

*Evaluating the Impact of an
Academic-Community
Research Consortium
on HIV Testing and Research Capacity*



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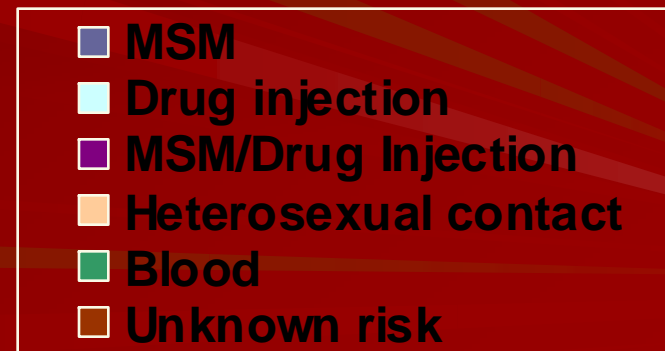
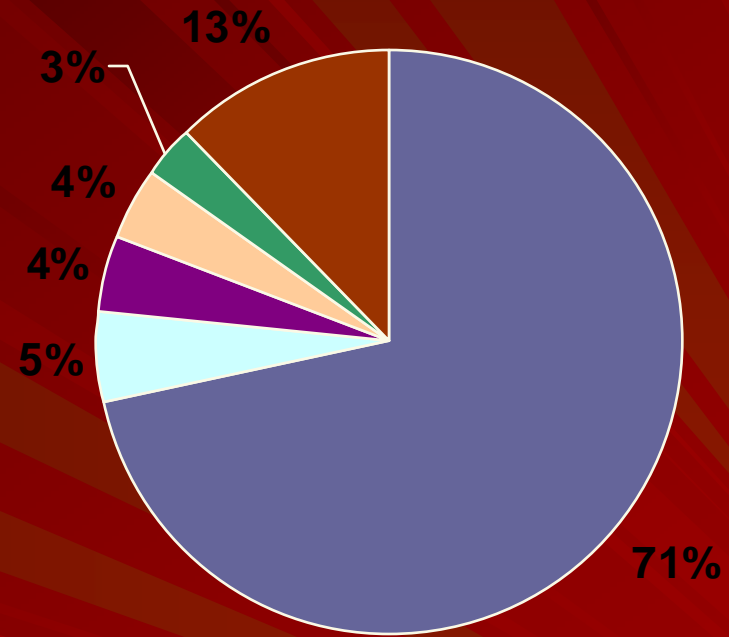
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APIs and HIV/AIDS

- API population 15.4 million in 2005
 - 5.3% of total population
 - 21% increase since 2000
 - 61% foreign-born
- API comprise 0.8% of all AIDS cases
 - 7,800 reported cases
- Estimated Annual Percent Change in HIV cases was 8.1% from 2001-2004
- Most cases in API are among MSM
- Underreporting of cases



CDC, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Supplemental Report, 2003.

CDC. Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Diagnoses of HIV/AIDS – 33 States, 2001-2004. MMWR 2006;55:121-125.

API and HIV/AIDS

- **Many API do not know their HIV status at the time of AIDS diagnosis**
 - 45% diagnosed with AIDS within 12 months of HIV infection diagnosis
 - 46% of API with AIDS first diagnosed during hospitalization
 - High rate of PCP as AIDS-defining illness

API MSM and HIV/AIDS

- HIV prevalence in API MSM: 1.4% to 27.8%
- Rates of sexual risk behaviors, rectal gonorrhea, syphilis surpassed those of white MSM in 2004
- Issues affecting API MSM:
 - Cultural issues
 - Familial obligations, “saving face”
 - Dual marginalization by sexuality and ethnicity
 - Travel and migration
 - Linguistic access
 - Risk perception

Benefits of a Community-Based Scientific Research Approach

- Data, data, data
 - Influencing public health funding and policy
- Relevance
 - Development of novel, “real time” and highly relevant prevention approaches
 - Highly appropriate and tailored services for AAPI MSM
- Epidemic Impact
 - Populations can be reached for prevention and testing who might not otherwise access these services

Overall MATH Study Design

- Cross-sectional social epidemiological study of HIV in API MSM
- Collect behavioral & epidemiological data from 2,000 API MSM
- Eligibility
 - age > 18 years
 - API MSM self-identification
 - Chinese, English, or Vietnamese
- Respondent-driven sampling (RDS)

Community Partners: A Closer Look

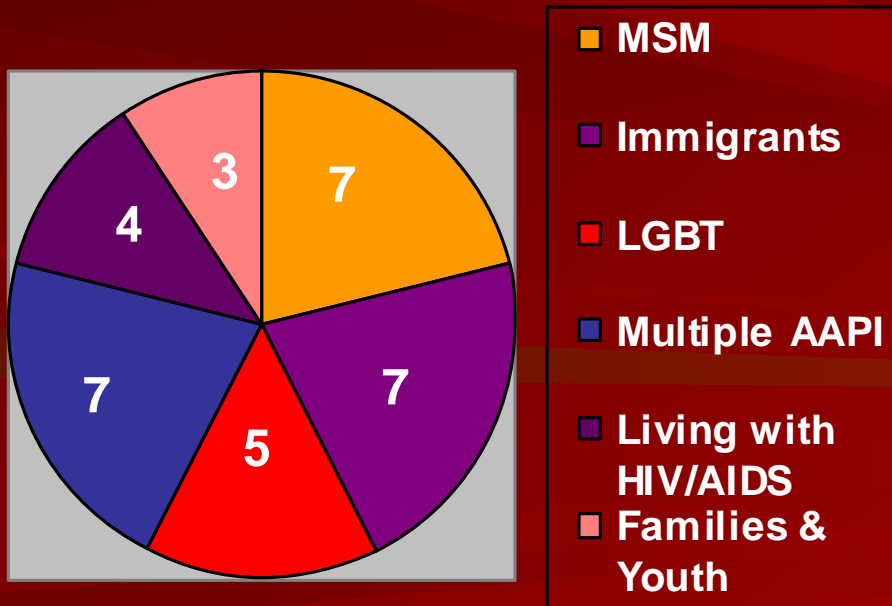
Geographic Location

- Philadelphia (1)
- NYC (1)
- Boston (1)
- SF (3)
- LA (1)

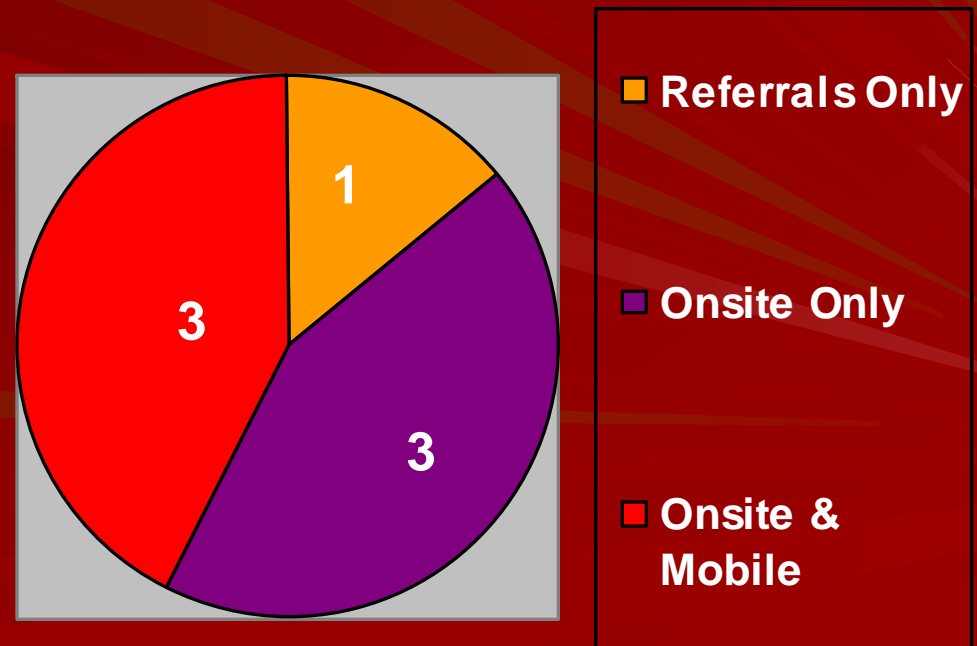
Year Founded

- 1973 (1) - 1974 (1)
- 1987 (2) - 1989 (1)
- 1993 (1) - 1995 (1)

Populations Served



HIV VCT Offered



Scientific Team: A Closer Look

Home Institutions

- Georgetown University
- UCSF
- Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF)

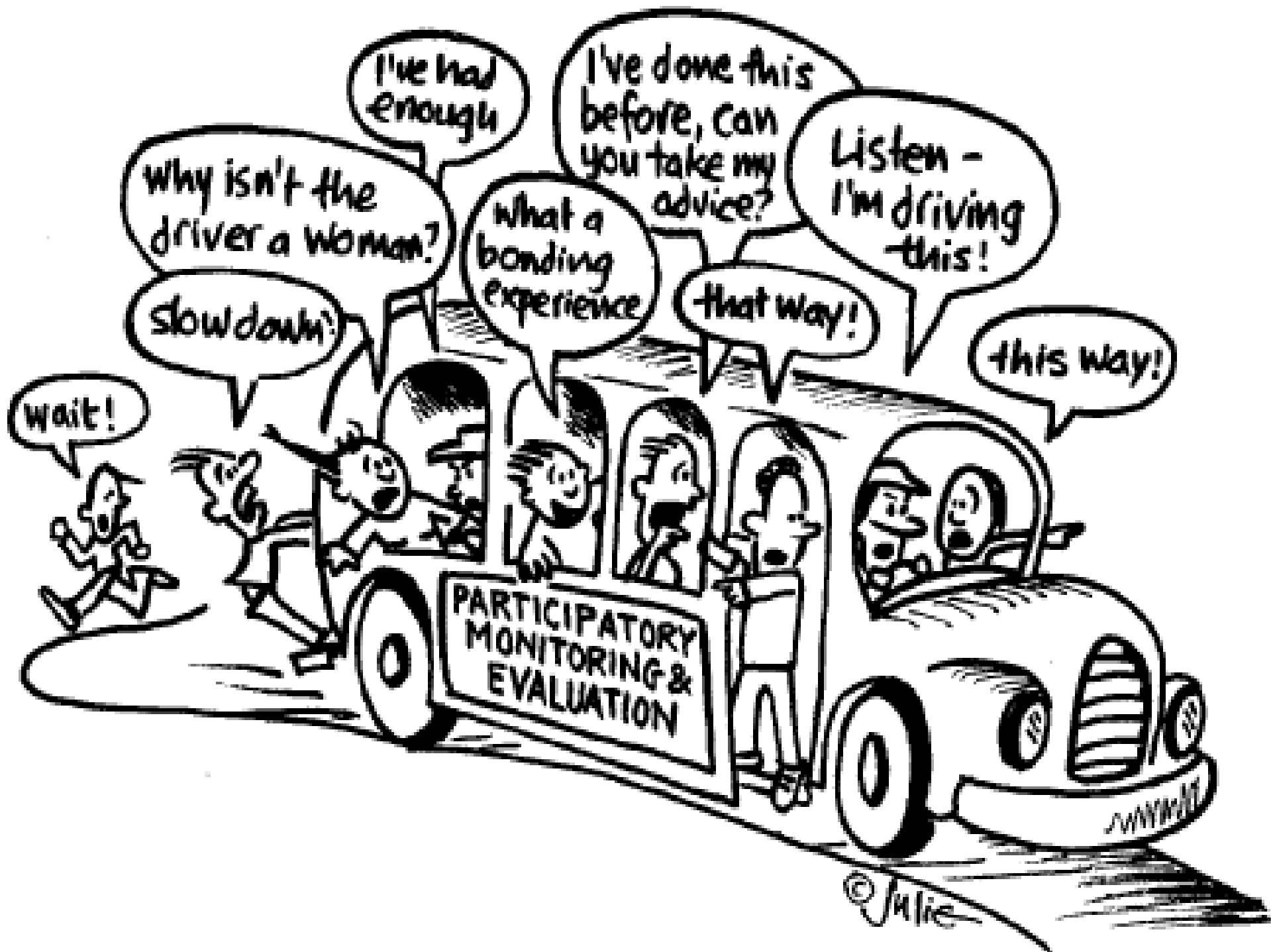
APIAHF

- National advocacy organization
- Conducts TA & training
- Disseminates health & census data analysis information
- Utilizes peer-to-peer model to support national & regional alliances & collaboration

Researchers' Areas of Expertise

- Community-based research with underserved populations
- Social epidemiology
- HIV prevention, testing, & treatment
- HIV policy & advocacy
- LGBT research & advocacy
- AAPI research, policy, & advocacy





The MATH Evaluation

Specific Aim

To evaluate a consortium model framework for conducting community-based HIV research

Process Objectives

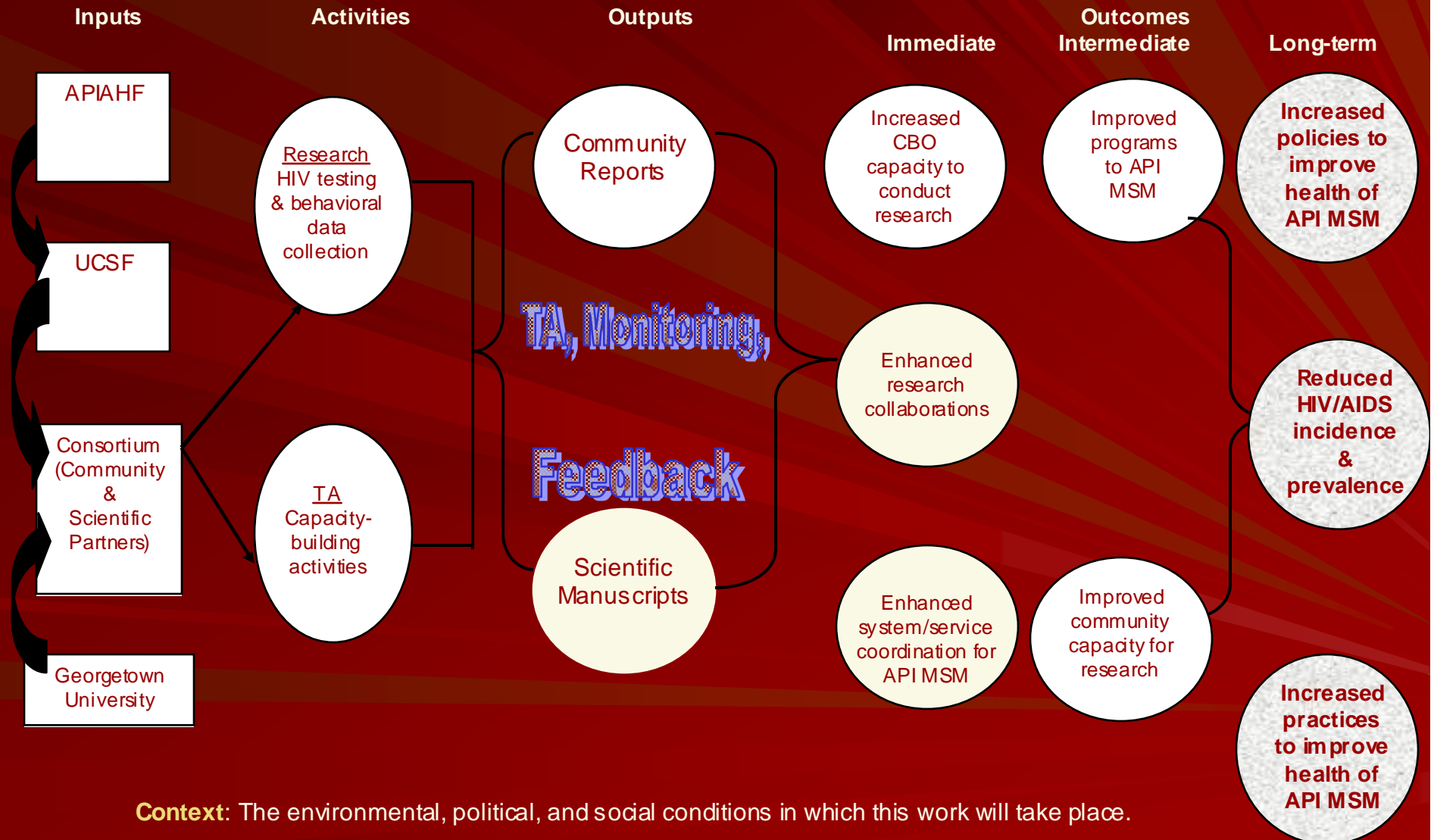
- To examine the qualities & characteristics of the partnerships in the consortium
- To examine how the partnerships are maintained over time

Outcome Objectives

- To examine changes in organizational infrastructures
- To examine changes in organizational capacities to engage in research
- To examine the activities & outputs of the partners

MATH Logic Model

Mission: To improve knowledge about HIV rates and risks among API MSM via community-based research



Context: The environmental, political, and social conditions in which this work will take place.

Benefits of Evaluating MATH

- **Contributes to understanding how well MATH was implemented**
- **Contributes to improvement of working relationships**
- **Captures the dynamic nature of community-researcher partnerships**
- **Highlights the collective efforts of consortium partners**
- **Strengthens organizational capacity to engage in research and use research meaningfully**



*“Social advance depends as much upon the **PROCESS** through which it is secured as upon the result itself.”*

-- Jane Addams

Evaluation Measures

Paper-and-Pencil Questionnaires

- Partnership Self-Assessment Tool (PSAT)

Interviews

- Partnership Interviews

Documents

Community Partners

- Conference Evaluation Surveys Forms
- Training Evaluation Surveys
- Pilot Testing Feedback Forms
- Organizational Needs Assessments
- Quarterly & Annual Reports

Scientific Partners

- Capacity-Building Assistance
- Meeting Minutes
- Capacity-Building Notes
- Service Flow Charts/CBA Matrix
- Curriculum & Notes



Lessons Learned

Challenges

- Building & strengthening relationships
- Defining roles

Recommendations

- Encouraging openness
- Fostering trust
- Maintaining effective forms of communication
- Acknowledge limitations, frustrations, challenges
- Describe personal & collective contributions to the study
- Revisit interests & involvement in study
- Establish rules for accountability

Lessons Learned

Challenges

- Recruiting Participants
- Technological Issues
- Staff turnover

Recommendations

- Share & celebrate successes
- Brainstorm ideas together
- Be flexible
- Acknowledge pros/cons of changes to protocol
- Establish transition plan
- Maintain accessibility to existing members

MATH Study Acknowledgements

■ **AAPI HIV/AIDS Advocates**

- **MATH team:** Tri Do, Daniel Bao, Vince Crisostomo, Jordana De Leon, Royce Park, Mary Hoehn, Susan Eisenberg, Glen-Milo Santos, Paul Chen, Frank Wong

- **MATH Consortium Convener:** ManChui Leung & Christian Alvez

- **Scientific Partners:** John Chin, Willi McFarland, Kyung-Hee Choi, Teri Liegler

■ **Funder:**

- National Institutes of Health, NICHD

Our Community Partners:

AIDS Services in Asian Communities (Philadelphia)

Asian Americans for Community Involvement (Santa Clara)

Asian Health Services (Oakland)

Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (Los Angeles)

Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (New York City)

Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center (San Francisco)

Massachusetts Asians & Pacific Islanders for Health (Boston)