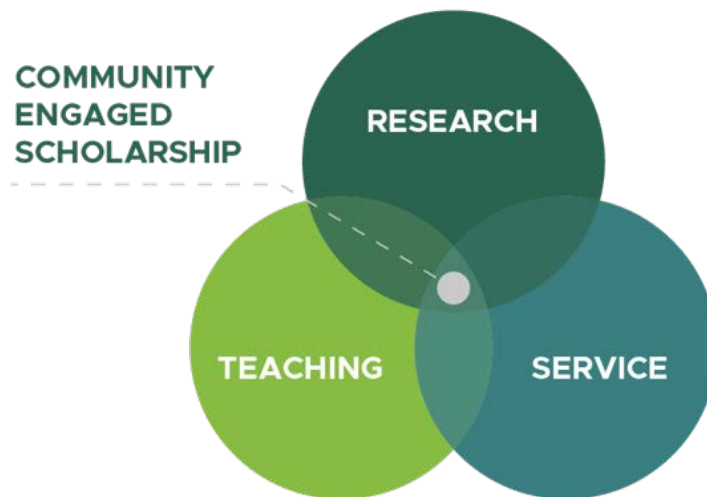


## Community Engaged Scholarship at Dartmouth

Dartmouth's commitment to community engagement is reflected in its community engaged scholarship. Many faculty members engage in community-based participatory research, collaborating with local and global partners to address pressing issues such as public health, environmental sustainability, and social justice. This research not only advances academic knowledge, but also directly benefits the communities involved by providing data-driven insights and evidence-based solutions.



Community engaged scholarship includes research or scholarship conducted in partnership with non-academic organizations and community scholars and practitioners. Such partnerships create opportunities for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources that make a positive contribution to both our university and to the public good. Health-related community engaged scholarship is meaningful collaboration benefitting communities, healthcare systems, and academic partners.

## **Do No Harm: Unintended Consequences of Community Engagement**

In recent years, Dartmouth Health (DH) and the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth have increasingly focused on improving rural health care and rural health equity. Discovering solutions to these challenges requires the engagement of our rural communities, teaching us about the barriers to achieving highest possible health outcomes and solutions that have developed from the experience of those most impacted.

While members of the Dartmouth and Dartmouth Health academic communities have undertaken significant community engagement work in the past, there had not been an effort to define common community engagement principles or practices.

The increase in requests for community participation in research, education and clinical outreach can create a burden on potential community partners. Inconsistent practices and approaches can create confusion and lead to increasing burdens on community partners responding to multiple requests to participate in academic activities each with differing requirements, timelines, and engagement approaches.

The Dartmouth Community Engagement Coalition (CEC) was established in January 2023, to create a standard set of processes and structures to support community engaged scholarship. The Dartmouth CEC resources are based on principles of equity, dedicated to supporting trusting, authentic community-academic partnerships.

## Mission of Dartmouth Community Engagement Coalition

Led by Drs. Sally Kraft and Beth Wilson, the Dartmouth<sup>1</sup> Community Engagement Coalition (CEC) was created to enhance partnerships dedicated to improving health and health equity in rural communities. The CEC's mission is to develop principles, policies and practices to guide community engagement activities and foster trusting academic-community partnerships to advance health equity and wellbeing.



**Dr. Sally Kraft, MD, MPH**  
Population Health Officer  
Dartmouth Health



**Dr. Beth Wilson, MD, MPH, MS-HPed**  
Chair, Department of Community  
and Family Medicine  
Dartmouth Health

Operating within the scope of Dartmouth Health and Geisel, the CEC is a resource to support Dartmouth<sup>1</sup> academics to respectfully engage community partners by facilitating and advancing high quality engagement practices. The CEC brings the experience and knowledge of many partners together to improve access to a common set of resources and to improve coordination across multiple academic silos.

The CEC creates value for academic and community partners by:

- Creating a consistent experience through shared principles and practices

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<sup>1</sup> Dartmouth refers to both Dartmouth Health and Dartmouth College researchers, clinicians, learners, and faculty working to improve health.

- Improving efficiency and reducing duplication/waste
- Discovering and disseminating best practices
- Serving as good stewards of community time and resources

Community Engaged Scholarship resources will continuously evolve as knowledge, skills, and practices evolve. In addition to the resources presented here, we are working to establish processes for partners to share their experiences and learnings.

### **Dartmouth Community Engagement Coalition Current Partnerships**

**Dartmouth Health Center for Rural Health Care Delivery Science:** The Center for Rural Health Care Delivery Science exists to address—and better understand—rural health disparities to help improve individual outcomes. The Center for Rural Health Care Delivery Science is made possible through a grant from the National Institutes of Health (supported by NIH/NIGMS P20 GM148278), as part of the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) program.

<https://www.dartmouth-health.org/rural-healthcare-science>

**Dartmouth Health Center for Advancing Rural Health Equity (CARHE):** Supported by Dartmouth Health, CARHE brings community members, researchers, clinicians, and educators together to make sure that people in rural areas have the chance to live healthy lives by learning and acting together in our rural communities. <https://www.dartmouth-health.org/carhe>

**The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice:** The Dartmouth Institute (TDI) convenes researchers, educators, and practitioners from multiple disciplines across Dartmouth to work toward our mission of improving population health, reducing health disparities, and creating high-performing, sustainable health systems. We are a foundational department within the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College with deep scholarly collaborations and practice innovation partnerships with Dartmouth Health.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/tdi/>

**Northern New England CO-OP Practice & Community Based Research Network (NNE CO-OP PCBRN):** NNE CO-OP PCBRN is the oldest operating PCBRN in the country, bringing groups of primary care clinicians and practices together to answer community-based health care questions and translate research findings into practice. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/nnecooppcbrn/>

**Dartmouth Cancer Center Community Outreach and Engagement Program:** Dartmouth Cancer Center's (DCC) Community Outreach and Engagement Program is responsible for understanding and addressing the unique cancer needs and challenges experienced in our community by 1) Aligning research to study cancer-related issues impacting NH and VT; 2) Engaging community members in shaping DCC research; and 3) Translating, implementing, and disseminating research and evidence. <https://cancer.dartmouth.edu/scientists-researchers/community-outreach-engagement>

**Dartmouth SYNERGY Clinical and Translational Science Institute:** Funded by NIH, Synergy aims to catalyze research and train scientists with a focus on rural healthcare delivery translating discoveries in the laboratory and clinics to interventions that improve the health of populations. <https://synergy.dartmouth.edu/>

**Dartmouth Department of Community and Family Medicine:** The vision of the Department of Community and Family Medicine is to improve the wellbeing and health equity of our community, including our primary care patients, their families and caregivers, and our staff providing exceptional primary care, pursuing research, and educating a diverse workforce. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/cfm/>

**Dartmouth Learning Health System Embedded Scientist Training and Research Center (LHS E-STaR):** Funded by AHRQ and PCORI, LHS E-STaR is training scientists whose research will focus on improving healthcare quality, care experience and patient outcomes in communities served by Dartmouth Health. <https://sites.dartmouth.edu/promisepartnership/>

**Dartmouth Center for Global Health Equity:** Dartmouth’s Center for Global Health Equity unites the medical school’s educational, clinical, research, and outreach initiatives aimed at addressing health disparities among medically underserved populations in the U.S. and abroad, through strong partnerships, to help create a world in which all people have equitable access to high-quality care and to the conditions that promote health.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/cghe/>

**Dartmouth Geisel Student Service Learning:** Based at Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, the Geisel Student Service Learning program offers mentored student “mini grants” for co-creation of health equity-focused community innovations and health improvement projects in rural New England and disadvantaged communities.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/dice/about-the-csl-program/>

**Northern New England Systems Transformation for Primary Care (NNEST-PC):** The Dartmouth NNEST-PC is a joint venture between Dartmouth Health’s Department of Community and Family Medicine and The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice at Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. We seek solutions to the profound challenge of providing high-quality and equitable primary health care in the rural Northern New England region through innovation in clinical practice, research, education, and policy.

<https://sites.dartmouth.edu/nnest-pc/>

**Dartmouth Health Population Health:** A multi-disciplinary team dedicated to improving health outcomes and health equity for our patients and our communities across the region.

<https://www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/about/population-health>