

Community Engagement and Health Disparities Research

Presented by Jennifer L. Lemacks, June Gipson, Loyda Mendez, Nilda Medina, Elizabeth Rink, Katherine Mills

Description: Community engagement is a continuum of community involvement that spans from little to complete community involvement in research. Community engaged research approaches have been particularly effective to address health disparities in IDeA states. Health disparities exist when certain population groups suffer disproportionately from disease. Health disparities research seeks solutions to promote health equity. Both community engagement and health disparities research are essential to enhance health, lengthen life and reduce illness and disability. IDeA programs are optimally designed to lead community engagement and health disparities research in their respective states. Several IDeA states have explored fundamental mechanisms and transformed new knowledge into solutions that promote health equity among underserved and minority populations, such as African Americans and Native Americans. The goals of this session are to: 1. Showcase the contribution of IDeA programs to community engagement and health disparities research. 2. Provide a space to share best practices and built collaborations across IDeA programs. 3. Promote research in the area of community engagement and health disparities in IDeA states. 4. Enhance student and faculty involvement in community engagement and health disparities research in IDeA states.

Session theme or topic: Cores, Clinical/Rural Health Research

Session format (Lecture, facilitated discussion, panel discussion, Q&A): Lecture, Flash talks

3 anticipated participant learning outcomes:

1. Define and increase awareness community engagement and health disparities research.
2. Identify best practices to tailor approaches to engage specific underserved communities in research.
3. Develop approaches to enhance faculty and student involvement in this critical area of research.

Intended audience: INBRE, COBRE, CTR, Students, Faculty PI's, Administrators, Evaluators

Name, title, Institution/bio for each facilitator/presenter:

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