



# The Role of the Deaf Health Community Committee in Community Participatory Research

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## DHCC Mission

- Partnership between Deaf communities, researchers and health providers
- Promote an understanding of the health needs of culturally Deaf people (American Sign Language users).
- Identify issues essential to creating parity between the Deaf and general population across the nation.

## Role of DHCC within NCDHR

- Provide community perspectives on plans and priorities for NCDHR activities.
- Participate in the design of proposed research projects and interpretation of research results.
- Understand the mission, goals and organization of the NCDHR.
- Advocate for the community with regard to NCDHR activities, including ensuring that the projects of the NCDHR follow a Cultural Model as opposed to a Medical/Pathological Model.
- Assist with dissemination of NCDHR projects, activities and findings to the Deaf community.
- Share the Deaf community's reactions/insights with NCDHR committees and subcommittees.
- Recruit deaf volunteers for research to be conducted by the NCDHR.
- Serve as a representative to the National Community Committee.



**NCDHR is one of 33 Prevention Research Centers (PRC's) in the U.S.**



## Goals of NCDHR

- Involve the American Sign Language community.
- Learn about issues of Deaf health.
- Conduct research with Deaf people.
- Teach Deaf people how to become better informed about their health.
- Improve health care.
- Encourage Deaf people to choose careers in research.
- Train health professionals in healthcare research.

## DHCC Vision

- Create a nationally recognized model that empowers the culturally Deaf community to achieve it's full health potential.

## History of the DHCC

- Deaf Health Task Force (DHTF) established in December 2003.
- Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- The goal of the DHTF was to determine core health care issues among Deaf people.
- Culminated in the Deaf Health Task Force Report in August 2004.
- This spearheaded the funding of the National Center for Deaf Health Research by NIH in 2004 and established within the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine/University of Rochester.
- As part of the Community Participatory Research Model, a consultation group of deaf and hearing individuals from the community was established in 2005 to work in partnership with the numerous other committees within the NCDHR (e.g. research committee, education committee, communications committee). This group is the DHCC.
- Many members from the former DHTF became members of the DHCC