

**The Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute Community Health Engagement Program (CTSI CHEP) and Purdue Cooperative Extension Partnership in Indiana: An Innovative and Generalizable Model to Change the Culture of Health**

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In 2014, Indiana ranked 9th worst of 50 U.S. states in overall health, 6th worst in smoking rates, and 7th worst in obesity prevalence. Purdue University Extension has a 150-year history of community-engaged programming throughout Indiana. This collaboration between higher education and the agricultural community has led to a highly productive, cost-effective agricultural system. The potential to utilize the Extension system to generate similar community gains in health is substantial. The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) Community Health Engagement Program (CHEP), although more recently established, has extensive programmatic experience and presence throughout Indiana. The two organizations are collaborating to develop generalizable intervention models based on advancing community health coalitions and evaluating factors associated with coalition success. A major focus is to develop experiential learning and capacity building both within each coalition and across coalitions. We are constructing a staged process of mentorship training to: (1) create highly productive, durable coalitions, (2) enhance county-level capacity, and (3) increase community development/advocacy initiatives, based on experiential training and community-based participatory practices. Our research objectives effort are to: (a) use social network analysis to determine complex pathways to coalition success to create, refine, and validate models for change; and (b) generate an interventional model for adaptation and use elsewhere. A trial in 4 rural county intervention coalitions contrasted to 17 comparator coalitions has been initiated. This CHEP-Extension collaborative model should be transferable nationally, with significant beneficial potential via joining long-standing Extension-community partnerships with CTSI-linked health education, research, and effective health programs.