Building and maintaining effective community-based participatory research partnerships: an interactive session based on best practices

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CCPH Mission

To promote health through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions

HEALTH….eliminating health disparities
…achieving a diverse and community-responsive health workforce

PARTNERSHIPS….service-learning, community-based participatory research and evaluation, policy and advocacy
Examining Community-Institutional Partnerships for Prevention Research

Project Goal: To build the capacity of communities and institutions* to engage in participatory approaches to prevention research

* colleges, universities, health departments

Project website: http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/researchprojects.html#ExaminingCommunityPartnerships

Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through a cooperative agreement with the Association of Schools of Public Health
Project Partners

- APHA Caucus on Community-Based Public Health
- CDC Prevention Research Centers- Michigan, Yale-Griffin
- CDC Prevention Research Centers National Community Committee
- CDC Urban Research Centers - Seattle, Detroit
- Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
- Community Health Scholars Program
- Wellesley Central Health Corporation
Project Activities

- First Year Report of Findings and Recommendations, January 2004
- Advocating for implementations of policy recommendations for funders
- Developing CBPR training Curriculum
“A collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community, has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change to improve health outcomes and eliminate health disparities.”

WK Kellogg Foundation Community Health Scholars Program
Characteristics of Successful Partnerships

- Trusting relationships
- Equitable processes/procedures
- Diverse partners
- Leadership
- All partners benefit
- Supportive reward structures

- Science enhanced by community involvement
- Balancing process & action
- Ongoing partner development
- Sustainable impact
- Collaborative dissemination
- Ongoing assessment, improvement, celebration
Recommendations

- **Partnership-focused**
  - At the level of the partnership
  - At the collective level across partnerships
- **Institution-focused**
- **Community-focused**
  - At the level of the community partner
  - At the collective level across partners
- **Funding agency-focused**

* highlighted in this presentation
Recommendations - at the level of the partnership

- Pay close attention to membership issues
- Develop structures and processes that help develop trust and sharing of influence and control among partners
- Provide training and technical assistance to partners
- Plan ahead for sustainability
- Pay close attention to the balance of activities within the partnership
- Be strategic about dissemination
- Invest in ongoing assessment, improvement and celebration
Recommendations – partnerships collectively

- Facilitate implementation of partnership-level recommendations (e.g., through training, case studies of best practices)
- Increase funding for partnerships for prevention research (e.g., by working with funding agencies, cultivating supporters)
- Facilitate linkages among organizations that support or are involved in partnerships for prevention research
- Work to integrate principles and methods of partnerships for prevention research into core activities of health professional schools and health departments
CBPR Curriculum Training Module

Goal:
Meet continuing need for training and education for all partners that will enhance their capacity for CBPR

Format:
Translates project’s work into series of short presentations, case studies, and interactive exercises designed to trigger discussion and equip participants with strategies and tools

Training/Institute, Hard copy workbook with CD-ROM

Audience:
Partnerships teams which include people representing both community and institutional partners
Partnerships in the initiation, development, or sustaining phase
Unit 1: What is CBPR and why should we do it?
- Definition
- Key principles
- Rationale
- Ethical issues
- When is CBPR not for you?

Unit 2: Developing a CBPR partnership: Getting started
- Identifying and selecting partners
- Process for getting to know partners and establishing trust
- Addressing expectations/responsibilities/accountability/roles
- Process for setting priorities
- Establishing organizational policies and infrastructure
Unit 3: Getting the work done
- Collaborative proposal writing
- Addressing ownership issues, fiscal concerns and management & staffing
- Establishing processes for decision-making and resources allocation
- Translating research into policy and dissemination

Unit 4: How to sustain a CBPR partnership
- Using partnership evaluation for management, planning and strategizing
- Weathering the change process and conflict resolution
- Appreciation and celebration
- Sustaining and institutionalizing programs, interventions and activities
- Capacity building among institutional and community partners
Resources

Online Clearinghouse: Includes sample CBPR course syllabi, peer-reviewed journal publications, announcements of related projects/events [http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/commbas.html](http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/commbas.html)

Electronic Discussion Group: Listserv provides resource for sharing knowledge and experience. To subscribe: [https://mailman.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/cbpr](https://mailman.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/cbpr)


Faculty Promotion and Tenure: Includes sample promotion and tenure policies and other resources to further recognize and reward CBPR as scholarship [http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/scholarship.html](http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/scholarship.html)
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