Purpose
The mission of the Community Engagement Program at CCTS is to improve the health of communities through research/outreach collaborations with community agencies and members, especially in areas where health disparities are pronounced. We are liaisons between researchers and the community, offering consultations on effective research strategies and providing funding opportunities to launch partnership-based projects. CCTS is a collaboration among OSU, Wexner Medical Center, Nationwide Children’s Hospital and the Appalachian Translational Research Network and is funded by National Institutes of Health.

Impact
We have over 40 Community Partners from 18 counties in Central and Southeastern Ohio including representatives from churches, schools, nursing homes, philanthropy groups, OSU extension offices, county health departments and civic groups.

We provided funding, outreach and consultation services to 163 investigators and 160 community partners in 2015, including consultation with our three standing Community Engagement Advisory and Faculty Advisory Boards comprised of 66 faculty and community stakeholders in total.

Examples of our activities include community-based train the trainer workshops for county health departments on research ethics, focus groups and community-based participatory research (CBPR) and cosponsorship of community conferences between infectious disease investigators, public health departments and farm workers.

How you can get involved:

- Let us know about the public health concerns in your community, as well as research you would like to see done at OSU or NCH
- Let us know communities/agencies with whom you want to partner
- Refer or recommend community members who would like to become involved in collaborative research and consultations
- Refer faculty members/researchers who want help starting community-engaged research projects

To get involved, contact:

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