

Title:**Evaluation of “Working Together to Stop TB,” A Multi-Site, Community-Based Program Targeted at African American Communities****Authors:**

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Background/Statement of Problem:

While TB rates in the United States have declined among all groups, disparities between non-Hispanic Blacks and Whites remain. According to the CDC, in 2011, TB rates among US-born, non-Hispanic Blacks were more than seven times higher than rates among their non-Hispanic, White counterparts. The Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center (SNTC) developed educational resources to address the TB health disparities seen among African Americans. The Working Together to Stop TB (WTST) toolkit was designed to support public health staff tasked with building community partnerships to increase TB awareness in this population. The purpose of this project was to evaluate the successes and challenges experienced by the nine WTST participating sites in order to make recommendations for future programs.

Methods:

Facilitators from each of the nine WTST site were asked to complete a web-based survey as well as a telephone interview. Descriptive and qualitative results were developed, which included activities conducted, outcomes experienced, and number of individuals served.

Results:

This evaluation found that each site adapted the WTST toolkit to suit the needs of the targeted community; populations served by WTST programs included church congregations, corrections facility residents, and persons living in homelessness. Most sites reported positive changes in their TB control programs and many reported improved outcomes for the target population.

Conclusions:

Preliminary evaluative results indicate that the WTST program was successfully implemented in several African American communities and positively impacted TB-related health outcomes in target populations. The program can integrate feedback from site facilitators to further improve the WTST toolkit and training to potentially be applied to additional sites in the future.