



Faces of Urban Health

A Forum to Share Community-Based Strategies to Address
Health Inequity in Urban Communities – October 26, 2010
Harlem, New York City

Call for Abstracts

Deadline for submissions: August 15 2010

FORUM OVERVIEW

We invite community residents, advocates, and organizations to the Faces of Urban Health Forum, where we will consider together how to create and sustain community-academic partnerships, how to do rigorous and meaningful research in partnership, and how to design and promote healthier policies - both in our organizations and in our government - based upon research and community values. The old research paradigm used to address health disparities and inequity confined communities to a passive role - the research subject. At the same time, this paradigm limited researchers' ability to see the many factors that influence health in the community. Strengths, ways of knowing, values, policy barriers, were often hidden from view.

The development of participatory research, where practitioners and researchers work in collaboration with communities (referred to as Participatory Action Research - PAR; Community-based Participatory Research - CBPR; Community-based Participatory Action Research - CBPAR; and Participatory Learning and Action - PLA) has led to research that directly benefits communities. What is clear is that research and action benefit when community voice is heard. The Forum is open to all community members interested in and practicing forms of action research. The Forum will include interactive workshop and platform sessions to promote the sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices throughout the United States and globally by and among community partners in the following areas: 1) effective methods in establishing, maintaining and sustaining community-academic partnerships; 2) engagement in all phases of the research process; 3) strategies for effective administration and governance through capacity-building and collaboration among community partners already engaged in community-academic partnerships and 4) successes and challenges in designing, advocating for and implementing community-driven, evidence-based systems-level change (i.e. policy).

The forum will take place at the Touro College of Pharmacy, 230 west 125th street in Harlem. The main entrance to the forum is on West 124th Street between Adam Clayton Powell and Frederick Douglass Blvds.

FORUM OBJECTIVES

FACES OF URBAN HEALTH will showcase the voices, perspectives, and experiences of community advocates, organizations and residents who participate in urban health and social research activities within a participatory research approach. By bringing together these groups in a highly participatory format, we aim to create a unique space for attendees to exchange, learn from one another, and network on their role in research process. This involves sharing stories, experiences, and enhancing skills and capacities:

- To **raise awareness** of effective and innovative strategies to develop and sustain community-academic research partnerships ;
- To **showcase** how diverse community perspectives can contribute to addressing local and global urban health and social concerns;
- To **create spaces** for participants to develop strategies for action on common issues facing local communities

FORUM THEME: We invite all community members that are interested in and or practicing forms of action research to address urban health inequities to join us in this Forum. The Forum theme is focused on the specific areas within the *research process* where community representatives have the space to share and present on their experience with participatory models for research. We are requesting proposal submissions that address the following themes:

- ❑ *Processes used to identify a health and or social concern*
- ❑ *Development of research and policy question(s)*
- ❑ *Approaches for developing an effective community-academic collaborative*
- ❑ *Study Design Approaches*
- ❑ *Strategies for Funding Sought to respond research and policy questions*
- ❑ *Participants Recruited and Retention Systems Implemented*
- ❑ *Measurement Instruments Designed and Data Collected*
- ❑ *Intervention Designed and Implemented*
- ❑ *Data Analyzed and Integrated,*
- ❑ *Strategies used or lessons learned from dissemination of research findings*
- ❑ *Strategies used to translate research findings to impact health and social policy and systems*

Who Should Participate

Participants will include residents of local, regional and international communities, representatives of community organizations, government, international, national and local NGOs, foundations, students, faculty and university administrators.

Call for Proposals:

We will address the above themes of the Forum through a variety of presentation formats and opportunities for dialogue. Formats will include plenary sessions, workshops/skill development sessions, roundtables, and further opportunities for networking and conversation. The Forum program committee invites participants to submit summaries of potential presentations in the following formats based on the Forum themes. Please indicate in your proposal, your chosen Forum theme.

FORUM PRESENTATION FORMATS:

- **Skill building/learning workshops**
In these workshops, presenters will teach and discuss particular skills and techniques involved in doing community based research and/or community-university partnerships for change. The session should accomplish specific learning objectives and increase the participants' competence in an important area of the Forum themes and objectives. It should include opportunities for practice and feedback. Please indicate workshop objectives, agenda, and participation processes. Workshops will be 90 minutes in length.
- **Learning Circles**
Roundtables will provide an opportunity for discussion on important themes and issues relevant to community member experiences in community-academic partnerships and collaborations. This can include presentations of ideas in development, evaluations, or an opportunity for collective problem solving of identified challenges or other in contexts relevant to the Forum themes. A submission to facilitate a roundtable must include a summary describing the problem or issue, its significance, the questions to be posed, and a plan for engaging the participants. Sessions will be 30 minutes and will have no more than 10 participants including the presenter(s).
- **Storytelling**
Stories reflect the genuine and authentic experience of an individual or a community, which has importance and value. Stories should be consistent with the Forum theme, goals, and objectives. For example, story sessions could involve a story of a successful or less than successful attempt to involve faculty by community organizations in community research projects, or how an attempt to change community policies or practices through a research project went in a completely different direction. Storytelling sessions will be 30 minutes in length.
- **Platform Session**
Oral presentations will be focused on reports of research results, theory and inquiry related to the Forum themes. Presentations may be submitted individually or jointly as a panel session (submitted by the panel

lead). We strongly encourage community member participation for presentations with academics. Individual presentations will be approximately 20 minutes each, with a total of 90 minutes allocated for each session.

- **World Café** (<http://www.theworldcafe.com/>) aims to provide an open and creative conversation on a topic of mutual interest to surface our collective knowledge, share ideas and insights, and gain a deeper understanding of the subject and the issues involved. 60 minutes has been allocated for this format.
- **Open Space Technology** (<http://www.openspaceworld.org/>) is an approach to conversation that begins with a theme, but no formal agenda. 60 minutes has been allocated for this format.

FORUM SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- August 15, 2010 Deadline for abstract submissions
- September 3, 2010 Notification of acceptance of abstracts
- October 1, 2010 Final submission of abstract and presentation for Forum materials

[Start here to submit a proposal to the Forum](#)

FORUM ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Abstracts must be written in English.
2. Abstract text should not exceed 250 words and may not include images, charts or tables.
3. Authors are strongly encouraged to use the on-line submission form - [Start here to submit a proposal to the Forum](#) or submit the abstract by email to facesofurbanhealth@gmail.com
4. Presentations that do not follow the guidelines, that are incomplete, or that are received after the deadline date will not be considered. The Program Committee will try to accommodate all presentations according to the presenters' stated preferences, but may reassign presentations according to Forum needs.
5. Each individual may submit a maximum of two Presentations as Primary Presenter. There is no limit on the number of submissions for which a person may be listed as a supplementary presenter.
6. Co-presentations by multiple community partners are encouraged.
7. Submission of the form implies the submitter's agreement to register for the Forum and present as scheduled.
8. All abstracts will receive an electronic receipt upon arrival. If a receipt fails to follow submission, abstracts should be re-submitted.
9. Authors will be notified of acceptance by September 3, 2010 via email.
10. Final abstracts and presentations to be included in the Forum materials are due by October 1, 2010, 12 am EST.
11. Abstracts are permitted on research, reports, posters or presentations that have been submitted and/or published elsewhere.
12. Abstracts must include a cover sheet providing the following information:
 - a. The title of the paper, presentation or poster;
 - b. The name(s) and title(s) of the submitting author(s);
 - c. A short biography of each author;
 - d. The name of the sponsoring institution (if any);
 - e. Contact information for each author (mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, fax number);

Questions about abstract submissions – please contact Ann-Gel Palermo, HCAP Chair, at [apalermo21@gmail](mailto:apalermo21@gmail.com) or by telephone at 212-241-8886.