# The Dish: New Participant Partners

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TjazOkrvo4>

## Scene

Eric Dishman speaking.

## Eric Dishman:

A lot of people will ask me about participant centeredness. What does this mean? It’s one of our fundamental values. How do we put participants at the core of as many aspects of our program as we possibly can? For me, this is very similar to what Silicon Valley does with user-centered design. It’s not designed for people; it’s designed with people of those who are going to be using it or partaking of the product—in this case, a very large research program that’s going to have lots of impact in the world.

And we’ve been doing this from the beginning. We’ve had participant voices and input in focus groups and surveys before we ever got going with the beta phase, doing user testing, and helping us get feedback and everything from messaging to websites. All of our partners have a local participant advisory board, so locally, they’re being infused with different voices and different perspectives. Even our IRB actually has participants included in it to really help shape and make sure that we’re doing things in the ethical and right way going forward.

But I’m really happy to announce that we’re actually expanding the pool of participants who’ve been through our protocol to join our governance more deeply. We’ve had four wonderful volunteers from the beginning who have been really bringing that participant voice, but they need help. We’ve got so much work to do, and we’re adding 22 new people to our governance. And this will be everything from participating on the Executive Committee, our external Advisory Committee, our Steering Committee, which is really the nuts and bolts of the day-to-day or week-to-week operations and decision-making that we’re doing, as well as all of the sort of subgroups and subtasks and subcommittees working on everything from how do we include children to what’s our plan for returning genetic information to participants over time.

So really appreciate and thank you, new participants who are joining this effort. We need your voice. We need your participation. There’ll be lots more opportunities in the future to add even more participants as we grow as a program to give everything from feedback on. Coming soon are things like mobile devices and people using apps and smartphones to provide data. So all of these are opportunities for feedback, for planning and strategy, and for helping us just co-invent the future of the *All of Us* Research Program.

## Closing slide

*All of Us* Research Program

JoinAllofUs.org