



The Health Disparities Service-Learning Collaborative
*An Initiative of Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Funded by the
Learn and Serve America Program of the Corporation for National and Community Service*

PRACTICAL GUIDES FOR AUTHORS WRITING ABOUT CBPR & SERVICE-LEARNING

**HDSLCL Teleconference Call #8
May 28, 2008**

Minutes

Eric Bass, Editor-in-Chief of *Progress in Community Health Partnerships*, and community liaison **Barbara Bates-Hopkins** provided an overview of journal writing on community-engaged scholarship, with tips on collaborative methodology and co-authoring. Highlighted below are key points from this presentation. For presentation details, please refer to the slides posted on the secured HDSLCL webpage.

- As with community-engaged scholarship generally, community partner participation in manuscript development can strengthen the product by offering conceptual ideas that structure the paper, deepening the interpretation of results, and crafting the article to reach a broader audience.
- Discuss the goal of a manuscript and issues of authorship early in the project process so community members can plan for their participation. Training on manuscript development can be useful, as well as exploring ways to capture community input (e.g., interview community partners for ideas to include in the paper; solicit community feedback in terms of paper outline, study design and results interpretation).
- Support your community-engaged approach throughout the paper. In the introduction, explain the value of community participation and limits of more traditional methods in regard to your project. In the methods section, articulate your participatory procedures (e.g., how did you identify community partners, what roles did partners play in the research) and document how community concerns were addressed are part of your ethical discussion. In the results, include how the community responded to the study (e.g., intervention).
- In selecting a journal for your manuscript, check the editorial board to see if there is current expertise in community-engaged scholarship. Also, keep in mind when choosing your citations that editors sometimes use these to help identify potential reviewers!
- For a list of journals that publish community-engaged scholarship visit <http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/links.html#Journals>

Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action is a new journal sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University Urban Health Institute and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and offers the following article categories for collaborative publications:

- ***Original Research*** – CBPR reports and formal evaluations
- ***Work-in-Progress & Lessons Learned*** – projects in the early stages or not involving formal evaluation
- ***Policy & Practice***
- ***Theory & Methods***
- ***Education & Training*** - articles on service-learning, etc
- ***Community Perspective*** – a place for community partners to share their experiences and interpretations of the community-engaged endeavor
- ***Practical Tools*** – articles on the tools developed for particular projects
- ***Review Articles*** and ***Editorials*** – turn that literature review into an article!