



HERMES, LLC

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**NEWS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

HERMES LLC, **H**ealth **E**ducation **R**esearch, **M**anagement and **E**pidemiologic Services, located in Durham, has just completed a 4-year Small Business Innovative Research project funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

HERMES produced a series of training modules for mental health researchers and black community-based organization (CBO) leaders on developing and sustaining research partnerships. The project included a Phase I study where HERMES conducted a needs assessment, developed prototype training modules and usability testing. HERMES was then awarded a Phase II grant to alpha and beta test the training modules and a series of training formats. Results indicate that the training materials, which include experiential exercises and case studies, have been well received by mental health researchers and black CBO leaders and can serve as a useful tool for both partners.

Creating and sustaining mental health research-community partnerships is a growing strategy for improving recruitment of minorities in mental health research trials and reducing racial and ethnic mental health disparities.

Founded in 2002, HERMES LLC specializes in epidemiologic study design, community-based participatory research, health education and monitoring and evaluation. For more information go to [www.hermesllc.com](http://www.hermesllc.com)