

Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Office of Community Engagement to Advance Research and Community Health

CEARCH Council Participant Recruitment

The Office of Community Engagement to Advance Research and Community Health, or CEARCH, at the University of Minnesota is inviting individuals from all walks of life to serve on its three councils: 1) CEARCH Management Council, 2) Research Oversight Council, and 3) Education Oversight Council. We are looking for about ten people—individuals from diverse communities, representatives from community based organizations, patients and family members—who are interested in supporting ongoing efforts at the University to connect research and community interests.

Council members can:

- make a difference in how the University works with communities in doing research.
- learn about research and how it can improve the health of communities .
- shape the training of researchers and community-academic partners.
- meet others who want to make a difference in community life.

The goal of CEARCH is to improve community health through education and research. The Councils will consider if CEARCH is achieving its goals and how it can do better. Members will manage how CEARCH achieves its overall goals of improving community-academic partnerships, clinical outcomes and public health.

We are looking for people who can make a year-long commitment. Council members will attend one two-hour meeting each month and spend a few hours preparing. Members should expect to read five to ten pages for each meeting. They should also talk about the meeting agenda with other community members. Members will be compensated for their time and reimbursed for travel expenses including parking.

If you are interested in being on a CEARCH council or finding out about other ways to get involved in CEARCH, please call us or send us an email. In addition, please consider nominating someone you know who may be interested. We will host optional information sessions in the community on what CEARCH does and how you might be involved, or we can talk with you individually by phone or in person.

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Background:

Ten years ago the National Institutes of Health (NIH) started the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program. A successful CTSA program will make research relevant to daily life. It will also promote the timely use of research results. Nationally and locally, researchers in the CTSA program have learned that involving community members in planning and implementing research projects improves the relevance of research and the use of research results to improve community health outcomes. The University of Minnesota created a Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) in 2011. The CEARCH program is now working to use research to improve public health. www.ctsi.umn.edu