



Southwest Health Engagement  
and Research Collaborative

NORTHERN  
ARIZONA  
UNIVERSITY

Center for  
Community Health  
and Engaged Research

# Community-Campus Partnership Support Program

Fall 2025 - Spring 2026 FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

**SHERC'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE (CEC)** is pleased to announce the availability of the **Community-Campus Partnership Support (CCPS)** program.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

Developing new partnerships requires time to discuss common interests and develop collaborative ideas. CCPS funds partnership building activities that: **1) spark collaborative health disparity research ideas**, and **2) build capacity for community engaged research at NAU**.

Workshops and activities support community and university partners in developing research questions and ideas to prepare them to pursue community-engaged research together following the program. **CCPS** is grounded in principles of community-based participatory research (CBPR) that engage both community leaders and members throughout the research process.

CBPR is a partnership approach to research that centers collaboration and power sharing by involving community members and researchers in all aspects of the research process [1]. Figure 1 illustrates the levels of community engagement in research and the roles NAU researchers and community partners can have in a research project.

The CCPS program can serve as a pathway for university-community partnerships to conduct health disparities research through the two-year SHERC Pilot Project Program.

Figure 1: Continuum of Community Involvement in Research [2]

Community Involvement					
	Low				High
	<b>Informed</b>	<b>Consulted</b>	<b>Involved</b>	<b>Collaborated with</b>	<b>Leading</b>
Approach	Researcher-Driven Research	Community Placed Research	Community Engaged Research	Community-Based Participatory Research	Community-Driven Research
What it looks like	The researcher sets the research agenda based on a topic of interest.	The researcher sets the research agenda with some community input.	The researcher and the community set the research agenda based on mutual interests.	The researcher and the community set the research agenda based on mutual interests.	The community sets the research agenda based on their interests.



## FUNDING

Partners receive up to \$5,000 to support **partnership building activities**. Funds are managed by SHERC administrative personnel in accordance with the terms and conditions of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). CCPS teams will be funded **through May 31, 2026**, contingent upon available funds. Funds can be used for:

- Supplies and space for community forums/discussions/workshops
- Travel expenses for partners to meet in person and with other key stakeholders
- Conference attendance for partners
- Other partnership-focused activities that are pre-approved by the CCPS program facilitators

\*\*\*Please note that **CCPS is NOT a research grant and funds cannot be spent on research activities** (e.g., data collection). CCPS-funded partnerships are meant to lay the groundwork for establishing community-based research projects in the future.\*\*\*

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Partners are expected to complete and participate in the following activities throughout the program. Activities are designed to support connection between partners and facilitate peer learning about community-based participatory research.

1. **Reports:** Partners will submit two brief progress reports via Canvas.
2. **Mentor and Budget Meetings:** Each team will meet with CCPS mentors and budget liaison to ensure equitable budget management and review NAU's protocols for using funds.
3. **Workshops:** Partners will participate in two workshops that focus on building skills for successful partnership development and community-based participatory research.
4. **SHERC Poster Session:** Partners will prepare a poster to present at the SHERC Poster Session to showcase partnership activities, key learnings, and future goals. SHERC will provide a poster template and cover printing and travel/lodging expenses.
5. **End of Program Deliverable:** Partners must produce **at least two** deliverables. Examples include: a revised data collection tool, a list of mutually beneficial community-engaged research ideas, or a list of funding opportunities (such as a SHERC Pilot Project) to support a mutually beneficial community-engaged research proposal.

## EXPECTATIONS

Funded CCPS teams are expected to:

1. Complete post-program evaluation survey.
2. Attend all program activities to the best of their abilities.
3. Acknowledge SHERC support in all project activities: <https://nau.edu/sherc/acknowledging-sherc/>
4. Partners are encouraged to participate in SHERC's Fairness First Campaign to share their work.

## ELIGIBILITY

CCPS applicants must apply as a team of at least one NAU faculty partner and one community or tribal-based organizational partner (with a minimum of 1 year in current position). NAU investigators must be a Professor at any stage (TT or NTT, including early-stage investigators), Research Professor, Clinical Professor, Teaching Professor, Professor of Practice, Lecturer, or Postdoctoral Scholar.

## PROGRAM TIMELINE

October 1, 2025	<b>All applications due by 11:59pm (applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis)</b>
Date and time to be determined	<b>Workshop #1: Program Orientation and Strong Foundations in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)</b> CBPR promotes collaborative and equitable partnerships in all research phases and involves an empowering and power-sharing process. Teams will explore and apply CBPR tenants to begin to organize equitable structures for partnership, power sharing, project plans and budgets.
October	<b>Mentor and Budget Meetings</b>
Oct - Nov	<b>Independent Learning: Stories of Community-Engaged Research</b> Teams are encouraged to watch and reflect on a mini video series that features four unique Arizona community-university partnerships.
Nov/Dec	<b>Partners submit Progress Report #1</b>
November	<b>LOI due for Pilot Project Program</b> NAU leads are encouraged to apply for SHERC's <a href="#">Pilot Project Program</a> .
Date and time to be determined	<b>Workshop #2: Developing CBPR Research Questions and Designing a CBPR Project</b> CBPR balances research and action for the mutual benefit of all partners. Teams will explore collaborative research designs and methods that prioritize community and sustainability of the emerging partnership. <i>This workshop will be held in-person at NAU's Flagstaff campus. Partners should include travel expenses in their budget.</i>
February	<b>Partners submit Progress Report #2</b>
February 27, 2026 4:30-6:30pm	<b>SHERC Social Meetup</b> Join us to foster connections between CCPS partners, Pilot Project Program researchers, and SHERC faculty and staff.
March/April	<b>SHERC Poster Session</b>
May 2026	<b>End-of-Program Deliverables due</b>
May/June 2026	<b>Respond to program evaluation</b>

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Prepare the following application materials and submit all documents here:

[https://qualtrics.nau.edu/jfe/form/SV\\_emlRloDj3TmS0Si](https://qualtrics.nau.edu/jfe/form/SV_emlRloDj3TmS0Si)

**Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis - ALL APPLICATIONS DUE BY OCT. 1, 2025**

### 1. Partnership Information

- a. Brief bio for lead community and NAU lead partners
- b. Current CV, resume or bio-sketch for lead community and NAU lead partners
- c. Letters of support from the NAU and community partner's supervisors indicating they will approve travel requests and other time investments proposed in the application.

### 2. Application: *Prepare a two-page word document describing the following areas of collaboration:*

- a. **Statement of the health disparity issue** this partnership aims to explore/address. (1/2 page)
- b. **Description of the partnership** to date. **Where does your relationship currently fall on the Continuum of Community Involvement in Research** (Figure 1)? Include unique strengths and resources that each partner brings. (1/2 page)
- c. Proposed activities for partnership/project development (1/2 page). Activities **must be non-research** but should **prepare partners to pursue research** together in the future. Examples of co-learning and partnership development activities include:
  - i. Identifying mutual interests
  - ii. Identifying gaps in need or understanding of the topic
  - iii. Organizing and supporting travel/incentives for an advisory board
  - iv. Meeting with community and organizational stakeholders (cover travel to/from meetings)
  - v. Holding an informal retreat to get to know each other and understand each other's work. Invite potential advisory board members.
  - vi. Completing a literature review or looking at reports together
  - vii. Attending relevant community meetings or conferences together

### 3. Budget and Timeline

- a. Use the Budget and Timeline Template ([download the file here](#)) to enter budget information identifying how funds will be expended (see the "Budget" tab). *If needed, please include travel expenses for attending Workshop #1 in Flagstaff on June 9, 2025 in your budget.*
- b. Use the "Timeline" tab to develop a clear plan illustrating how the project activities and outcomes/deliverables will lead to a potential research project, with expected dates.

## Please reach out with questions!

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