

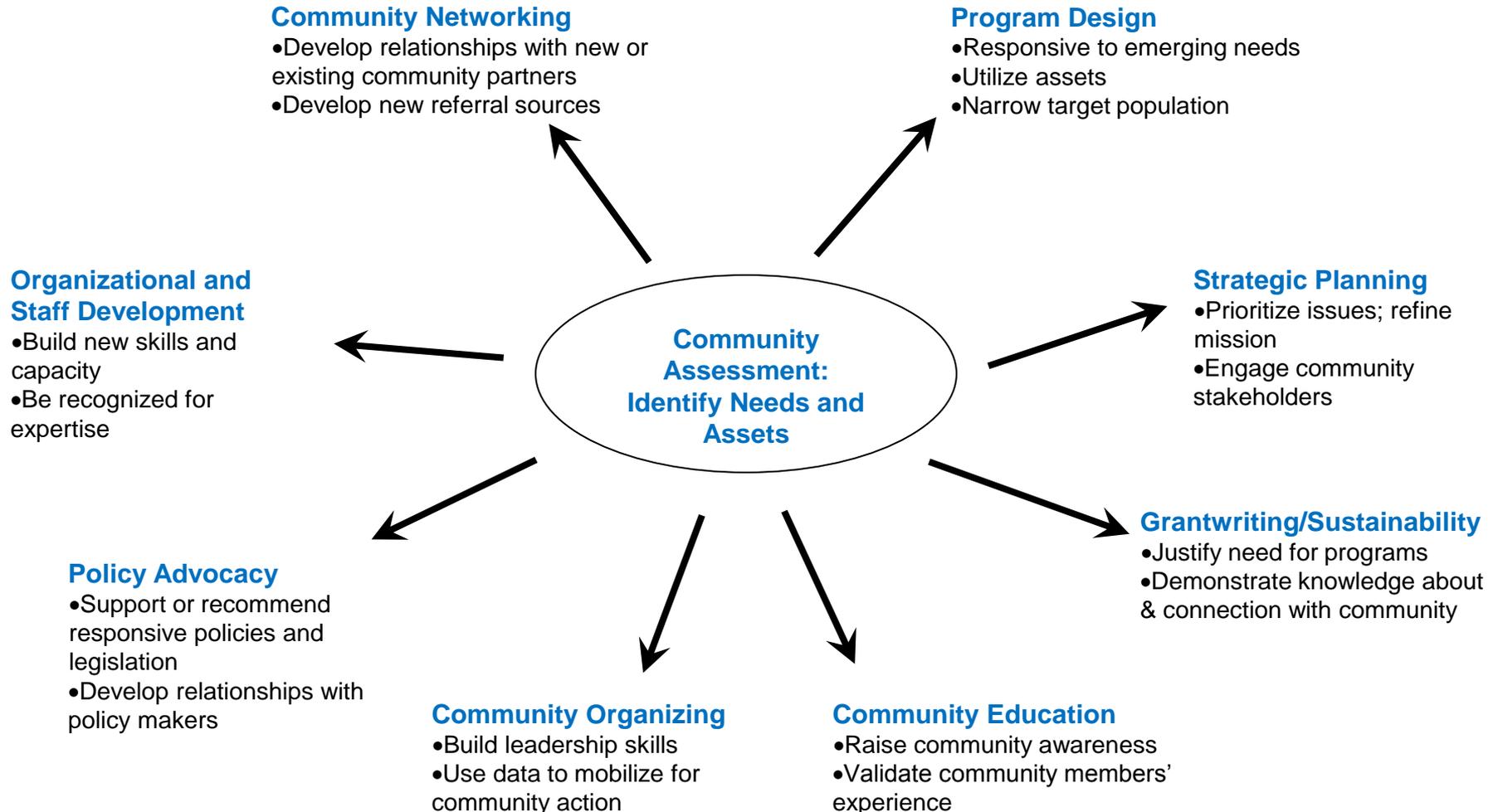
What is CBAR?

Community-based action research is a *"collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings."*

CBAR "begins with a research topic of importance to the community, [and] has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change."

Source: W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Health Scholars Program

Possible Actions Supported by CBAR



Research Steps

Community-Based Action Research (CBAR) What Experience or Skills Do You Need? (And What Do You Have Already?)

Step 6: Use and Communicate Results

Coordinate dissemination events (e.g. press conference, community forum, etc.); write and publish report; plan next steps (programs or policy advocacy)

Step 5: Analyze Data

Design database; input and filter data; analyze data; make recommendations

Step 4: Collect Data

Access existing research and secondary data; design research instrument; develop outreach plan; build relationship with target population; administer research instrument; interpret or translate for participants; monitor participant protection

Step 3: Determine What Information (Data) You Need

Develop research questions; identify data sources; determine most appropriate research method(s)

Step 2: Determine Your Focus

Develop research goals and objectives

Step 1: Develop a Community Partnership

Develop community partnerships based on the gaps in experience and skills above. Community partners can include: community-based organizations, elected officials, public agencies, universities (faculty and students), faith-based institutions, local businesses, media, community leaders, etc.

*Adapted from UCLA Center for Health Policy Research – Health DATA Program,
www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/healthdata/index.html*

Community-Based Action Research (CBAR) Principles:

QUESTIONS	TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC RESEARCH	COMMUNITY-BASED ACTION RESEARCH
<i>What is the purpose of the research?</i>	To contribute to the body of knowledge on a given topic (e.g. publication, conferences, etc.)	To provide the community with the tools and information necessary to enact change (i.e. action)
<i>Who is the research intended to serve?</i>	Academic experts and institutions	The local community <i>and</i> the academic community
<i>Whose knowledge counts?</i>	Academic experts (community members as "subjects")	Both community members and academic experts
<i>Who determines what topics are researched?</i>	Funders interests, academic interests, professional interests, personal interests	Members of the local community
<i>What is the rationale for choosing the research methodology?</i>	Academic conventions (e.g. experimental design); the pursuit of "truth" and "objectivity"	Community empowerment and mutual learning
<i>Who controls the research process?</i>	Academic researcher	Community members <i>and</i> the researcher
<i>Who has ownership over the results of the research?</i>	Academic researcher	Community members <i>and</i> the researcher
<i>What aspect of research is emphasized?</i>	Outcomes (research findings)	Process (relationships, skills, capacity, leadership, etc.) <i>and</i> outcomes (research findings)

Adapted from <http://comm-org.wisc.edu/sif/page.php?5>, Sociological Initiatives Foundation, September 29, 2008