FROM BROKEN WINDOWS TO BUILDING COMMUNITIES: LEVERAGING PARTNERSHIPS AND CAPACITY TO CONDUCT MEANINGFUL RESEARCH AND ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY

QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR MINORITIES (QEM) NETWORK
SECOND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACULTY & ADMINISTRATORS AT HBCU’S

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PARTNERSHIP HAS MANY NAMES

• Participatory Research (CBPR)
• Participatory Action Research
• Collaborative Partnerships
• Academic-Community Partnership
• Public-private partnerships
• Collective Impact Initiatives
• Community Justice
• Community Engagement
WHAT’S SO IMPORTANT ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS?

- Brings new perspectives, ideas, skills, technical expertise, knowledge, capacity-building, resources and contacts together.
- Increases the likelihood that projects or solutions will be accepted.
- Empowers and integrates people from different backgrounds.
- Increases the capacity of data collection, analysis, and interpretation of findings to sustain program changes.
CHALLENGES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACADEMIC-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

• “Hit and run” or “helicopter” research.
• Legacies of mistrust and/or abuse.
• Inequitable distribution of resources.
• Time demands to establish foundation of the partnership.
• Balancing community needs with academic interests.
• Differing reward structures for partners (service delivery vs tenure).
EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS

• Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center: Fathers and Sons Project
• Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Statewide Research Collaborative
FATHERS AND SONS PROJECT

• The Fathers and Sons Project, started in Flint, MI, is a unique program for African American fathers and their 8-12-year-old sons who are not living in the same home.
• The program brings together the expertise of community-based organizations, the local health department, and the University of Michigan School of Public Health.
• The Fathers and Sons Steering Committee developed the program curriculum using a community-based participatory process.
• This collective effort has been invaluable in helping understand and address issues vital to the creation of a culturally relevant intervention, as well as challenges in recruiting and retaining participants.
TEXAS 6-CITY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT

• Create partnerships with a variety of stakeholders in 6 cities in Texas: Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Austin, Tyler, and Hempstead.

• Create a research advisory council in each city that will collectively identify key issues in juvenile justice and design a research project to address it.
CREATING SUSTAINABILITY IN PARTNERSHIPS: FOR CONSIDERATION

• Strategic Planning
  – Evaluation
  – Funding
  – Assessment of current or future changes
• Staff training and support
• Policies and documentation
• Demonstration of evidence
• Capacity building
• Use of technology