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Abstract:
The United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee (UNCOM) and the Medical College of Wisconsin have formed a unique academic and community partnership to decrease rates of violence in identified areas of Milwaukee and strengthen community capacity to prevent future violence. Although this program is in its early stages, the member agencies of UNCOM are networking to grow and strengthen the partnership to build capacity for programs. The Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI), funded by HWPP, has worked collaboratively to establish early benchmarks which are providing the foundation for future work. This presentation will discuss best practices in relationship development that will drive the success of programs like the Violence Prevention Initiative going forward.

Session Goals:
• Utilize best practice concepts to discuss how community and academic partners can form and maintain partnerships
• Examine how best practices can act as models for new partnerships

Learning Objectives:
• Identify lessons learned from unique partnerships between an academic partner and neighborhood serving agencies
• Discuss the role and importance of leadership from the perspective of different partners (academic and community)

Agenda:
• Brief overview of United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee (UNCOM)
• Overview of partnering and engagement approaches
• Present background and history of VPI partnership
• Review HWPP Partnership Model and its practical application
• Engage participants in group discussion: your partnerships/other proven best practices
• Summarize lessons learned for developing and sustaining partnerships (report-outs)