

Project C.O.A.C.H.: ***Counseling Others About Contacts and exposures*** ***with HIV***



Study Aims

- To characterize the perspectives and experiences of three groups of people regarding Partner Notification for HIV among Men who have sex with men:
 - Medical Case Managers,
 - Disease Intervention Specialists, and
 - Men who have Sex with Men
- To identify actionable opportunities for improving Partner Notification implementation in Connecticut.

Community-Based Participatory Research Approach

"... collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community, has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change to improve health outcomes and eliminate health disparities."

-WK Kellogg

Foundation

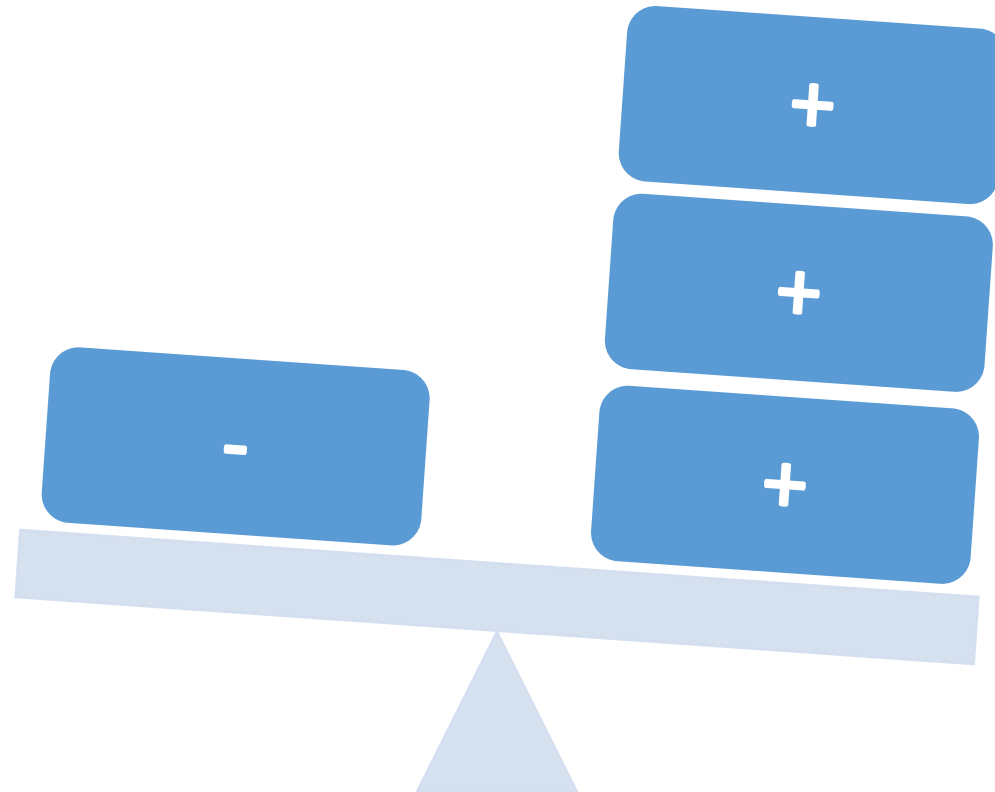
Developing Our Partnership

- Met regularly and in person
- Frequent communication outside of the meetings
- Agendas, Meeting Summary
- Defined Roles and Responsibilities Early and Revisited
- Close Follow-Up: Continuous Re-engagement
- Discussed Compensation of Team Members Early
- Developed and Conducted the Project Jointly at each Stage
- Created Opportunities for Mutual Learning
- Mutual Respect
- Common Project Goal and Dedication

Academic – Community Partnerships: Lessons Learned

Challenges

Benefits



Benefits

Academic Perspective

- Relationships
- Translation into Action
- Opportunity for ongoing collaborations

Community Perspective

- Research capacity building
- Community partnerships
- Data, knowledge and experience to use for grant proposals
- Staff training opportunities
- Improved CBO Management perspective on clients

Lessons Learned: CBPR

- Listening to the Community for Opportunities
- Importance of engaging stakeholders early and fostering the relationship
- Value of multidisciplinary team
- Time, time, time
- Range of potential project products
- Personal reward and opportunities

~THANK YOU~

Project Team and Collaborators:

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