Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Resources
Prepared by Community-Campus Partnerships for Health for the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program

Selected Journal Articles and Books


In this article the authors consider the barriers to institutional change and faculty participation in CBPR, and propose some steps for overcoming the barriers and making CBPR an integral part of a medical institution’s research agenda. Training and supporting faculty in the philosophy and methods of this approach is the cornerstone of improved community-based research.


In this article, the authors describe the development and characteristics of Seattle Partners, a partnership of community agency representatives, community activists, public health professionals, academics, and health care providers whose mission is to improve the health of urban Seattle. The article includes a section describing the legacy of community-based research in Seattle, as well as the research methodology used to generate the report and ample discussion of research results.


This article present a case history of the transformation of the Center for Urban Epidemiological Studies from an institution that worked with regional medical schools to a center seeking to define a new practice of community-based participatory research. The article summarizes the change process experienced by CUES, and illustrates how principles of CBPR have influenced its subsequent development.


In this article, the authors illustrate discrepancies relating to criteria for evaluating research between groups seeking funding for participatory research projects, and funding agencies assessing such projects. The article includes a set of guidelines for funding agencies to use when appraising participatory research projects and also reviews examples of participatory research in Canada.


This article presents an overview of the first four years of the development of CBPR activities at three Urban Research Centers (URCs) funded by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. It describes participatory research as implemented by the URCs and provides an overview of the urban health issues being addressed.

Written by distinguished experts in the field, this book shows how researchers, practitioners, and community partners can work together to establish and maintain equitable partnerships using a Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) approach to increase knowledge and improve health and well-being of the communities involved. This book provides a comprehensive and thorough presentation of CBPR study designs, specific data collection and analysis methods, and innovative partnership structures and process methods. This book informs students, practitioners, researchers, and community members about methods and applications needed to conduct CBPR in the widest range of research areas—including social determinants of health, health disparities, health promotion, community interventions, disease management, health services, and environmental health.


This article presents key principles of CBPR, discusses the rationale for its use, and provides a number of policy recommendations at the organizational, community and national levels aimed at advancing the application of CBPR. While the issues addressed here draw primarily upon experiences in the United States, the emphasis throughout this article on the establishment of policies to enhance equity that would serve both to increase the engagement of communities as partners in health research, and to reduce health disparities, has relevant applications in a global context.


The editors have brought together, in one important volume, a stellar panel of contributors who offer a comprehensive resource on the theory and application of community based participatory research. The book contains information on a wide variety of topics including planning and conducting research, working with communities, promoting social change, and core research methods. The book also contains a helpful appendix of tools, guides, checklists, sample protocols, and much more.


This paper reports findings from a postal questionnaire survey and in-depth interviews with UK funders of health-related research that explored whether, why and how they promote consumer involvement in research projects. Many UK funders of health-related research are adopting a policy of promoting consumer involvement in research projects. Telephone interviews revealed they have several reasons for doing so, and that they vary in the ways they encourage and support researchers to involve consumers.

Community Action Against Asthma (CAAA) is a community-based participatory research project of the Michigan Center for the Environment and Children’s Health aimed at investigating the influence of environmental factors on childhood asthma. This paper describes a process evaluation implemented by CAAA of their community-academic partnership, and includes discussion of research methodology, results, and analysis.


In this paper, the author considers beginning stages in the development of action research partnerships. Steps described include building the community base, identifying the problem and building a program model, building a research model, brokering funding possibilities, and negotiating collaborative roles.

Additional Recommended Resources

“*A Bridge Between Communities: The Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center*” video, produced by Vivian Chávez in June 2000, is a 32-minute documentary that introduces viewers to the theory and practice of CBPR with the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (URC) as a case study. The video tells the story of the history and activities of the URC partnership and highlights the challenges and benefits of conducting community-based participatory research. For information on how to obtain a copy of the video, please contact Robert McGranaghan, Detroit URC Project Manager, at rojomcg@umich.edu. Several excerpts from the video can be viewed throughout the URC web site: http://www.sph.umich.edu/urc/

*Building Sustainable Non-Profits: The Waterloo Region Experience* (2004). Centre for Research and Education in Human Services & Social Planning Council of Cambridge and North Dumfries. This handbook highlights ways that non-profit organizations can improve their sustainability, including partnership building, leadership and governance, relevance/research, and organizational culture. It applies a CBPR approach or philosophy to all four. http://www.crehs.on.ca/downloads/sustainability%20manual.pdf


*Collaborative Decision-Making.* Center for Collaborative Planning. www.connectccp.org

Community Health Scholars Program. Definition of Community-Based Participatory Research. http://www.sph.umich.edu/chsp/program/index.shtml
Community IRB Member: Neighbor and Partner. This US Department of Education website has information geared towards community members who are serving on institutional IRBs. http://www.orau.gov/communityirb


The Facilitator contains tips, tools, articles, and resources on facilitation. http://www.thefacilitator.com


Guidelines and Categories for Classifying Participatory Research Projects in Health. Larry Green and colleagues developed a set of guidelines that can be used to appraise the extent to which research projects align with principles of participatory research. http://lgreen.net/guidelines.html

Israel BA, Eng E, Schultz AJ, Parker EA (Eds). (2005). Methods in Community-Based Participatory Research for Health. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers. To receive a 15% discount, order through the CCPH website at www.ccph.info. This book provides a comprehensive and thorough presentation of CBPR study designs, specific data collection and analysis methods, and innovative partnership structures and process methods. This book informs students, practitioners, researchers, and community members about methods and applications needed to conduct CBPR in the widest range of research areas—including social determinants of health, health disparities, health promotion, community interventions, disease management, health services, and environmental health.


Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership is a community-wide strategic planning and implementation tool for improving community health. A program of the National Association of County and City Health Officials, the model includes a conceptual overview, practical guidance, tools, and case examples. http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/MAPP.cfm

The People’s Institute is recognized as one of the foremost anti-racism training and organizing institutions in the nation. Over the past 24 years, The People’s Institute Undoing Racism™/ Community Organizing process has impacted the lives of nearly 100,000 people both nationally and internationally. Through this process, it has built a national collective of anti-racist, multicultural community organizers who do their work with an understanding of history, culture, and the impact of racism on communities. http://www.pisab.org/

Power of Proof: An Evaluation Primer is an online resource that provides background information about evaluation as well as information on evaluation planning, writing evaluation objectives, collecting data, stages of evaluation, interpreting evaluation data, and reporting results. Designed for use by program personnel, rather than evaluation professionals, it can be used to guide program development and goal-setting, as well as evaluation. http://www.ttac.org/power-of-proof/index.html


Reaching Higher Ground: A Guide for Preventing, Preparing for, and Transforming Conflict for Tobacco Control Coalitions provides practical advice for ways of working in coalitions and partnerships that resolve real problems while strengthening relationships. The tools and strategies described in this book can make any collaborative undertaking more successful by approaching problems and people in ways that impart dignity and respect. It is possible to grow in community, through conflict, by engaging one another in ways that reach not only common ground, but higher ground. http://www.ttac.org/products/pdfs/Higher_Ground.pdf


Research Ethics Training Curriculum for Community Representatives (RETC-CR): Family Health International’s Office of International Research Ethics has developed a dynamic and innovative curriculum to empower community representatives through training and education to act as a competent voice for research participants worldwide. Developed and field-tested in eight countries, the RETC-CR helps community representatives to understand the research process and their roles and responsibilities as partners of the research team. The Curriculum also explains the corresponding roles and responsibilities of Ethics Committees/IRBs and Researchers. http://www.fhi.org/en/RH/Training/trainmat/ethicscurr/retccr.htm

Research Ethics Website provides course development, training, educational resources and case study development on improving research ethics in environmental health. Proceedings are available from the


Selected Organizations and Websites

For additional organizations and websites, visit the CBPR Links Webpage at http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/links.html#Part

Center for Civic Partnerships
The Center for Civic Partnerships is a support organization that strengthens individuals, organizations, and communities by facilitating learning, leadership development, and networking. We envision a world where everyone can live a healthy, productive life in a clean, safe environment. The Center for Civic Partnerships is a center of the Public Health Institute. www.civicpartnerships.org

The Center for Collaborative Planning promotes health and social justice by providing training and technical assistance and by connecting people and resources. CCP supports diverse
communities in key areas, such as: asset-based community development (ABCD), leadership development, working collaboratively, community assessment and strategic planning.

www.connectccp.org

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Urban Research Centers (URC):** In 1995, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention established the URCs to assess and improve the health of urban communities. Located in Detroit, New York City, and Seattle, the URCs engages government, academic, private, and community organizations as partners in setting priorities and designing, implementing, and evaluating community-focused public health research and interventions. Examples in this curriculum draw from the Detroit and Seattle URCs.


**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Prevention Research Centers (PRCs):** The PRCs are a network of academic researchers, community members, and public health agencies that conducts applied research in disease prevention and control in their local communities. Sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control, PRCs have been established at 33 cities across the U.S. Funding for the development of this curriculum came from the PRC Program through a cooperative agreement between the CDC and the Association of Schools of Public Health. Examples in this curriculum are drawn from the Flint PRC and the Yale-Griffin PRC.

www.cdc.gov/prc

**Community Tool Box.** A product of the Work Group on Health Promotion and Community Development at the University of Kansas, the Community Tool Box contains an extensive collection of practical resources to support community health and community-based research, including information on leadership, strategic planning, community assessment, grant writing, and evaluation. http://ctb.ku.edu

**The Community-Based Collaboratives Research Consortium** seeks to understand and assess collaborative efforts involving natural resource issues and community development. The consortium provides a venue for researchers, community groups, government agencies, funders and individuals to share their research, find out about new developments and studies concerning community based collaborative groups and work in partnership with others on research projects.

www.cbcrc.org/

**The Community-Based Participatory Research Curriculum for General Pediatrics Fellows** was developed and implemented by CCPH Fellow Darius Tandon. Twelve General Academic Pediatrics Fellows in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine received this eight-hour curriculum during the 2002-2003 academic year. There is also an "abridged" two-hour version of the above curriculum, created with the recognition that many academic departments and training programs within Schools of Medicine may be interested in CBPR, but have limited time in which to learn about CBPR. Having a shorter curriculum, therefore, may help promote wider understanding of CBPR among medical educators and physicians.

http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/commbas.html#Syllabi

**The Community-Based Participatory Research listserv,** co-sponsored by Community-Campus Partnerships for Health and the Wellesley Institute is a valuable resource for connecting with colleagues involved in CBPR and keeping up on the latest CBPR news, funding opportunities, conferences, etc. To join, visit http://mailman1.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/cbpr
The Community-Based Public Health Caucus of the American Public Health Association is guided by the belief that community lies at the heart of public health, and that interventions work best when they are rooted in the values, knowledge, expertise, and interests of the community itself. www.sph.umich.edu/cbph/caucus/

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health is a nonprofit organization that promotes health (broadly defined) through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions. CCPH is a growing network of over 1,000 communities and campuses throughout the United States and increasingly the world that are collaborating to promote health through service-learning, community-based participatory research, broad-based coalitions and other partnership strategies. These partnerships are powerful tools for improving health professional education, civic engagement and the overall health of communities. CCPH advances its mission through information dissemination, training and technical assistance, research and evaluation, policy development and advocacy, membership development and coalition building. www.ccph.info

The Community-Campus Partnerships for Health CBPR Resources Webpage includes CBPR definitions, tools, resources, course syllabi, journals that publish CBPR and web links. http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/commbas.html

The Community Health Scholars Program is a post-doctoral fellowship program in CBPR in public health. The program is offered at three Schools of Public Health: The University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Johns Hopkins University. www.sph.umich.edu/chsp/

The Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Consultancy Network helps community-campus partnerships to realize their full potential through presentations, workshops, and consultation. Consultants are “real life” practitioners with experience and expertise in service-learning, community-based participatory research and other pertinent content areas. http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/mentor.html

Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (URC): The Detroit URC is a collaborative partnership, established in 1995, involving the University of Michigan Schools of Public Health and Nursing, the Detroit Health Department, eight community-based organizations, and Henry Ford Health System. The overall goal of the URC is to promote and support interdisciplinary, collaborative, community-based participatory research that both improves the health and quality of life of families and communities on the east and southwest sides of Detroit. www.sph.umich.edu/urc

The Federal Interagency Working Group on CBPR works to strengthen communication among federal agencies with an interest in supporting CBPR. www.niehs.nih.gov/translat/IWG/iwghome.htm

Harlem Community Academic Partnership (HCAP) is committed to identifying social determinants of health and implementing community-based interventions to improve the health and well being of urban residents using a community-based participatory research approach. The geographical communities of focus are East and Central Harlem, areas where a substantial proportion of the residents are poor people of color. The HCAP is comprised of community based organizations, partners from academia, the health department, and the Center for Urban Epidemiologic Studies at the New York Academy of Medicine. www.nyam.org/initiatives/cues-
HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research Network is a network of community-based researchers on HIV/AIDS. The Network’s website provides access to a library of community-based research posted by members. www.hiv-cbr.net

Institute for Community Research (ICR) conducts research in collaboration with community partners to promote justice and equity. ICR publishes ICR-Abstracts, an electronic compilation of abstracts of recently published CBPR articles and reports. www.incommunityresearch.org

The Just Connections Toolbox contains essays on the nature and uses of community-based research, stories about how partners have conducted CBPR in the past, reflections from community members and college faculty who have participated in CBPR projects, and tools for others interested in doing CBPR. Tools include sample grant proposals, workshop outlines, consent form templates, sample community service applications, sample information letters, reading lists, course syllabi and more. www.justconnections.org/

Living Knowledge: The International Science Shop Network enables science shops in Europe and beyond to share expertise and know-how with the aim of improving citizen access to scientific knowledge. The Network sponsors an annual conference, listserv, journal, and newsletter. www.livingknowledge.org

Loka Institute is a non-profit research and advocacy organization concerned with the social, political, and environmental repercussions of science and technology. www.loka.org

Make Your VOICE Count! is an online guide to collaborative health policy development. The website includes innovative tools and resources that have been developed to increase the capacity of voluntary health organizations and government to influence policy development. Highlights include an adaptable policy training workshop, reading rooms, planning tools, library and more. www.projectvoice.ca

National Community Committee of the CDC Prevention Research Centers Program is a national network of community representatives engaged in equitable partnerships with researchers to define local health priorities, drive prevention research agendas, and develop solutions to improve the overall health of communities. www.hpdp.unc.edu/ncc/

PARnet aims to create a self-monitored, community-managed knowledge base and gateway to action research resources, connecting practitioners and scholars with each other, the literature, and other educational opportunities. It seeks to reflect the broad spectrum of approaches that characterize the international action research community. It turns to the community itself to define and shape the concept of action research, first and foremost, through the simple act of contribution. www.parnet.org

Prevention Research Center of Michigan strives to embody excellence in public health research, practice, and policy through long-term partnerships based on trust and equality. The Center conducts community-based prevention research aimed at improving health status and reducing morbidity and mortality among populations experiencing a disproportionate share of poor health outcomes. www.sph.umich.edu/prc/
Seattle Partners for Healthy Communities: Seattle Partners was established in 1995 as an Urban Research Center funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It is a multidisciplinary collaboration of community agencies, community activists, public health professionals, academics, and health providers whose mission is to improve the health of urban, marginalized Seattle communities by conducting community-based collaborative research. www.depts.washington.edu/hprc/SeattlePartners

Tom Wolff & Associates Creating Collaborative Solutions provides resources for creating collaborative solutions, enhancing healthy communities and building community coalitions. www.tomwolff.com

The Wellesley Institute is an independent, self-sustaining not-for-profit corporation that is dedicated to building and strengthening communities though assisting coalitions, enhancing capacities and supporting community- and policy-relevant research. www.wellesleyinstitute.com

Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center is committed to research pertaining to the primary, secondary, & tertiary prevention of chronic disease that is responsive to the priorities of the Lower Naugatuck Valley residents, the residents of Connecticut’s major cities, and other communities throughout the state. The center is dedicated to participatory research methods, to a robust research agenda inclusive of developmental/determinant, intervention, and translational research; to community involvement in public health; to the eradication of disparities in health and health care in the communities served; and to the dissemination of effective interventions in support of the national objectives of Healthy People 2010. www.yalegriffinprc.org