Our Why

The Deep South experiences disproportionately low life expectancy (left; 2023) and high poverty (right; 2021).

Opportunity Creation

Our Mission

The mission of the CCTS Partner Network is to discover and advance scientific findings that can ameliorate disparities in chronic diseases disproportionately affecting the under-represented communities we serve.

- HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology
  Site Lead: Rick Myers, PhD
  - High throughput genomics, bioinformatics & analytic pipelines.
  - Innovative approaches and specialized technology for genetic and genomic analysis.
  - Genome sequencing and analysis for the Undiagnosed Diseases Program (UDP).

- Louisiana State Univ. Health Sciences Center
  Site Lead: Lucio Miele, MD, PhD
  - Louisiana Cancer Research Center (LCRC) Tissue/Biospecimen Repository.
  - Southeastern Informatics Consortium and the Biostatistics Collaborator.

- Pennington Biomedical Research Center
  Site Lead: Eric Ravussin, PhD
  - Investigative expertise in obesity and aging research, botanicals and metabolic syndrome, and drug development.
  - Member of the National Exercise Trials Network (NExTNet)

- University of Mississippi
  Site Lead: Meagan Brown, PharmD
  - School of Pharmacy
  - National Center for Natural Products Research

- Tulane University
  Site Lead: Tonette Krousel-Wood, MD
  - Translational research and training strengths & clinical trials.
  - Core assets in clinical research, clinical research career development, molecular genetics, bioinformatics, ethics, and community participation.

- Auburn University
  Site Lead: Thomas Denney, PhD
  - Expertise in imaging, translational animal models, clinical pharmacy, drug development
  - World class 3T and 7T MR imaging facilities.
  - Auburn University Research Initiative in Cancer

- University of South Alabama
  Site Lead: Mark Gillespie, PhD
  - Expertise in clinical trials, translational and community research
  - Translational Research Service Core

- Southern Research
  Site Leads: Corinne Augelli-Szafran, PhD & Paige Vinson, PhD
  - Experience in small molecule screening, lead discovery and optimization, and preclinical drug development.
  - Drug discovery efforts with special emphasis on oncological, antiviral, and cytoprotective drugs

- University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa
  Site Lead: John Higginbotham, PhD
  - Expertise in rural health, community engagement and clinical trials.
  - Collaboration with the Institute for Rural Health Research.

- University of Alabama at Birmingham
  MPIs: Robert P. Kimberly, MD & Orlando Gutierrez, MD
  - Medical Research Institution Hub for CTSA
  - Foundation of coordinating efforts spanning clinical translations, research, training, partner network, community engagement initiatives and beyond

Learn more at uab.edu/ccts