

Examining Community- Institutional Partnerships for Prevention Research



**Prepared for the Federal Interagency
Working Group on CBPR**

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Presentation & Discussion



- ⌘ Introductions
- ⌘ Project overview
- ⌘ Project findings and recommendations
- ⌘ Opportunities for collaboration

Project Goal



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

* colleges, universities, health departments

Project Partners



- ⌘ APHA Caucus on Community-Based Public Health
- ⌘ CDC Prevention Research Centers - New York, Yale-Griffin
- ⌘ CDC Prevention Research Centers National Community Committee
- ⌘ CDC Urban Research Centers - Seattle, Detroit, New York
- ⌘ Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
- ⌘ Community Health Scholars Program

Project Funder



- ⌘ The CDC Prevention Research Centers Program through a cooperative agreement with the Association of Schools of Public Health
- ⌘ Initial two year project, 10/1/02 - 9/30/04

Project Opportunities



- ⌘ The promise of participatory research
 - ☑ increasing relevance, cultural sensitivity and quality of research questions, findings & dissemination
 - ☑ enhanced research participation and support by communities
 - ☑ understanding social determinants of health
 - ☑ translating research into sustained practice & policy
- ⌘ Growing interest in participatory research
- ⌘ IOM reports, NIH roadmap
- ⌘ Building on knowledge of 9 organizations

Project Objectives - Year 1



- ⌘ Identify and synthesize lessons learned about developing successful community-institutional partnerships for prevention research
- ⌘ Identify key factors that can facilitate and impede successful community-institutional relationships and outcomes
- ⌘ Develop recommendations to foster community and institutional capacity for participatory approaches to prevention research at national and local levels

Guiding Questions - Year 1



- ⌘ What do we mean by “successful” community-institutional partnerships for prevention research?
- ⌘ What factors contribute to success?
- ⌘ What barriers interfere with success?
- ⌘ How to build capacity among communities, institutions and funding agencies?

Methods - Year 1



- ⌘ Each partner organization prepared a report that answered the guiding questions based on their published papers, reports and other documents
- ⌘ Partners convene to discuss reports and identify major themes
- ⌘ Qualitative analysis of reports to identify major themes
- ⌘ Synthesis of recommendations

Findings:

Successful Partnerships



- ⌘ Trusting relationships
- ⌘ Equitable processes and procedures
- ⌘ Diverse membership
- ⌘ Tangible benefits to all partners
- ⌘ Balance between partnership process, activities and outcomes
- ⌘ Significant community involvement in scientifically sound research
- ⌘ Supportive partner organization policies and reward structures
- ⌘ Leadership
- ⌘ Culturally competent and appropriately skilled staff and researchers
- ⌘ Collaborative dissemination
- ⌘ Ongoing partnership assessment, improvement and celebration
- ⌘ Sustainable impact

Findings: Barriers to Successful Partnerships



- ⌘ When characteristics on the previous page are absent
- ⌘ Funding mechanisms, policies and procedures
 - ☒ Limited funding sources
 - ☒ Funding agency requirements, definitions, timelines and reviews
 - ☒ Lack of funding and funding mechanisms that specifically support community as research partner

Recommendations



- ⌘ Partnership-focused recommendations
- ⌘ Institution-focused recommendations
- ⌘ Community-focused recommendations
- ⌘* Funding agency-focused recommendations

* highlighted in this presentation

Project Objective - Year 2



- ⌘ To implement and evaluate one or more strategies to foster community and institutional capacity for participatory approaches to prevention research at national and local levels

Year 2 Capacity-Building Activities



- ⌘ Priority issue: building and sustaining community-institutional partnerships for prevention research
 - ☑ Objectives: Develop and test an evidence-based CBPR training curriculum for emerging and established partnerships, funding agencies and peer reviewers
 - ☑ Develop curriculum modules that can be used in a variety of formats and settings

Year 2 Capacity-Building Activities



- ⌘ Priority issue: policies that support CBPR partnerships and research activities
 - ☑ Objective: Help to facilitate ability of funding agencies to support CBPR and assess evidence of authentic partnerships in proposals
 - ☑ Pursue dialogue and collaborations with funding agencies
 - ☑ Meeting with Federal Interagency Working Group on CBPR in January 2004

Fund community-institutional partnerships & participatory research



- Continued and expanded funding for CBPR, including centers of excellence
- Grants for planning and partnership development
- Year-long planning process in research grants that involve a new community-institutional partnership
- Funding that is not categorical or project-specific, allows for projects and activities to emerge from a participatory process, allows for interdisciplinary collaboration
- Funding for partnership infrastructure during and after project-specific grant funding
- Funding for CBPR post-doctoral fellowships, faculty development and community partner development
- Flexible funding (e.g, for community-based staff, food at community events, community indirect expenses)

Facilitate ability of CBOs* to be lead applicants, fiscal agents and partners

- ⌘ Develop new funding mechanisms, e.g., community research centers based in community-based organizations
- ⌘ Widely disseminate requests for proposals so that CBOs gain access to them at the same time that institutions do
- ⌘ Conduct training workshops on community-institutional partnerships for research, writing research proposals and related topics
- ⌘ Commission and disseminate case studies and sample budgets that demonstrate “best practices” by partnerships that have facilitated research funds flowing from the university to community agency partners (e.g., simplified subcontracting procedures, creative sharing of indirect expenses) or have compensated partners in other ways (e.g., tuition remission, affiliate faculty status, computers and internet access)

*community-based organizations

Require evidence of authentic partnerships in proposals



- Explicitly mention CBPR as an acceptable and/or recommended approach, and what criteria will be used to determine the authenticity of the partnership and the rigor of the research
- Require applicants to demonstrate how proposed research will impact the community by including a community impact statement (e.g., how the community is involved, how the community will benefit, whether and how community capacity will be developed, how the intervention will be sustained, how the results will lead to sustainable changes, how the results will be disseminated to other communities)
- Require CBPR proposals to fully describe the community partnership (or, for planning grants, what the process for developing an authentic partnership will be) and support among the partners

Boost support for research dissemination and policy impact



- Convene “research to practice” and “research to policy” conferences and forums for the purpose of disseminating research findings
- Provide dissemination funding for development and distribution of products (e.g., videos, web sites, “train the trainer” workshops) to disseminate research findings for practical application
- Engage national organizations of community-based organizations in the process of disseminating research findings (e.g., sponsoring “research to practice” forums at their conferences, preparing policy briefs)
- Fund dissemination & policy development components of research

Recruit and prepare reviewers to competently and fairly review proposals



- Use review criteria to assess the quality and rigor of CBPR proposals (e.g., assessing the relevance and authenticity of the partnership, adherence to CBPR principles, sound study design and methods)
- Recruit reviewers from community and institutional settings who have experience and expertise in conducting CBPR.
- Prepare reviewers for their role in assessing CBPR proposals (e.g., tutorials on CBPR principles and methods, presentation and discussion)
- Prepare non-academic reviewers for their role as reviewers (e.g., tutorials on the peer review process, mock study sections)

Facilitate development of community-identified research priorities



- Engage national organizations of community-based organizations in the process of determining research priorities (e.g., sponsoring research forums at their conferences, inviting reps to serve on advisory bodies)
- Facilitate community input into development of funding priorities, through community forums, more open and well-publicized opportunities to comment on funding priorities and nominate reviewers

Help build the field



- Expand the IWG on CBPR to include private funding agencies (or establish a public-private working group on CBPR)
- Broker additional resources from other funding agencies
- Convene partnerships to pursue collaborative activities
- Convene community partners to pursue collaborative activities
- Offer technical assistance to grantees and prospective grantees in areas such as grant-writing, evaluation and dissemination
- Collect and disseminate best practices and successful programs
- Commission evidence-based reports
- Support a national CBPR resource center
- Model the approach taken in the past by HUD's Office of University Partnerships (hiring an individual from the field of community-university partnerships for a one-year stint as OUP director)

Opportunities for Collaboration



- CBPR training curriculum
- CBPR peer reviewer training curriculum
- Forthcoming program announcement - dissemination, pre-applicant training, recruitment and training of peer reviewers
- 2005 symposium on CBPR - planning, preparing resource materials, implementing recommendations
- CBPR resource center
- Other ideas?

For more information



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