

# Community-Based Participatory Research

*"bridges the gap between science and practice through community engagement and social action"*

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## Key Principles

- Community is defined using identity.
- A cyclical and iterative process is involved.
- Knowledge, findings, and outcomes are shared with all partners.
- The collaboration involves long-term commitment by all partners.
- Health promotion is addressed from both positive and ecological perspective.
- The collaboration identifies and builds on strengths and resources within the community.
- Knowledge, activities, and interventions are structured to assure mutual benefit for all partners.
- The process is structured to facilitate collaborative, equitable involvement of all partners in all phases of the research.
- The established processes promote co-learning and empowerment, and attend to social inequities.

*"Adherence to CBPR principles...assure[s] that researchers and partners maintain the trust and respect required to continuously identify research priorities, gaps in needed services and interventions... [and] to continually work to collaborate in ways that address disparities and community needs"*



## Benefits of Community-Based Participatory Research

### Institutional Partner

- Learns more about local resources and services.
- Obtains improved ecological validity of research.
  - Gains understanding of how interventions in other communities may or may not apply to local circumstances.
  - Gains additional knowledge and perspective on the community's history and culture.
  - Sees evidence of how community experiences can improve the research process.

### Community Partners

- Gains understanding of how certain decisions about research design could impact the credibility of the results.
- Sees evidence of how their experiences can improve the research process.
  - Obtains data that validate their concerns to the "outside world."
  - Provides "proof" that policy makers, the media, and other high-level decision makers require before they believe that the issue deserves their attention.
  - Sees resulting benefits in the community.