Rx for Success: Sustainable Partnership Models

Douglas M. Simmons, DDS, MPH

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Goal For Today

Provide a definition of a true partnership
Give some suggestions about how to sustain these partnerships
Give a brief description about Community-Campus Partnerships for Health’s activities with dental schools and examples of a partnership
Mission of CCPH
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

To foster partnerships between communities and educational institutions that build on each other’s strengths and develop their roles as change agents for improving health professions education, civic responsibility and the overall health of communities.
Strategic Goals of CCPH

To eliminate health disparities
To increase health workforce diversity and development
Through Partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions
Major Strategies of CCPH

Create and expand opportunities for collaboration and information sharing
Promote awareness about the benefits of community-campus partnerships
Advocate for policies that facilitate and support community-campus partnerships
Promote service-learning and community-based participatory research as core components of health professions education
CCPH At-A-Glance

Nonprofit organization launched in January ‘97
Headquartered in Seattle, WA USA
14-member board of directors
1000+ members from communities and campuses across the US and a dozen countries
Private and public funding
Staff, students and senior consultants
What Are Partnerships?

A partnerships is a close mutual cooperation between parties having common interests, responsibilities, privileges, and power.

CCPH 2001
Predominant model: is it a *partnership*?

- Initiated by campus, framed by academic mission and priorities
- Driven by grant and program requirements
- Addresses needs and assets
- Disconnects and contradictions between different parts of campus, different partnership strategies
- Institutional structures: centers, offices
- Community serves advisory role
CCPH’S Principles of Partnership

- Partners have agreed upon mission, values, goals and measurable outcomes for the partnership
- The relationship between partners is characterized by mutual trust, respect, genuineness, and commitment
- The partnership builds upon identified strengths and assets, and addresses needs
- Power is balanced among partners and resources are shared
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CCPH’S Principles of Partnership

- There is clear, open and accessible communication between partners
- Roles, norms and processes for the partnership are established with the input and agreement of all partners
- There is feedback to, among and from all stakeholders in the partnerships
- Partners shared the credit for accomplishments
- Partnerships take time to develop and evolve
Characteristics of Success

- Partnership is formed to address genuine community concern and addresses strategic partner issues, not to get a grant
- Partnership builds on prior positive relationships
- Partnership involves organizations and individuals as partners
- Partnership starts small, with CBOs that have a history of engagement and are well respected
- Partnership explicitly defines who is “the community” and who “represents” the community
Benefits of Partnerships for Students

- Enrich learning of course material
- Promotes active learning
- Increase awareness of societal issues
- Provides access to different people
- Improve interpersonal skills
- Develop civic and social responsibility
- Provide practice in decision making
Benefits of Partnerships for Institutions

• Enrich and enliven teaching
• Creates new possibilities for research
• Apply educational concepts
• Improve relationship with communities
• Support university’s outreach mission
• Use community members as teachers
Benefits of Partnerships for Communities

• Additional resources to address the needs of the community
• Students provides energy and enthusiasm
• Future community leaders
• Provide community practioners an opportunity to teach and mentor
General Guidelines for Sustaining Partnerships

• Invest the time to build understanding
• Create a formal partnership structure
• Develop substantial roles for all partners
• Meet regularly and often
• Involve all partners from the beginning
• Collaborate on identifying funding
• Promote open communication
• A clear vision of the mission and goals
Core Elements of Sustainability

- Respect
- Communication
- Trust
- Goals
Partnerships Model

Community

Agency

University

Governing Board
Partnerships for Oral Health

- Membership: 38 members from dental schools and dental hygiene programs
- Board of Directors: 1 dental educator
- Service-learning in dental education special interest group, workshops & conferences
- Community-based dental partnership program - partnerships between dental education programs & HIV/AIDS agencies
Partnerships for Oral Health

- Community-engaged scholarship collaborative
  - 2 dental schools involved: UNC-Chapel Hill and Indiana University

- Web resources: Service-learning in dental education website:
  - [http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/servicelearningres.html#Dentistry](http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/servicelearningres.html#Dentistry)
  - [www.ccph.info](http://www.ccph.info)
Project MOVE’s Mission

- Provide and Coordinate free preventative dental services
- Establish partnerships with other health care entities
- Coordinate health/wellness activities on campus
- Public Health Education Activities
Dental Services

• UT dental students has provided services since the inception of Project MOVE
ORAL HYGIENE EDUCATION

- Services are coupled with oral instruction
  - UT Dental Assistant
  - Museum of Health and Medical Sciences
  - Smile Patrol
Lessons Learned

• Make expectations clear
• Respect everyone’s needs and objectives
• Expect no partnership to last forever
• Engage others who can help your cause
• Consider all the possibilities
Challenges for Higher Educational Institutions

- Share control
- Be a partner, not an expert
- Be in it for long haul
A community understands whether the university is adding value or just taking up space.