Center for Community-Based Research (CCBR)

Mission
The CCBR serves the mission of the Charities through research and education. It is committed to the empowerment of underserved communities through community capacity building and facilitating a community’s ability to enhance its health from the inside out.

Goals
The CCBR is committed to realizing (a) collaborative health partnerships with underserved communities (b) community capacity building in research and health assessment through community-based teaching and learning (c) informing grant-making decisions of the Charities, (d) experiential education through internships for undergraduate and graduate students, (e) community-campus partnerships with multiple academic institutions, (f) certification of CCBR community faculty to conduct research and community capacity building.

Motivating Principles
CCBR’s Mission and Goals are grounded in these principles:
- Community expertise and resources are utilized equitably as full partners in:
  - design and implementation from the initial conceptualization through dissemination of research and education practices.
  - budget content and allocations.
- Local knowledge and expertise are fundamental, valued, respected, integrated and prioritized.
- CCBR expertise and resources are equitably informed and directed by community to benefit, enhance and serve community assets and needs.

Operating Structure
The CCBR Mission and Goals are implemented through two practice components - research and education.
- **Research** practice components include:
  - Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) – community health partnerships to assess community assets and needs.
  - Community Health Information System (CHIS) – an online, interactive website for creating concise demographic, health and social profiles of 57 Southeast Texas Counties.
- **Education** practice components include:
  - Academy for Community-based Capacity Building and Assessment.
  - Scholars in Residence.
  - Internships for undergraduate and graduate students.

St. Luke’s Episcopal Health Charities, home to the Center for Community-Based Research, was created in 1997 as a separate component of the St. Luke’s Episcopal Health System located in Houston, Texas. It is a public, non-operating charity with 501(c)3 status that has engaged in grantmaking and community-based research since its inception. It has awarded 1,475 grants totaling more than $76 million to nonprofit service organizations in the Houston area and 39 Texas counties; it uses targeted, neighborhood-level assessments to direct its grantmaking toward disease prevention and health promotion among the underserved. More details are located at SLEHC's website, [www.slehc.org](http://www.slehc.org).

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