

## CBO Research Principles and Values

This document includes three examples of research values and principles adopted by community organizations or coalitions. Developing or discussing research principles or values can help an organization or partnership document the nature of the research they would like to conduct. Principles can serve to guide the development, implementation, evaluation, dissemination of findings and subsequent actions of the partnership's research efforts. It may be helpful for organizations to share these with potential partners to help communicate their approach.

Additional examples and information available at: <http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/cbpr/u3/u34.php>

## Shared from the Greater Humboldt Park Community of Wellness ([www.ghpcommunityofwellness.org](http://www.ghpcommunityofwellness.org))

### Specific Goals on Guiding Research:

The specific goals of these principles/protocols are to provide an agreed standard of research conduct that:

- Clarifies (in advance) expectations of the research process and outcomes for everyone involved;
- Fosters mutual exchange of information, ideas, skills and appreciation; and
- Builds a foundation for effective research relationships

The information and guidelines provided here seek to ensure that:

- High quality and meaningful research is conducted by [*xx community-academic partners or CBO*];
- The interests of local individuals and the community are represented in the design, implementation and evaluation of research;
- Community organizations are clear of the resources they have to invest for the research project;
- The customary ownership and local control of cultural, ecological and intellectual properties are acknowledged, respected and protected to the full extent of existing means;
- Local employment and the local economy are supported whenever possible; and
- Results of research are useful and are returned to participating partners and the community in a timely fashion and in mutually-agreed forms that are relevant to local and academic needs or interest. This will ensure that research findings will be incorporated into ongoing community programs and therefore provide the greatest possible benefit to the community from research.
- Productive partnerships between researchers and community members/organizations last beyond the life of the research project and is extended to more research and/or other relevant areas.

## II. Values and Principles Guiding Research

[*Partnership members*] are committed to engaging in and enabling community-based participatory research (CBPR) that will integrate academic research practices and local perspectives and procedures. Our goal is that this contributes to our community and its residents achieving health with dignity. In addition to adhering to accepted ethical standards, any research conducted by or involving [*xx community/academic partners*] should strive to incorporate the following principles:

### Community Benefit

CBPR is research conducted *by* and *for* communities. Its purpose is to bring about positive social change, particularly around the reduction of health disparities. That change may include improvements in service delivery, policy outcomes and/or empowerment of individuals and communities to gain control over the factors that affect their health and to take action to address them. Furthermore, we recognize that academic partners also benefit from engaging in research relationships with us. There is a potential for academic researchers to increase their capacity to conduct more efficient, quality research that can be translated into policy

implications as well as inform future research projects.

To increase the likelihood that the results will be of use to communities, we believe that the people whom the research is intended to benefit should have opportunities to be meaningfully engaged in all phases of the research. This includes the early stages of a project, which includes helping to define research questions and objectives and have input into how the project will be organized. We are also committed to ensuring that any findings are shared and made accessible to participants as well as to service providers and policy-makers who can use the findings to inform their decision-making. Ownership of the data will be shared in partnership between all partners. Furthermore, presentation of data or information resulting from the research process or findings will be done in conjunction with all partners. Differences in the interpretation and/or dissemination of results will be resolved to the satisfaction of all partners in disagreement.

### **Capacity-Building**

Through the CBPR process, it is possible to build sustainable capacities within communities for inquiry and transformation. Non-indigenous researchers should facilitate and share training and learning opportunities, particularly those that build community capacity and research techniques. The community needs to understand the research process well enough in order to ensure that research is carried out in a culturally appropriate, ethical, methodologically sound, and useful manner.

Non-indigenous researchers should be committed to meaningfully engage staff and community members in designing, conducting, interpreting and applying research so that in the process, they may build their knowledge, skills and sense of agency. Critical reflection and the documentation of lessons learned is supported and encouraged. Partners who wish to use their research data to pursue program and funding goals which benefit their particular communities will be encouraged and supported.

### **Collaboration and Inclusion**

Diversity and inclusion enriches our community and improves the quality and relevance of research. We value collaborative learning and believe that every participant in the research process, whether a community member, staff or academic, has something unique to contribute. Community participation is required as early as possible in the CBPR process and all partners must be committed to identifying and addressing the barriers that impede meaningful community participation in all phases of the research. The language and methods used in the conduct of research must be broadly accessible to the diverse range of participants.

### **Equity and Dignity**

We believe that every individual has the right to be treated with respect and dignity and that all people should have equitable opportunities and access to the determinants of health. We prioritize research that aims to address health disparities and health inequities by furthering the understanding of and addressing the social determinants of health affecting the vulnerable populations with whom we work. In addition, we strive for CBPR processes that are themselves free from oppression and discrimination.

### **Right to Self Determination in Research**

[xx community/academic partners]take responsibility and aims to independently conduct research relevant to the community we serve. Research conducted will be conceptually and practically defined according to community and cultural values and perspectives.

As researchers of our community, we aim to take the initiative in pursuing local research needs and opportunities. This means that the community and organizations must develop and enhance their capacity and responsibility to make decisions at every stage of the research process. This includes decision-making regarding defining research objectives, outlining research questions, and about how data should be collected and analyzed, and about reporting of findings. Research findings will be translated into practical, cost-effective prevention programs, policies, and strategies to improve the health of the communities we serve.

### Access

**Research findings** will be shared and used by the community where the research is done, to help improve programming and policy in the research area. Raw data from a research project should be made available to community researchers who may want to do their own analysis, always aiming to keep all data confidential and ensuring identifying information is removed.

Researchers should plan to make a public presentation of the research results, conclusions and recommendations at a local venue for community feedback. Feedback and suggestions should be considered in the final report or thesis. Furthermore, acknowledgement and due credit is expected to those who have contributed to the research. When appropriate, community participants should be noted as authors on publications or presentations of findings.

## Shared from Multicultural AIDS Coalition

### Guidelines for Research Partnerships

Based on the key principles and best practices of CBPR, MAC has developed guidelines for researchers interested in collaborating with the MAC on research projects. The guidelines serve as a “starting point” for discussion with researchers. Prior to engaging in a research partnership, guidelines will be discussed and a formal agreement, outlining each entity’s roles, will be signed according to the priorities of MAC and the researcher, requirements of the project, and needs of the community.



1. Researchers agree to involve MAC in the grant application, including identifying other partners and developing project activities.
2. Researchers agree to share budget details and work with MAC to allocate appropriate funding to MAC responsibilities.
3. Researchers agree to involve MAC in Human Subjects Review Boards and other research protocols to ensure community ethical standards and concerns will be represented.
4. Researchers agree to partnership building with MAC and our network of community partners.
5. Researchers agree to provide capacity building and technical assistance to MAC and its community partners in research areas identified.
6. Researchers agree to build community voice into project activities by allocating funding, time, and other resources to support community participation.
7. Researchers agree to include MAC in the development, writing, sharing and dissemination of all publications and other documents with other researchers, funders, government agencies and representatives, and community members
8. MAC and researchers agree to mutual ownership of the data collected and analysis.
9. MAC and the researchers agree on a data release timeline that responds to the urgent need for impact on MAC’s services, programs, and initiatives, while recognizing the constraints of researchers.

10. MAC and the researchers will periodically evaluate the partnership and make necessary changes to the agreements according to the research project.
11. MAC and researchers will clearly identify and apply the benefit(s) of the research on service delivery, public policy, and/or advocacy initiatives.
12. MAC and the researchers will sustain the partnership beyond the completion of the project.
13. MAC and the researchers will clearly define opportunities for mutual education about the parties' motivations, interests and background.

Shared from **Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities**



## **Community-Based Participatory Research Principles**

*Adopted by ARCC Steering Committee, May 13 2009.*

*Revised and Approved February 8, 2012.*

ARCC recognizes that there is a broad spectrum of community engagement in research. Some studies incorporate a few elements of community engagement and minimal collaboration. Others involve community-based organizations and academics as equal partners in all aspects of research. Community-based participatory research (CBPR) embraces the greatest degree of relationship building, community partnership, and collaboration. ARCC promotes an approach to research that reflects the following principles of CBPR. This statement of principles is not formal policy but describes the values that studies and partnerships should strive to achieve.

1. Research partnerships are characterized by a commitment to building relationships based on mutual trust, respect, and shared decision-making in an equitable manner.
2. Partners communicate openly by being honest, developing a common language, and negotiating shared understanding of partner responsibilities and data ownership.
3. Research partnerships build upon strengths and assets to increase shared capacity.
4. Research projects employ cultural sensitivity and ethical protection of individuals and communities.
5. Partners are equitably involved in the stages of research including prioritizing common goals, question development, planning, collection, analysis, interpretation of data, and dissemination.
6. Projects and partners are equally committed to increasing knowledge and addressing community priorities.
7. Research findings are shared in ways that assure concrete action and change through education, advocacy, and improvements in community health.
8. Research partnerships are sustainable and ongoing- beyond a single project or study