In December, we had a successful Community Think on Research with researcher Dr. Khanna and her team from the UMB School of Medicine. It was an engaging conversation between the researcher and our community leaders. The community leaders advised Dr. Khanna and her team on pieces of her research on COVID-19 where she can focus on the needs of the community in which she works.

We received our funding from the NIH-National Institute on Minority Health & Health Disparity to start the project. This project wants to codesign a sustainable model for trustworthy CEnR partnerships to address Social, Ethical, Behavioral Indications (SEBI) of COVID-19 testing. The project will also create a Memorandum of Commitment (MOC) template for CEnR partnerships for COVID-19 testing to advance trust through trustworthiness, transparency, and respect.

Community Partner Mount Lebanon Baptist Church is working with CVS Health, a large retail pharmacy chain, to develop a workforce development center for a pharmacy technician training program that will be run out of MLBC’s basement. We propose to leverage PATIENTS and UMB School of Pharmacy’s longstanding partnerships with MLBC and CVS to conduct CEnR on SEBI factors. We had our kick-off meeting on February 10th to start planning the project.

Our third CO-DRIVEN online learning took place on February 7th. We are super excited to start the second year of the project.