These Partnership Principles serve as guiding practices of the activities of Communities for Healthy Living (CHL).

These principles demonstrate CHL's commitment to a participatory process.

1. The identity and uniqueness of the community must inform the research and the research must inform the community.

   EXPECTATIONS:
   a. Identify the unique assets, resources, and needs of the community to promote healthy lifestyles.
   b. The participatory assessment must be a foundation for the intervention.
   c. The identity of the community must be acknowledged in the interpretation and dissemination of the assessment.

2. The CAB, CEO partners, and university staff are committed to a research process in which each step informs the next step of the project and the work leads to action.

   EXPECTATIONS:
   a. Data must be shared with the CAB, CEO partners and the community.
   b. Findings of data must be shared with the community in a language that they are able to understand and that is culturally sensitive.
   c. Confidentiality and integrity of participants must be protected.
   d. CHL must have a vehicle to communicate information to the community and to collect information from the community by reaching out to families where they are.
   e. The CAB, CEO partners and university staff must be accountable to the community.

3. Communities for Healthy Living activities allow for active and equal involvement of CAB members and university staff.

   EXPECTATIONS:
   a. CHL is a partnership, so all members should be able to depend on each other for help.
   b. University staff will provide all information and sufficient training to engage the community.

4. Communities for Healthy Living builds upon the strengths and expertise of CEO, CAB members, and University at Albany staff.

   EXPECTATIONS:
   a. All members should learn from each other.
   b. Project strategies and programs will reflect the expertise of all member groups.

5. The research process empowers people to understand the many factors that influence the health of CEO Head Start families and act upon those factors to promote health.

   EXPECTATIONS:
   a. To promote a healthy lifestyle and address childhood obesity, people will gain knowledge about healthy lifestyles and strategies for having a healthy lifestyles through participation in CHL.