



Clinical and Translational Science Institute  
Community Engagement & Research Program

# Preparing for the Courtship

Assessing Your Readiness to Partner

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# Preparing for the Courtship

## Assessing Your Readiness to Partner



**The recommendations for assessing your readiness to conduct research with an academic partner were developed in part by the following entities:**

1. Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science  
Community Faculty
2. Healthy African American Families II
3. Clinical and Translational Science Institute, University  
of California, San Francisco
4. The National Community Center for Participatory  
Research
5. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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Health and Education*



# How to Determine “Goodness of Fit”



- Screen, screen, screen!!
- Ask questions
- Treat the invitation to **partner** as though it were a business, because ***IT IS!***
- Don't be afraid to “Kick the Tires”

# Your Expectations Matter



- Know what your expectations are
- What kind of relationship do you want?



# “Kicking the Tires”



1. What is this study about?

2. Why did you select this issue to study?



# “Kicking the Tires”



3. Who put this study together?

4. How has the community been involved in research questions and designs?



5. At what point were they included?

# “Kicking the Tires”



6. How can my agency and our community partners share their ideas as you do this study?



7. May we establish a community advisory and/or review committee to provide input in the process?

# “Kicking the Tires”



8. Who is going to be in this study?
9. How will our agency and the community benefit from this study?
10. May we review the study protocol, inclusive of the budget?
11. What are the potential risks to the community?





# “Kicking the Tires”



12. Exactly what is required of my agency and community partners?
13. Will there be training on how to access support and other resources at the academic institution?
14. What if we have conflicts between our staff and yours – how is that addressed?



# “Kicking the Tires”



15. How will the results be disseminated?

16. Is there a formal “report-back” event planned?

17. What is going to happen with the collected data?



# “Kicking the Tires”



18. Who are the researchers, and are they familiar with the community being studied?
19. If researchers are not familiar with the community being researched, has cultural sensitivity/competence training been done or planned? Who provided the training?



# “Kicking the Tires”



20. Is the research model/methodology to be used, specifically matched with the target populations being studied? (e.g. ethnicity, urban/rural, gender specific)



21. Will you consider hiring and training our staff/ volunteers to conduct some of the research tasks?

# “Kicking the Tires”



22. What will be left behind when the study is over?

23. What is the “win-win” for our agency? (i.e. authorship)



# Preparing for Your Courtship

## Assessing Your Readiness to Partner



WHAT DO YOU WANT  
TO KNOW?



# Evaluating Your Readiness



A DREAM COME TRUE?



# Evaluating Your Readiness



A NIGHTMARE  
WAITING TO HAPPEN?





# UCLA CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE

Partnership Support Unit

Community Engagement and Research Program



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# UCLA CTSI Partnerships



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