

# Steering Committee Members



The Steering Committee is made up of scientists, clinicians, RCC leadership and persons with lived experience from multiple organizations and institutions from across the US.

## Principal Investigators:



John F. Kelly



Bettina B. Hoeppe



Robert D. Ashford



Patty McCarthy



Julia Ojeda



Philip Rutherford



Brandon G. Bergman



Lauren A. Hoffman

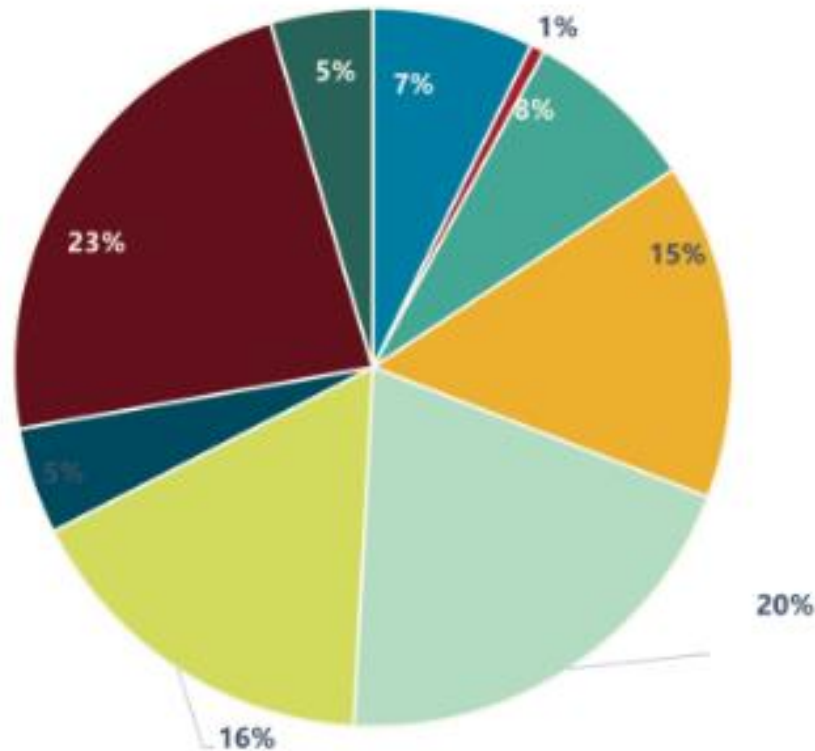


Vinod Rao



Amy A. Mericle

# Seminar Attendee Demographics



- Healthcare decision maker (e.g., hospital leadership, department of health, etc.)
- Prescriber (of medications for OUD)
- Clinician
- Scientist
- RCC leader / staff
- Peer support worker / volunteer
- RCC participant
- Recovery advocate
- None of the above



# The Consortium on Addiction Recovery Science (CoARS)

(<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/coars/>)



## CoARS collective mission:

(PI: Aaron Hogue, Partnership to End Addiction - <https://drugfree.org/staff/aaron-hogue/>)

To advance the science on recovery support services through research networking, training and mentoring students and early career scientists, and building community partnerships.

### ○ Pilot study funding

- On recovery community centers (<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/addiction-research-summaries/funding-for-pilot-studies/>) – LOI deadline: October 1
- On recovery housing (<https://istarr.org.org/pilot-studies/>) – October

### ○ Work groups and Seminars

- Monthly webinar series on recovery housing (presented by the I-STARR team): next one: "Recovery Housing 101" – June 6, 2pm EST (<https://istarr.org.org/webinars-training/>)

### ○ Postdoctoral fellowship positions

- Emerging adults, UConn - contact Kristyn Zajac ([zajac@uchc.edu](mailto:zajac@uchc.edu)); for details: <https://health.uconn.edu/contingency-management/wp-content/uploads/sites/119/2023/01/CHEARR-Post-doc-flyer-FINAL1-1.pdf>



# RCC Live Feature



We are featuring a different RCC at the start of each of our seminars in order to allow all participants to learn first-hand about RCCs

*Sea Change*



**Elizabeth Burke Beaty, CPRS, CPLC (she/her/hers)**

Founding Executive Director & CEO  
Sea Change Recovery Community Organization

# Polling Questions



A pop-up Zoom window will appear with the poll questions



You must complete all questions before clicking to submit

→ Remember to scroll down to see all the questions!



We will share the poll results after a few minutes



Your responses will remain anonymous





# Presenters



**Devin Banks**

Assistant Professor  
University of Missouri–St.  
Louis



**Chyrell Bellamy**

Professor  
Yale School of Medicine



**Ashli Sheidow**

Senior Research Scientist  
Oregon Social Learning  
Center



**Rev. Robyn Anderson**

Pastor  
Cultural Ambassador  
Yale School of Medicine



**Terrence McTier Jr.**

Independent Contractor  
HEAL Initiative





# INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH

DEVIN E. BANKS, PHD

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI—ST. LOUIS

MGH Recovery Seminars  
June 2, 2023

# WHAT IS COMMUNITY?



*A group of people with diverse characteristics who are linked by **social ties**, share **common perspectives**, and engage in **joint action** in geographical locations or setting*



# WHAT IS COMMUNITY?

“A specific group of people, often living in a defined geographic area, who share a common culture, values, and norms and who are arranged in a social structure according to relationships the community has developed over a period of time...

...Communities may be self-defined (e.g., the Black/African American community in a city or county) or defined by the catchment area of local government or service providers (e.g., residents served by a county school district or community clinic)...[and may include] neighborhoods, reservations or tribal communities, military bases, or college campuses.”

# WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

<b>Community Involvement/Activity</b>						
Community is not included in any aspects of the research	Community Informs the research and may or may not be informed or included (or know they're informing)	Community provides input and feedback to researchers to inform the research	Community has some active role in the research	Community initiates the research agenda/priorities	Community shares equally in decision-making and ownership	Community leads and owns the research
<b>No Community Involvement</b>	<b>Community Informed</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b>	<b>Community Participation</b>	<b>Community Initiated</b>	<b>Community Based Participatory Research</b>	<b>Community Driven/Lead</b>
Researcher works independent of community	Information is gleaned from the community which informs the research 'ear hustling'	Researcher consults with community and includes community in the research (front end or back end)	Researcher includes community in the research in a defined role	Researcher responds to specific needs or asks from community	Researcher shares equally in decision-making and ownership with community	Researcher supports community identified research efforts or serves no role
<b>Researcher Involvement/Activity</b>						

The Continuum of Community Engagement in Research  
 (Key et al., 2019 in *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*)

# WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

<i>Community Perspective/Experience</i>						
We do not know about this project	We may or may not be aware of this project but our information informed it	Researchers met with us to present the project and asked for our input	Researchers provided opportunities for us to participate (e.g., recruitment, community advisory board)	We told researchers what questions we need answers for	We participated in all aspects, equitably	We fully own the research
<b>No Community Involvement</b>	<b>Community Informed</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b>	<b>Community Participation</b>	<b>Community Initiated</b>	<b>Community Based Participatory Research</b>	<b>Community Driven/Lead</b>
We had no contact with the community	We sat in on a meeting and learned a great deal	We met with several community organizations, they shared their concerns and gave us suggestions	We have a defined role(s) for community to participate in the research	We created the research in response to community identified issue(s)/question(s)	We developed the project together with community partners	The community is in charge and we support their efforts when asked
<i>Researcher Perspective/Experience</i>						

The Continuum of Community Engagement in Research  
 (Key et al., 2019 in *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*)

# WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

## Community Driven



Urban Survivors Union for Methadone Reform survey for research they're doing on the effects of regulation relaxation during COVID-19 on methadone patients. All methadone patients welcome to take it-it's a very brief survey. [buff.ly/3iyhelz](https://buff.ly/3iyhelz) #pghrecoverywalk #HarmReduction



**Methadone Survey**

This survey is anonymous. Please answer any questions you feel comfortable answering. This information will help us understand methadone clinic practices during the pandemic.

How old are you?

- 18-25
- 25-30
- 30-35
- 35-40
- 40-45
- 45-50
- 50+

Brothers et al. *Harm Reduction Journal* (2023) 20:31  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12954-023-00756-3>

Harm Reduction Journal

RESEARCH

Open Access

Patient experiences of methadone treatment changes during the first wave of COVID-19: a national community-driven survey

Sarah Brothers<sup>2\*</sup>, Adam Palayew<sup>4</sup>, Caty Simon<sup>1,3,5</sup>, Abby Coulter<sup>1</sup>, Knina Strichartz<sup>1</sup>, Nick Voyles<sup>1</sup> and Louise Vincent<sup>1,3</sup>

## Community Participation



Patient  
Advisory  
Board

## Community Based Participatory Research



ETHICS



COMMUNITY  
EMPOWERMENT

# WHY COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH?

## RESEARCHERS

- Improves quality, impact & effectiveness of research including:
  - recruitment efforts
  - intervention quality
  - dissemination of findings to affected groups

- Builds ongoing partnerships between researchers & communities that benefit underserved & marginalized groups

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- Increases self-efficacy and capacity to participate in health in community members
- May help reduce health inequities and/or improve health for marginalized communities

# WHY COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH?

**Because its key principles aim to transfer power to make health changes from dominant institutions that traditionally hold it to marginalized communities that have been denied it:**

- Acknowledges community as a unit of identity.
- Builds on community strengths and resources.
- Facilitates a collaborative, equitable partnership in all phases of research, involving empowering & power-sharing process attending to social inequalities.
- Fosters co-learning and capacity building among all partners.
- Integrates balance between knowledge generation and intervention for the mutual benefit of all partners.
- Focuses on local relevance of public health problems and takes ecological perspectives on determinants of health.
- Involves systems development using a cyclical and iterative process.
- Disseminates results to all partners and involves them in the wider dissemination of results.
- Involves a long-term process and commitment to sustainability.



# Time to Make a Wishlist



- **Groups / Organizations might be able to help with community engaged research**
  - NIH HEAL Initiative
  - SAMHSA
  - Our own CoARS (Consortium on Addiction Recovery Science)
  - Our R24 team
- **What tools / resources would you want to help you do community engaged research?**
  - Please type suggestions into chat and/or speak out loud
    - E.g., open-access leadership program (e.g., <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/prc/community-engagement/leaders-in-health-community-training-program/>)
    - E.g., written resources (e.g., <https://catalyst.harvard.edu/community-engagement/resources-for-equity-in-research/>)



# Thank you – and see you soon!



- **Summer Break** (we'll be collecting data to share with you all later)
  - no July seminar
  - no August seminar
- **Back in the fall – please register now!**
  - September: Phil Rutherford on the Recovery Data Platform
    - [Registration Link](#)
  - October: Pilot Project #4 – “A Socio-Ecological Examination of the Use of Recovery Community Centers by Persons on Medications Used” (PIs: Newman & Collins)
    - [Registration Link](#)
  - November: Pilot Project #5 – “Examining sexual minority engagement in RCCs” (PI: Abby Batchelder)
    - [Registration Link](#)

