



# C.R.A.B.

Community Research Advisory Board

## Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in joining the **Community Research Advisory Board (CRAB)** of the Equitas Health Institute. The CRAB provides an opportunity for the sexual and gender minority community to voice their insight and feedback on the Equitas Health Institute's research aims and procedures. The valuable insight from CRAB will allow the Equitas Health Institute to better address the health disparities experienced by the sexual and gender minority community.

The Equitas Health Institute is dedicated to conducting research highlighting the need to reduce sexual and gender minority health disparities. The Equitas Health Institute believes research should be conducted with the community, not merely in it. Based on this belief, the Equitas Health Institute is committed to engaging the communities we serve in the research that impacts them.

The Equitas Health Institute is committed to selecting diverse members of CRAB. The organization will select diverse membership encompassing differing ages, income levels, gender identities, sexual orientations, race/ethnicities, HIV status and disability status.

## MISSION

The mission of the Equitas Health Institute's CRAB is to use feedback and insight from the community to reduce the prevalence of health disparities experienced by sexual and gender minorities in Ohio.

## VISION

The vision of the Equitas Health Institute's CRAB is to achieve health equity for sexual and gender minorities in Ohio through education, research and community engagement.

## ROLE OF CRAB

- Draw from lived experiences to identify and provide insight into the health disparities disproportionately impacting sexual and gender minorities in Ohio
- Advise the Equitas Health Institute on the development of research questions
- Provide a community voice in improving current and future services to better serve the sexual and gender minority communities



## STRUCTURE

The CRAB will provide insight and feedback to the Equitas Health Institute and make suggestions to improve research conducted by the Equitas Health Institute. CRAB members will be provided with a policy and procedures handbook detailing possible meeting topics, but the CRAB will have the ability to add or change weekly topic suggestions. During the first meeting, CRAB members will receive training in research terms and community based participatory research.

CRAB members are expected to attend bi-monthly meetings. Due to the current COVID-19 circumstances, meetings will be virtual, but have the possibility to be in-person once circumstances allow. The meetings will last for approximately two hours on the first Tuesday of every other month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CRAB MEMBER:

- Regularly attend meetings and provide thoughtful feedback
- Ability to commit to one year of membership and maximum two years of participation
- Read information sent to the CRAB to prepare for meetings
- Promote the Equitas Health Institute within the community
- Make suggestions about what you think the community needs and health disparities that need to be prioritized
- Voice concerns from the community
- Demonstrate commitment to developing an understanding on issues that you may have little previous expertise
- Provide real-life experiences to advise the Equitas Health Institute
- Recruit and orient new CRAB members

*\*Note: This is not a paid position. All CRAB members are considered to be volunteers. A nominal incentive will be available upon request to CRAB members that so desire.*

## APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

To apply to be a member of CRAB, please complete the online application. If you have any questions regarding the CRAB or the application, please email [stellasheke@equitashealth.com](mailto:stellasheke@equitashealth.com).

Applications for the CRAB are open year-round and will be reviewed on a rolling basis, depending on how many openings are available. After completing the application, selected applicants will be contacted to arrange participation in a virtual meeting with other potential members to further discuss expectations and answer any questions. After participation in the meeting, applicants will be contacted for selection.



Thank you again for your interest in joining CRAB.

Apply now at [EquitasHealthInstitute.com/research/CRAB](https://EquitasHealthInstitute.com/research/CRAB)

