

Benefits of Community- Engaged Research: The Academic Perspective

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Why do universities want to work with CBOs?

- Ensure research is needed, relevant, meaningful to communities
- CBOs have cultural and social expertise that academic partners lack
- CBOs have community trust
- Successful models are more likely to be sustained at a community level

Why do CBOs want to work with universities?

- Funding
- Credibility
- Expertise
- Networking and Dissemination opportunities
- Researchers with commitment to community

Resources that a CBO can leverage in working with a university

- Manpower – students, etc
- Other researchers with diverse areas of expertise
- Libraries
- Relationships with funding agencies
- Clinical resources
- Software

IT'S EASIER IF WE ALL PULL TOGETHER



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Questions For Community Partners to Consider regarding University Partners

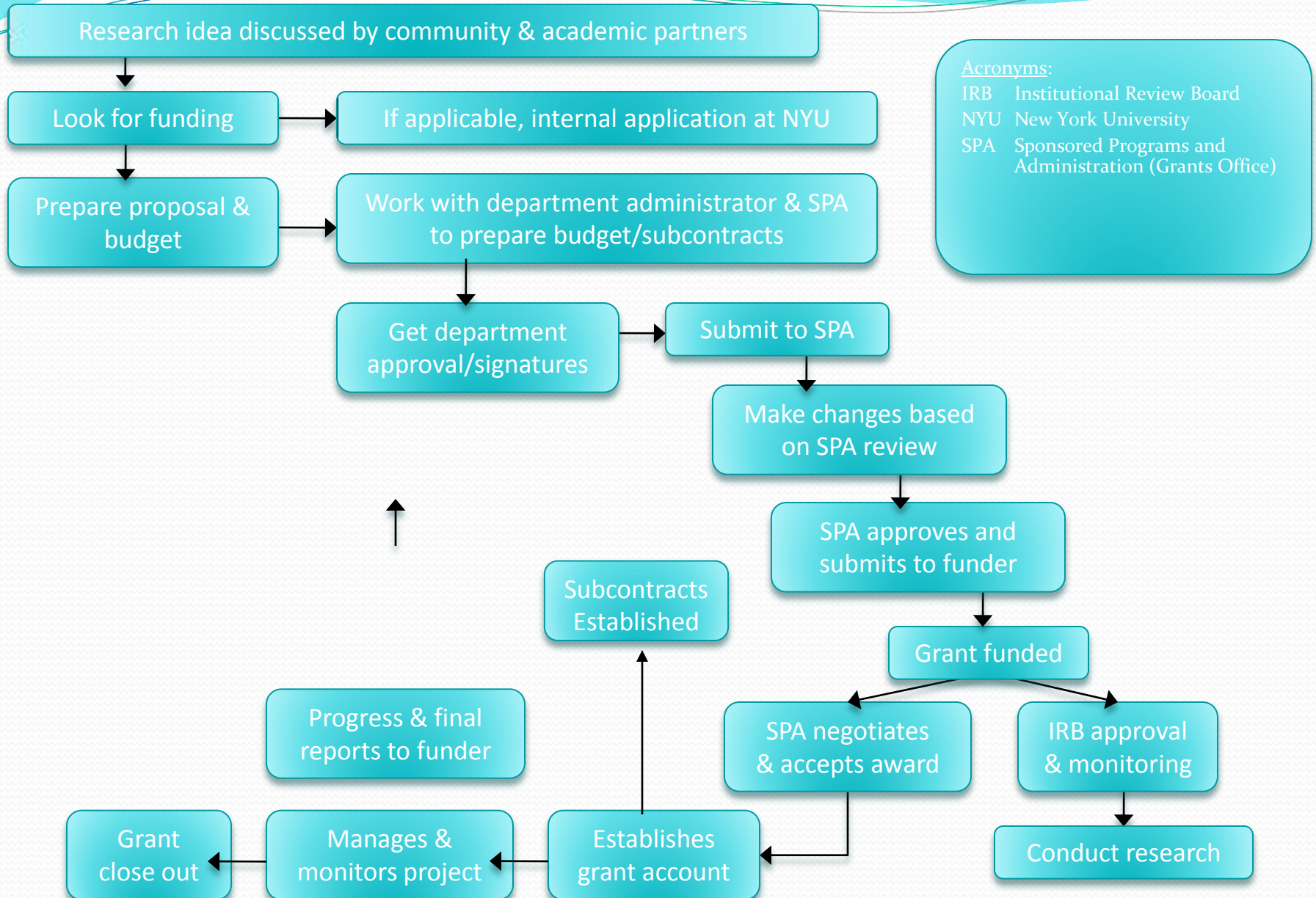
- **Has this person collaborated with others before?
- **How did the experience go?
- Does the researcher have the skills (i.e. language) needed for this project?
- Is the researcher aware of the basic needs of the population I work with?
- How will we share in recognition or any profits from research findings?
- How will we control or handle any impact the results may have on our client population?
- What rights will you have in case there are disputes about the use of the results?
- Is there infrastructure at the University that support community-engaged research?

Questions for Community Partners to Consider Before Initiating a Partnership with a University

- What level of involvement does our organization want to have in the development of the research question, design, implementation and dissemination?
- Does or could our organization have the capacity to do this research project?
- What type of capacity building could help our organization do this better?
- Does our organization have relationships with researchers that might inform who we would like to partner with in the future?
- Which skills or experiences would we prefer a researcher have in order to be sensitive to the needs of our organization?

**If you are thinking about
working on a grant with an
academic partner.....**

Flow through the University: Grant idea to grant completion



Acronyms:
 IRB Institutional Review Board
 NYU New York University
 SPA Sponsored Programs and Administration (Grants Office)

Once a grant is awarded....

- Celebrate!
 - Let the community know so that they can demand continued accountability from the project
- Re-group
 - Was the project funded at the level requested?
 - Are new partners needed? Can all original partners meet the commitments of the grant?
- Develop Memorandums of Understanding
 - Roles, responsibilities, budgets, data sharing agreements, etc.
 - *what are your needs*
 - *Articulate needs clearly*
- Develop a regular system of communication – coalition meetings, email list-serves, etc.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

NYU Health Promotion & Prevention Research Center
and
Community Health Worker Network of NYC
09/30/2009-09/29/2010 Budget Period
3/1/2010 – 2/29/2011 Project Period

PI NYU: Dr. Mariano Rey

PI Community Health Worker Network of NYC: Mr. Sergio Matos

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) delineates the formal partnership between the New York University Health Promotion and Prevention Research Center (PRC) and the Community Health Worker Network of NYC (CHW Network). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has granted New York University (NYU) a five-year award to build and enhance community capacity and leadership to reduce cardiovascular disease across diverse populations. The core research project of the PRC, Project RICE, will develop, implement and test a community health worker (CHW) program designed to prevent diabetes in the South Asian and Korean communities in New York City.

This MOU outlines the goals and activities between the PRC and the CHW Network in developing and implementing the work of the PRC for Year 1. The roles and responsibilities of both parties are not limited to those stated below. Modifications, when necessary and agreed to by both parties to better facilitate and implement the goals and activities of the research training initiatives may be made after reviewing the overall progress.

Health Promotion & Prevention Research Center

STATEMENT OF WORK: The PRC shall work in partnership with the CHW Network to provide the necessary resources to perform the PRC's goals and activities.

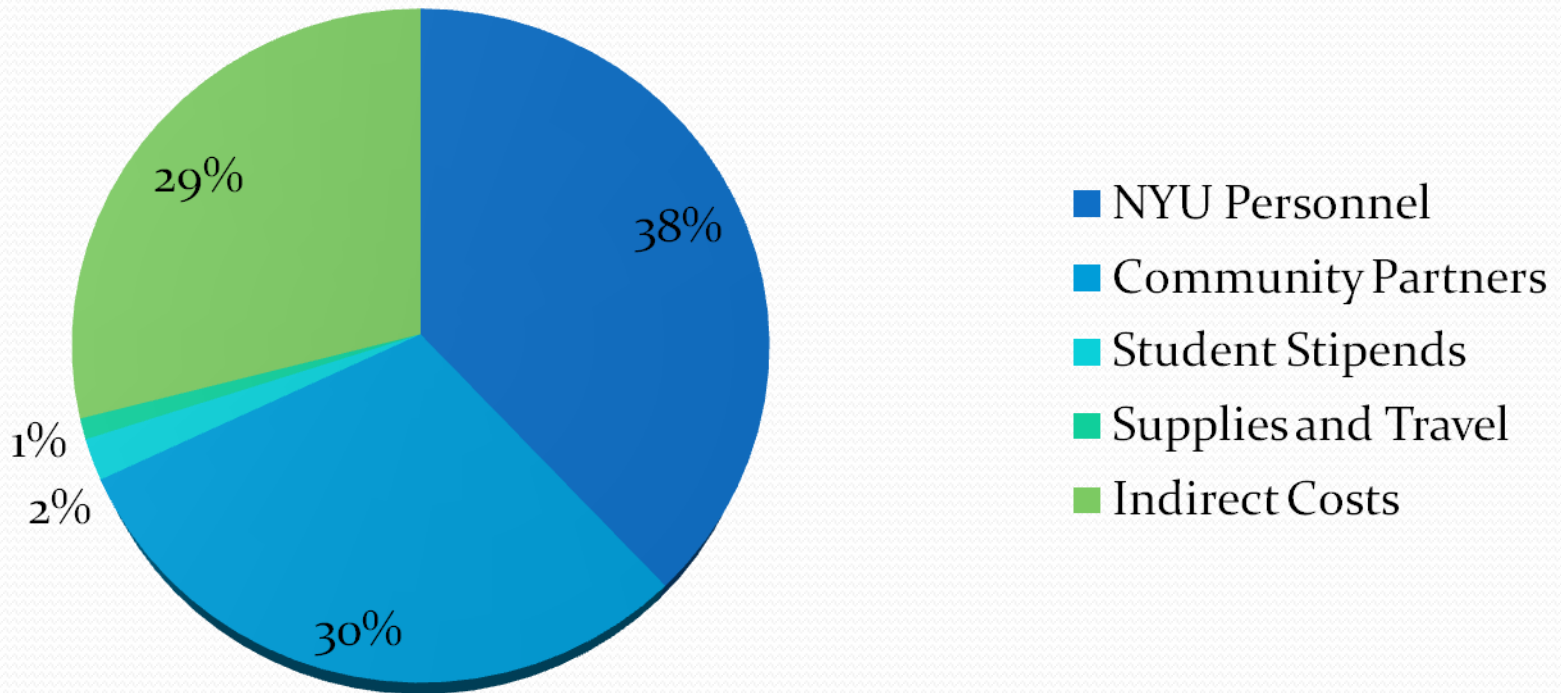
Mr. Sergio Matos, Executive Director of the CHW Network, has extensive knowledge of CHW policy and training. The CHW Network is an independent professional association of CHWs that promotes the expansion of the CHW field through education, research, and advocacy. It unites

Budget Considerations

- Distribution of funds
 - Are funds equitably distributed with community partners?
- Indirect (e.g. “overhead costs”)
 - Universities have large indirect cost rates
 - Used for office space, IRB and grants support, libraries, laboratories, etc.
 - Universities are bureaucracies
 - Some grants allow subcontract overhead to be covered
- Subcontracts
 - a letter of intent, a statement of work, a budget, and a budget justification
 - Accountability not only to University but also to the funding agency

Equitable Distribution of Resources to Community Partners

NYU PRC Fund Distribution



Budget Considerations (cont.)

- Personnel & Percentage Effort
 - Transparency about personnel from both sides
 - Reporting requirements
- Unspent funds
 - Often not available at the end of the year
- Changes in budget allocation
 - Must be approved by grants office and funding agency if more than 25%

Other considerations after a grant is awarded

- Reporting
 - Federal grants have extensive reporting requirement
- IRB



Academic Partner Considerations

- “Soft-money” vs. “hard-money”
- Tenure
- Reviews
- Service obligations
- Teaching

Tenure and Promotion Decisions

(in order of importance)

- Grants
- NIH Grants, including evidence of renewal
- Peer reviewed publications (**especially 1st or last-author publications**)
- Innovative technologies
- Non-peer reviewed publications
- Book chapters
- Abstracts
- Presentations

Why should you care if researchers get tenure or promotions?

- Increased institutional recognition of community engaged research
- Increased recognition of community needs
- Increased recognition of under-represented communities

Questions?