

Partnering With Faith Based Organizations

Developing the Relationship between
CDC and the African Methodist
Episcopal
Church

A New Way of Doing Business

- This collaboration is not business as usual but is a new approach to how we do business with Churches and other Faith Based organizations
- This is a system level approach to working with churches that allows buy-in from the Church leadership as well as Pastors.

In the Past

We worked with

- Individual Church in selected communities
- Pastors liked the idea of being able to provide services and activities for the members of their congregations.

What's Different?

- Working with Faith Based Organizations at a system level so that there is buy-in from the top down and the bottom up
- No Checkbook on the table

WHAT WAS LEARNED

Churches Don't Want

Programs that came in do research and leave the community with nothing

- Passing out brochures
- Programs with no concern for sustainability,

WHAT DO THEY WANT

- Meaningful, sustainable programs for the congregations and communities that they serve.
- Participation in developing appropriate programs for the church and community
Ownership of the program

Challenges.....

Challenges to implementing sustainable programs

Incremental versus system changes

WHEN FUNDING ENDS

PROGRAMS

DIE

CHANGING OUR VIEW OF

CHURCHES AS
PARTNERS

- As individual Community meeting places
- As places to leave materials for distribution.
- As some where to hold

HEALTH FAIRS

THE VALUE OF FAITH
BASED
PARTNERSHIPS

- Churches have established community social networks.
- They can provide structure and support for health and other interventions.

WHAT IS NOT SEEN

- As structured organizations or systems
- As having a distinct culture
- As an organization that can implement and support programs

Reach

- Churches can reach and influence whole families
- Reach into communities where government agencies would not be accepted.
- Have existing committees, groups and volunteers that can get health interventions started in communities.

Church Programs Work

- Church based programs work in rural and urban communities.
- Church programs usually work with other community agencies and organizations and can effectively leverage resources.

Building A Win Win Partnership

DOING THE HOME WORK

- Learning about the structure and culture of the church you want to work with before you make the first contact.

Finding the right people
to work with.

Finding the one right
person in the church

WHO

- Is in the church leadership
- Knows how to approach church leadership
 - Knows church structure policy and procedure

Has the Authority to speak for the church leadership and make decisions at the national level.

YOU SHOULD

Be able to :

- Identify common ground.
- Listen and respectively share ideas and Concerns

I learned to

LISTEN AND TO HEAR

THANK YOU