
Interagency Working Group for Community-based Participatory Research (IWG for CBPR)

Objectives of IWG

General objectives:

- Serve as a focal point to identify common areas for federal collaboration in CBPR, which may include development of joint initiatives;
- Develop new, coordinated activities to increase awareness and use of CBPR in health research, delivery, education, and policy;
- Identify challenges and opportunities for supporting CBPR; and
- Identify means to demonstrate the value and benefits of CBPR.
- Develop a network through which information can be shared regarding community-based activities.

Specific objectives:

- A key question from the perspective of FHWA, an agency outside the health fields, is determining if this working group plans to look at use of the community-based participatory research model applied solely within the health fields.
- A useful objective of the work group would be to identify locations where multiple studies are taking place and determine (1) if work can be coordinated so it more efficient and less burdensome (2) if wider conclusions can be drawn from work across fields based on the same study population (or if this results in increasing confounding factors in individual studies).
- Produce an evidence report on the value of CBPR
- As a large group, confirm our intention to participate in the National Leadership Summit and develop a workplan.
- Identify smaller working groups to:
 - map the CBPR terrain: who's doing what, where, with whom? The workgroup would describe the CBPR continuum (identifying exemplars of different points on that continuum) and conduct an inventory of CBPR activities in US-based public health, including published and unpublished studies, completed and in-progress.
 - conduct critical analysis of CBPR: through systematic review of electronic databases and expert interviews, assess state of the science of CBPR on such dimensions as theory and measurement, feasibility (cost-effectiveness, availability of noncategorical dollars, range of applications), and short/intermediate/long-term impacts. Even if we conclude that there is insufficient evidence re its impacts on traditional health outcomes, the review should help us identify where the gaps are. We may also conclude that this approach is "desirable," for reasons other than its currently measurable impacts on health.
 - catalogue/compile/devise strategies for building more inclusive partnerships, especially business, labor, and agencies (e.g., HUD) positioned to address social/economic/structural influences on health