

# **Community-Based Participatory Research and Community Health Centers**

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National Association of Community Health Centers  
Community Health Institute  
Chicago, IL - August 28, 2006

# Session Objectives

- Gain a greater understanding of community-based participatory research (CBPR)
- Learn how community health centers (CHCs) can engage in CBPR
- Hear specific examples how CHCs have integrated CBPR into their work
- Learn about NACHC activities around establishing a research agenda for CHCs

# Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

## *Mission*

To promote health through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions





# Major Strategies

- 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
- Support service-learning and community-based participatory research in higher education

# Initiatives & Programs

Training Institutes

Community Partner Mobilization



Community Engaged Scholarship  
for Health Collaborative

Consultancy Network

Annual CCPH Conference

April 11 – 14, 2007

Toronto, ON, Canada

[www.ccph.info](http://www.ccph.info)

# Community-Based Participatory Research

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 and has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change...

-Kellogg Community Health Scholars Program

# CBPR is - CBPR is not:

- An approach to research - not a methodology
- Community-*based* - not community *placed*
- Driven by community needs - not driven by money or publication potential
- Bottom up - not top down
- Knowledge and skills *exchange* - not knowledge and skills *transfer*

The CBPR approach to research represents a *continuum* of promising practices...



# Rationale: Why CBPR?

- Traditional research has failed to solve complex health problems
- Levels playing field
- Significant community involvement increases scientific rigor: community are the experts

# Rationale: Why CBPR?

- Research findings can be applied to interventions
- Approach builds greater trust & respect between researchers and communities

# Why do CBPR at CHCs?

- Identifies emerging issues among patients and larger community
- Greater understanding of communities served → improves delivery, quality of care
- Provides insight into health outcomes/trends
- Improves health outcomes

# Why do CBPR at CHCs?

- Expands scope of services beyond medical model to public health preventive model
- Builds community capacity
- Brings in money & jobs to the community

# Is CBPR for you?

- Is opportunism and self-interest driving the agenda?
- Do you and your team have the necessary skills?
- Are you as a researcher comfortable with CBPR core values and principles? Moreover, do you agree with them?

# Is CBPR for you?

- Are you a community member who wants an intervention or community service, but no interest in research questions?
- Do the ethical considerations related to burden and benefits to the community outweigh traditional research benefits?
- Are you interested in developing authentic partnerships, or just journal articles [and grant money]?

-Examining Community-Institutional Partnerships for Prevention Research Group CBPR curriculum

The most serious mistakes are not being made as a result of wrong answers. The truly dangerous thing is asking the wrong question.

**-Peter F. Drucker**

# Contact Information

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