

If you share this social media post, please tag us on Facebook @irisprojectmd

CAPTION: Building equitable community-academic partnerships in opioid recovery research is highly beneficial for researchers and community organizations. See how IRIS (Innovations in Recovery through Infrastructure Support) and its valued partners have done it, along with valuable lessons we continue to learn. Read the full article online: <https://jces.ua.edu/articles/10.54656/jces.v15i1.479>

Ways for Researchers to Build Equitable Community-Academic Partnerships

LESSONS LEARNED	NEXT STEPS
Build a strong team, aim to secure ample resources, and place great emphasis on stakeholder engagement by allocating staff for this purpose	Bring stakeholders together around common interests and facilitate collaboration through a research fellowship and conference for partners to present research findings
Distribute benefits of research, including through financial compensation for partners' time and by drawing on community's expertise to drive research	Share benefits of research with broader community through dissemination beyond publications (i.e., social media) and facilitate use of research as a policy advocacy tool
Maintain ongoing commitment to representativeness of diverse stakeholders by leveraging relationships of partners, constantly asking "Who's missing?" and attending community recovery events	Continue expanding internal team and broader network to be representative of diversity in areas where we are still lacking through ongoing assessment and targeted recruitment
Reshape research's relationship to the community to be less extractive and more equitable by involving community as research partners rather than subjects	Continue approaching work with humility by acknowledging community harms caused by research, co-creating and embodying anti-racist research values, and checking in often to work through challenges and celebrate successes
Dedicate time and effort to developing equitable community-academic partnerships, as the robust collaborations and outcomes which emerge make it well worth the investment	Continue making time for process, acknowledging expertise brought by community and academic partners, and evaluating project's progress in partnership with stakeholders

Source: "Building Equitable Community-Academic Partnerships for Opioid Recovery Research: Lessons Learned from Stakeholder Engagement with Peer and Provider Organizations" <https://jces.ua.edu/articles/10.54656/jces.v15i1.479>

