Suggestions for Finding Scientific Collaborators

Finding a scientific collaborator to contribute to the planning and execution of an event will increase its effectiveness and open new avenues for collaboration. If a relationship is not already in place, below are some recommendations for how to establish one.

- Look at the CBCRP Funded Research Portfolio;
  - (http://www.cbcrp.org/funded-research.html) and explore funded research. http://cbcrp.org.200.seekdotnet.com/research/index.asp. From there you can click on a link to a subject which may relate to your conference. Look at the PI’s involved and contact them as potential partners for your conference.
    - For example, click on “Health Policy and Health Services: Better Serving Women’s Need.” From there you will see all funded research with PI names and institutions.

- Interview past CBCRP conference awardee organizers.
  - Theses can be found at http://cbcrp.org.200.seekdotnet.com/research/ByAwardType1.asp?mechanism_id=48

- Look into other local and grassroots organizations who have had successful conferences. Contact them for recommendations for a scientific collaborator.
  - For example:
    - Bay Area Cancer Connections: Sharing Knowledge, Sharing Hope; http://bcconnections.org/events/conference/
    - California Prevention Institute of California’s annual breast cancer conference; http://www.cpic.org/events/Breast-Cancer-Conference/
    - Stanford’s Annual Breast Cancer and African Americans (BCAA), Conference, http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07edo5jkh03be263d&llr=eh7qfejab
    - Susan Love Research Foundation Annual Symposium on the Breast, https://www.drsusanloveresearch.org/2017-symposium
    - Stupid Cancer OMG Summits - nationwide, includes summits in Orange County California http://stupidcancer.org/omgsummit/


- Contact your local academic medical centers who have specialized programs in breast cancers. Go to the program’s website and read the list of physician/researchers and their areas of interest. Their contact information will be on their page.
  - For example
- Beckman Research Institute - City of Hope Breast Program [https://www.cityofhope.org/clinical-program/breast-cancer](https://www.cityofhope.org/clinical-program/breast-cancer)
- Charles Drew University, Research Administration [https://www.cdrewu.edu/res/RA/AboutUs/Clusters](https://www.cdrewu.edu/res/RA/AboutUs/Clusters)
- Loma Linda University, Breast Health Center [https://cancer-center.lomalindahealth.org/cancers/breast-cancer](https://cancer-center.lomalindahealth.org/cancers/breast-cancer)
- UCSF Breast Oncology Program [http://cancer.ucsf.edu/research/programs/breast/](http://cancer.ucsf.edu/research/programs/breast/)
- UCLA Breast Center, [http://breastcenter.ucla.edu/](http://breastcenter.ucla.edu/)

- Ask your own breast surgeon, oncologist, radiation oncologist, etc. for recommendations of scientific partners

- Talk to breast cancer advocates to discuss their experiences and possible recommendations in conference planning and working with scientists in the development of an agenda.

- Attend scientific conferences and breast cancer-focused events at your local medical centers. Most conferences will have the program on their website. You can see who will be speaking. If you attend, talk to presenters after their talks. If the conference include the opportunity to share time with one of the scientists, please use this chance to meet them and subsequently, increase your network.

- Research the literature for investigators with appropriate interests (excerpt from the CBCRP advice from Community Research Collaboration):
  - If you are a community member or represent a community-based organization you can do a Medline or Google search for researchers who have published on your topic(s) of interest.
  - You can search on university or research institution websites for researchers working in your topic(s) of interest.
  - You can also ask any researchers or health providers who you or your community group has contact with for referrals...even if their area of expertise is not right for your project.
  - Once you have identified a scientist, write a note introducing yourself, the organization and what you would like to achieve.