Conference invitation August 24 2016
Nya Varvet, Gothenburg

Participatory health research
Shortening the gap between academia and society
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Region Västra Götaland Public Health Committee welcomes you to an international conference on participatory research with a focus on public health. An inclusive society must consider the needs of the entire population. Participatory research provides a base for political decisions as everyone can participate and contribute to social change on equal terms. This is an important factor in working towards greater health equity and is an essential complement to traditional research. The conference will discuss how participatory research can be initiated and conducted within municipalities, local communities and different organizations. This conference will bring together public health decision makers and planners along with researchers.

Abstract submission If you would like to share your research or development work in this field, please submit an abstract (in English, no more than 400 words) before May 15 to josefina.bodin@vgregion.se
You will have the opportunity to present your work orally or as a poster.

When Augusti 24 2016, 09.00–16.00.

Where Stora Aulan, Campus Nya Varvet, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Registration Register for the conference here before August 17.
There is no conference fee. Lunch will be served as well as coffee in the morning and in the afternoon. A charge of SEK 500 will be made for cancellations after August 17. If the conference becomes fully booked we reserve the right to allocate places.

More information For more information please contact Josefina Bodin, Public Health Secretariat, josefina.bodin@vgregion.se

Programme August 24 2016

8.30-9.00 Registration, coffee
9.00-9.30 Opening Region Västra Götaland
9.30-10.15 Participatory research – background and overview Jane Springett, Professor, School of Public Health, Edmonton, Canada
Jane Springett is Director of the Centre for Health Promotion Studies and has also initiated collaboration between local communities/local authorities/university, centred in Kristianstad, Sweden. Her research interests include participatory practice; health promotion, community development, ecological/holistic approaches to health and wellness, realist approaches to synthesis and evaluation, and health literacy.

10.15-10.45 Coffee and networking
Parallel seminars

10.45-12.30

- Participatory health research (PHR) to promote municipal health promotion examples from the Nordic countries.
  
  **Introduction by Michael Wright, Professor, Research Methods, Catholic University for Applied Sciences, Berlin and Margareta Rämgård RN, midwife, MSc PhD in Human Geography/Health geography and senior lecture in caring sciences, Malmö University**

This seminar will be held in English and Swedish.

Michael Wright has long experience in participatory research involving social arenas and stigmatized diseases. He is a member of The International Collaboration for Participatory Health Research consortium and the German Network for Participatory Health Research.

Margaret Rämgård is a human geographer and a member of ICPHR working with integrating social and spatial aspects in social and health care. She has a specialist interest in PHR in care of the elderly and works with interactive research projects involving health professionals and staff from social work.

- How can PHR affect health equity? **Introduction by Lisa Gibbs, Associate Professor, University of Melbourne.**

Lisa Gibbs is Director of the Jack Brockhoff Child Health and Wellbeing Program and Unit Head of the Evidence and Child Health Unit in the Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at the University of Melbourne. Her research focuses on engagement of marginalised or disadvantaged groups with an emphasis on community and policy outcomes achieved through university-community-government partnerships.

- Methodology in PHR – evidence and generalizability **Introduction by Jane Springett.**

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.00 International collaboration for participatory health research, ICPHR. Goals, objectives and current projects **Michael Wright, Professor, Research Methods, Catholic University for Applied Sciences, Berlin**

14.00-14.30 Involving children in PHR **Lisa Gibbs**

14.30-15.30 Coffee, networking and poster session

15.30-16.00 Concluding remarks – Looking forward **Region Västra Götaland**