AHW values the **Community-Academic Partnership Model**, which has the potential to be a transformative power for public health practice. The model provides an opportunity for community partners and academicians to collaborate, share knowledge, disseminate new ideas and work to strengthen ties within our community to meet our mutual goal of improving the public’s health. It is important for the partnership component of the project to be constructed as a win-win opportunity by enhancing and blending academic and community expertise. All partnerships funded by AHW must provide clear evidence of a commitment and capacity towards achieving the three elements of the model.

### Community-Academic Partnership Model

**Understanding the Environment of Partnerships**

- Respect for the past
- Knowledge of the needs and barriers
- Importance of broad-based support
- Commitment from leadership
- Understanding of both individual attitudes and organizational structures
- Awareness of the economics of the situation
- Role of ongoing evaluation and feedback
- Need for tangible returns on investment

**Commitment to Partnership Principles**

- Trust, respect, genuineness
- Shared mission and goals
- Commitment by all partners
- Attainable, measurable objectives
- Focus on strengths and assets
- Open communication
- Flexibility and compromise
- Shared resources and credit

**Partnership Development**

- Build relationships
- Assess needs and resources
- Develop compatible goals
- Develop and implement programs
- Provide continuous feedback
- Assess outcomes
- Maintain and expand progress
