Community Engagement in Research (CER): A Framework for Education & Training

Syed M. Ahmed, MD, MPH, DrPH
Associate Dean for Public & Community Health
Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine
Professor, Institute for Health & Society
Director, Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program
Medical College of Wisconsin

What is in a Name?

- Community Engagement in Research (CEnR)
- Community Engagement in Research (CER)
- Community Engaged Research (CER)
- Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR)
- Community Academic Partnership (CAP)
- Community Based Research (CBR) (Canada)
- Community Based Participatory Action Research (CBPAR)
- Dialogue Research
- Involved Research (UK)
- Community Engaged Scholarship
- Action Research (AR)
- Participatory Action Research (PAR)
- Empowerment Research
Rationale

- Contextual Rationale
- Community Rationale
- Academic Rationale
- Policy Rationale

Community Engagement in Research (CER)

CER is a core element of any research effort involving communities. It requires academic members to become part of the community and community members to become part of the research team, thereby creating a unique working and learning environment before, during, and after the research.

# Principles & Values

- 5 principles
- 13 values

## Principle 1:
**Clear Definition and Scope of CER**

- Values
  - Investigators and communities understand what CER means.
  - The research goals are clear and relevant.
**Principle 2:**
**Strong Community Academic Partnership**

- **Values**
  - ▲ The community-investigator partnership is strong.
  - ▲ All partners receive equal respect.

---

**Principle 3:**
**Equitable Power and Responsibility**

- **Values**
  - ▲ Communities and investigators share power and responsibility equitably
  - ▲ Diverse perspectives and populations are included in an equitable manner
Principle 4: Capacity Building

- Values
  ▲ The research project results in mutual benefit for all partners
  ▲ Communities and investigators have opportunities to build capacity
  ▲ The partners sustain the relationship and the research outcomes after the project ends

Principle 5: Effective Dissemination Plan

- Values
  ▲ Communications are continuous
  ▲ The monitoring and evaluation process is transparent
  ▲ The partners establish appropriate policies regarding ownership and dissemination of results
  ▲ The partners translate the research finding into policies, intervention, or programs
Thank You

- Syed M. Ahmed
  - sahmed@mcw.edu