



Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

Promoting Health Equity & Social Justice

Advancing Social Justice through Community-Campus Partnerships

For nearly two decades, Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH), our work, and that of our partners has bridged the chasm between communities and campuses across the country by supporting the development of scientific evidence that supports and upholds all those engaged in promoting health and well-being in communities. Far too many communities suffer from the crippling effects of diminished economic and social opportunities, making it difficult to lead productive and healthy lives. Our [Principles of Partnership](#) have served as a unifying framework that facilitates authentic partnerships between communities and campuses. Our commitment to social justice and health equity has grounded our work seeking to bring positive social change. The current climate in our nation cries out for authentic partnerships and demands that we respond to the current landscape of social injustice.

Perhaps, after what has become a season of high profile deaths, we see as a nation, a global community, that racism has sway over so many elements of our society. In recent months and days, the unjustified killings of young African American men and women by police officers across the United States and the murder of nine innocent parishioners in a historic Black church by a racist terrorist in Charleston, South Carolina have attracted global attention.

The public outcry sparked by these incidents has forced our nation and CCPH to grapple with the reality that our country does not fully value the lives of some groups within it due to pervasive racism in all of its forms that leads to discrimination and hate. At this moment in our nation we must bear the collective pain of these exchanges and dig deeper to more fully understand what lies at the core of these problems. Our society suffers each time an act of violence is perpetrated against another based on the social construct of race which cradles prejudices and fear. We have a shared obligation to address racism and engage in a collective dialogue through our partnerships to transform society towards full inclusion and acceptance of all citizens.

The etiology of the current social landscape is indeed complex and multifaceted. It is clear that poor communities and communities of color are at the center making it difficult, if not impossible, to ignore the role that structural and institutional racism coupled with concentrated poverty play in creating and maintaining economic and social inequalities. These factors also serve to create a climate in which such incidents can occur.

It is with a renewed commitment to social justice and health equity that CCPH outlines the following vision of our partnerships:

- Partnerships must identify the relevant policy questions, context, and implications of their work together and direct their efforts toward advancing social policies that promote health equity and antiracist policy and practices.

- Partnerships must seek out and include community movements that are often led by youth advocates.
- Partnerships must be committed to addressing institutional racism in their respective organizations and communities and deeply examine the ways institutional racism impacts their respective organizations and community members.
- Partnerships must articulate in very tangible ways that health and well-being is shaped by institutional racism across a number of domains including education, incarceration and criminal justice, employment, and housing.
- Partnerships must engage in efforts to facilitate economic development in communities.

For more information on Community-Campus Partnerships for Health visit our website at <https://ccph.memberclicks.net/>.