



University of  
Pittsburgh®

Center for Health Equity  
School of Public Health

## Service & Community Engagement

### The CRAB & Collaborators

The **Community Research Advisory Board (CRAB)** is a body established by the CHE in 2001 with the mission to advise researchers on how best to foster collaborations and engage communities and populations that experience health inequities. The CRAB consists of community members from the region, as well as students and faculty members.

Located in the Homewood and Hill District neighborhoods, the **Community Engagement Centers (CECs)** are physical facilities that create space for neighborhood partners, community-based organizations, and University students and faculty to collaborate. CHE partners with the CEC by teaching courses, hosting community meetings, and receiving referrals via the CRAB.

The **Forbes Funds' (TFF)** mission is building the management capacity and impact of community-based nonprofits individually and collectively. Since 2019, the CRAB has reviewed grants submitted to TFF on how well they address social determinants of health and sustainable development goals.

### Birth Equity

CHE is a strategic partner with community and governmental agencies to address maternal and child health inequities via multi-level strategies. This includes the **Healthy Baby Zone (HBZ) Wilksburg** and the **Birth Equity Institute** funded by CityMatCH. The project was modeled after the Best Babies Zone (BBZ) framework, which was created to address perinatal health outcomes by focusing efforts on the social and economic determinants of health and the promotion of health equity and their impact on health outcomes.

The **Community Action Network (CAN)** serves as the primary liaison between Healthy Start and the community, acting as regional advocates for project initiatives.



Community Research Advisory Board meeting, 2016.

**CHE Mission** *To understand and ultimately eliminate health inequities in under resourced, vulnerable, and underserved communities and populations, particularly those in Western Pennsylvania. The CHE addresses issues attributed to institutional racism, develops strategic partnerships across sectors and communities, and advances a health equity perspective in all policies that support the public sector's role in achieving health*



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### Black-Led & Black-Centered

The **Black COVID-19 Equity Coalition** is comprised of a group of physicians, researchers, epidemiologists, public health and health care practitioners, social scientists, community funders, and government officials concerned about addressing COVID-19 in vulnerable populations. The coalition aims to ensure an equitable response to the coronavirus pandemic, based on socio-economic and culturally relevant data, that produces culturally relevant responses to reduce health inequities and improve health and well-being in general.

**Pittsburgh Black Pride** is a community-based organization that provides entertainment, social information, and health education to Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, and Ally (LGBTQIA+) individuals and families across Southwest Pennsylvania.

CHE is a member of the **Black Environmental Collective** which focuses on environmental justice, the social and built environment, and the impacts on Black communities in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Via the **Health Advocates in Reach (HAIR) Barbershop Outreach Program**, CHE has partnered with local African American owned and operated barbershops since 2001 to provide support, health education and promotion. The annual *Take a Health Professional to the People Day* initiative in April provides health education, screening, and resources to customers and staff.



*Take a Health Professional to the People Day, 2018*

### Supporting Latinx Communities

The **Immigrants and Internationals Advisory Council (IIAC)** was established to inform and advise the director and executive staff of the Department of Human Services (DHS) regarding the human service needs of immigrant and international residents of Allegheny County.

**Casa San Jose** is a community resource center that advocates for and empowers Latinos by promoting integration and self-sufficiency. The CHE assists with evaluation needs through mentoring students and CHE faculty provide leadership.

CHE is a member of the **Pittsburgh Hispanic Development Corporation (PHDC)**, a local business incubator dedicated to improving the lives of Hispanics in the region, increasing the Hispanic population, and increasing Hispanic investment.