involvement, commitment, and even financial responsibilities. Avoid potential conflict by knowing where everyone stands.

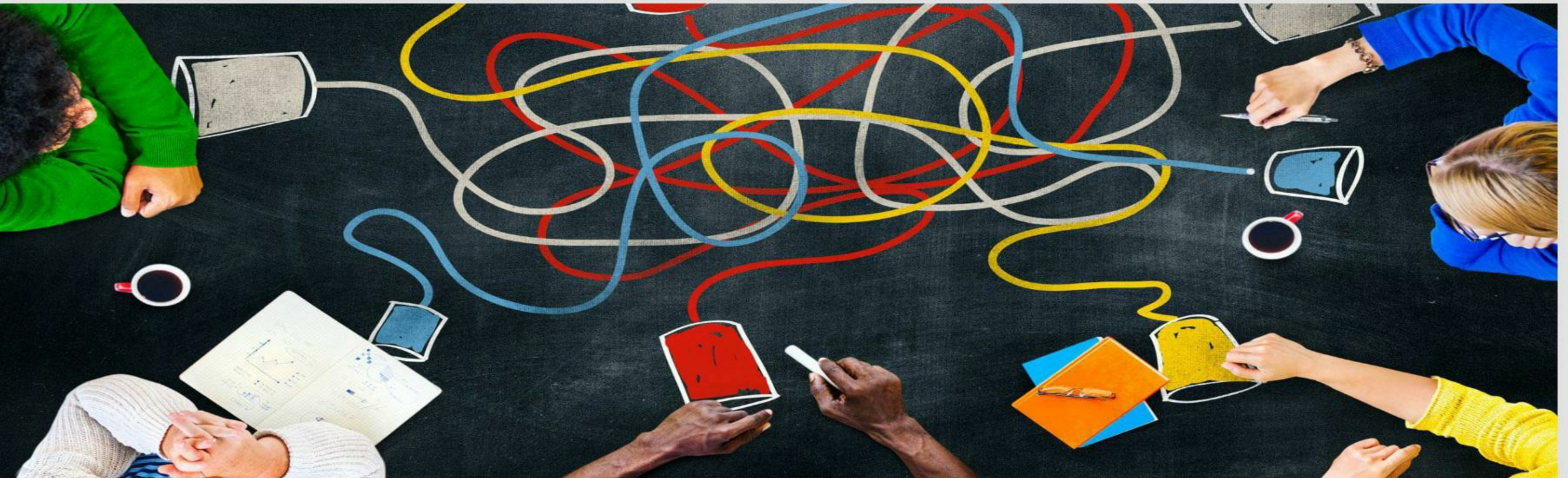


"THE ART OF
COMMUNICATION
IS THE LANGUAGE
OF LEADERSHIP"

- James Humes

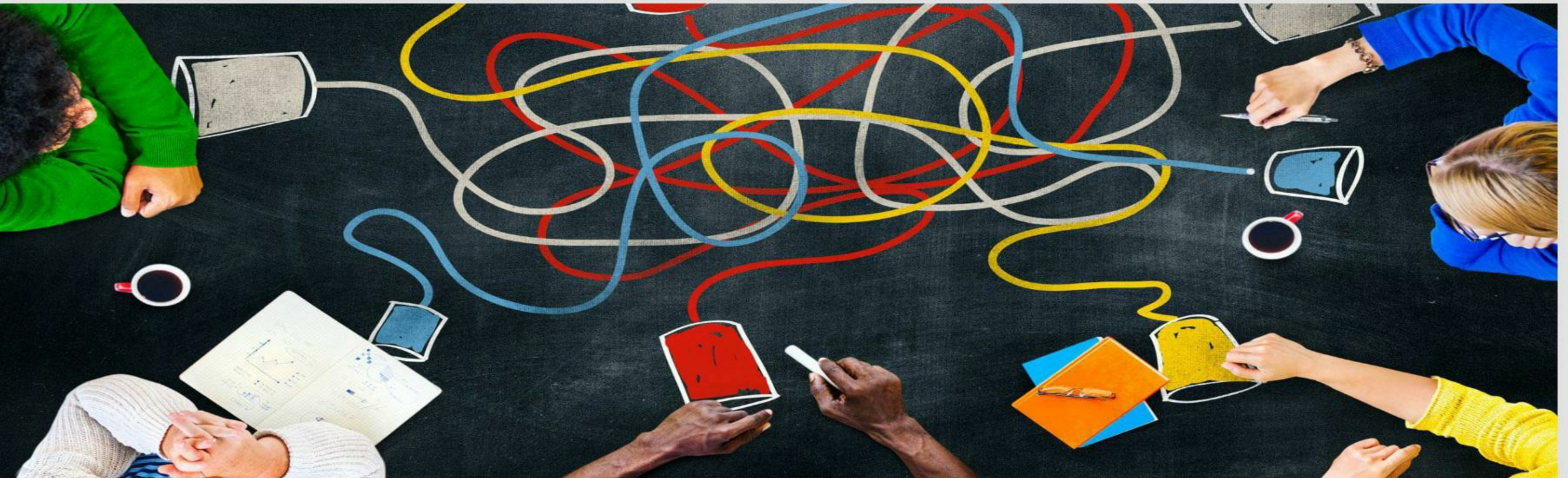
LEAR COMMUNICATION

Set the tone of your partnerships with communication that is clear, concise, and regular. Know ahead of time if email or phone works better. Schedule recurring times and dates that are available to facilitate discussion.



LEAR COMMUNICATION

If a clear path for talking about problems, support, goals, roles, or boundaries is not available frustration can fester and ruin a partnership. Take ownership of how you communicate.





SHOW APPRECIATION

Finally, take the time to show partners that you appreciate them. Write a thank you letter, send a token of appreciation, give a memento, or find another way to show gratitude. This will go a long way in ensuring a lasting partnership.

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