

# Innovative strategies to enhance community-academic partnerships for health equity: Results from the CBPR Partnership Academy

**Zachary Rowe**

Executive Director, Friends of Parkside

**Chris M. Coombe**

University of Michigan School of Public Health

Barbara Israel, Angela G. Reyes, Ricardo Guzman,  
Julia Weinert, Lindsay Terhaar, Lisa Pappas

Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, Denver, CO

November 1, 2016

This program is funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under Award #1R25GM111837-01. Related materials do not necessarily represent views of NIH. With acknowledgement to our colleagues in the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center

# Presenter Disclosure

- Zachary Rowe
  - Chris M. Coombe
- 
- (1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

**No relationships to disclose.**

# Detroit URC: 21 Years of CBPR Partnership



*Neighborhood Service Organization*  
Celebrating 60 Years of Service and Impact



DETROIT  
HISPANIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION



**Detroiters Working for  
Environmental Justice**  
*Fostering Clean, Healthy and Safe Communities*



# The CBPR Partnership Academy

## Enhancing CBPR Capacity to Promote Health Equity

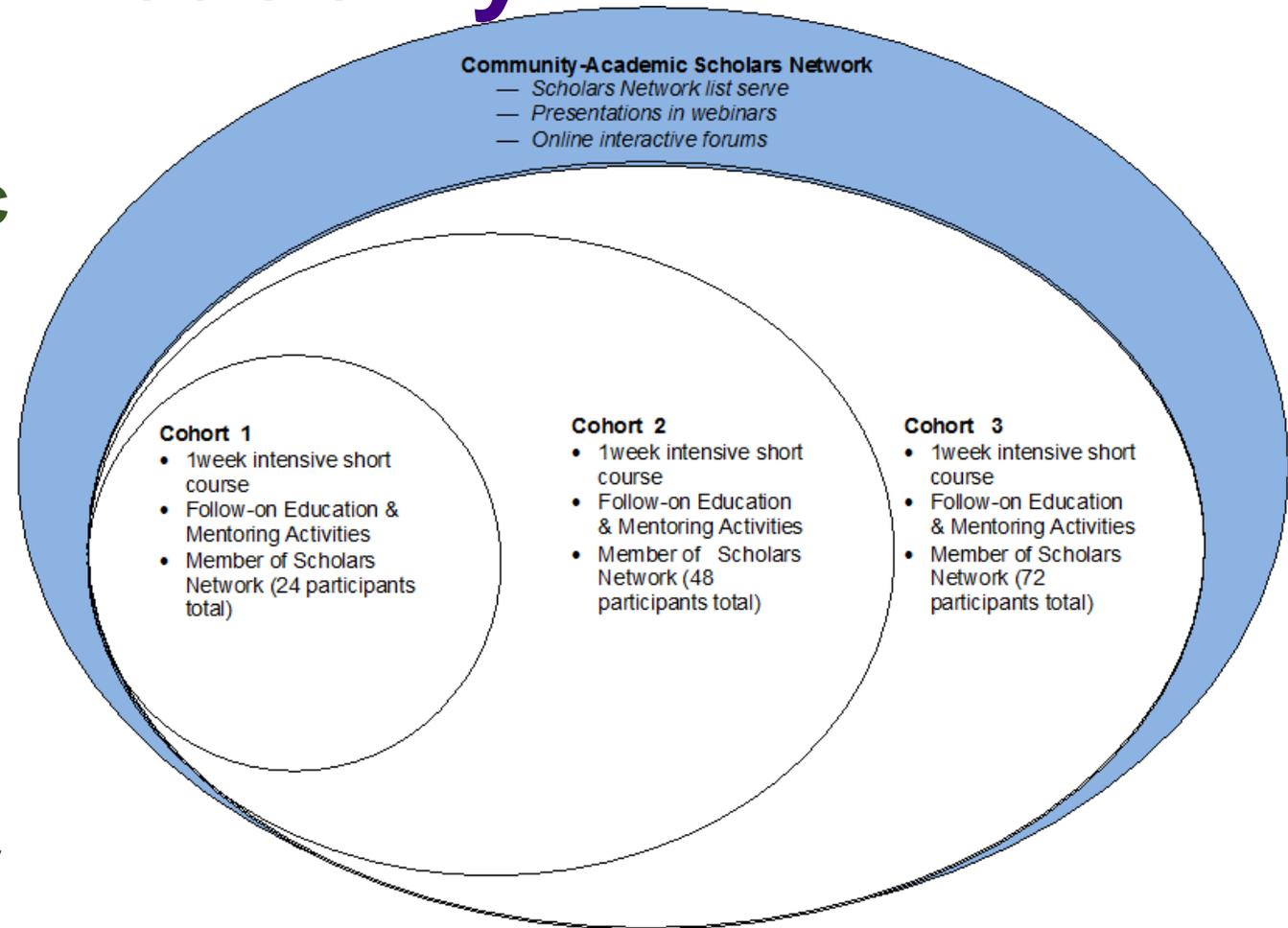
A 4 year national initiative funded by NIH to enhance the use of community-based participatory research (CBPR) in social and behavioral sciences to improve health and reduce health inequities.



# Detroit URC CBPR Partnership Academy

Integrated year-long learning  
for 12 Community + Academic  
Partner teams

- Week-long intensive CBPR course
- Monthly learning activities
- Mentoring and planning grant
- Ongoing Partnership Academy Network



# Program Eligibility and Recruitment

- Teams of 1 academic and 1 community partner
- Newly forming CBPR partnership
- Support from applicants' organization or institution to participate in the year-long program



# 24 Teams from 13 States and 2 Tribal Nations

## ★ Cohort 1

- Florida
- Illinois (2)
- Massachusetts (3)
- New York (2)
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- Washington

★ Oneida Nation  
(in Wisconsin)



## ★ Cohort 2

- California (3)
- ★ Kasha Tribe of Pomo Indians
- Georgia (2)
- Hawaii
- Minnesota
- North Carolina
- Pennsylvania
- Washington (2)
- Wisconsin

# Evaluation Purpose, Approach, & Methods

- Participatory and Formative
- Process Evaluation
- Impact Evaluation
- Mixed Methods



# Multiple Data Collection Methods

## Component

- Week-long Course
- Ongoing learning forums
- Mid-year assessment
- Overall program

## Methods

3 open-ended questions; Survey

Short surveys after each

Data feedback and discussion

Pre- and post-questionnaires (qualtrics)

Selfie-videos of advice to next cohort

Reflection activity at final forum

**Periodic feedback, interpretation, application of results by all involved.**

# Week-Long Intensive Course in CBPR

- CBPR principles, partnership development, cultural humility
- Research methods using CBPR to address health inequities
- Responsible conduct of research
- Joint interpretation, application, and dissemination of results
- Evaluation of the CBPR partnership
- Tour of Detroit with community partners
- Kick-off dinner and final celebration



# Evaluation Findings: 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort Week-Long Intensive Course

## Most valuable/beneficial:

- Learning about CBPR from knowledgeable community-academic instructors using Detroit URC examples.
- Relationships strengthened, partners learned together in co-learning environment.

## Least valuable/beneficial, recommendations

- More time to work on team projects and networking.
- More interaction, less slide presentations.

*“...we got to know one another much better, learned together, strengthened our partnership, and were able to talk through our questions and ideas.”*

# Evaluation Findings: 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort Ongoing Learning Activities

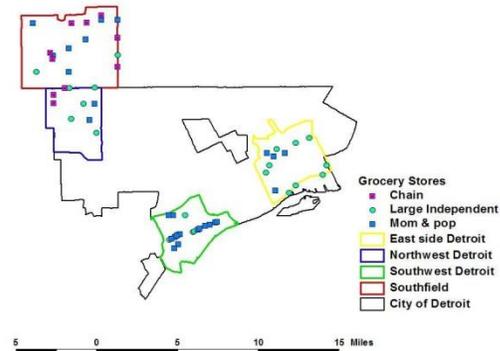
- Learning Forums and Peer Exchange
- CBPR Partnership Academy Network



“I appreciated the on-line forum discussions but ... it was difficult to get to deeper discussion... I think it would be helpful to have a second gathering of participants to engage in shared problem solving and learning about each project.”

# Evaluation: 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort

## CBPR Partnership Proposal Development & Implementation



Zenk, S.N., Schultz, A.J., Israel, B.A., James, S.A., Wilson, M.L. "Spatial distribution of food stores shapes availability, quality, and cost of fresh produce in four Detroit area communities". Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, San Francisco, CA, November 10, 2003.



# Evaluation Findings: 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort

## Mentoring from Community & Academic Expert Pairs



“We greatly appreciated the support and guidance provided to us by our mentors. They showed great care in understanding the issue... and provided extremely valuable insight from their vast experience. We are so appreciative...”

# Results: How beneficial were the following program components in contributing to your overall CBPR Academy Experience?

Component	% Very or extremely beneficial
Week-long intensive course	89%
Trip to Detroit	78%
Writing the proposal	67%
Getting feedback on the proposal	72%
Receiving funding	72%
Implementing the Proposal	67%
Mentoring	72%
Instructor presentations	44%
Team presentations with feedback	53%
Peer and program exchange through Google Communities	11%
Overall engagement with other participants	55%

# Other Findings from the Post- Survey

- **Overall satisfaction** 72% very or extremely satisfied
- **Met expectations** 61% exceeded expectations, 28% matched
- **Use CBPR in future work** 89% likely or very likely
- **Enhanced competence in developing a CBPR partnership** 76% very or extremely enhanced
  
- Community partners showed *increased* level of competence in most steps of the CBPR process.
- Academic partners showed *mixed changes* in competence – some increases, some decreases.
- Qualitative data showed that both groups expressed that they learned a great deal.

# Accomplishments: 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort

- 11 submitted grant proposals
- 10 proposals funded – range of \$5,000 – \$80,000
- 8 carried out a training/workshop related to CBPR
- 6 disseminated the partnership's work to academic audiences
- 7 disseminated the partnership's work to community audiences
- 8 incorporated CBPR into teaching



# Lessons Learned from the 1<sup>st</sup> Year

- Value of engaging Community-Academic teams – both instructors and participants
- Balanced hands-on, applied learning
- Focus on relationship-building in all activities throughout the year
- A highly diverse group brings an essential dimension
- Need to balance *project* development and *partnership* development
- The Academy Network lasts beyond the year



# Now recruiting for next year! Apply by February 15, 2017

*A unique, engaging, & fun opportunity to learn with community & academic experts!*

## CBPR Partnership Academy



*"That we continue for a year and possibly beyond is very exciting."*

Apply Online:  
DetroitURC.org  
(Starting December 2016)

**DETROIT URC**  
COMMUNITY · ACADEMIC  
URBAN RESEARCH CENTER

**Who Should Apply?**

- Newly formed or developing community-academic partnerships
- Community-based organizations & academic researchers
- One ACADEMIC & one COMMUNITY partner apply as a team

**Topics Include:**

- CBPR principles, partnership development, & cultural humility
- Innovative research methods to address health inequities
- Responsible conduct of research
- Joint data interpretation & application

Community & Academic Partners are Invited:

## The Detroit Urban Research Center's Community-Based Participatory Research Partnership Academy

*Year-long intensive training in CBPR*



*"I really learned how to engage the community from the beginning and how to craft research questions together and design the study together, from start to finish."*

*"I think this is really going to transform the work that I do and the way that I do it."*

*"To see the CBPR work being done here in Detroit was absolutely amazing."*

**Program Features & Benefits**

- An intensive week-long, all-expenses paid CBPR course in Ann Arbor, MI - July 23-28, 2017
- Monthly webinars & trainings
- Funding for small planning grants
- Mentoring
- CBPR Partnership Academy Network



**DETROIT URC**  
COMMUNITY · ACADEMIC  
URBAN RESEARCH CENTER

[www.detroiturc.org](http://www.detroiturc.org)



**Thank you!**

