

**“CBPR Applied & Beyond”  
Northern New Mexico College  
November 12, 2013**

**Participants:** Ana Gutierrez Sisneros, Julie Lucero, Lauren Reinchelt, Erwin Rivera, Fred Sandoval, Verna Trujillo, Jon Tafoya, Patricia Trujillo, Thelma Antonio, Doris Fields, Lupe Salazar, Stephen Poe, Liana Hussein, and Nora Chavez.

Introductions were done around the table. Nora welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed thanks to Ana Gutierrez Sisneros and Northern New Mexico College for once again hosting the convening and to Dr. Barcelo for her welcome.

Nora briefly described the role of NMCARES and its research components and how they can provide professional and technical assistance to programs and projects in the northern New Mexico area.

### What is research? How is it different from evaluation?



Julie gave an introduction to the training and recap of past dialogues. Liana led the group with an ice breaker called “The Name Game”. The premise of the game was to have each participant tell us their name, and why they were given that name. This experience gave the group a great insight as to who we are and where we came from.

Julie then asked each group member to talk about their experience with research and grant writing. Most of the member

had limited experience in writing grants and/or were not being as successful as in the past. The group discussed the limitation of funding availability in the state and none had written any big grant from Federal agencies such as NIH.

### Ethical Research



This led the group to discuss the topic of ethical research. One partner spoke of hesitancy of paroled men participating in groups or taking advantage of resources available to them. Another participant stated that the office providing the service was located at the drop-off site for parolees. He added that the location would add stigma to the men being released from jail or prison and how that may affect them in the community they lived in.



The group began an engaging discussion on the concerns of community members both Hispanic and Native around cultural trauma, mistrust, past abuses by researchers, and how to move forward.



## Cruzando Los Tres Rios

After the working lunch the group participated in the activity entitled “Cruzando Los Tres Rios” – led by Nora Chavez. The participants counted off into three groups. The purpose of the activity was to have each group “cross the river/rio” utilizing what resources were available to them. The facilitators were surprised by the participants use of resources, sharing, and fears that arose. In addition to the usual obstacles such as not speaking English, physical disabilities, and physical obstacles in the crossing, one group had a member who was given children and an infant as one of the challenges in crossing the river. Suspicion and fears arose when a member of the “privileged” group offered to take the children to facilitate the crossing. Instantly members from the disadvantaged group became very protective of the children and the baby. “Why do you want my baby?” “How do I know you will give her back to me?”



Afterwards the group discussed their obstacles, challenges and fears. Stories were told of families who lost their children who were taken away by “la migra,” never to be returned.

Julie introduced the group to Community Based Participatory Research and suggested it as an alternative approach to research. Most group members were familiar with CBPR and were interested in learning more. She asked the group to identify what their vision would be for use of CBPR in community/research work. Other methods of research were discussed, pros and cons.

The participants also discussed funding availability and the need for more training in grant writing and for a review of funds available from federal resources.

Limited by time the group agreed that they wanted to reconvene at a later date. All stated they had other community members to bring to the second gathering to continue the discussion on their vision for their community.

