

Community Discussion and Breakfast
Creating Healthy Communities: Thinking & Working Together Outside the Box
Community Action Agency in Cincinnati, April 12, 2011

10 min – Sarena and then Susan

(A) Sarena opens the session and explains our focus today is on community-university partnerships – how to effectively mobilize the knowledge, wisdom and assets in communities and in universities to create healthy communities. She says a few words about CCPH and trends that are driving the development of community-university partnerships nationally. Sarena and Susan each say a few words about how/why we got into this work.

20 min (5 min intro, 15 min small groups) - Sarena

(B) By show of hands: how many of you are collaborating with universities – perhaps through student service-learning or internships in your agency, perhaps by collaborating on a research study, perhaps by having faculty serve as consultants or board members, etc.

1. Set up small groups:
 - a. At tables – identify someone who’s willing to facilitate the discussion
 - b. Go around the table and have each person introduce themselves and share a story (if they have one) of their own experience with a community-university partnership – or relationship if it’s not accurate to call it a partnership per se.
 - c. As a group, discuss what’s working well and what’s not working so well in community-university relations from your experience. What have been the benefits? The limitations?

10 min for C1 - Susan

15 min for C2 and C3 – Susan

(C) In large group

1. Call the group back to order and invite people to share highlights from their table discussions.
2. Offer insights into what we mean by effective and equitable community-university partnerships
3. Explain that we are now going to focus more specifically on community-university research partnerships and how these can contribute to healthy communities. Introduce the topic of research by explaining what we mean by it (not just academic research)

10 min - Sarena

(D) By a show of hands

How many of you would say that you are involved in research? How about in program evaluation? How many of you would say that you use evidence or data of some sort on a regular basis in your work? How many of you have been involved in a community-university partnership that involved research or program evaluation? If some people in the room answer yes to the last question, invite 1 or 2 to say a few words about the collaboration, how/why it got started, what’s working well, what the benefits have been, what the challenges are/have been.

15 min - Sarena

(E) As a group, discuss these questions:

1. What are the sorts of issues or questions that you (yourself, your organization, your community) are grappling with that you think need to be addressed in order to build a healthier community?
2. How might the community and university engage around these issues or questions?

15 min – Susan and then Sarena

(F) Susan shares our definition of CBPR, what's working and what's not working, and tools/innovations they may wish to implement such as the Community Impact Statement. Sarena highlights tools and resources available through CCPH and invites the U of Cincinnati representatives to share info about resources that participants might follow-up on if anyone is interested in engaging more in community-university partnerships or collaborative research