



# Community Forum Highlights

Greenbrier County  
June 29, 2023

The Community Forums promote bi-directional communication that aids with community-identified health issues and matches those communities with researchers who can partner for community-engaged solutions.

## COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND STRENGTHS

- Multiple health disparities across the county
- Overall lack of trust in Black and Latinx communities
- There are challenges in communication and sharing of available resources
- Despite differences, communities pull together in times of need
- The community has a family mentality
- The community has excellent networks and partnerships already established


## BARRIERS TO CLINICAL TRIALS

- Communication unclear
- Wrong communication channel used to reach people
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of incentives

## COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES

- Addiction
- Social determinants of health
- Contaminated water
- Heart disease
- Mental health
- Lack of specialists



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# Community Forum Highlights

Charleston, WV  
May 18, 2023

## IMPRESSIONS ON RESEARCH

- All participants have participated in research within their community
- Researchers must come to communities to ask what their needs are
- Researchers need to share findings to show the value of research
- Communities need a research champion

## SHARING RESEARCH RESULTS

- Researchers should use both traditional (newspapers) and newer methods (social media) of sharing results
- Utilize places like churches and local government buildings
- Tell a story that is organized and communities can relate to
- Need to consider issues with internet access

## MEDICAL MISTRUST

- There need to be more local social services resources
- Utilize community health workers that are embedded and trusted within the community
- Lack of access and transportation has made communities feel ignored when it comes to health
- Lack of investment in rural communities has led to mistrust



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PARTNERING FOR BETTER HEALTH



EXTENSION



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