WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of "CER Connections"! "CER Connections" is a bi-monthly newsletter designed to inform you about Community Engaged Research (CER) news in MCW’s Department of Family & Community Medicine. Our goal is to provide DFCM faculty and staff with updates, tips, networking activities, and other CER opportunities and news.

This newsletter is developed in conjunction with the HRSA Academic Units grant in Community-Based Participatory Research. This grant is designed to develop a CER infrastructure in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. We aim to be a national resource for CER research and education, contribute to the growth of CER, improve health and achieve objectives outlined in Healthy People 2010.

GET INVOLVED

We aim to use this newsletter as a forum to discuss CER, announce CER opportunities, and to learn about CER projects throughout DFCM! Get involved by participating in events and educational opportunities, or share your CER experiences. Please email Melissa DeNomie (mdenomie@mcw.edu) to contribute funding opportunities, conference announcements, CER Success Stories and Lessons Learned.

Save The Date

ALL are welcome at these upcoming activities and events. Join us!

Monday September 27, 2010
Analyzing Qualitative Data (Elaine Drew)*
2:00-4:00 PM DFCM Fellowship Hall

Tuesday October 26, 2010
Community Engagement for Health Conference
Italian Conference Center in Milwaukee (see below for more details)

Monday January 10, 2011
Grant Writing Part #1
2:00-4:00 PM DFCM Classroom

Monday February 14, 2011
Grant Writing Part #2
2:00-4:00 PM DFCM Classroom

*Denotes seminars that are part of the monthly Community Engagement in Research (CER) seminar series. These series are designed to help build skills integral to the CER process. They are typically held on the fourth Monday of each month from 2:00-4:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. They are open to all faculty and staff.

FEATURED EVENT

Community Engagement for Health Conference 2010, October 26

Mark your calendars for the Community Engagement for Health Conference 2010. The conference, sponsored by the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program (HWPP), in conjunction with the Clinical and Translational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin, will be Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at the Italian Conference Center in Milwaukee. The conference runs from 8:00 am to 4:30 PM.

With a focus on transformation through partnerships, the conference seeks to highlight the power of partnerships to lead and inspire transformation at all levels, including personal, interpersonal, organizational, institutional and societal transformation.

Although there is no charge to attend the conference, registration will be required. Online registration information will be available on the HWPP website soon. Please watch your e-mail for additional conference details and registration information.

Please contact HWPP staff at (414) 955-4350 or healthierwisconsin@mcw.edu if you have questions.
The ABCs of Community Engagement

Most likely you have heard a wide range of terminology related to community engagement. Research with the community is a rapidly evolving field, incorporating various different terms to describe similar concepts. Below are definitions of a few of the most common concepts.

- **Community:** a group of individuals organized into a unit or manifesting some unifying trait or common interest; loosely, the locality or catchment area of a population for which a service is provided. In health organizations, the form of services provide to a locality will vary according to each area’s political, economic, social, cultural, and epidemiological patterns. (Institute for International Medical Education web-site. Institute of Medicine, Future of Public’s Health, 2003. Scutchfield and Keck, Principles of Public Health Practices, 2003. p. 178. Reference: Suburban Emergency Management Project web-site.)

- **Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR):** a collaborative approach to research that equitably and actively involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community, has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change to improve health outcomes and eliminate health disparities. (Synonyms for CBPR include action research and community-based research). (WK Kellogg Foundation. Community Health Scholars Program. Reference: Institute of Medicine. Future of the Public’s Health, 2003. pp. 377-379.)

- **Community Engagement** is the process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest, or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of those people. It is a powerful vehicle for bringing those environmental and behavioral changes that will improve the health of the community and its members. It often involves partnerships and coalitions that help mobilize resources and influence systems, change relationships among partners, and serve as catalysts for changing policies, programs, and practices. (Fawcett SB, Paine-Andrews A, Francisco VT, Schultz JA, Richter KP, Lewis RK, Williams EL, Harris KJ, Berkley JY, Fisher JL, Lopez CM. Using empowerment theory in collaborative partnership for community health and development. American Journal of Community Psychology. 1995; 23(5): 677-697.)

- **Community-Engaged Scholarship** means “teaching, discovery, integration, application and engagement that involves the faculty member in a mutually beneficial partnership with the community and has the following characteristics: clear goals, adequate preparation, appropriate methods, significant results, effective presentation, reflective critique, rigor and peer-review.” (Linking Scholarship and Communities. Report of the Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions. (2005) Seattle, WA: Community-Campus Partnerships for Health.)

Urban & Community Health (UCH) Pathway Updates and Faculty Opportunities

The UCH pathway links training with community needs and assets to prepare students to effectively care for patients in urban, underserved settings, promote community health and reduce health disparities. Pathway activities consist of a monthly “Core” seminar, and at least 6 hours per month of individualized “Non-core” activities, guided by a community-engaged faculty advisor.

In Spring of 2010, 95 UCH Pathway students attended core sessions introducing public health, social determinants, racism, cultural humility, poverty, the local healthcare system and the safety net. In their non-core time, students addressed homelessness, obesity, community-based health promotion, advocacy, Hmong and Latino health, HIV, asthma and violence prevention, among others. They partnered with community clinics, public health agencies, schools, local non-profit and professional organizations. **Forty-four of the 95 students were advised by DFCM faculty!** The new M-1 class will be selecting their pathways soon, and need faculty advisors! Interested faculty can get involved by contacting Dr. Linda Meurer at 414-456-5724 or lmeurer@mcw.edu to:

- Serve as a pathway advisor
- Allow a student to shadow in your urban clinic setting
- Invite a student (or group of students) to participate on your CER project
- Suggest relevant educational materials, events or community partners
- Facilitate small groups for a UCH Pathway Core Session

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**Additional Resources, Websites and Conferences:**

**Community Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH)**
Community Engaged Research is in the spotlight throughout North America. Community Campus Partnerships for Health (ccph.info) provides a wealth of information for CER practitioners.

**The American Academy of Health Behavior (AAHB)**
The Art and Science of Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR): Methods, Measures, and Evidence for Health Behavior Change Conference

- March 20 - 23, 2011
- Westin Hilton Head Island, South Carolina
- [http://www.aahb.org/](http://www.aahb.org/)

**In November’s Issue of CER Connections:**

- Links to updated CER webpage and ANGEL modules
- Details about upcoming grant-writing workshops

**Interested in having or being a CER Mentor?**
Join our CER Mentorship Network
Contact Leslie Patterson (lpatterson@mcw.edu) or Melissa DeNomie (mdenomie@mcw.edu)

Additional questions, comments or suggestions? Contact Melissa DeNomie
mdenomie@mcw.edu
Funding Opportunities for Community Engaged Research

National Institutes of Health

- **Academic-Community Partnership Conference Series (U13)** This announcement solicits NICHD Cooperative Agreement Conference (U13) applications to conduct health disparities-related meetings, workshops, and symposia. The objectives of these meetings will be to establish academic-community partnerships, identify community-research priorities, and develop long-term collaborative agendas. Areas of focus for these partnerships may include one or more of the following community-health issues: infant mortality; sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS); violence prevention; techniques for outreach and information dissemination; childhood, adolescent, and/or adult obesity; health literacy; uterine fibroid tumors; and pediatric and maternal HIV/AIDS prevention. [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html)

- **Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R21)** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages investigators to submit research grant applications that will identify, develop, and refine effective and efficient methods, structures, and strategies that test models to disseminate and implement research-tested health behavior change interventions and evidence-based prevention, early detection, diagnostic, treatment, and quality of life improvement services into public health and clinical practice settings. This FOA will use the NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award (R21) mechanism and runs in parallel with an FOA of identical scientific scope (PAR-06-520) that will utilize the small research project grant (R03) mechanism. -Budget and Project Period: The total project period for an application submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed two years. Direct costs are limited to $275,000 over an R21 two-year period. Link to Full Announcement: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html)

- **Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment (R01)** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), issued by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of the Director (OD) Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS), encourages innovative research to enhance the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity. Applications submitted under this FOA may include development of: novel assessment approaches; better methods to evaluate instruments; assessment tools for culturally diverse populations or various age groups, including older adults; improved technology or applications of existing technology; statistical methods to assess or correct for measurement errors or biases, methods to investigate the multidimensionality of diet and physical activity behavior through pattern analysis; or integrated measurement of diet and physical activity along with the environmental context of such behaviors. [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html)

- **The Effect of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination/Bias on Health Care Delivery (R21)** This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) encourages Exploratory/Developmental (R21) grant applications from applicant organizations that propose to: (1) improve the measurement of racial/ethnic discrimination in health care delivery systems through improved instrumentation, data collection, and statistical and analytical techniques; (2) to enhance understanding of the influence of racial/ethnic discrimination in health care delivery and its association with disparities in disease incidence, treatment, and outcomes among disadvantaged racial/ethnic minority groups; and (3) to reduce the prevalence of racial/ethnic health disparities through the development of interventions to reduce the influence of racial/ethnic discrimination on health care delivery systems in the United States. [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DH-09-001.html)

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships: Peaceful Pathways: Reducing Exposure to Violence**

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships is a matching grants program that connects the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with local grantmakers to fund new, community-based projects to improve health and health care for vulnerable populations. This special solicitation seeks nominations from diversity-focused funders for projects to reduce violence in traditionally underserved communities that are defined by race, ethnicity, tribe, gender, sexual identity or rural/frontier location. Applicants must be nominated by a diversity-focused funder that is principally concerned with the community to be served, such as: a Black United Fund, an Asian-American/ Pacific Islander Foundation, a Women’s Foundation, a Hispanic Philanthropy or grant makers committed to projects for gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender people. More information on diversity-focused funders may be found on the website of the Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers [www.givingforum.org](http://www.givingforum.org) in the Racial, Ethnic and Tribal Philanthropy Knowledge Center. Projects must be new and work to reduce violence in the context of a specific community and use that community’s strengths and assets to address threatening or violent behavior that results in emotional, psychological or physical harm. For example, eligible projects may address intimate partner violence, child or elder abuse, gang activity, school violence, or post-war trauma. Projects may relate to violence between family members or strangers, individuals or groups; in public or private settings. [http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20981](http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20981)

**Active Living Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity**

Active Living Research is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) that supports research to inform policy and environmental strategies for increasing physical activity among children and adolescents, decreasing their sedentary behaviors and preventing obesity. The program places special emphasis on reaching children and youths ages 3 to 18 who are at highest risk for obesity: Black, Latino, American Indian and Asian/Pacific Islander children, as well as children who live in under-resourced and lower-income communities. This call for proposals will support opportunistic, time-sensitive studies on emerging or anticipated changes in physical activity-related policies or environments. Rapid-response grants are expected to accelerate progress toward policy and environmental strategies to prevent and reduce childhood obesity. For maximum impact, studies should be completed in as short a time frame as realistically possible, and results disseminated using methods designed to reach local, state or national decision-makers in time to help inform key policy decisions. Detailed results of these studies, including methodologies and data analyses, along with the outcome of the efforts to reach policy audiences, also should be subsequently reported in peer-reviewed publications. [http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=21121](http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=21121)