



*Principles and Methods of Community  
Based Participatory Research*

presented to

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## *Uni-directional approach to civic engagement*

“...Leverage knowledge  
resources of the university  
to address problems in the  
community...”



# Interplay between University and Community Resources

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University: (intellectual and human capital, academic legitimacy; recognition and prestige; etc.)



Community: (experience addressing social issues, understanding the local culture; legitimacy among community members, etc.)



## *Definition of Civic Engagement - Democratic*

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*“Democracy is about learning to work with others across difference as **co-creators of public work**”*

**- H. Boyte and N. Kari**



# *Community Based Participatory Research*

*CBPR is a collaborative research approach that is designed to ensure and establish structures for participation by the three groups involved in the project - communities affected by the research, representatives of organizations, and researchers – in all aspects of the research process to improve health and well-being through taking action, including social change.*



*Housing Complex  
Computer Lab*



## ***Essential elements of CBPR***

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- ❖ **Participation (differing forms of expertise)**
- ❖ **Action**
- ❖ **Iteration**



## ***Essential Elements of Community Participation***

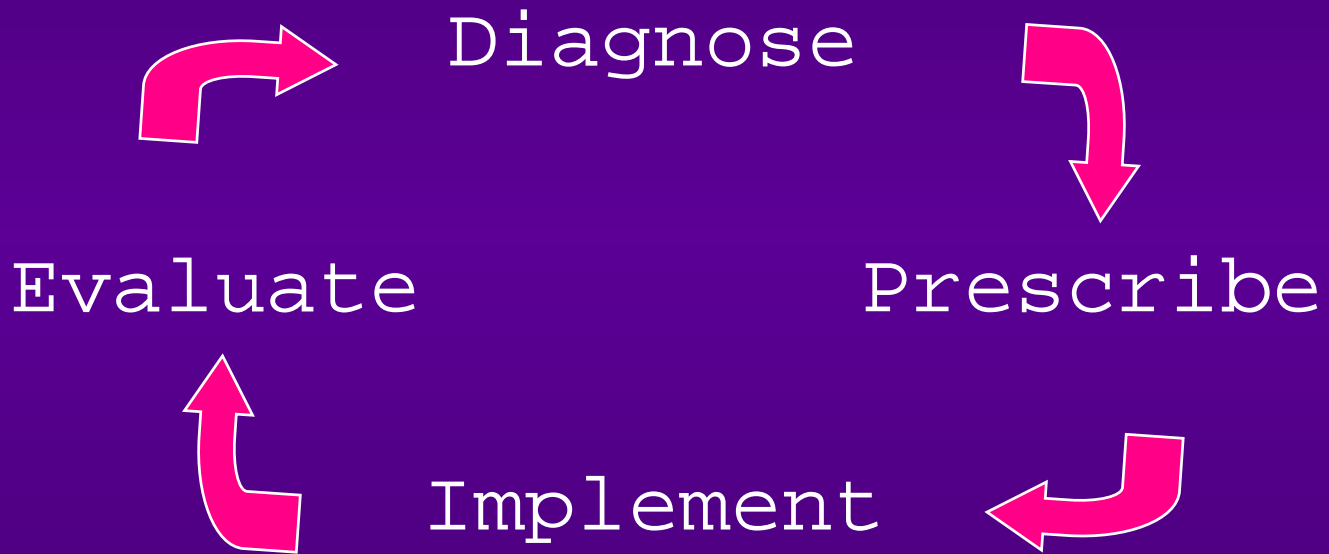
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- ❖ **Refine the analytic framework and key questions at the beginning of a project**
- ❖ **Share power and resources**
- ❖ **Own the means of knowledge generation and the results of the study**



# *Project-Based Research Cycle*

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# *Phases of Research Cycle*

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DIAGNOSIS- identify conditions/  
problems/ needs that provide a  
change opportunity

RESEARCH - Determine the scale,  
range, and/or causes of the  
problem.

PRESCRIBING- identify means to  
address the problem

RESEARCH - Determine methods  
that may be applied to this  
community



# *Phases of Research Cycle*

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IMPLEMENTATION- deliver services to address the problem

RESEARCH - Advocacy campaigns, community theatre/art performance, oral histories

EVALUATION- measure impact and effectiveness of project

RESEARCH - Assess methods, outputs, and outcomes



# *Exercise: Where are we in the Cycle?*

## **Independently (5 minutes)**

Read the accompanying sheet – Where are we in the Project Cycle?

Rank the statement that most closely describes your assessment. Or add your own statement as appropriate

## **Discuss (10 minutes)**

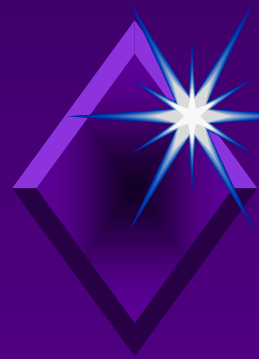
Agreements and differences in rankings.



## *Steps in Project Based Research*

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- Choosing the question
- Designing the methods
- Collecting the data
- Analyzing the data



## *Nine Principles of Community Based Projects* *(Minkler, Wallerstein)*

- **Recognize community as unit of identity**
- **Utilize community assets**
- **Create equitable partnerships**
- **Develop co-learning and capacity**
- **Balance research and action**



## *Nine Principles (cont'd)*

- **Focus on local solutions** in general context
- Encourage systems development thru **iteration**
- **Disseminate** in various forms for differing audiences
- Realize that community partnerships are **long term!**



# *Exercise: How participatory are we?*

## **Discuss (15 minutes)**

Read the accompanying sheet on principles of CBPR.

In terms of where you are (or where you plan to be), how well does your design match these principles?



## *Final thought*

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The Locus of Knowledge  
Generation has moved off  
campus!