

Workshop C

Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) and the Practice of Hope in Nicaragua: Using the CBPR Model to Take Action to Reduce Health Inequities

Presenter: Laura Chanchien Parajón, MD, MPH

Session Description: In this interactive workshop, Dr. Laura Parajón will share her experience in Nicaragua using the CBPR Model Framework¹ as a tool for facilitating community empowerment. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn how to use the CBPR framework as a logic model to show connections between your partnering and community engagement practices and your goals to better serve communities and improve inequities in health, education, and community development. The model can also serve as a tool for program planning and evaluation, community initiatives and other efforts directed at social change.

¹ **CBPR Definition:** “Collaborative efforts between multi-sector stakeholders who gather and use research and data to build on the strengths and priorities of the community in order to co-develop multi-level strategies to improve health & social equity.” Wallerstein, Duran, Oetzel, Minkler (in press, 2017)



Laura Chanchien Parajón, MD, MPH is the Medical Director and co-founder of the non-profit organization, AMOS Health and Hope (amoshealth.org). Based in Nicaragua, AMOS is dedicated to using community-based and empowering approaches to reduce health disparities in Nicaragua. Trained in family medicine and public health, she is a teacher at heart who is passionate about applying Community-based participatory research (CBPR) frameworks in global health using transformative CBPR principles and practice to develop future leaders -- health professionals, students and community health workers (CHWs)--to work towards “health for all.” With a collaborative team, AMOS supports and trains a network of CHWs in difficult to reach areas of Nicaragua to provide basic medical care, disease prevention and health promotion to their communities as well as organize to address social determinants of health and advocate for social and policy change.