



### 3. What has been successful?

When asked what had been successful about their outreach and public engagement activities, researchers highlighted things such as:

- ✦ Helping change public policy by supporting bans on dangerous products or new legislation to protect children;
- ✦ Working with doctors, nurses, and hospitals to improve health care delivery;
- ✦ Networking with various state agencies to share research findings;
- ✦ Presenting to K-12 teachers and students to raise interest in and awareness of environmental health topics;
- ✦ Reaching out to the general public through editorials, radio interviews, and news releases.

### 4. What are the barriers to public engagement?

When asked what factors prevent them from doing more outreach and public engagement activities, **69% of those who answered the question said it was a lack of time.** Other barriers listed included lack of dedicated funds, a perception that basic research isn't relevant or accessible to the general public, and the researcher's perceived lack of expertise in outreach and education.



### 5. How can the Ethics & Outreach Core help?

Based on the results of this survey, we have identified several next steps that we hope will both support current outreach efforts and foster new opportunities for research translation. We will:

- ✦ Continue to interview investigators and help them to identify and connect with appropriate audiences;
- ✦ Create concise and accessible print materials on core topics relevant to gene-environment interactions and make them readily available to CEEH investigators and the general public;
- ✦ Continue to host “Uncorking Ethics” discussion forums to provide investigators with opportunities to explore the ethical dimensions of CEEH research;
- ✦ Redesign the CEEH web site to be more user friendly and better reflect current CEEH research activities and priorities;
- ✦ Explore ways to support investigators interested in improving their public engagement and communication skills.

### Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

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