Map Drawing Activity
for Individuals

Think of a project you are currently working on. A good project for this activity is a project where you are working with other organizations, volunteers or community residents – not just a project with only staff from your organization. Examples might be putting on a conference or workshop, organizing a voter registration effort, developing a new service, planning a new community center, etc.

You can do this activity with your entire project team, just one person from your team, or by yourself first (hopefully having the whole team do it later).

On a 9 x 11 paper or chart paper draw a circle for yourself and label. Then draw circles for others you are working with on that project. This includes all those who are coming to meetings, providing resources such as space or money, those writing up reports or notes, etc. Next, draw lines between you and the others. Then draw lines between any of the people in the project who know each other. This is the **Project Core**.

Now, out further, draw circles for other individuals and organizations that you are working with on the project but less frequently and draw lines to the individuals in your project network who have the relationship with that individual. This would include consultants helping to design a brochure, people you called up to learn about similar projects, program officers for your project grant, etc. This is your **Project Periphery**.

Then add other individuals or groups they are connected to (who might add value to your project) and draw lines connecting them. This would be when someone in your project group knows a grantwriter or graphics consultant who might be pulled into the project, or when someone in the project has a good relationship with a funder who might be interested in your project. These are what is called **Your Friends' Friends Network**.

Finally, around the outside edge, put circles for individuals or groups you are not working with on this project, but who could add value to the project if they were involved. These might be people with expertise, people from others communities who have been innovating in ways that would be of value to your initiative, or people who are often left out of projects (people of color, low-income individuals, individuals being served by the initiative, young people, elders, etc). This is your **Potential Network**.

Then answer the questions:
   a. What do you notice about this network? Is your project periphery easy to access for the resources and expertise you need?
   b. Is your core large enough to get the work done?
   c. Who in the periphery, friends' friends, or potential network would add most value to your project network if they could become part of the core? Part of the periphery?
   d. Who could help you get to know key people in your friends' friends network or in the potential network?
   e. Who is missing from your network?