



Writing a Successful Community-based Participatory Research Proposal

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Objectives

- Identify key components of CBPR
- Describe steps in developing a CBPR proposal
- Suggest solutions to challenges



What is CBPR?



"A **collaborative** approach to research that **equitably** involves all **partners** in the research process and recognizes the unique **strengths** that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of **importance to the community** with the aim of **combining knowledge and action** for social change **to improve community health** and eliminate health disparities."

W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Health Scholars Program (2001), as cited in Minkler & Wallerstein, 2003.



Writing a Collaborative Proposal



- Develop the **idea** together
- Identify the most appropriate RFP or funding source to respond to
- Write a preliminary outline of your ideas
- Identify who will be PI, multiple PIs, Co-I, and who will submit the proposal



Writing a Collaborative Proposal



- Determine the writing process (written by multiple individuals, written by a few, reviewed by all, reviewed by a few, etc.)
- Identify your timeline and review process for the partnership (who or what does the proposal need to go through before being submitted)
- Work out the budget
- Finalize the proposal



Example – CBPR Team



- Partners:
 - Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services (KKV)
 - Kalihi Palama Health Center (KPHC)
 - University of Hawaii School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene (UHSONDH)
 - Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC)
 - Waikiki Health Center (WHC)
- The Idea
- Meetings to Discuss:
 - Which “cultural” group?
 - Who, what, when, and where?
 - Do we have the resources?



Which “cultural” group?



- CHCs as “community”
- Group with the largest sample vs. group consuming the most resources.
- Each CHC chose the group to work with:
 - Chuukese (KKV)
 - Native Hawaiian (WCCHC)
 - Filipino (Ilocano) (KPHC)
 - Women who work in the sex industry (WHC)



Who, What, When, Where



- Who will be involved in the project, who will recruit, who will do the interviews?
- How many people will need to be at the interview?
- What will the interview consist of? Are we doing group or individual interviews?
- When would we do this, what will be the sequence of events? Will the interviews run concurrently or sequentially?
- Where will the interviews take place?



Do we have the resources?



- **Interpreters:** 2 groups require interpreters and translation; in-house or outsource?
- **Staffing:** Will existing staff be involved in recruitment or conducting interviews?
- **Space:** Do we have a space to conduct the interviews?
- **Time:** How much time was this project going to take (away from existing duties).
- **Expertise:** Understanding IPV, conducting individual interviews and focus groups, research process.



The Writing Process



- Each CHC provided the information for the description of the sites.
- The sample, setting, design evolved out of our discussions.
- All partners were invited to contribute to any section of the proposal.
- The UHSON took the lead on the proposal.
- Guiding questions for the interviews were a challenge.



Challenges & Solutions – Partnership Related



- Stability of the research team
 - Developing trust on the research team
- Finding a common time to meet
 - Much was done over email
 - Met at as central a site as possible
 - Agenda was developed and sent out ahead of time for input
 - Team members provided input to the best day/time to meet

Shoultz, et al. (2006).



Challenges & Solutions - Methodology



- Limited application of study
 - Tailored study to the needs, priorities of the partnership. (Ex: variables of geography, length of residency, and ethnicity)
 - Ethnic groups that consume the most resources or present a high incidence of IPV
- Human subjects training
 - UH provided training to CHC staff and other health centers.



Challenges & Solutions – Broader Issues



- Difference in mission between UH & CHCs
 - Mission statement was developed:

To move community needs and concerns forward with participation, action, and research through a trusting and respectful long-term commitment between the University of Hawaii School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene and the community health center partners of Kalihi Palama Health Center, Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, and Waikiki Health Center.



Challenges & Solutions – Broader Issues



- Maintaining the momentum
 - Manuscripts, pilot funding, revisions to proposal
- Inflexible institutional rules to promote equity and share power
 - Advocate for developing capacity/rules consistent with CBPR



Challenges & Solutions – Broader Issues



- Interpretation & translation
 - Consulted with other researchers to reduce cost and identify reliable processes and people.
- Mandates from current funding sources to implement procedures not yet developed for specific populations.
 - Research project provides an opportunity to identify appropriate services



References

- Minkler M & Wallerstein N (2003). Introduction to community based participatory research. In M. Minkler & N. Wallerstein (Eds), *Community-Based Participatory Research for Health* (pp. 3-26). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Shoultz J, Oneha MF, Magnussen L, Hla MM, Brees-Saunders Z, Dela Cruz M, & Douglas M (2006). Finding solutions to challenges faced in community-based participatory research between academic and community organizations. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, 20(2), 133-144.



