

**Title:** Striving for Equity in a Community Research Review Board

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**Bios:**

**Joann Casado** is the Executive Director of The Bronx Health Link. Ms. Casado has worked in various capacities in the non-profit and government sector for over 25 years. She received a Juris Doctor from New York Law School. She serves as a member of the Morrisania Community Advisory Board, the Lehman College MPH Program Advisory Board, the SOL Study Community Advisory Board, and is the community representative on the Lehman College IRB.

**Rita Cordova** joined the Bronx Health Link in Spring to 2010 to support the implementation of the Bronx Community Research Review Board Project. In July she became the agency's Maternal Child Health Program Manager. Ms. Cordova has over 22 years of experience in reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

**Jocelyn Camacho** joined the Bronx Health Link in December 2009 to assist in the development and implementation of the Bronx Community Research Review Board Project. Ms. Camacho has a strong interest in community research and advocacy and has worked in different community health settings in the New York area. She received an MPH from New York Medical College in 2008 and is a certified health education specialist.

**Sponsoring Institution:** The Bronx Health Link, Inc.

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## **Abstract Submission for Learning Circle**

### **Facts:**

Abuses committed against communities of color by researchers have eroded trust among these populations. To address this, a professor at a local university and a CBO are collaborating to create an innovative structure to facilitate community education and participation in research. The CBO will host a research review board consisting of residents and others who will be trained to engage in dialogue with junior researchers and give them feedback about how to make their research more sensitive and will also provide a feedback process to inform the community of research outcomes. It is hoped that understanding of, trust and participation in clinical research will be promoted and clinical investigators will be sensitized to community perspectives and values.

### **Problem:**

Despite both sides interest in successful implementation of these efforts, the CBO has become concerned about whether the partnership can truly be equal and sustainable; whether true community engagement will be able to take place given the limited funding and resources allocated to it and finally, the level of power that the proposed panel of community residents will have over how researchers implement their work.

### **Questions:**

How do you convince the academic partner to engage in CBPR when it will mean a change in the power dynamic?

How will use of CBPR create the “trust” that this partnership was supposed to address?

### **Engagement Plan:**

Participants will review the case study and through a guided discussion, will address each question posed.