Refining and Validating the Community REsearch Activity assessment Tool (CREAT)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
We have developed a framework of community-based organization (CBO) research capacity and an accompanying measurement tool, the Community REsearch Activity assessment Tool (CREAT), in response to the observed need for a research capacity tool for CBOs, and to support systematic efforts to strengthen CBO research capacity. We are currently refining the CREAT framework and tool to strengthen content validity using a Delphi process with a balanced panel of academic and community researchers. We are developing consensus-derived domains and operational definitions of CBO research capacity. Following completion of the Delphi process we will field test the refined tool.

KEY INSIGHTS/PROGRESS:
• We have completed two of the five rounds of the Delphi process, and have achieved consensus on the framework of CBO research capacity and almost all of the definitions and key terms. Participants have proposed new subdomains and changed multiple definitions.
  For example: “Research into Practice”
  - Original definition: Using primary and secondary data to inform your work.
  - Revised definition: Research findings are used to identify promising or evidence based programs or services to improve the health and well-being of the community.
• Panelists are currently reviewing the full assessment tool as round 3 of the Delphi process.

PROJECT TEAM AND PARTNERS:

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