

Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center 2015 Board Questionnaire

Introduction

As one part of ongoing evaluation of the Detroit URC, please complete this questionnaire. This is one of the ways in which you can provide feedback and insight regarding the process and activities of the URC Board, in order to strengthen the URC's future work. Please complete this survey by April 3, 2015. Your participation is voluntary and filling out this survey indicates your consent.

There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. We are interested in your perspective and opinions in order to improve the work of the URC Board and partnership. Your answers will be kept confidential, and the results of the survey will be reported back to the Board in such a way that no individual Board member will be able to be identified. Please contact Carol Gray (ccbgray@umich.edu) if you have any questions, or (734) 764-8632 for technical assistance.

For each of the items in this questionnaire, please select the best answer or fill in the appropriate space, as directions indicate.

Background	
#	Question
1	When did you personally join the Detroit URC Board?
	When the Board was established in 1995
	Between 1996-2000
	Between 2001-2005
	Between 2006-2010
	Between 2011-2015
2	What type of organization do you belong to?
	Detroit-based Organization
	University of Michigan

Board Participation	
#	Question
3	Please select the following URC-related activities that you have participated in over the last year:
	Served as a member of a Detroit URC subcommittee
	Served on a Steering Committee of one of the Detroit URC's affiliated projects/partnerships

	Served as a co-presenter or presenter representing the Detroit URC or one of its affiliated partnerships at a conference, training, or workshop/seminar
	Co-authored an article or publication
	Served as a mentor (e.g. for a small planning grant team, student, postdoc, or faculty member)
	Reviewed or provided feedback on materials
	Served in an additional role (e.g. community research associate)
	Other
4	Please indicate approximately how many times over the last year you have attended monthly Detroit URC Board meetings:
	Never
	1-3 times
	4-7 times
	8-10 times
5	Thinking back over the past year, when you do not attend meetings, what are the major reasons? Check all that apply.
	Meetings scheduled at times I am unable to attend
	Work responsibilities (including unexpected meetings or obligations)
	Family responsibilities
	Other

Below is a list of ways that individual members may describe their involvement with the Detroit URC. Please indicate your level of agreement for each of the following statements on a scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree.

Involvement with the Detroit URC	
#	Question
6	I am satisfied with my level of participation in the Detroit URC.
7	I have taken advantage of opportunities to influence the work of the Board.
8	I devote time outside of Board meetings to Detroit URC activities or projects.
9	My talents and expertise are well used in the Detroit URC.

Dimensions of the Detroit URC Partnership

This section of the survey asks you to assess various dimensions of the Detroit URC. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements on a scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree.

Board Purpose & Approach	
<i>#</i>	<i>Question</i>
10	Our operating norms enable the Board to work together collaboratively.
11	I understand my role on the Board.
12	There is a general agreement about the purpose/mission of the Detroit URC.
13	Board members agree on the strategies the Detroit URC uses in pursuing its priorities.
14	The Board is following its own community-based participatory research principles.
15	Board members share responsibility for getting work done.
16	The Detroit URC defines its roles, responsibilities, and timelines for accomplishing its goals.
17	There is general agreement about the goals and objectives of the Detroit URC.
18	The Board has the appropriate members around the table in order to achieve its goals.
19	New members receive adequate orientation to allow them to become effective members of the Board.

Board Meeting Organization and Structure	
<i>#</i>	<i>Question</i>
20	I find Board meetings useful.
21	The Board meetings are well organized.
22	Background materials (e.g. agendas, minutes) needed for meetings are prepared and distributed well enough in advance of meetings.
23	We discuss important issues at Board meetings.
24	I wish we spent more time at Board meetings hearing about and discussing the Detroit URC projects.
25	The Board meetings are held too frequently.
26	We adequately address all of the agenda items at Board meetings.
27	I would like more of a voice in determining agenda items for Board meetings.
28	When the Board makes decisions, appropriate follow-up action is taken by staff.
29	When the Board makes decisions, appropriate follow-up action is taken by Board members.
30	The opinion of some individuals gets weighted more heavily than it should.
31	One person or a few people dominate(s) discussion at Board meetings.
32	The Detroit URC is well managed.
33	The work of staff supports the work of the Board.

34	The Board celebrates its successes.
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Board Trust	
#	Question
35	I am comfortable requesting assistance from other Board members (when I feel their input could be of value).
36	I can talk openly and honestly at the Board meetings.
37	I am comfortable expressing my point of view at Board meetings.
38	I am comfortable bringing up new ideas at Board meetings.
39	Board members respect each other's point of view even if they might disagree.
40	My opinion is listened to and considered by other Board members.
41	There is a high level of trust between Board members.
42	Members of the Board have confidence in one another.

Decision-Making and Influence	
#	Question
43	The Board has a clear process for making important decisions as a group.
44	I am satisfied with the process by which the Board makes decisions.
45	All Board members have a voice in decisions made by the group.
46	I'm satisfied with the decisions the Board makes.
47	Detroit URC resources are shared in a fair manner.
48	Board members work well together to solve problems.
49	I have influence over decisions the Board makes.
50	I am satisfied with the amount of influence that each partner has over decisions that the Board makes.
51	The Board is able to resolve conflicts effectively when they arise.
52	Leadership between community and academic partners is shared.

Communication	
#	Question
53	Board members communicate effectively with each other during meetings
54	Communication between the Detroit URC staff and Board members is effective.
55	Information communicated within the Detroit URC partnership is relevant.

56	I communicate about the work of the Detroit URC to my community.
57	Board members communicate effectively with each other outside meetings.
58	I communicate about the work of the Detroit URC to my organization.
59	The Board communicates its successes.

The following questions are about benefits and challenges of being involved with the Detroit URC at the personal, organizational, and community levels. Please complete the following statements on a scale from "To a Very Great Extent" to "Not at All".

Personal Benefits

Please indicate the extent to which you have PERSONALLY experienced the following benefits as a result of your participation in the Detroit URC.

PERSONAL Benefits of Detroit URC Participation	
#	Question
60	Increased my professional knowledge and skills to address health-related issues.
61	Enhanced my ability to affect public policy.
62	Increased my professional knowledge and understanding of the other organizations represented on the board.
63	Presented at national meetings.
64	Served on national committees/organizations related to CBPR.
65	My expertise is used by the partnership.
66	Developed true friendships.
67	Advanced my career.
68	Other

Benefits to Your Organization

Please indicate the extent to which your ORGANIZATION has experienced the following benefits as a result of your participation in the Detroit URC.

ORGANIZATION Benefits of Detroit URC Participation	
#	Question
69	Increased recognition and respect for my organization in Detroit.
70	Developed new collaborative relationships between my organization and other Detroit URC partner organizations.
71	Increased funding for my organization.

72	Developed new relationships across communities (e.g., African American and Latino).
73	Increased access to student assistance.
74	Other

Benefits to Your Community

Please indicate the extent to which your COMMUNITY has experienced the following benefits as a result of the Detroit URC and affiliated partnerships.

COMMUNITY Benefits of Detroit URC Participation	
#	Question
75	Increased involvement in identifying community needs and developing interventions to address them.
76	Interventions have brought about positive change in the community.
77	Research findings have been used to support policy recommendations.
78	Increased resources to my community (e.g., money, jobs and skills).
79	Increased access to data to address community identified problems.
80	Other

Personal Challenges

Please indicate the extent to which you have PERSONALLY experienced the following challenges as a result of your participation in the Detroit URC.

PERSONAL Challenges of Detroit URC Participation	
#	Question
81	Time constraints and job demands - being pulled in many directions.
82	Membership requires a considerable time commitment.
83	Other

Challenges to Your Organization

Please indicate the extent to which your ORGANIZATION has experienced the following challenges as a result of your participation in the Detroit URC.

ORGANIZATION Challenges of Detroit URC Participation	
#	Question
84	Detroit URC activities do not address my organization’s goals and interests.
85	Opportunity costs – takes time away from other organizational responsibilities.
86	Putting research findings into action.

87	Too little funding for my organization's participation in the Detroit URC.
88	Low or no indirect costs provided by funders to community-based organizations.
89	Lack of understanding within my organization (e.g., Board, staff) of why we are involved in the Detroit URC.
90	Other

Challenges to Your Community

Please indicate the extent to which your COMMUNITY has experienced the following challenges as a result of the Detroit URC and affiliated partnerships.

COMMUNITY Challenges of Detroit URC Participation	
#	Question
91	Community not always "ready" to engage in research.
92	Lack of trust and people understandably reluctant to participate in research.
93	Other

Benefits Compared to Challenges

Below is a list of ways that individual members may describe the benefits compared to challenges of their involvement with the Detroit URC. Please indicate your level of agreement for each of the following statements on a scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree.

Benefits Compared to Challenges	
#	Question
94	From your personal perspective, the benefits of participation in the Detroit URC outweigh the costs.
95	From your organization's perspective, the benefits of participation in the Detroit URC outweigh the costs.
96	Other
97	Additional Comments

Outcomes & Impact

This section of the survey asks you to assess outcomes & impact of the Detroit URC. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements on a scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree.

Outcomes & Impact	
#	Question
98	The Detroit URC has been effective in achieving its goals.

99	Participation in the Detroit URC has increased my knowledge of social determinants of health and health inequities.
100	Participation in the Detroit URC has increased my organization's capacity to conduct community based participatory research.
101	My organization uses knowledge generated by the Detroit URC.
102	CBOs and other nonmember health and human service agencies in the Detroit area know about the work of Detroit URC.
103	CBOs and other nonmember health and human service agencies in the Detroit area use knowledge generated by the Detroit URC and its affiliated partnerships.
104	The Detroit URC-affiliated partnership and projects are improving health outcomes for people in Detroit.
105	Partner organizations have increased their policy-related activities as a result of their involvement with the Detroit URC.
106	The Detroit URC has been effective at translating research findings into policy-relevant documents and education materials.
107	The Detroit URC is effective at evaluating its work.

Sustainability

Thinking about the sustainability of the Detroit URC, please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Sustainability Thinking	
#	Question
108	I am committed to sustaining the Detroit URC even if the Board has little or no funding.
109	The relationships established among partners will be sustained regardless of whether the Detroit URC continues to exist.
110	The Detroit URC has a plan for sustaining resources.
111	Members of the Board have gained knowledge and skills that will be sustained beyond their involvement in the Detroit URC.
112	Ten years from now, I anticipate that the Detroit URC will be celebrating its 30th anniversary.
113	The Detroit URC is likely to continue after the current funding is over.

General Satisfaction with the Detroit URC	
#	Question
114	I am generally satisfied with the progress of the Detroit URC during the past year.
115	I have a sense of ownership in what the Board does and accomplishes.
116	I am satisfied with the types of proposals that the Detroit URC has submitted.
117	I am satisfied with the types of projects that the Detroit URC has implemented.
118	I am satisfied with the visibility of the Detroit URC within Detroit.

Open Ended Questions	
<i>#</i>	<i>Question</i>
119	What, in your opinion, are the greatest strengths of the Detroit URC?
120	What, if any, suggestions do you have for improving the Board's effectiveness as a group?
121	What, if any, suggestions do you have for furthering the goals of the Detroit URC in the coming year?

IMPORTANT: By hitting the blue arrow at the bottom this page, you will have completed this survey. If you wish to look over your answers before "submitting," please do so now.

Thank you!