Participatory engagement is a recommended strategy for research on under-resourced communities. Objective: To provide an overview of Community Partnered Participatory Research (CPPR) and its application to behavioral health, to address depression outcomes equity. CPPR promotes equal power sharing, respect and trust, through two-way knowledge exchange through planning, conducting and disseminating programs and research. Principles, structure, and activities of CPPR are reviewed. In addition, its application to research on improving depression disparities is illustrated through Community Partners in Care (CPIC), a group-randomized trial of coalition support versus individual program technical assistance for collaborative care for depression across healthcare and social-community agencies.

Findings: In CPIC, the coalition approach relative to technical assistance, led to greater reduction in having poor mental health-related quality of life, improved mental wellness and physical activity and reductions in having multiple homelessness risk factors and behavioral health hospitalizations at 6 months, with reductions in having poor mental health related quality of life and behavioral health hospitalizations at 12 months for initially depression clients. The coalition approach also led to health improvements at 36 and 48 month follow-up for clients.

Conclusion: CPPR is a feasible approach for community-engaged programs and research for implementing evidence-based programs in behavioral health, with evidence of greater outcomes over time for a coalition model relative to technical assistant for individual programs.

Learning Objectives
At the conclusion of this workshop, participants will be able to:
1. Understand the goals, principles, stages and activities of Community Partnered Participatory Research.
2. Review application of CPPR as implementation strategy for intervention and as implementation evaluation approaches for the example of depression.

References