

COLORADO IMMERSION TRAINING IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Visit with a Bhutanese family



**Lessons on the land
- Rural Colorado**



**African American
Community Center**

Overview

- Introductions
- Colorado Immersion Training Background
- Native American Track – Crystal LoudHawk-Hedgepeth
- Latina/o/x Track – Charlene Barrientos-Ortiz
- LGBTQ+ Track – Leslie Wright
- CIT Participant Reflections – Jamie Studts
- Open Discussion





**We're from the University. We're
here to help!**



Colorado Immersion Training (CIT) in Community Engagement

- Founded in 2010, provides immersive community experiential learning to biomedical researchers with interest in pursuing community-based participatory research (CBPR).
- Funded through the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus's Colorado Clinical and Translational Science Institute, an NIH Clinical and Translational Sciences Award.
- Led by the Colorado Clinical and Translational Science Institute's Community Engagement and Health Equity **Community Research Liaisons** with staff support.

Transforming the way communities and researchers work together to design and conduct research by integrating the needs of the community into the research structure



Community Research Liaison Team



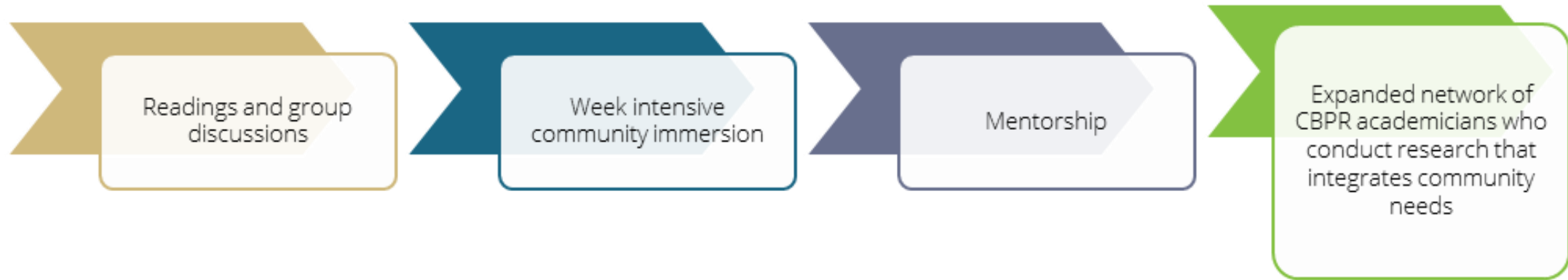
Community representation: Latina/o/x, African American, LGBTQ+, Asian, Pacific Islander, Refugee, Native American, Rural/Frontier Eastern Plains, Rural San Luis Valley and community/culture intersections

CRLs have experience in community engagement and advocacy, and training in health research and CBPR.

They facilitate equitable partnerships between researchers and individuals/organizations within their community.

They have been described as facilitators, ambassadors, confidants and educators.

Components & Tracks (2009-2023)



Track	# Years Offered
Urban Latina/o/x	8
Rural San Luis Valley	7
Rural/Frontier Southeast Colorado	5
Urban African American	4
Urban American Indian	4

Track	# Years Offered
Urban Asian Refugee	4
Urban LGBTQ+	2
Rural Native America	2
Urban Aurora/Denver	2
Intersectional focus across several tracks	1

39 Tracks
149 Research participants

Focus Areas

Readings (CBPR, CE & Track Specific): Data, history, current events, stories

Community guides and members: CRL invited; lived experience in community; knowledge holders and brokers

Community spaces: local restaurants, community organizations, farms/ranches, churches/temples, homes, etc.

Communities' priorities addressed: food, housing, socioeconomics, education, laws/policies, health, spirituality & traditional healing, immigration/refugees

Language justice: translation, interpretation, preferred name, pronouns, empowerment

Social determinants of health: Health equity and decreasing health disparities

Cultural considerations for research: taboos including hair and saliva samples; knowledge sharing/stories – community acceptance

“Not only can CIT bring community leaders and researchers together, it can also help keep communities together moving towards more positive and healthy outcomes. Programs like CIT increase collaboration, problem solving, and validate community concerns.”
-Community Partner

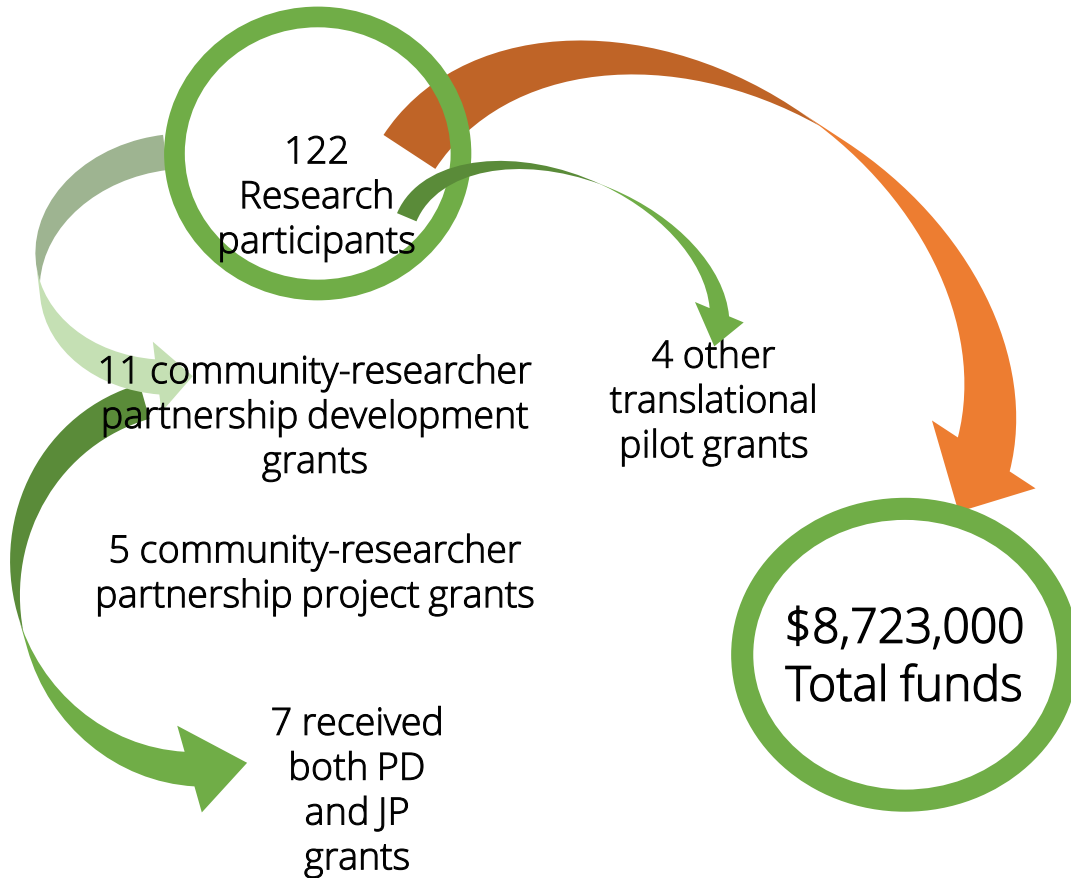
“To have that mindset switch, because that's not the way research has been done in our community for forever. We're making the change.”
-Community Organization Partner



2009-2019 CIT Outcomes

"I gained insight that there's no way I could have gained just from reading a book. I gained exposure to people, circumstances, and stories that were moving and engaging." – Research Participant

"It's just that knowledge of being really, really careful not to come in with my own values to say, 'This is what I want to do here,' but more, 'This is my area of expertise. What do you all need? Is there anything that I can help?' I think that was a real appreciation that [I gained]." – Research Participant



Findings

Challenges

- ❖ Community Research Liaisons are a crucial component of the CIT program. Their efforts to bridge academic researchers and communities is foundational to the program's success.

- ❖ 25 CIT alumni went on to receive 33 CCTSI Community Engagement Pilot or CCTSI Translational Pilot Grants. Out of these 33 grants, an additional \$8,723,000 of external grant funding was awarded to continue projects.

- ❖ Community partners reported high levels of satisfaction with the program and shared stories about the impact they have seen CIT having with their community.

- ❖ CIT alumni consistently experience challenges in getting protected time to do community-focused work. They also report feeling that their CBPR work is not highly valued by academic institutions.

- ❖ CIT alumni report working in traditional grant structures to often be challenging or even ill-fitted to their CBPR work. This further illuminates the importance of the CCTSI Community Engagement Pilot Grant funding pipeline.

- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a crisis experienced by both researchers and communities. Several alumni found ways to adapt and shift their work to still promote the value of CBPR in academic spaces as they continue their work post program.

2009-2019 CIT Outcomes



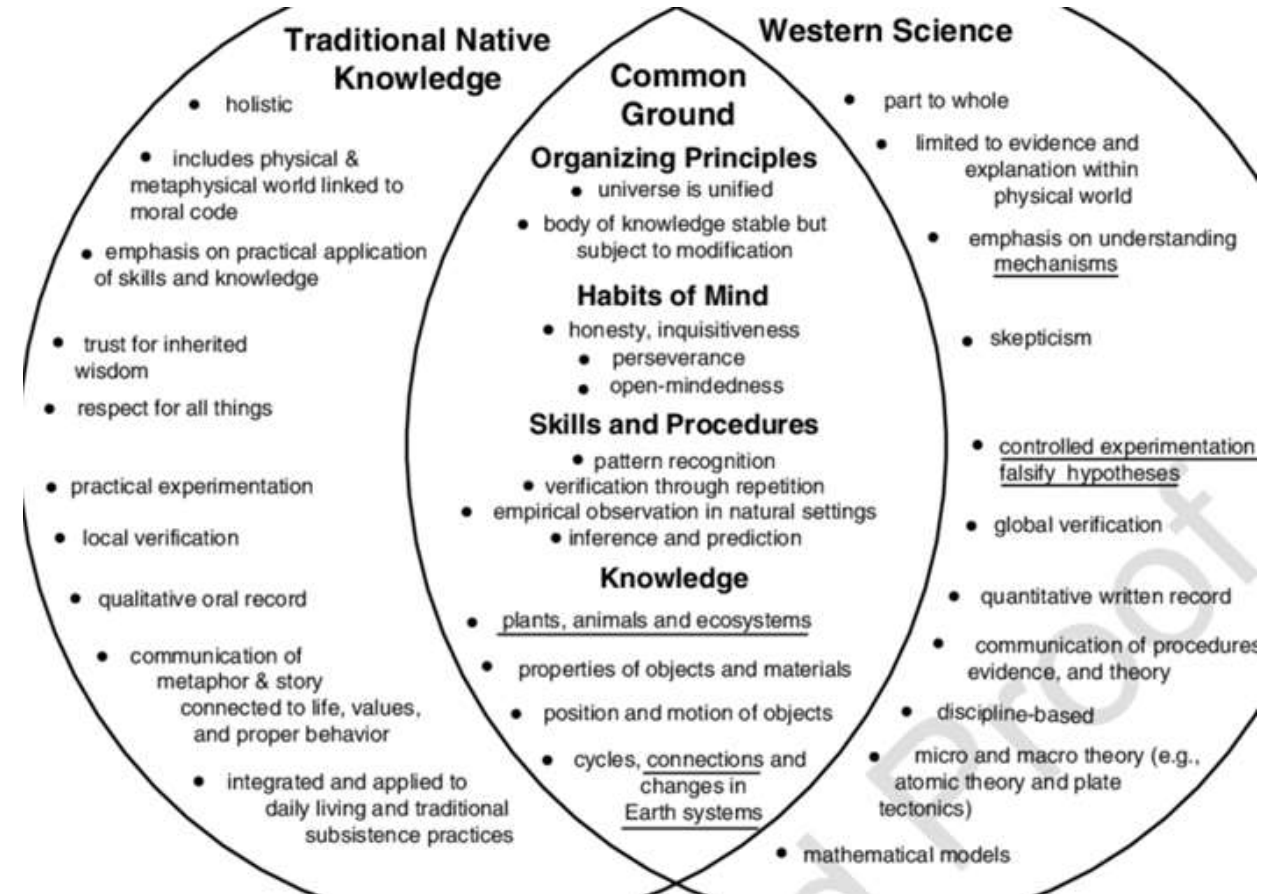
Native American Track



Track led by Crystal LoudHawk-Hedgepeth



A Path to Healing



LATINA/O/X URBAN TRACK



Track Co-led by:

**Charlene Barrientos Ortiz – Denver, Colorado native
& Lorenzo Ramírez – longtime resident in Colorado**

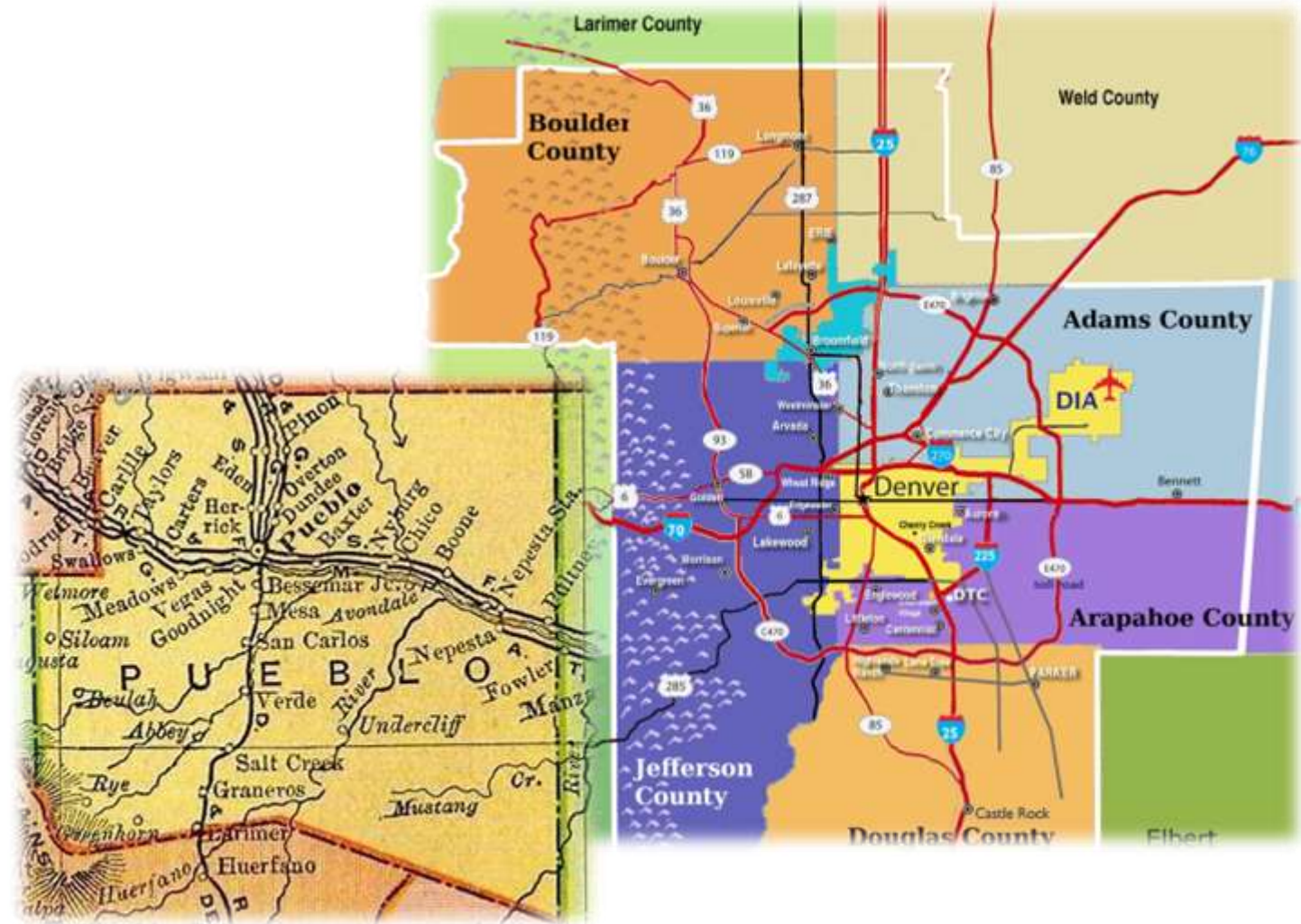
Urban Latina/o/x Communities

Areas covered:

- Denver Metro area – Denver, Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, Jefferson, Broomfield counties.
- Pueblo County

About our communities:

- Latina/o/x are the largest group of color in Colorado. Our communities are represented by native born – recent immigrants.
- Languages spoken: English, Spanish with various dialects, and indigenous languages.
- Overall, our track has been most requested.
- Denver and Pueblo have strong ties to that cross the I25 corridor, San Luis Valley and New Mexico down to Mexico and further south.





Lunch with
former
councilman
Paul Lopez



Aurora Community Gardens



Downtown
Pueblo with
local
historian and
gatekeeper,
George
Autobee

Ethnicity and Measurement

- We did not even exist
- Everyone was Mexican
- Chicano
 - Chican@
- Hispanic
 - The result was the creation of the term “Hispanic”, first introduced in the US Census in 1970.
 - Hispano
- Latino
 - Latin@, Latinx
- Indigenous
- Other



LGBTQ+ Track

**FROM
LABS
TO LIVES**



**COLORADO IMMERSION TRAINING
IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Experiential Education and Training in
Community Engaged Research



NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

- Learn core principles of community-based participatory research and community engaged translational research.
- Develop skills to engage community partners in research.
- Spend time in the community and start building relationships.
- Receive ongoing technical assistance and coaching from CCTSI faculty and staff.
- Learn about special funding opportunities.



Apply online by March 9, 2018 :
<http://tinyurl.com/communityimmersion2018>

Track led by Leslie Wright

Agenda for 1 day of 5-day LGBTQ+ week intensive

TUESDAY JUNE 12, 2018

10:30am-12:00pm	COLOR (Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights) 827 Sherman Street, Denver, 80203 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meet with Amber Garcia, Field and Advocacy Manager• Reproductive justice (RJ) training with a focus on the intersection between SOGI and RJ.
12:30-1:45pm	Lauren Cikara, Community and School Liaison - Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) , Community Epidemiology & Program Evaluation Meet: Anschutz Medical Campus, Ben Nighthorse Campbell building, Room M24-202 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Possible topics include Healthy Kids Survey results re: safe schools, policy work, health disparities as they relate to barriers in school.
2:30-3:30pm	It Takes a Village , 475 Lima St, Aurora, CO 80010 Tour and meeting with Khalil Halim, Co-Director <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It Takes a Village is an organization whose mission is to reduce health and social disparities among people of color in the Denver/Aurora, Colorado metropolitan area.
4:00-5:30pm	Light meal at Leslie's house
6:00-8:00pm	Join Denver LGBTQ Commission Monthly Meeting 6260 E. Colfax Ave, Denver, 80220 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The mission of the Denver (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) LGBTQ Commission is to partner with the community to advance social, economic, and political equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people using its unique position within the City and County of Denver



Introductions

Rainbow Alley Youth Services
GAYME ROOM



Sharing a meal with
Ms. Montana Two-Spirit



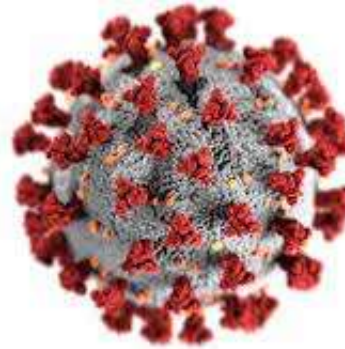
Relationships

Regulars at
SAGE* Table



*Services & Advocacy for
GLBT Elders

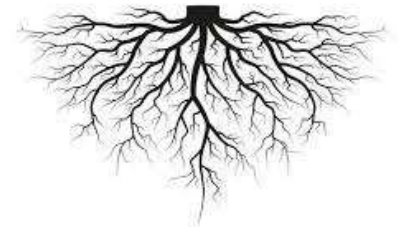
Safe Spaces



**COLORADO
RURAL HEALTH
CENTER**
The State Office of Rural Health

Jamie L. Studts, PhD

Professor, Division of Medical Oncology
Co-Leader, Cancer Prevention and Control
Co-Director, Population Health Shared Resource



“You realize that your perspective isn’t enough; you need other people’s perspective, that we all are shaded by our own perceptions. The more people that we can engage, the better our research is going to be.”



Research Participant Reflections

Resources

Partnership of Academicians and Communities for Translation (PACT) - community & academic governing body for CCTSI Community Engagement and Health Equity Core (includes CRLs – scroll down page for bios)

<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/community/pact#ac-partnership-of-academicians-and-communities-for-translation-pact-council-0>

CCTSI/PACT Colorado Immersion Training in Community Engagement <https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/community/cit>

CIT 10 Year Report https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/docs/librariesprovider28/community-documents/colorado-immersion-training/cit-10-year-evaluation-summary.pdf?sfvrsn=67d28bba_2

CCTSI FAQ https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/docs/librariesprovider28/community-documents/colorado-immersion-training/faq-cit.pdf?sfvrsn=428049bb_2

Colorado Immersion Training in Community Engagement: Because You Can't Study What You Don't Know – early CIT publication https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/docs/librariesprovider28/community-documents/colorado-immersion-training/because-you-cant-study-what-you-dont-know.pdf?sfvrsn=a247b9ba_2

2023 CIT Flyer https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/docs/librariesprovider28/community-documents/colorado-immersion-training/cit2023-flyer.pdf?sfvrsn=c4714abb_2

A Path to Healing <https://tribalcollegejournal.org/the-six-rs-of-indigenous-research/>

Community Engagement and Health Equity Quarterly Forum Series:

<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/community/programs#ac-community-engagement-and-health-equity-forum-videos-1>



Thank You!

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Additional slides if time



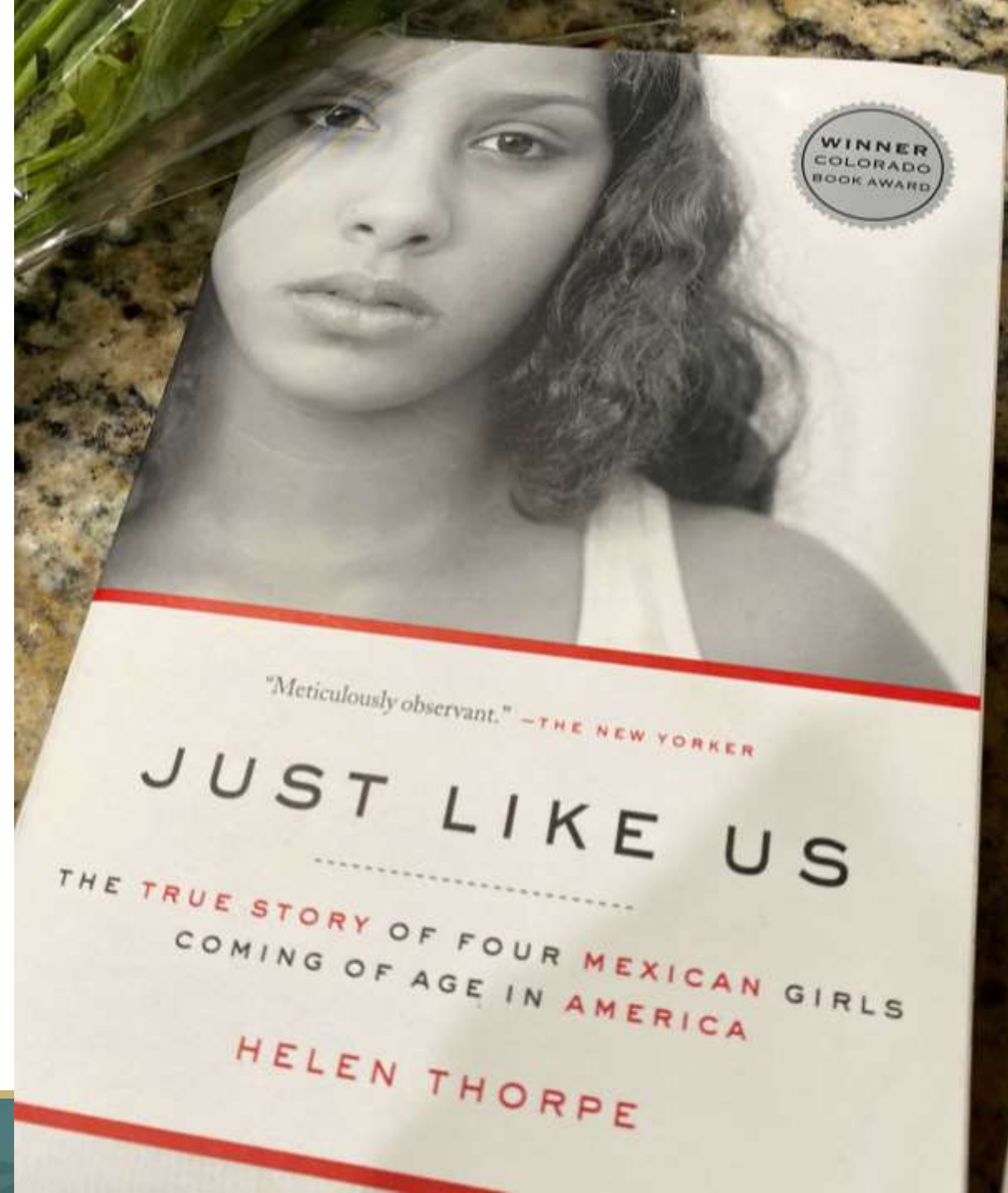
A few key principals for partnering with community in research

- Include the community throughout the research process
- Build research skills and capacity for community members so they can feel competent as partners in and consumers of research
- Financially compensate community members for their knowledge and time
 - Afterall, researchers are getting paid
- Demonstrate cultural integrity: respect and honor the ownership of materials, traditions, and knowledges that community from the community and their culture
- Monitor and adjust, be flexible. The world does not run on a research timeline
- Also see *REVIEW OF COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH: Assessing Partnership Approaches to Improve Public Health* https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/10.1146/annurev.publhealth.19.1.173?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr_id=ori%3Arid%3Acrossref.org&rfr_dat=cr_pub++0pubmed



LATINA/O/X TRACK READING AND SERVICES

- Advocacy
- Government
- Social Services
- Spirituality & Traditional Healing
- Basic needs
- Wrap around services
- Mental Health
- Immigration
 - Documented and Undocumented
- Environment
- Policy



Colorado Clinical and Translational
Sciences Institute (CCTSI)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS