Community-engaged fRAP: a Mixed Methods Approach for Policy Change and Advocacy to Reduce Cancer Disparities in Hispanic Women

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Clinical Relevance

- Cervical cancer is preventable and curable, yet Hispanic populations in certain areas of the country have higher mortality rates from invasive cervical cancer than non-Hispanic white women.

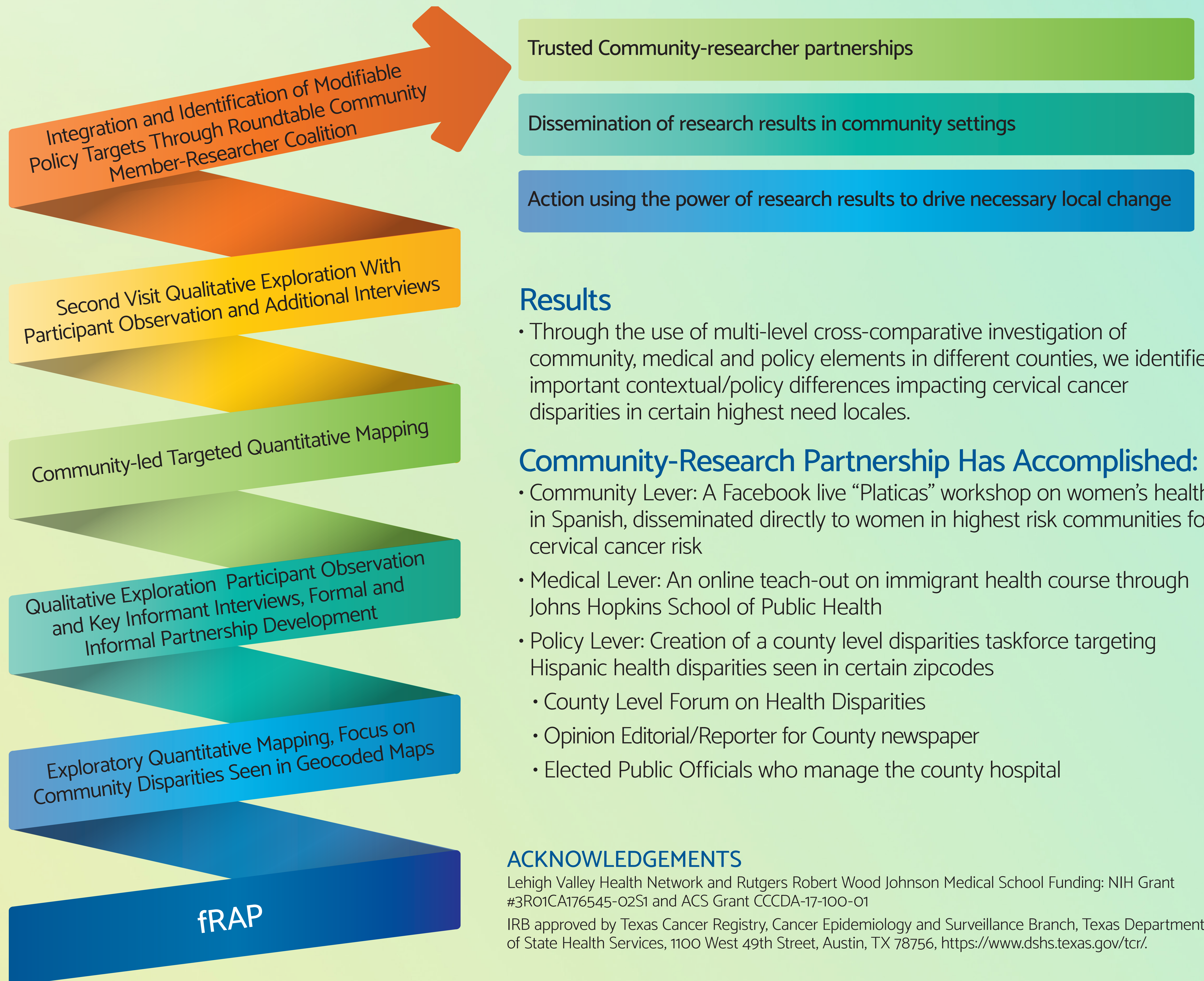## Community Engaged Partnerships for Change

Our study aimed to develop community-engaged on-the-ground partnerships between our research team and local stakeholders to identify policy change targets for advocacy and action that could impact cervical cancer disparities in geographic areas of high need

Methods

- A mixed methods study utilizing fRAP (focused Rapid Assessment Process)
- Multi-level investigation (community, medical, policy level) using GIS mapping to identify areas of interest for qualitative participant observation, interviews, focus

Dataset

- Quantitative geocoding of cervical cancer cases (1995-2015) to ZCTA level in three Texas counties, Bexar, Dallas, Tarrant
- Qualitative interviews with 42 key informants from three levels of interest, community, medical and policy

Diagram (flow)

- Integration and Identification of Modifiable Policy Targets Through Roundtable Community Member-Researcher Coalition
- Second Visit Qualitative Exploration With Participant Observation and Additional Interviews
- Community-led Targeted Quantitative Mapping
- Qualitative Exploration Participant Observation and Key Informant Interviews, Formal and Informal Partnership Development
- Exploratory Quantitative Mapping, Focus on Community Disparities Seen in Geocoded Maps
- fRAP

- Trusted Community-researcher partnerships
- Dissemination of research results in community settings
- Action using the power of research results to drive necessary local change

Results

- Through the use of multi-level cross-comparative investigation of community, medical and policy elements in different counties, we identified important contextual/policy differences impacting cervical cancer disparities in certain highest need locales.

Community-Research Partnership Has Accomplished:

- Community Lever: A Facebook live "Platicas" workshop on women's health, in Spanish, disseminated directly to women in highest risk communities for cervical cancer risk
- Medical Lever: An online teach-out on immigrant health course through Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
- Policy Lever: Creation of a county level disparities taskforce targeting Hispanic health disparities seen in certain zipcodes
  - County Level Forum on Health Disparities
  - Opinion Editorial/Reporter for County newspaper
  - Elected Public Officials who manage the county hospital

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