COMMUNITY POLICY BRIEF

The Impact of Community Engagement in the Design and Implementation of the Flint Registry

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What Is the Purpose of this Study?

- To share the community-partnered engagement strategy of the Flint Registry, including which community partners were included, the methods for inclusion of different strategies, the impact of community engagement, and the challenges and successes of the approach.
- To explain the timeline of the Flint Registry and its growth through community engagement.
- To demonstrate the value and importance of community engagement in addressing problems and crises in communities.

What Is the Problem?

- The Flint water crisis was an example of denial and indifference toward community members of a predominantly poor and minority population.
- By not listening to the voices of the community, the people of Flint underwent a devastating health crisis and trust was broken between the community and institutions designed to keep them safe.

What Are the Findings?

- Community engagement may be successful in breaking down barriers to participation and building trust in survey research for populations historically less likely to participate.
- The Community Advisory Board, composed of members of the Flint community, was influential in the improvement and expansion of the Flint Registry, aiding in the registry's marketing and outreach efforts, data collection methods and referrals, outcome reporting, and registry enrollment.

Who Should Care Most?

• Social leaders and community-based organizations.

Recommendations for Action

• Organizations should listen to and implement the voices of community members into their practice to better serve that community.