The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh was founded in 1918 with the shared purpose of empowering African Americans to secure economic self-sufficiency, paths to political and civil rights. Today, the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh focuses on serving African American constituents and other minorities, but no one is ever turned away. Last year, the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh served more than 28,000 individuals in Pittsburgh and the surrounding Allegheny County region. As the largest comprehensive social/service/anti-poverty organization in Southwestern Pennsylvania, the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh provides services in the areas of education, health advocacy, housing, early childhood and youth development, human services, employment and career counseling and economic empowerment. Two of the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh’s current programs—Operation Home and Human Services—provide outreach to residents of Allegheny, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland Counties. Operation Home offers former homeless families classes to prepare themselves to quality for home buying. Human Services promotes counseling and referral to citizens who are eligible to receive food stamps but who may not realize how.

The Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) has facilitated the transition of research advances into clinical and patient care. By bridging the laboratory bench to the patient bedside, CTSI has achieved this goal. CTSI is working to integrate existing community assets, develop new initiatives to create an awareness and understanding of clinical and translational research that can be realized from research. CTSI has established 10 community-partnered initiatives within the institute. Community PARTners (Partnership to Assist Research) bring information related to health disparities to the community. It aims to be an integral link between the university and the community, why they are teaming up with the Urban League and the University of Pittsburgh.

Research studies need participants of all age groups and different racial groups. Some studies need healthy participants, while others need people with specific health problems. Many researchers are excited about joining the community. Some people are willing to participate in consideration in research studies. The following are some of the advancements of medical research more directly and quickly that can benefit from them. Although the researchers must participate in the study, the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC, you do not need to be a member of the UPMC health care system to sign up for the registry. If you decide to join the study.

“Learning ways to possibly improve your health.”

“Gain access to new medications, tests, and programs before they become widely available or may not be available outside of research.”

“Perhaps they need more—further knowledge of health and effective medical care.”

For more information, please contact Community PARTners at 1-866-422-1575, PARTners@ahps.org, or visit our website at http://www.ctsi.pitt.edu.)

The city of Pittsburgh has been in the national spotlight lately, for its revitalization—in appearance, spirit, and even economic momentum. But, what about the people of Pittsburgh? How well are we doing? In terms of health, we should be concerned. According to findings recently published in an Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County Health Department and the University of Pittsburgh’s Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “there is an exciting opportunity to improve health across the region.”

The Partnership to Assist Research (PARTners) is one of these initiatives that will provide the right information to improve health across the region. In fact, if we are to improve health, we must first know where the problem lies. This is a critical step in creating a plan for improvement. If we do not know what is wrong, we cannot hope to solve it.

Take charge of your health today.

Be informed. Be involved.

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