COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH

WHAT IS COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH?

Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) refers to a cooperative approach to research that includes partnerships and collaboration among researchers and community organizations and agencies (CITI Program). This is different from the traditional approach where researchers are responsible for the design, conduct and reporting of the research and the community member's participation is only as a human subject. The participation of community members in the research process varies from modest input to full participation in all aspects of the research design, conduct and reporting. One example of CEnR is the program Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships in Education Research sponsored by the Institute for Education Sciences (IES). In this program, researchers partner with education agencies and local districts to identify issues and carry out research projects with the goal of making changes that will improve the success of the school communities.

A key element of community engaged research is open communication between the researchers and community stakeholders. Engaging the community in the research process can foster a relationship of trust between the community and the researchers, help identify issues relevant to the community, and promote participation in studies. Human research with community engagement does pose some additional ethical issues with respect to the community that should be considered by the researchers and IRB. CITI Program training is available for CEnR and recommended for all research personnel involved in a CENR project.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A COMMUNITY?

A community is a group of people linked by social ties who share common perspectives or interests, and may also share a geographical location (Harvard Catalyst).

Examples of characteristics that community members might share:
- Culture or ethnic heritage
- Language
- School district
- Age group
- Experiences, special interests or attributes (e.g. asthma sufferers, immigrants)

RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHERS INTERESTED IN THE CEnR APPROACH

Training for Researchers

KU HRPP now offers the following CITI training modules specific to CEnR. They are listed in the Supplemental Modules of the Social & Behavioral Research course option.

REQUIRED FOR ARISE:
- Introduction to Community Engaged Research (CEnR)

Optional Modules:
- Introduction to Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)
- Ethical and Practical Considerations in Community-Engaged Research (CEnR)

Other Optional Supplemental Modules to the Social & Behavioral Research course that may be relevant to research personnel using a CEnR approach include:
- Cultural Competence in Research
- Research with Prisoners
- Research with Children
- Research in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools
- Research Involving Workers/Employees

To enroll in one or more of the Supplemental Modules above, access the training (also called Tutorial) here: https://research.ku.edu/human-subjects-training
- first log into CITI with your KU online ID, **search for University of Kansas - Lawrence**
- If you have not taken the Social & Behavioral Research course,
    1. Choose to "Add a Course". This is the first option under "Learner Tools for University of Kansas – Lawrence" at the bottom of the page.
    2. Select the Social Behavioral Research course under Question 1 and choose the supplemental modules of your interest. All Supplemental Modules, including those above, will be listed below the Required Modules of the course.
    3. Be sure to scroll to the bottom of the screen and click "Submit" to complete your registration.
- If you have already taken or started or registered for the Social Behavioral Research course, you will need to click on "View Courses" and see it listed under "Courses Completed" with an option to "Review the Course".
    1. Choose "Review Course" to access the Social & Behavioral Research course.
    2. Scroll down to select "Introduction to Community-Engaged Research." Introduction to Community-Engaged Research is required, while all other Supplemental Modules will be listed below the Required Modules.
    3. Be sure to scroll to the bottom of the screen where it says "optional modules" and click "Start" to complete the Community Engaged Research course modules (a screenshot is provided below).

Training for Community Members

In accordance with federal regulations, <u>community members who will be engaged in the human subjects research portion of the project must have appropriate human subjects ethics training</u>. Contact an IRB staff member at irb@ku.edu to discuss training options for community members who will obtain a) data about the subjects of the research through intervention or interaction with them; b) identifiable private information about the subjects of the research; or c) the informed consent of the human subjects for the research.

Additional Resources

Frontiers: University of Kansas Clinical and Translational Science Institute
http://www.kufrontiers.org/research-support-services/community-and-collaboration.html

Pearson, C. R., Parker, M., Fisher, C. B., & Moreno, C. (2014). Capacity building from the inside out: development and evaluation of a CITI ethics certification training module for American Indian and Alaska Native community researchers. *Journal of empirical research on human research ethics : JERHRE*, *9*(1), 46–57. doi:10.1525/jer.2014.9.1.46
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4004423/

Community Engaged Research (CEnR) Overview, Harvard Catalyst
https://catalyst.harvard.edu/programs/regulatory/cenr.html

McDonald, M.A..Practicing Community-engaged Research, Duke University
https://www.citiprogram.org/citidocuments/Duke%20Med/Practicing/comm-engaged-research-4.pdf