Project ACCCES

Guiding Principles of Community-Engaged Research

1. Recognizes community (broadly defined and project specific) as a unit of identity.
2. Builds on strengths and resources within the community, as opposed to only focusing on deficits.
3. Facilitates a collaborative, equitable partnership in the research process, and promotes open communication.
4. Fosters co-learning and capacity building among all partners by promoting an equitable exchange and recognizes the expertise of all partners.
5. Integrates and achieves a balance between knowledge generation and intervention for the mutual benefit of all partners.
6. Often considers the local relevance of public health problems, and on ecological perspectives that attend to the multiple determinants of health (structural, political, social, individual).
7. Encourages iterative evaluation of the partnership, process, and outcomes.
8. Disseminates results to all partners and the broader community in an accessible format.
9. Involves an authentic commitment to the partnership.
10. Seeks to promote intervention sustainability and health equity.
11. Openly considers issues of race, ethnicity, racism, and social class on impact of partnership. Practice of “cultural humility” and anti-racism trainings are highly recommended.
12. Works to ensure research rigor and validity, but also seeks to broaden traditional concepts of validity with respect to research relevance.

Adapted from the following sources: 1-9, Israel et al., 1998 and 2005; 10-11, Minkler and Wallerstein, 2008.