1. Develop a research question about a health concern of an actual community.

2. Select an evidence-based approach to addressing the health concern.

3. Involve investigators from two or more disciplines and/or stakeholders from two or more sectors as partners in the project.

4. Demonstrate an understanding of collaboration skills for sustainable partnerships, e.g., benefits to the community partner(s) are built into the project; evidence of partner input to project design.

5. Employ data gathering and analysis methods that respect community partners’ organizational culture, values, staffing, and work flow.