HEALTHIER WISCONSIN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
ATTACHMENT B – PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME: Cross Cultural Strategies to Address the Healthcare Needs of the Hmong Community in Milwaukee

HWP PROJECT NUMBER: 2009D-15

Without exceeding this one (1) page, briefly describe the project:

Purpose - Highlight the need for the project.

The purpose of this project is to increase the cross cultural communication between Hmong community members, US physicians, and Hmong shamans in a Milwaukee community through (a) identifying the barriers and facilitators to the Hmong receiving care from physicians, (b) developing public forums and educational outreach around cross cultural understandings of specific diseases, and (c) building the capacity of the community to address these issues.

Plan - Describe the project's implementation plan, methods to be utilized, and involvement of affected communities.

The overarching goal of the project is to develop cross cultural strategies to address the healthcare needs of the Hmong community with regard to mental health and preventable diseases. We will (a) interview Hmong shamans and health care professionals (that see Hmong patients) to identify the barriers and facilitators to managing the care of Hmong in the community, (b) develop and test innovative, cross cultural educational modules for physicians and community health workers that see Hmong patients, and (c) increase the capacity of the community to address these issues through improved networking and communications among interested agencies.

Partnership - Describe how the project will capitalize on the strengths and skills of community and academic partners.

Shee Yee Community has over 100 Hmong shaman registered as members throughout the state of Wisconsin that have been recognized by the state as cultural experts of Spiritual Healing. We have obtained commitments from these Hmong shamans to help us in this cross-cultural research. Drs. Hinojosa and Wells of MCW have expertise in racial/ethnic disparities in patient outcomes, health literacy, access to care, and cross cultural strategies to enhance patient care. The Shee Yee Community and MCW will work together with other interested community groups to identify physicians, social workers, nurses, other healthcare professionals and shamans to take part in the development of our innovative cross cultural strategies for enhancing the healthcare experience of the Hmong community.

Evaluation - Describe the evaluation method that will be used to measure quantifiable and significant outcomes.

A comprehensive evaluation plan will monitor process, products, and outcomes of our project. Process evaluations include data gathered from meetings with partners, records of attendance, meeting minutes, and interim reports. Evaluation of products will include formative evaluation of the forum presentations and educational modules for residents and primary care physicians. Formative evaluation will focus on testing with our partners the accuracy, usefulness, cultural relevance, and interest of the presentations and modules. Outcomes evaluation will include summative evaluation of educational presentations and modules including learning, reported behavior change among physicians and patients, and impact on the healthcare of Hmong participating in the study.

Sustainability - Explain how the partnership will be financially and programmatically sustained.

We aim to increase the capacity of the community through networking and communication among current and future partners. We see this project as the first step in a larger vision implementation of cross cultural health care services for the Hmong community. This project will also be sustained through the creation of physician education modules. We plan to submit these modules to MedEd Portal, a peer reviewed clearinghouse for physician education modules supported by the Association of American Medical Colleges. This will create a self-sustaining educational plan to reach out to physicians nationwide.

Dissemination - Describe how the project results will be shared.

Our cross-cultural community presentations and educational modules can be shared with physicians, hospitals, patients, other health care professionals, and community organizations. We plan to report our process, product and outcomes in the form of local presentations to the community, newsletters, and local papers. Additionally we will address the wider scientific community by presenting at local, regional, and national conferences that have an interested in the role of cross cultural understanding in healthcare. We will also disseminate our findings through the development of manuscripts to be sent to peer reviewed scientific journals in community health, medical education, and the social sciences.