Learning Lab ID # LL11

Development, Implementation and Evaluation of a Community Engaged Advisory Board: Best practices for Strategies for Maximizing Success

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Since 2006, the National Institutes of Health have supported the Centers for Translational Sciences Awards. These programs are designed to improve the health of individuals and the public by developing innovative approaches to translating basic science findings in the laboratory to clinical and community interventions. Community engagement is essential to the successful translation of interventions and other healthcare advances implemented in community settings. Researchers who work with community-based providers and special populations are aware of the need to involve them throughout intervention development and testing. However, less attention has been devoted to the inclusion of communities in the process of setting research priorities and engaging communities to advise researchers at all stages of the translational continuum.

In this Learning Lab, we propose to highlight best practices in the development, implementation, maintenance and evaluation of a long standing Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). The UIC CEAB is a resource of the Recruitment, Retention and Community Engagement consultation service of the university's Clinical and Translational Sciences (CTSA) investigators and community representatives. The chief purpose of the CEAB is to provide support and advisement for researchers at UIC. The CEAB advises on promoting a community-responsive research agenda reflecting a broad definition of health that acknowledges the interrelationships among individual, social, environmental, political, and economic determinants of health. The role of the CEAB members is to provide feedback to consultation recipients on any number of research issues in which the consultation recipient seeks input from the board members. This model can be used to inform the development of future CEAB boards.

Schedule of activities:

- I. Introductions and experiences of attendees with community engagement
- II. Description of community engagement advisory boards and their role in enhancing research
- III. Discuss role definition and recruitment of CEAB members
- IV. Discuss best practices in the formation and training of a CEAB members.
- V. Share and discuss materials for training CEAB members about the research process, community engaged research, and ethical issues in research
- VI. Provide templates for facilitating research consultations with CEAB members and investigators (consultation abstract and supporting materials, template for power-point presentations, and consultation feedback forms)
- VII. Share strategies for board capacity building and evaluation

Learning Objectives:

1) Describe the role of community engagement advisory boards in clinical and translational research.

2) Describe five contributions of community engaged advisory boards to improving research outcomes

3) Discuss best practices in the formation and development of community engaged advisory boards

4) Identify strategies for building skills and capacity among community engaged advisory board members

5). Develop methods for evaluating the contributions of community engaged advisory boards to research teams.