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Community-Engaged Research Institute

2015 Community-Engaged Research Institute

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#### International Perspectives in CEnR

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#### Location

VCU ASPiRE, 835 W. Grace St., Richmond VA

**Disciplines** Higher Education

**Presenter Information** Maghboeba Mosavel Page Intentionally Left Blank

# International Community-Engaged Research

Maghboeba Mosavel, Ph.D. Department of Social and Behavioral Health School of Medicine Community-Engaged Research Institute May 13, 2015

### **Research in South Africa**

#### \* Cervical Cancer Prevention, Cape Town (R25, R03)

 Community Engaged Research, Kenneth Gardens, Durban (Global Education Office, International Partnership Award)

# Approach

- Local stakeholders assisted in shaping the research questions
- \* Established a Community Advisory Board
- \* Partnership with CANSA
- \* Partnership with the Department of Education
- \* Hired local management staff
- Trained community members as community researchers
- \* Conducted formative research
- Conducted focus groups

## **Research Question**

 Explore the the mother-daughter relationship and the feasibility of using the adolescent daughter to provide her mother with cancer screening information

### Research

- \* Trained 7 community researchers
- \* 2 academic researchers from South Africa
- \* 2 academic researchers from the US
- \* Project Coordinator (CG)
- \* Project Supervisor (DVS)
- Mother-daughter semi-structured interviews (N=314)
- Transcription and Qualitative data analysis in South Africa

Building Global Bridges Community-engaged research

- \* Partnership with University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban
- \* Addressed local need
- Local partners part of the planning/grant process
- \* VCU-UKZN student teams
- \* VCU-UKZN academic partnership



### **Research Questions**

\* How do residents of Kenneth Gardens perceive the health of their community?

\* What are the benefits and barriers to utilizing services through a local health clinic?



## Core Research Components Completed

- \* Youth Photo voice (N=14)
- Semi-structured interviews of elders and clinic users (N=28)
- \* 6 VCU students + photographer and 5 UKZN students







# **Community-engaged Outcomes**

- \* Data dissemination in Kenneth Gardens and to key stakeholders
- Building capacity (learners and students)
- \* Co-learning
- \* Student-led publication
- \* VCU-UKZN peer-reviewed publication
- Published photo book of research
- \* Conference presentations
- \* Video documentary won awards
- \* Secured resources for the Kenneth Gardens Clinic

How does Building Global Bridges create stronger student researchers?

- \* Active learning
  - \* Real-world experience
  - \* Apply and cultivate skills learned in the classroom
  - \* Learn skills on the ground that cannot be taught in class
  - \* Gain experience in new research methodologies (Photo Voice)
- \* Introduces the field of research as a career option
  - Facilitates transition from student to researcher
- \* Orientation into the international research and public health community
  - \* Opportunities to meet experts in the field
  - \* Establish new contacts for potential future collaborations

How does Building Global Bridges develop culturally competent researchers?

- \* Knowledge-building across many contexts
  - \* cross-cultural learning
  - \* interdisciplinary learning
  - inter-institutional learning
- \* Builds cross-cultural relationships and networks

 Enhanced insights to differences in health care service delivery

# How does Building Global Bridges build commitment to scholarship?

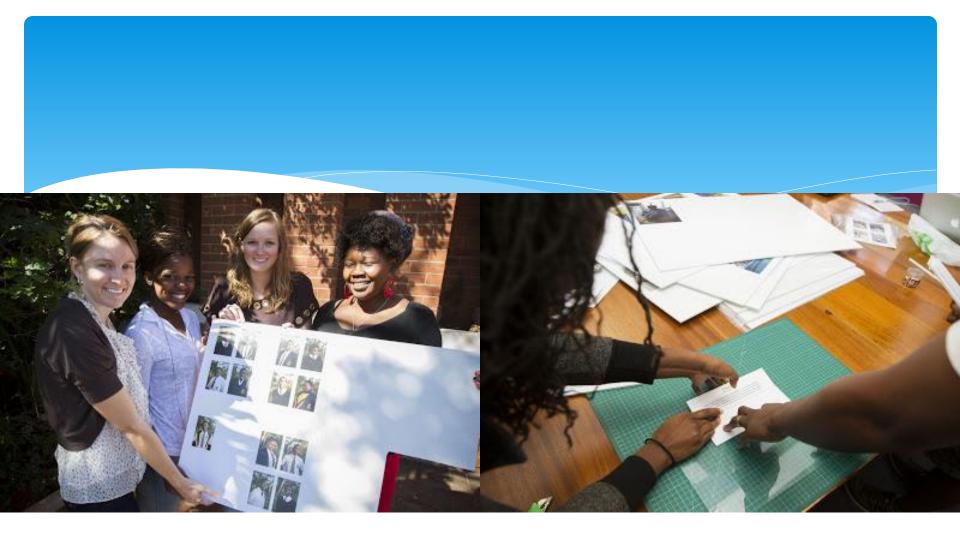
- \* Exposure to different types of research and methodologies
  - \* Community-engaged research as a framework
  - \* Photo Voice
- Seeing research translated to tangible results can be a rewarding experience
  - \* Collaboration with community partners
- \* Develops student leaders in the research context
  - \* Mentoring opportunity builds capacity
  - \* Solidifies research interests
  - \* Invaluable cross-cultural, international collaborations and co-learning

What are the tangible outcomes from Building Global Bridges?

- Higher research outputs
- \* More marketable students
- \* Increased student independence and leadership skills
- Potential of future scholarship opportunities
- Development of more post-graduate students
- \* Strengthening of ties between international institutions
- Establish relationships with communities through research and data dissemination







Key Elements of International Community-engaged research

- \* Partnerships
- \* Research Question of Interest to the Community
- \* Local Policy and Context
- Building Capacity
- \* Asset based
- \* Co-learning
- \* Mutual benefit
- \* Sustainable





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