

# The Community-Engaged Scholars Program: A Partnership for Research

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**CTSA** Clinical & Translational<sup>®</sup>  
Science Awards

# SCTR CE Community Engaged Scholars Program (CES-P) Timeline

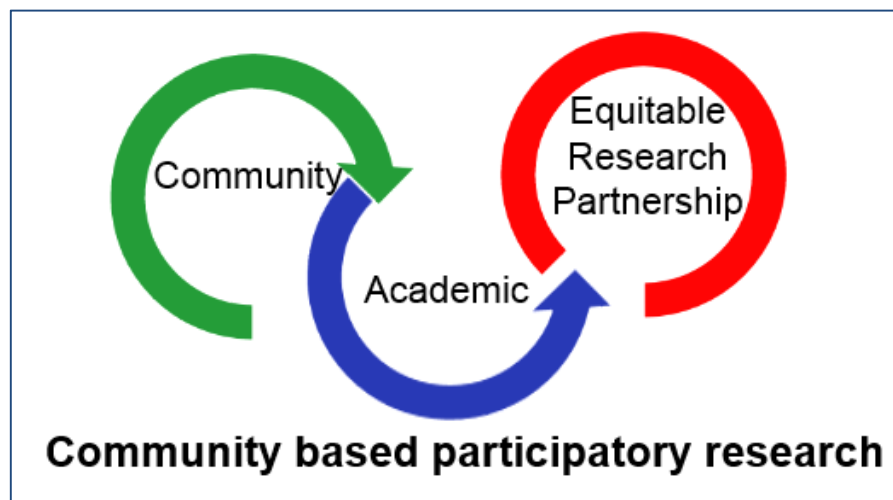
Year	SCTR CES-P Activities
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awarded first MUSC CTSA</li> <li>• Community Engaged Scholars Program Initiated</li> </ul>
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IOM CTSA Report recognizes SCTR CE for CES-P and community Bamberg project</li> </ul>
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CES-P Cohort 4 goes statewide</li> <li>• Delaware ACCEL modifies CES-P and initiates ACE Program</li> </ul>
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCTR Awarded 5-year CTSA funding</li> <li>• MUSC Translational Research Community Advisory Board identified health priorities</li> <li>• SCTR online Moodle platform used for easy dissemination</li> </ul>
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CES-P Cohort 7</li> <li>• MUSC CES-P and ACCEL ACE include some co-teaching</li> </ul>

# Research with the Community

- Community-based participatory research (CBPR) is an approach to scientific inquiry that optimizes community engagement with partnerships between communities and academic organizations.
  - (Buchanan, Miller, & Wallerstein, 2007; Israel et. al., 1998)
- Partnerships between communities and academic organizations often struggle with incongruent or inadequate CBPR knowledge and skills, resources, and leadership to support equitable mastery and ownership of research processes and products.
  - (Israel et. al., 2003)

# CES-P Purpose

Overarching goal: to increase capacity of community-academic partnerships to conduct research with mutual ownership of processes and products, and ultimately, improve health in South Carolina and beyond.



# CES-P: Innovation

**Innovation:** One of **first initiatives** in US to provide **simultaneous community-engaged research training to teams of community and academic partners** through interactive group sessions, apprenticeship opportunities and pilot project funding across multiple communities and therapeutic domains.

# CES-P Specific Goals

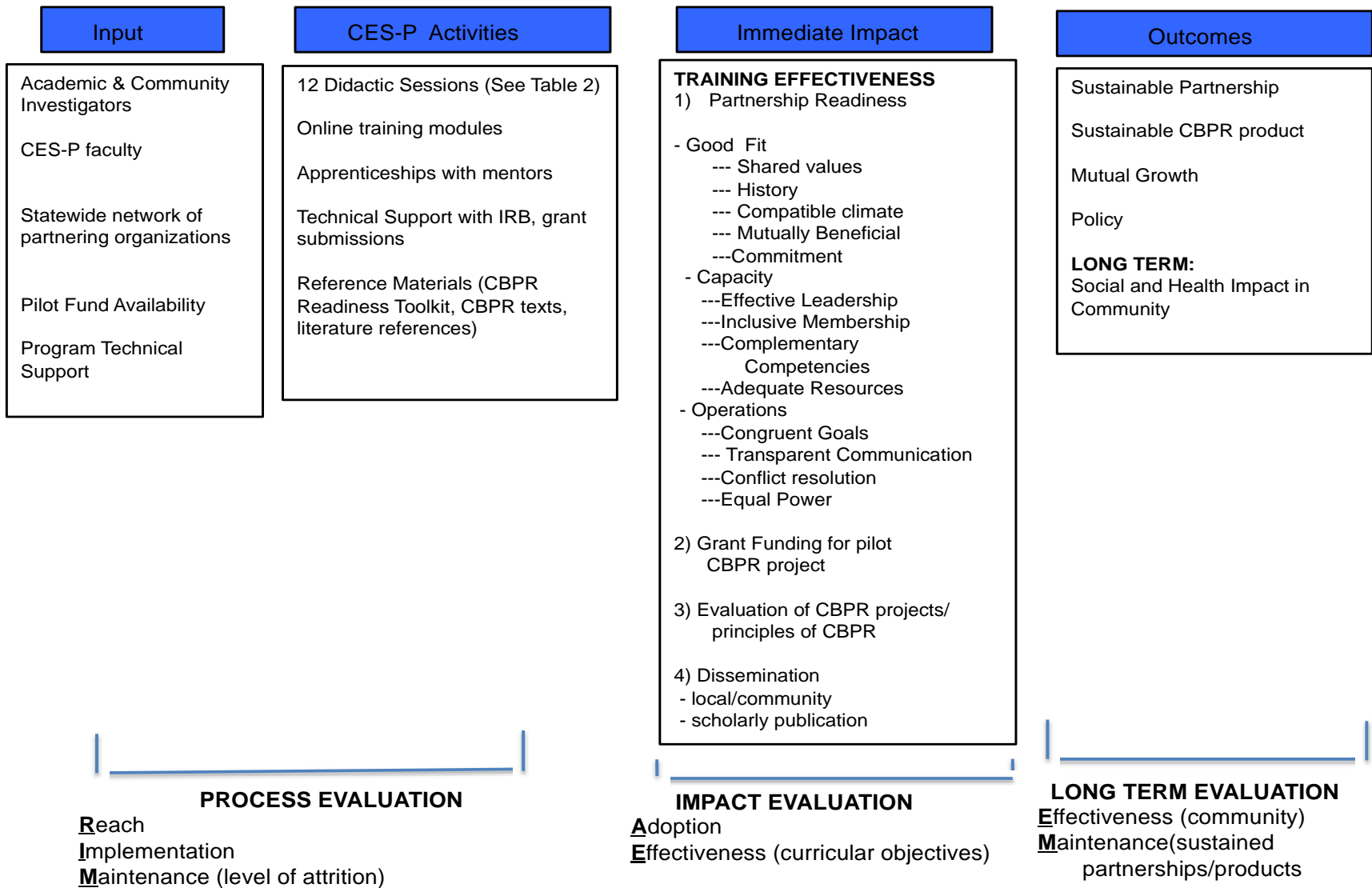
- Incentivize and foster community and academic partnerships
- Encourage collaborative identification of community health priorities
- Advance a community-based participatory research (CBPR) co-learning curriculum for academic and community partners
- Promote equitable and lasting partnerships
- Stimulate subsequent research funding, projects and peer-reviewed publications



# CES-P Competencies

- Articulate concepts and components of CBPR and other methods for community engaged research
- Apply CBPR principles in conducting of research
- Communicate with audiences in both community and academic settings about CBPR
- Implement a pilot CBPR study to address a shared community health priority
- Incorporate CBPR principles and approaches in funding applications
- Develop a 3-4 year plan for subsequent CBPR research

# CES-P Logic Model





# CES-P: Application

- Requests for applications
- Informational call
- Application components
  - Academic and Community Dual-PIs
  - Biosketches (or resume for community partners if needed)
  - Description of Partnership
  - Research Proposal and Budget
  - Supervisor Consent Forms
  - Signed Memorandum of Understanding



# CES-P Application Review

- Academic and Community Reviewers
- Scored using NIH 9-point scale based on:
  - Partnership Capacity
  - Significance
  - Approach
  - Innovation and Impact
  - Overall Impression



# CES-P Participant Process

- **Formal Training:** 12 weekly 90-minute sessions
- **Mentorship:** Each team meets with a community and/or academic mentor at least monthly throughout project development and implementation.
- **Pilot Grant Proposal Development:**
  - Application → Revision based on session information, mentors, IRB, and consultation feedback → final IRB approval
- **Funding for Research Study**
- **Dissemination of Findings**
- **Apply for Future Funding**



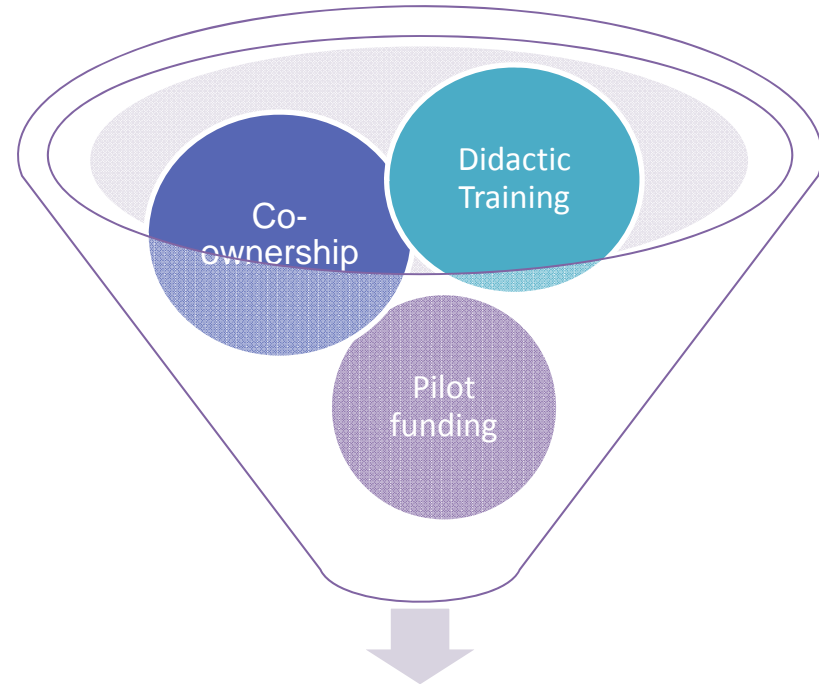
# CES-P Methods

Academic and  
Community Partner Co-  
Ownership

Didactic Training

Pilot Grants

- \$5,000 - \$10,000
- 1-year projects
- Mechanism to inform future grants



Community-Based Participatory Research  
and Sustainable Partnerships

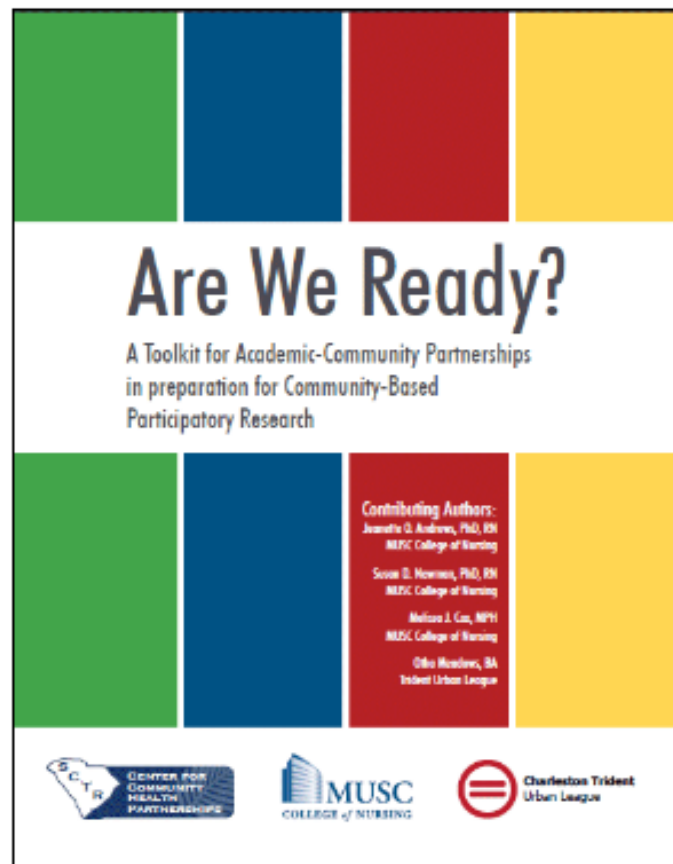
# Formal Training Curriculum

## Curriculum Content

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Partnership readiness</li><li>• Research frameworks and theories</li><li>• Community problem identification</li><li>• Ethics</li><li>• Institutional Review Board</li><li>• Grant Writing</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feasibility and pilot testing</li><li>• Intervention development</li><li>• Data collection</li><li>• Data analysis</li><li>• Evaluation</li><li>• Translation, Dissemination, and Implementation</li></ul> |
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Speakers and instructors include a multidisciplinary team of academic and community members, as well as CES-P alumni who are involved with community-engaged research.

# Are We Ready? Toolkit

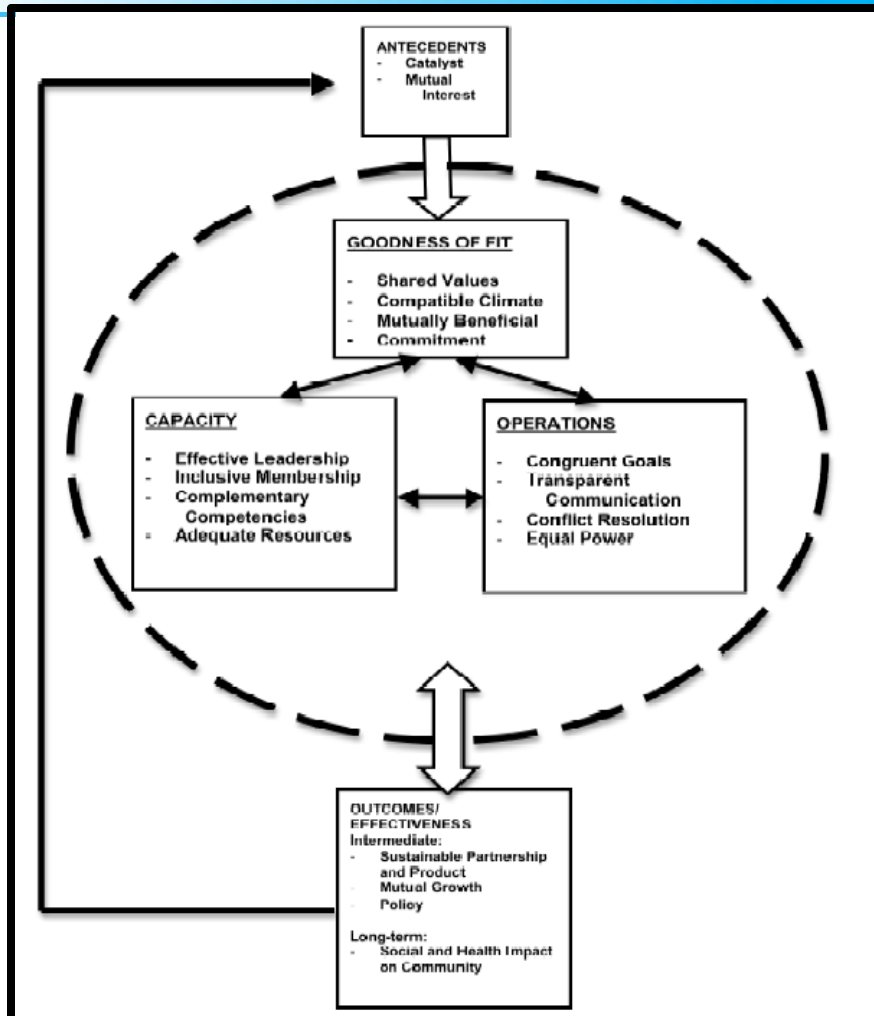


- Developed by MUSC academic and community co-investigators in response to an investigation of partnership readiness to conduct CBPR.
- Goal of toolkit: to foster a firm foundation for the partnership to conduct CBPR and to achieve desirable health outcomes.

Free English and Spanish version

[http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/sctr/programs/community\\_engagement/tools\\_links\\_glossary.htm](http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/sctr/programs/community_engagement/tools_links_glossary.htm)

# Partnership Readiness



- **Goodness of Fit**
  - Shared values
  - Compatible climate
  - Mutual Benefit
  - Commitment
- **Capacity**
  - Leadership
  - Membership
  - Competencies
  - Resources
- **Operations**
  - Congruent Goals
  - Communication
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Power Sharing

# CES-P Outcomes Cohorts 1-6

Since 2009, CES-P has  
trained:

6 Cohorts

•

23 Teams

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69 team members

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2 to 6 teams per year

**50%**

of participants  
were community members

## Academic Partners (n=34)

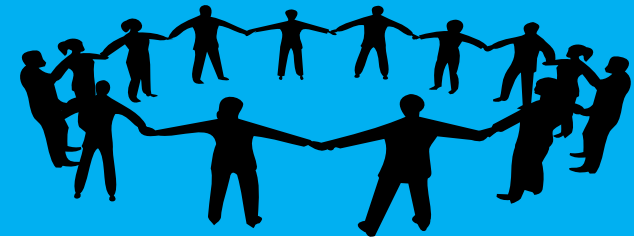
- MUSC, Clemson University, USC
- Medicine (26%), Nursing (20%), Psychology and Behavioral Sciences (17%), Pediatrics (11%), Health Professions (3%), and Dental Medicine (3%).
- Clemson (14%): Food and Nutrition, Institute of Family and Neighborhood Life



# Selection of CES-P Studies

- Unmet Health Needs of Individuals with Disabilities in the Tri-County Area
- Importance of Vitamin D as it Relates to Health Status and Disease
- Periodontal Disease Prevention in the Gullah Community
- Cancer Prevention and Wellness in the Faith-Based African-American Community
- Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Persons Living with HIV/AIDS as they Prepare for Community Re-Entry
- Application of CBPR Framework to Assess and Prioritize Socio-Political Needs of an Alpha-1 Community
- Lifestyle Improvements for Transplantation Success
- Assessing Mental Health Needs of Caregivers of Maltreated Children
- Feasibility and Implementation Strategies in College Sexual Assault Prevention Programming
- Addressing the Needs of Persons with Dementia and their Caregivers
- Reducing Health Disparities in Service Initiation and Engagement Following Trauma Exposure

# CES-P Outcomes Cohorts 1-5



9 follow-on grants amounting to:

**\$6,344,358**

**\$46:\$1**

Return on Investment

**17**

podium  
presentations  
and posters

**8**

peer-reviewed  
publications

# CES-P Cohorts



Cohort 1



Cohort 2



Cohort 3

Cohort 4



Cohort 5



Currently CES-P has served as a model for:

- Delaware (ACE Awards)
- Louisiana

# Lessons Learned

- Conduct a learning needs assessment and adapt curriculum to needs of CES-P teams.
- Some content can be asynchronous learning but partners need time for “face-to-face” discussion of partnerships.
- Online delivery of curriculum is possible.
- Health professionals enrolled in Masters in Clinical Research can benefit from curriculum.

# What Do We Need?

- Models that work
- Metrics for evaluation
- Measurement of structure, processes and outcomes for community-engaged and CBPR research and training
- Money \$\$\$\$ to fund community-based participatory research and training.

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# Thank You and Questions



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