Resourcing and Critical Reflection on PAR Capacity Building in the San Joaquin Valley

This project was designed with the goal of advancing community-based collaborative research in California’s Central San Joaquin Valley (SJV) by establishing a Participatory Action Research (PAR) Resource Center in Fresno.

The project builds on a four-and-a-half-year long effort by Community University Research and Action for Justice (CURAJ) to establish and foster trusting relationships among UC researchers from Berkeley, Davis, and Merced and SJV grassroots organizations. “Having a PAR resources center is novel. Period.,” states Dr. DeLugan. “Having it on any campus is novel, but having it in the community and having a place where everyday people can do research on the conditions of their community is truly novel and important.”

The Grand Opening of the PAR Resource Center was held on February 14th, 2012 at 2502 Merced St. in Fresno.

The new center is a meeting place for those involved in continuing community-based research in the region, encouraging further research collaboration. The center’s initial emphasis is on collaborative projects that examine the links between environment and health.

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