



HEALTHCARE FOR AT-RISK POPULATIONS

The *Urban Health Program* is dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare services for medically underserved urban populations. The program seeks to expand educational opportunities in health related professions for underrepresented groups, and increase the number of health professionals with experience in Illinois' urban health environments.

Photo by: Roberta Dupuis-Devlin

"The healthcare reality of the rich is drastically different than that of the poor. Those who are less privileged often suffer due to a lack of access to affordable, high quality, preventive health care. It is our responsibility as leaders in our communities to mentor, advocate and demonstrate our humanity by being voices for change."

—Javette C. Orgain, MD MPH, Assistant Dean of the Urban Health Program, Associate Professor of Clinical Family Medicine

Adherence to Walking: Strategies for Midlife Minority Women

The purpose of this study is to test a 48-week home-based walking intervention for low-income midlife (45-65 years) African American (AA) women. To increase their walking activity, women are taught behavior strategies tailored to their community and personal characteristics.

The women are recruited from Westside Chicago low-income communities surrounding two health centers where heart disease is among the highest in the city. Women are assigned to one of the two health centers to receive either the test or comparison intervention. Subjects include 240 sedentary women who have no major signs or symptoms of heart or blood vessel disease; no history of heart attack, stroke, or diabetes; and are not on certain heart or blood pressure medications. Women (both treatments) are oriented to the walking prescription, which is moderate intensity over a minimum of three thirty-minute sessions per week. For the twenty-four week active phase, women in the test group attend workshops at the health centers to learn community-focused strategies as delivered by community workers and via follow-up telephone calls. For a twenty-four week maintenance phase, women receive phone calls monthly or bimonthly. Both treatment groups self-monitor their performance by wearing heart rate monitors, writing in exercise-logs and reporting via a telephone voice response system.

The aims of the project are (1) to describe how the intervention changes adherence-enhancing factors (social influence, interpersonal characteristics-cognition, attitude and motivation) and health-status outcomes (cardiovascular [CV] health and symptoms); (2) to compare women receiving this intervention to women receiving a more standardized intervention; and (3) to identify the relationships among adherence-enhancing factors, exercise adherence indicators, and health-status outcomes.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Nursing Research

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Dates Active:

August 2001–May 2007
(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System (APORS) Case Management Services

This program provides supportive home care services to families of infants at risk of an adverse outcome due to perinatal problems, including:

- birth weight of less than 1500 grams
- positive urine toxicology/drug withdrawal in newborn
- birth defects
- serious congenital infections
- endocrine, metabolic or immune disorder
- blood disorder

Families receive home visits by a nurse and community worker team for up to two years through the APORS program. In addition to medical services, advocacy, assistance in gaining access to health care resources and health education, families receive assistance in designing an individual plan to enhance the development of children at risk of developmental delay. Program staff work with university, city, and community agencies to insure that families have access to resources designed specifically for infants with special needs.

Partners:

UIC University of Illinois Medical Center
UIC Urban Planning and Public Affairs
UIC Great Cities Institute
Chicago Department of Public Health
Illinois Department of Human Services

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Dates Active:

2002—ongoing

AFC Needle Exchange Program (HIV Prevention)

The Community Outreach Intervention Projects (COIP) of the School of Public Health, University of Illinois at Chicago requests funding to provide syringe exchange. Specifically, the funds will be used to ensure syringe exchange is offered on the West Side five days per week, 6.5-7 hours per day. This program will be accompanied by other HIV prevention and treatment services. We provide street outreach; risk reduction and drug abuse counseling; syringe exchange; counseling and testing for HIV, hepatitis, and syphilis; vaccination for hepatitis B; case management; free onsite medical care for persons living with HIV; housing assistance; support groups; and referral to off-site services such as drug treatment. We provide the only NEP in Austin and the Lower West Side. In the North Lawndale community area where our motor home provides needle exchange at two sites, CRA operates an NEP at Kolmar just north of 16th (near Cicero) one day per week, two hours per day. CRA also operates an NEP in West Garfield one day per week, two hours per day. Genesis House conducts outreach to sex workers in most of these areas.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
Chicago Department of Public Health

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Intervention Projects
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Dates Active:

March 1999—June 2006

AIDS Book Review Journal

An electronic journal reviewing books, videos, journal titles, and other materials covering AIDS, safer sex, and sexually transmitted diseases, published irregularly by the University of Illinois at Chicago Library. Available online and by email subscription.

Partners:

UIC University Library

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Dates Active:

1993—present

(see also Undergraduate Support)

Asthma and Demolition in Chicago Public Housing

Inner city residents living in public housing are at increased risk for asthma morbidity and mortality. Cities in the US are demolishing public housing developments. This may increase local concentrations of airborne particulate matter. The impact of this on asthma severity has not been studied. The proposed project is a panel study that will evaluate the impact of housing demolition on asthma severity of nearby public housing residents. The exposure will be characterized by environmental sampling. Health effects studied will be asthma symptoms, peak expiratory flow rate, and exhaled nitric oxide, an indicator of pulmonary inflammation. In order to determine the health effects of the particulate matter exposure, potential confounders and effect modifiers such as ambient air pollutants, pollen counts, and meteorological factors will be considered in a time-series analysis.

Partners:

UIC Public Health

ABLA Homes Local Advisory Council

Grand Boulevard Federation

National Institute of Environmental
Health Sciences (NIEHS)

West Side Future YMCA

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

May 2002—March 2007

CAN-DO (Chicago AIDS Network Dental Outreach)

One of the goals of the College of Dentistry (COD) is to prepare an oral health care workforce that is competent and committed to addressing the oral health needs of vulnerable and underserved populations and to play its part in eliminating health disparities. The COD engages all fourth year dental students in service learning experiences in community based clinics in Chicago and other areas of Illinois including Aurora, Rockford and Lake County. These experiences are integral to a requisite and for credit course, DADM 325, through which students provide care to the underserved urban, rural, and special needs populations including children, developmentally disabled, HIV positive and geriatrics patients. As a product of the College's curriculum restructuring each fourth year dental student will be engaged in community based education and service learning experiences for at least sixty days.

Partners:

UIC Dentistry	Lawndale Christian Health Center
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center	Milestone Dental Clinic
Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago	Northwest Community Healthcare
Cermak Health Services of Cook County	Oak Park/River Forest Infant Welfare Society
Community Health Partnership of Illinois	Robert R. McCormick Club and Child Care
Crusader Clinic	Salud y Paz
Edward Hines Veterans Administration Hospital	Spang Center for Oral Health
Erie Family Health Center	United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW)
Infant Welfare Society of Chicago	UFCW Union Medical Center Dental Clinic
Lake County (IL) Department of Health	

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Dates Active:

2006—present
(see also Health and Wellness)

Center for Cognitive Medicine

The Center for Cognitive Medicine is dedicated to developing new knowledge about the cognitive problems caused by brain disorders and normal aging. In our clinical work, we use neuropsychological assessments, eye movement measurements and functional brain imaging to diagnose the causes of cognitive disabilities. In our research clinics, we treat patients with novel pharmacologic approaches designed to enhance and preserve cognitive abilities. Our current research programs are focused on autism, traumatic brain injury, the effects of hormones on brain function, and the early evaluation and treatment of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Medical students, graduate students, residents, psychology interns and postdoctoral fellows train in the Center. We have a weekly seminar series open to the professional community where we discuss new research findings and individual patients presenting with atypical brain disorders.

Partners:

UIC Medicine

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(see also Health and Wellness)

Center for Integrated Health Care (IHC)

Integrated Health Care is a community-based academic nursing center where advanced practice nurses who are UIC faculty innovatively integrate primary physical care with mental health care services for people with severe mental illness and actual or risk of physical disease/illness. To date, such integration of services is rare in the health care system. This initiative provides venues for service learning for nursing students and for faculty and students to evaluate practice and conduct research.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
UIC Nursing
Chicago Partnership for Health Promotion
(CPHP)
Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center
William H. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine

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Dates Active:

1999—present
*(see also Services for the
Disadvantaged)*

Center for Reducing Risks in Vulnerable Populations (CRRVP) Multiethnic Emphasis Core

Through this Core, as part of a Center, we are expanding the infrastructure to facilitate research with ethnic minorities by nurturing community partnerships and preparing culturally competent nurse researchers. The specific aims are to: 1) expand the capacity to conduct community collaborative, multiethnic research addressed to issues of health disparities among vulnerable groups, usually attributable to age, gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status; 2) optimize recruitment and retention of multiethnic research participants, particularly Black and Hispanic Americans who are most at risk for health disparities; 3) foster the development of culturally sensitive, tailored, individual group or system interventions; and 4) build collaborative community relationships by maintaining and expanding the multiethnic community-based advisory board of experts.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
Austin Health Center (Cook County)
Circle Family Care
Evanston Health and Human Resources
Department
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Nursing Research
West Side Future YMCA
Westside Health Authority

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Dates Active:

September 2004—July 2007
*(see also Services for the
Disadvantaged)*

Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities

The issue of racial and ethnic disparities in access to, delivery of and benefits from health care is longstanding and complex. Initially, the center is focusing on breast cancer, examining why mortality rates are so much higher in Hispanic and African-American women than in White women. Using a rapid case ascertainment system, 1,200 women recently diagnosed with breast cancer are being recruited to a study that will explore: the relationship between the patients' social environment and access to early detection and diagnosis of breast cancer; the influence of social networks on patients' use of services, breast cancer screening behaviors, and response to symptoms; individual, social, and economic factors, as well as individual beliefs, that may contribute to delay in seeking help; other factors contributing to breast cancer prognosis, including how breast cancer is discovered, the time between discovery and contact with the health care system and the beginning of treatment, and the type of treatment that is offered and received.

Partners:

UIC Liberal Arts and Sciences	John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County
UIC Medicine	John Hopkins University School of Public Health
UIC Nursing	Mount Sinai Hospital
UIC Public Health	National Cancer Institute, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
UIC Social Work	Rush University, Section on Community Health and Social Medicine
UIC Urban Planning and Public Affairs	Rush University Medical Center
Access Community Health Network	University of Texas School of Public Health, Division of Health Promotion; Behavioral Science Center for Health Promotion and Prevention Research
American Cancer Society, Inc.	
Centro Comunitario Juan Diego	
Chicago Department of Public Health	
Greater Roseland Health District	
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois	
Healthy South Chicago	
Illinois Department of Public Health, State Cancer Registry	

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

September 2003–August 2008

Chicago Health Corps

Each year the CHC recruits and trains Corps Members who are placed in selected community sites that offer Primary Health Care (PHC) services to Chicago's underserved families and communities. Corps Members provide a combination of outreach, health education, home visitations and case management services to address unmet health needs identified by the community, including enhancing access of uninsured individuals to appropriate healthcare. The program strengthens Members' commitment to an ethic of service by providing hands-on, front line experience.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
AmeriCorps, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Illinois Health Education Consortium
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation

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Dates Active:

1994–present

(see also Services for the Disadvantaged)

Chicago HIV Prevention and Adolescent Mental Health Project (CHAMP)

This is a series of studies aimed at better understanding the family and mental health factors that strengthen youth development and promote physical and sexual health during transition to adolescence, and is also intended to develop appropriate programs to promote health and prevent risk for youth based on developmental findings. Thus far, CHAMP has focused on these issues among urban, African American youth and their families. A basic study of youth was begun in 1993, and has followed youth from the age of approximately 10 to about 17. In addition, a family-based intervention program was begun in 1995 involving children in pre- and early adolescence. Community involvement has been an important part of the program's development and delivery.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
National Institute of Mental Health
Office on AIDS
William T. Grant Foundation,
Faculty Scholar Program

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Dates Active:

1993–present
(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Chicago Southeast Diabetes Community Action Coalition

The Jane Addams College of Social Work's Midwest Latino Health Research, Training and Policy Center, in collaboration with key community partners, established the Chicago Southside Community Action Coalition in 1999 to mobilize primarily African American and Hispanic communities around diabetes prevention and control. The mission of the CSDCAC is to assure and enhance access to quality health services and quality of life of persons at risk and with diabetes in Chicago Southeast communities through the establishment and institutionalization of a diabetes coalition of community residents, health and human services providers, and persons living with diabetes.

The main goal of the coalition is to reduce diabetes mortality, hospitalizations, complications and diabetes related disabilities among African Americans and Latinos living in Chicago's southeast side communities. The Coalition is funded through the CDC's REACH 2010 program.

Partners:

UIC Social Work	Illinois African-American Dietetic Association
Advocate Trinity Hospital	Illinois Department of Human Services, Diabetes Control Program
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) 2010	Jackson Park Hospital
Centro Comunitario Juan Diego	National Black Nurses Association— Chicago Chapter
Chicago Department of Public Health, South Chicago Facility	Salud Latina / Latino Health
Chicago Family Health Center	South Shore Community Church
Chicago Park District, South Region	South Shore Hospital
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois	Tellez Medical Center
Healthy South Chicago	United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health
Hegewisch Community Committee	Villa Guadalupe Senior Center

Contacts:

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Research, Training and Policy Center
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Dates Active:

1999–present
(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Child & Family Development Center (CFDC)

CFDC provides citywide developmental and therapeutic intervention services to infants/toddlers with identified disabilities in their homes, at the Center, and in the community. CFDC uses family-centered practices with culturally responsive materials and strategies. CFDC also prepares professionals to support young children with special needs and their families, and conducts research on issues that affect the children and families served by the center.

Partners:

UIC Education
Illinois Department of Human Services

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Development Center

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Dates Active:

1970—present

(see also *Rehabilitation and
Disability Studies*)

Childhood Asthma Initiative

The School of Public Health will train parents of children with asthma to serve as peer educators and community health workers for other families of children with the disease. The School will use its established asthma peer health educator training program for this purpose.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
Illinois Department of Human Services

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Dates Active:

July 2006—June 2007

Community Asthma Prevention Program

Helps CPS students affected by asthma learn to manage and understand their illness, trains parents of asthmatic children to work with school staff to decrease exposure to allergens and asthma triggers.

Partners:

UIC Public Health	Chicago Public Schools
Access Community Health Network	Grand Boulevard Federation
Chicago Asthma Consortium	Health Consortium of Illinois
Chicago Department of Public Health	Lawndale Christian Health Center
Chicago Hispanic Health Coalition	University of Chicago
Chicago Housing Authority	

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Dates Active:

1998—present

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Community Intervention Trial for Youth (CITY)

To stop the alarming increase of HIV-infection rates among gay and bisexual African American men, UIC's Community Intervention trial for Youth (CITY) is collaborating with several community-based agencies to launch marketing campaign aimed at encouraging safe sex.

Partners:

UIC Liberal Arts and Sciences
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Chicago Department of Public Health,
Office of Lesbian and Gay Health
Howard Brown Health Center

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Community Outreach and Intervention Projects (COIP)

Community Outreach Intervention Projects (COIP) currently serve neighborhoods across Chicago and its suburbs with an array of public health interventions and research studies. The staff of over seventy members includes researchers, service providers, administrators, student assistants, and volunteers. Five storefront field stations, a motor home, and a mobile van unit form the base for COIP's operations. COIP's interventions are known for their use of the Indigenous Leader Outreach Model, which employs members of targeted populations to deliver community-based services. Among the services offered at COIP's sites are: street outreach; prevention education, counseling and testing addressing HIV, hepatitis, syphilis and other infectious diseases common among impoverished and substance-abusing populations; case management; syringe exchange; drug abuse counseling; and free medical care for persons living with HIV.

Partners:

UIC Public Health

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Dates Active:
1986—present

Community Practicum for Occupational Therapy Students in the MS with Certification Program

All occupational therapy students in the MS with Certification program (MS/C) complete a three-course community practicum sequence. Beginning with the second course, they are assigned to a community agency and spend about three hours a week at that agency for twelve weeks in the spring and twelve weeks in the fall. They are co-supervised by a faculty member and a community agency staff member. Many of the agencies serve urban underserved populations. In the spring, the students plan and lead groups with the agency's clients, and in the fall, they do a special project to meet a need at the agency as well as a learning objective they have. This can include staff training, environmental modifications, development of resource guides, fitness and wellness programs, conducting classes or group sessions for participants in the agency, making adaptive aids to improve community participation, coordinating community outings, and more.

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Health Sciences

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Dates Active:

Fall 2000–present

Partners:

UIC Applied Health Sciences

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Alexian Brothers Bonaventure House

Chicago Department on Aging

Chicago Lighthouse

El Valor

Family Rescue

LaGrange Area Department of
Special Education

Oak Park Township Seniors' Services

Pathways Center

Special Gifts Theatre

Community-Based Dental Education Program

One of the goals of the College of Dentistry (COD) is to prepare an oral health care workforce that is competent and committed to addressing the oral health needs of vulnerable and underserved populations and to play its part in eliminating health disparities. The COD engages all fourth year dental students in service-learning experiences in community-based clinics in Chicago and other areas of Illinois including Aurora, Rockford and Lake County. These experiences are integral to a requisite and for-credit course, DADM 325, through which students provide care to the underserved urban, rural, and special needs populations including children, developmentally disabled, HIV positive and geriatrics patients. As a product of the College's curriculum restructuring each fourth year dental student will be engaged in community-based education and service-learning experiences for at least sixty days, commencing in 2006.

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(see also Undergraduate Support)

Partners:

UIC Dentistry

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago

Community Health Partnership of Illinois

Crusader Clinic

Infant Welfare Society of Chicago

Lake County (IL) Department of Health,
Dept. Clinic

Lawndale Christian Health Center

Milestone Dental Clinic

Northwest Community Healthcare

Oak Park/River Forest Infant Welfare Society

Robert R. McCormick Club and Child Care

Spang Center for Oral Health

United Food and Commercial Workers
Union (UFCW)

UFCW Union Medical Center Dental Clinic

Community-Based Promotion of Oral Cancer Early Detection in Black Men

Emerging technologies offer the promise of early detection of oral and pharyngeal cancers (oral cancers), which can lead to improved survival and reduced morbidity. Surveillance shows that the highest incidence and mortality rates in the U.S. are in African American (AA) men. This population is also most likely to have late-stage diagnosis of their disease. There is very little literature on recruitment of AA men into cancer control or prevention research. Proven outreach strategies to educate and recruit AA men for available early detection opportunities are urgently needed.

Community-based strategies for outreach and health education can be shown to be effective in recruitment of AA men into clinic-based programs where early detection services are available. Specific aims of this project are: (1) To assess the effectiveness of capacity building in one neighborhood medical clinic to provide early detection of oral cancer for men. (2) To assess the effectiveness of using community outreach to provide health education to AA men. (3) To assess the effectiveness of an outreach strategy to recruit AA men into the clinic for oral examinations. (4) To assess participants' response to referrals to available diagnostic services when suspicious lesions are detected. (5) To identify successful strategies and program elements, disseminate them widely, and encourage their adoption in other neighborhoods.

Study Design: We will use a community-based approach to outreach planning and implementation. Community partners will be recruited to help develop and implement strategies for outreach, health education, and recruitment. We will use qualitative methods to evaluate the processes of community capacity building, strategy development, and implementation. Outcomes will be assessed quantitatively by comparing preintervention and post-intervention measures of men's awareness and knowledge of oral cancer and their early detection practices in the intervention community and a control community.

Cancer Relevance: African American men are six times more likely than white men to develop oral cancer, and are much more likely to have their cancers diagnosed in late stages of disease. The men most at risk do not routinely use Preventive services. To address these disparities new approaches to deliver services to these hard-to-reach men are required. By working with a clinic which currently provides services to men in a predominantly (96%) African American community, we can make opportunities for early detection and risk counseling as accessible as possible to the at-risk population. Furthermore, by working with community organizations, we can develop strategies culturally tailored to AA men and we can conduct outreach, health education, and recruitment through known and trusted community members, which has been demonstrated to be effective in working with a variety of hard-to-reach populations, including AA men. Because no previous work demonstrates that community-based strategies can effectively educate and recruit AA men into oral cancer screening programs, pilot research is needed to learn how to do so effectively.

Partners:

UIC Dentistry
UIC Public Health
American Cancer Society, Inc.,
Illinois Division

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Dates Active:

September 2006–August 2009

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

DASA 2007 Counseling and Testing

The purposes of the program are to provide 1) appropriate test decision (pre-test) counseling for HIV and AIDS, 2) testing for HIV and AIDS, including tests to confirm the presence of the disease, 3) appropriate follow-up and post-test counseling delivered at community-based sites that participants can easily access and find comfortable, and that offer a continuum of care, and to link persons who are infected to appropriate services. The program actively identifies people who are substance abusers, conveys information concerning HIV transmission, assists clients in personalizing risk assessment, provides continuing reinforcement to sustain behavioral change and encourage the adoption of increasingly effective risk reduction measures over time.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
Illinois Department of Human Services,
Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

Contacts:

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Director, Community Outreach
Intervention Projects

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Dates Active:

July 2006–June 2009

Developing and Testing a Community-Based Mammography Intervention for African American Women

The Chicago Southland Community Based Participatory Research Coalition (Southland CBPR Coalition) was founded to develop and test a community-based model for reducing the national crisis of breast cancer mortality in communities of underserved African American women (AAW). The Southland CBPR Coalition, includes community partners from four communities in the Chicago Southland area, three community-based organizations (the National Black Nurses Association, Healthcare Consortium of Illinois, Sisters Network, Inc.), and the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing. The Southland CBPR Coalition's initial formative work indicates that mammography adherence is an important health disparity topic for the four underserved communities. Specific aims of this CBPR planning project are to: (1) develop in conjunction with community partners a culturally competent and theory-based educational mammography adherence intervention for non-adherent AAW and determine its acceptability to forty AAW from the four target communities; and (2) determine the feasibility of the mammography adherence intervention by conducting a pilot study with ten women from each of the four communities.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois
National Black Nurses Association—
Chicago Chapter
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Nursing Research
Sisters Network Inc.

Contacts:

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Environmental Correlates and Adherence of Home-based Walking in African American Women

Factors such as the built and social environments have been ignored as possible determinants of physical activity patterns. Despite the disproportional higher risk for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and higher CVD morbidity and mortality among African American (AA) women, most interventional research has failed to substantially alter physical activity behavior, perhaps by being focused too narrowly on personal correlates of physical activity adherence. Environmental correlates may be particularly salient for AA women because of race-based residential segregation, making them more likely to live in neighborhoods that do not support physical activity. Guided by a model adapted from social cognitive theory, we link objective environmental measures using geographic information system (GIS) technology to interventional personal data from AA women in an ongoing NIH-funded walking program.

The specific aims are to: determine the extent to which community neighborhood dimensions of the built (walkability, aesthetics and access to walking facilities) and social (safety, socioeconomic position, residential stability and sense of community) environments influence a) physical activity behaviors; b) intrapersonal changes (self-efficacy related to walking); and c) adherence to a home-based moderate-intensity walking program.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

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Dates Active:

April 2005–June 2006

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Evaluation of Maternal Child Health Epidemiology in State Health Agencies YR 3

The goal of this project is to improve the ability of state public health agencies to carry out effective maternal and child health (MCH) epidemiology. This project will: 1) summarize current patterns of MCH epidemiologic capacity and functioning within state health agencies; 2) assess the relative ability of various constellations of structure and process factors to promote effective MCH epidemiology practice; and 3) delineate models of effective MCH epidemiology.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Maternal and Child Health Bureau

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Dates Active:

October 2006–September 2007

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Evelyn Goldberg Respite Center

The Center, housed at UIC Medical Center, serves as a haven and informational resource hub for individuals battling cancer. The Center's goal is to empower individuals to actively participate in their health care decision making by improving understanding of treatment options, encouraging dialogue between patient and provider, and providing assistance in navigating the healthcare system.

Partners:

UIC University of Illinois Medical Center
Chicagoland Cancer Information Coalition (CCIC)
Silver Lining Foundation

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Dates Active:

October 2004–present

First Episode Psychosis Clinic Program

The First Episode Psychosis Clinic provides comprehensive assessment and treatment to individuals who are for the first time experiencing psychotic symptoms such as hearing voices, feeling unreasonably suspicious, or having unusual beliefs. Eligibility for this clinical program is restricted to those who have not experienced such problems before their current episode of illness.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
UIC University of Illinois Medical Center
Columbia College Chicago
Roosevelt University

Contacts:

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Fogarty UIC AIDS International Training & Research Program (UIC-AITRP)

UIC's AITRP is designed to build long-term scientific capacities that help to address the AIDS epidemic in Chile, China, Indonesia, and Malawi. It involves collaboration between the UIC School of Public Health, the UIC College of Nursing, and key institutional partners in the targeted countries.

Partners:

UIC Public Health	National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Beijing University	Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH)
China AIDS Foundation in Beijing	Shanghai University
Great Lakes Center for AIDS Research	University of Indonesia, Center for Health Research
John E. Fogarty International Center	
National Institute of Nursing Research	

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Dates active:

June 2005–May 2011

(see also *Global Healthcare*)

Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center (GLATTC)

GLATTC is a collaborative multi-state center that promotes: 1) state-of-the-art addiction science and the infusion of that science into professional practice, using on-going needs-assessment processes to remain responsive to the fields; and 2) effective partnership between addiction treatment and criminal justice professionals, healthcare, academia, and state and local governments.

GLATTC's mission is to make effective, culturally competent research-based treatment services available to people with substance abuse disorders, through research to practice activities for the professionals, trainers, and educators who serve them. GLATTC is based in the Jane Addams College of Social Work.

Partners:

UIC Social Work	Michigan Department of Community Health
A Safe Haven	Office of Drug Control Policy
Administrative Office of Illinois Courts	Nietzsche Center
City of Detroit, MI	Northern Illinois Chemical Dependency Services
Compass House	Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services
Cuyahoga County (OH) Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Agency	Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Genesee County (Michigan) Behavioral Health Network	Pilsen-Little Village Community Mental Health Center, Inc.
Healthcare Alternative Services, Inc.	Specialized Assistance Services NFP
Human Resources Development Institute, Inc. (HRDI)	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Illinois Department of Corrections	Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC)
Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse	Wisconsin Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Department of Mental Health and Addictions	Wisconsin Department of Corrections
Maryhaven, Inc.	

Contacts:

Lonnetta Albright

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Dates Active:

1998—present

(see also *Urban Infrastructure Improvement*)

Health Care Needs of Addicted Criminal Offenders

A five-year research project designed to illuminate health care needs, consequences and utilization among a sample of currently or formerly incarcerated persons.

Partners:

UIC Urban Planning and Public Affairs	Illinois Department of Corrections
Cermak Health Services of Cook County	National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Cook County Department of Corrections	Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC)

Contacts:

David C. Perry

Director, Great Cities Institute

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Email: dperry@uic.edu

Dates Active:

1998—2003

(see also *Services for the Disadvantaged*)

Healthy Eating by Design

This project is to address childhood obesity by promoting healthy eating, improving access to healthy foods for residents of Logan Square neighborhood and promoting policy changes that facilitate healthy eating.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
Illinois Health Education Consortium

Contacts:

Joan Shaver
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Email: jshaver@uic.edu

Dates Active:

June 2005–December 2007
(see also *Health and Wellness*)

The Healthy Youths Program

The Healthy Youths Program's mission is twofold: (1) To empower youth and families from diverse and traditionally underserved populations to lead safer, risk-free lives by promoting health and creating awareness of HIV/AIDS in their communities. We will: (a) communicate with youth about their risks and the facts about STIS; (b) develop empirically based HIV prevention programs for youth and families that are culturally relevant and appropriate for the community; (c) establish partnerships with local community agencies to help adolescents and their parents reduce risky behavior; (d) integrate health, clinical care, and psychopathology in our research paradigms; and (e) train future professionals who will share the knowledge gained through our research with others through presentations, publications, and direct services. Taken together, these activities will inform public policy, basic research, and intervention science to stem the transmission of HIV/AIDS in Chicago and across the nation.

(2) To reflect the diversity and strengths of the community we serve. We will: (a) create a work environment that promotes teamwork, respect for one other, professional growth, and an appreciation of differences; (b) train and hire people from diverse backgrounds and experiences; (c) encourage participation among staff in all aspects of the research; (d) consistently discuss how culture, class, and ethnicity may impact our work and our relationships. Our commitment to these goals will enable us to serve our surrounding community with greater empathy, compassion and wisdom.

Partners:

UIC Medicine	Chicago Youth Center
National Institutes of Health	Habilitative Systems, Inc.
Cook County Hospital, Children's Mental Health Council	Cook County Juvenile Detention Center
Metropolitan Family Services	Cermak Health Services
	Chicago Department of Public Health

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Erin Emerson, MA

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Health Youths Program
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Dates Active:

2001–present

HIV and the Sexual Networks of IDU's and Drug-Using MSM

The proposed five-year study focuses on injection drug users (IDUs) and drug-using men who have sex with men (MSM) to

examine the sexual diffusion of HIV within and across drug-using population subgroups and to non-drug using and non-MSM populations. Our approach combines behavioral epidemiology, two-types of social network analyses with strong geographic mapping components [including the ability to link geographic location with local socio-economic and health data], mathematical modeling, and biologic testing for HIV, hepatitis B (HBV) and C (HCV), syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Contacts:

Lawrence Ouellet
Director, Community Outreach Intervention Projects

Phone: 312.355.0145

Email: ljo@uic.edu

Dates Active:

September 2003–September 2008

HIV Prevention 2005

Young injection drug users are at high risk for HIV infection and transmission. This project provides an HIV prevention intervention for adult IDUs 24 years old and younger in Chicago. Services include street outreach, needle exchange and an individual-level behavioral intervention. The intervention is provided on the North Side, South Side and West Side of Chicago.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
Campaign for a Drug Free Westside
Chicago Department of Public Health
Chicago Health Outreach
Hektoen Institute for Medical Research

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

January 2005–December 2006

Horsemen's Health Fair

The Horsemen's Health Fair was a two day event associated with Phase I of a pilot research project entitled Determining Health Status and Health Disparities for an Embedded Rural Workforce. [Funded through Project EXPORT, NIH-NCMHD, Grant Number 5 P20 MD000524-04]. A large proportion of the workforce in the racing industry, by virtue of low socioeconomic status, limited education, immigration status, race and ethnicity, and limited access to social resources, mirror those documented in the literature as being vulnerable to disparities in health and health care. While the scientific literature discretely addresses issues associated with agricultural workers and safety, unique needs of migrant and seasonal workers, and perils of horse related activity, there is little available that addresses the combined impact of these to inform the industry about the unique health needs of its workforce. Backstretch workers generally work 6-7 days week, and they typically do not access or utilize services in outlying communities for a variety of reasons. Illinois is the only racing venue in the U.S. that allows children to reside on the racetrack with their parents, a situation that generates additional health challenges. Most health related services available to the population have been initiated and supported through philanthropy, but these vary widely from racetrack to racetrack.

Phase I of the research entailed a health fair strategy. The event was held at Arlington Park on June 5th-6th, 2006. All licensed horsemen and their dependents were eligible to participate, and migrant and seasonal workers living on the racetrack were specifically targeted. Fifteen different agencies and approximately seventy-five volunteers collaborated to screen, provide health related information, and direct participants to resources to meet any identified needs. Health parameters addressed were: height, weight and body mass index; heart rate, blood pressure, and respiratory rate; non-fasting glucose and total cholesterol; peak flow measures; TB exposure; oral/dental health; breast cancer screening (for women over 40 at risk); and for children only, gross motor coordination. The Horsemen's Health Fair occurred on the track on June 5 & 6, 2006. Over 400 men, women, and children completed the screenings, 91% of whom identified themselves as Hispanic of whom 69.2% were born in Mexico. Results of the screening were compared to national databases, and a number of health concerns and probable disparities were identified including increased risk for diabetes, higher than expected respiratory problems, a significant proportion of overweight and obese children, and a high rate of untreated dental caries among both children and adults. Additionally nineteen people were identified as having latent TB infections and are enrolled in treatment. These findings have implications for the development of additional health related services. Phase II of the research I underway and will entail interviews and surveys that will inform programs and providers about the specific needs of the workforce, the majority of whom were considered backstretch workers and Latino/a. (Spanish speaking health professionals and educators participated for both days of the fair.)

Partners:

UIC EXPORT Center for Excellence
in Rural Health

UIC Dentistry

UIC Nursing

Agricultural Safety and Health
Association Network

ALERTA

Arlington Park International Race Course

Chicago Party Rental

Cook County Mammography Coach

I.C. Hope Program

Illinois Health Education Consortium—
Spanish Immersion Program

Mental Health Association in Illinois

Northwest Community Hospital Mobile
Dental Unit

Racing Industry Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Robert Woods Johnson Foundation

Sunrise Rotary Club of Arlington Heights

Suburban TB

Village of Arlington Heights Department
of Health

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Dates Active:

September 2005—August 2007

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Illinois Public Health and Corrections Task Force

Brings together practitioners, researchers, and community activists to address issues relating to the health of incarcerated and those re-entering society.

Partners:

UIC Urban Planning and Public Affairs	CORE Center
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Illinois Department of Corrections
Cermak Health Services of Cook County	Illinois Department of Public Health
Chicago Department of Public Health	National Commission on Correctional Health Care
Cook County Department of Corrections	

Contacts:

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(see also Health and Wellness, Services for the Disadvantaged)

ImpacTeen

ImpacTeen is an interdisciplinary partnership of nationally recognized substance abuse experts with specialties in such areas as economics, etiology, epidemiology, law, political science, public policy, psychology, and sociology. Project teams evaluate the effectiveness of prevention programs and policies in reducing tobacco use, obesity, and alcohol and illicit drug use among youth.

Partners:

UIC Applied Health Sciences
UIC Business Administration
UIC Public Health
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research

Contacts:

Frank Chaloupka
Director, Health Policy Center
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Dates Active:
1999–2008

Improving Health Experiences and Access to Health Services for Women with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Collaborative Chicago-area research and training project addressing health disparities and perceived health issues of women with developmental disabilities. Helps women with disabilities to understand and articulate their own health concerns, and trains local agency staff and health professionals to work with women with developmental disabilities in developing increased access to appropriate health services.

Partners:

UIC Applied Health Sciences
Chicago Arc
El Valor
Northwestern University
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
United States Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Contacts:

Charlotte Tate
Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences
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Email: tate@uic.edu
(see also Rehabilitation and Disability Studies)

Institute for Juvenile Research

IJR, established in 1909 and transferred to UIC in 1990, was the first child guidance clinic and the second organized psychology training program in the nation.

It was also one of the first sites for training child psychiatrists.

Today, IJR remains a vital part of the Chicago community and a major research and training center for children's mental health. The Institute comprises more than thirty-five faculty and sixty-five professional staff engaged in a broad spectrum of research, demonstration and training. Programs address pressing issues such as HIV risk, access to effective school services, epidemiology of drug abuse, services for families in the child welfare system, and training of child mental health providers. The Institute also offers child psychiatry clinical services and training programs in child psychiatry, psychology and social work.

Partners:

UIC Medicine

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Dates Active:

1990—present

Institute for Tuberculosis Research

Specializes in advanced research and new drug discovery and delivery in the combat against TB.

Partners:

UIC Pharmacy

Contacts:

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Email: sgf@uic.edu

Dates active:

1980s—present

(see also *Biotechnology*)

Integrated Care at Thresholds

This project is a collaborative partnership between the UIC College of Nursing and Thresholds, a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center. The purpose of the project is to deliver primary health care services to a population of chronically mentally ill adults that attend Thresholds programs. Studies have shown that persons with chronic mental illness have higher rates of physical health problems than the general population and have difficulty accessing health care services. This project proposes to address this problem by developing a model of care that brings health care services to the community setting where persons with chronic mental illness are comfortable in and have access to. Two nurse managed centers are located within the context of Thresholds buildings. A team of Family Nurse Practitioners and Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialists, who are on faculty at the College of Nursing, provide comprehensive primary health care services that are tailored to the specific needs of this vulnerable population. The centers also serve as excellent clinical experiences for both the undergraduate and graduate nursing students. The project began in March 1998 and the advanced practice nurses have seen over 900 adults and children for a total of over 10,000 visits in the first four years.

Partners:

UIC Medicine

UIC Nursing

Chicago Community Trust

Health Resources and Services

Administration (HRSA), Division of Nursing

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Contacts:

Joan Shaver

Dean, College of Nursing

Phone: 312.996.7808

Email: jshaver@uic.edu

Dates Active:

1998—present

(see also *Health and wellness*)

Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center

Visiting Nurse Associations of America

Washington Square Health Foundation

Jane Addams Substance Abuse Research Collaboration (JASARC)

JASARC provides a structure and support for the substance abuse research program at the Jane Addams College of Social Work, upholding the College's mission to promote social, racial and economic justice. This multi-disciplinary collaboration conducts research on drugs, women and the criminal justice system with particular attention to the impact of drugs and the societal response to drugs on women and their children and families.

Partners:

UIC Social Work	National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Cermak Health Services of Cook County	National Institutes of Health
Cook County Adult Probation Department	North Lawndale Employment Network
Cook County Juvenile Probation and Court Services Department	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Healthcare Alternative Services, Inc.	Reclaiming Futures Initiative
Heartland Alliance	Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC)
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority	Women's Treatment Center (TWTC)
Lake County (IL) Department of Health	Youth Outreach Services, Inc.
Mental Health Services	

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

April 2003–March 2008

(see also *Services for the Disadvantaged*)

Lowering Cholesterol in a Low Socioeconomic Status Community

Focus groups will be conducted in Humboldt Park (half in Spanish for the Latino population, half in English for the African-American population) to probe the following issues:

1. What do they know about the dangers associated with elevated cholesterol?
2. What do they know about possible methods of lowering elevated cholesterol?
3. What media/organizations provide them with (health) information and how credible is each?

The Spanish language sessions will be translated and a content analysis will be conducted from the transcripts generated. A communication strategy will be developed to communicate the dangers of elevated cholesterol, that these risks are avoidable and of the importance of getting testing.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
UIC Public Health
Pfizer, Inc.

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

August 2006–October 2008

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Maternal and Child Health Program

Through collaborative research activities, field-based learning in courses and field practica, MCHP faculty and students work closely with state and local health agencies, welfare and education agencies, not-for-profit advocacy organizations, and community based health and social service organizations in order to improve the health and well-being of women, children, and families, particularly in Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Regions V and VII.

The MCHP provides leadership education at the master's and doctoral level for individuals pursuing careers in maternal and child health. The diverse MCHP faculty and staff are also actively engaged in conducting research and providing continuing education and technical assistance to the MCH workforce with a focus on improving the health of women, children, and families.

Partners:

UIC Applied Health Sciences

UIC Great Cities Institute

UIC Liberal Arts and Sciences

UIC Medicine

UIC Nursing

UIC Public Health

Health Resources and Services

Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Unit

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

September 1983–May 2005

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Medicare Part D Activities

JoAnn Stubbings, RPh, MCHA, and pharmacy students including Scott Siegert have helped University of Illinois medical Center at Chicago patients who are senior citizens to enroll for Medicare prescription drug discount cards and now are working with these and other patients to determine what plan to select as their provider for Medicare Part D drug benefits. Professor Stubbings is working on a program to educate Medical Center health professionals about Medicare Part D. She has been working closely with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services personnel (e.g., Gregory Dill, PharmD) on these projects.

Partners:

UIC Pharmacy

United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Management

Contacts:

Jerry L. Bauman

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Dates active:

2004–present

(see also *Geriatric Empowerment*)

Medication Monitoring and Safety in Older Adults

Community-based education program. Professors and students visit residents of senior citizen communities to record as well as discuss and advise individuals about the fears and misconceptions many older adults have regarding immunizations.

College of Pharmacy faculty and students work with elderly patients from ten different ethnic groups who have English as their second language or do not speak English. Work with patients to understand how to take their medications appropriately, monitor for drug interactions and adverse effects, and how to interact with their physicians to ask questions.

Partners:

UIC Pharmacy

Suburban Area Agency on Aging

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Dates active:

2000–present

(see also *Geriatric Empowerment*)

Medication Therapy Management Program

Program provided by the UIC College of Pharmacy/University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago Ambulatory Care Pharmacy to better care for Medicaid patients and others who need extra care in how to use their medications appropriately. These individuals in many cases are elderly or have medical conditions that interfere with their ability to understand and use their medications appropriately. Most patients are on ten or more medications.

Partners:

UIC Pharmacy

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(see also Geriatric Empowerment)

Midwest AIDS Training and Education Center (MATEC)

MATEC's mission is to increase the number of health care providers who are effectively educated and motivated to prevent, diagnose, treat and manage HIV infection. MATEC is based at the University of Illinois at Chicago in the Jane Addams College of Social Work. MATEC provides training and information services through seven local sites in seven states including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin. Each is charged with developing training and information services to meet the needs of their area.

Partners:

UIC Social Work

AIDS Foundation of Chicago

American Indian Health and Family
Services (MI)

Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

Chicago Chapter

Center for Conflict Resolution,
Chicago Department of Public Health

Christian Community Health Center

Clarian Health Partners (IN)

Cook County Physicians Association

CORE Center

Health Care Education and Training, Inc.

Health Research and Education Trust

Health Resources and Services
Administration (HRSA)

Heartland Health Alliance

Hektoen Institute for Medical Research

Howard Brown Health Center

Illinois Department of Public Health

Indianapolis Urban League

La Clinica (MN)

Luck Care Center

Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center,
HIV Clinic

Milwaukee Health Services, Inc.

National Association of AIDS Education
and Training Centers

National Association on HIV Over Fifty

Northwestern University,
Feinberg School of Medicine

Proteus, Inc.

Southside Health Association

Spang Center for Oral Health

Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN)

Training Resources Network, Inc.

University of Iowa,
College of Public Health

University of Minnesota,
School of Public Health

University of Missouri—Kansas City,
School of Nursing

University of Wisconsin,
Medical School

Wayne State University,
School of Medicine

Contacts:

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Executive Director, Midwest AIDS
Training and Education Center

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Midwest Latino Health Research, Training and Policy Center

The Center seeks to improve the health status and quality of health care to Hispanics/Latinos living in Chicago and throughout the Midwest. The Center develops and conducts health and human services research on issues affecting Latino communities. It facilitates mechanisms for communication, networking, and health information dissemination among service providers and community-based organizations. Through internships and fellowships, the Center works to increase the number of methodologically- and culturally-competent Latino and non-Latino faculty, students, and community practitioners in health services research. The Center is also active on the policy front, conducting policy analyses, providing testimony based upon research and engaging in information dissemination activities. Over the past ten years, the Center has developed the infrastructure to conduct research on health disparities and outcomes on chronic illnesses (diabetes, asthma, hypertension), cancer, injury prevention, and maternal and child health. Research has been conducted in rural and urban areas and has included many Latino groups, including recent immigrants, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, and Central Americans.

Partners:

UIC Medicine	Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care (IFQHC)
UIC Social Work	Indiana Latino Institute
American Diabetes Association Chicago Chapter	Jackson Park Hospital
American Heart Association	Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Office of Minority Health
Chicago Department of Public Health	National Association of Hispanic Nurses
City of Chicago, West Town Neighborhood Health Center	National Black Nurses Association—Chicago Chapter
Chicago Family Health Center	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
Chicago Park District, South Region	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Chicago Southeast Diabetes Community Action Coalition	National Latino Council on Alcohol and Tobacco Prevention (LCAT)
El Valor	Salud Latina / Latino Health
Greater Twin Cities United Way	South Shore Hospital
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois	Tellez Medical Center
Healthy South Chicago	United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health
Hegewisch Community Committee	Villa Guadalupe Senior Center
Illinois African-American Dietetic Association	
Illinois Department of Human Services	
Illinois Diabetes Control Program	
Illinois Department of Public Health	

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

1993—present

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Mile Square Health Center (MSHC)

The University of Illinois Mile Square Health Center (MSHC) is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with over thirty years of rich history of providing primary healthcare and social services to high risk, vulnerable populations throughout greater Chicago. MSHC offers a comprehensive array of medical care and social services, including Family Practice Medicine, Family Planning, Obstetrics and Gynecology Services, Podiatry, Pediatrics, Optometry, Pediatric and Adult Psychiatry, Nutritional Counseling, Breastfeeding Support, WIC Program and an extensive Community Outreach Program and several school-based Health Clinics. MSHC is managed and staffed by health professionals from the University of Illinois.

Partners:

UIC Medical Center
Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago
Catholic Charities
Chicago Department of Public Health
Cook County Bureau of Health Services
United States Department of Health
and Human Services, Health Resources
Administration
YMCA

Contacts:

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Executive Director, MSHC
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*(see also Health and Wellness,
Services to the Disadvantaged)*

Mother/Daughter HIV Risk Reduction Intervention

Though HIV risk reduction interventions delivered by health experts have generally proven successful, their success has not significantly reduced the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic among African American adolescent girls, especially low-income girls, who are at high risk for contracting HIV. While several researchers have advocated that active parental involvement may have a more profound effect on HIV risk reduction, they also note that parents have inadequate skills to assist their adolescents. Few programs have tested the effectiveness of preparing mothers with the knowledge and skills needed to assist their daughters develop HIV risk reduction behavior. The specific aim of this study is to examine systematically over a two-year period the effectiveness of the Mother/Daughter HIV Risk Reduction Intervention in increasing daughter's HIV risk reduction behavior: delay of sexual activity until after age 13 and if sexually active, either refrain from sex or consistently use condoms and have fewer sex partners. Mother/daughter pairs and daughters are assessed at pretest, immediate posttest and quarterly for twenty-four months.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Mental Health

Contacts:

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Phone: 312.996.7808
Email: jshaver@uic.edu

Dates Active:

February 2002–January 2008
(see also Health and Wellness)

Moving Forward: Reducing Breast Cancer among African American Women

This study is a randomized control trial of a lifestyle intervention for overweight African American breast cancer survivors.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
National Cancer Institute

Contacts:

Sylvia Furner
Interim Dean, School of Public Health
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Dates Active:

September 2003–August 2008

Obesity Reduction Black Intervention Trial (ORBIT)

Women who gain weight throughout adulthood are at higher risk for developing breast cancer after menopause, and women who lose weight may decrease their risk. Fifty percent of the Black women are obese and overall breast cancer mortality is higher for Black women compared to White women. ORBIT builds on a study that showed significant weight loss, reduced dietary fat, and increased physical activity in the intervention compared to the control group. This project assesses the efficacy of an adequately powered, theoretically driven, weight loss and maintenance intervention. Two hundred obese Black women (30-65 years old) will be randomized to a twenty-four week treatment intervention or a twenty-four week control intervention. Participants in the treatment intervention will then participate in a one-year maintenance intervention and the control participants will participate in a one-year control intervention.

breast cancer after menopause, and women who lose weight may decrease their risk. Fifty percent of the Black women are obese and overall breast cancer mortality is higher for Black women compared to White women. ORBIT builds on a study that showed significant weight loss, reduced dietary fat, and increased physical activity in the intervention compared to the control group. This project assesses the efficacy of an adequately powered, theoretically driven, weight loss and maintenance intervention. Two hundred obese Black women (30-65 years old) will be randomized to a twenty-four week treatment intervention or a twenty-four week control intervention. Participants in the treatment intervention will then participate in a one-year maintenance intervention and the control participants will participate in a one-year control intervention.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
UIC Public Health
National Cancer Institute

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

July 2004–June 2009

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Positive Attitudes for Learning in Schools (PALS)

PALS is a collaborative school-based program that uses an ecological model to identify ways to increase children's learning in the classroom and to improve the involvement of children's parents. The ecological perspective emphasizes the need for least-restrictive, group administered services, that are flexible and individualized across the multiple contexts for children's behavior, and that integrate into ongoing school routines and resources. The PALS team consists of the classroom teacher, a parent hired by the project, and a mental health provider who work collaboratively guided by a manualized treatment that proceeds in four phases: engagement of key constituents in urban schools, development of collaborative partnerships among PALS team members, systematic assessment of ecological classroom contexts, and delivery of empirically-based services. Participants are children in kindergarten through fifth grades from 3 Near West Side Chicago public schools selected for participation if identified by their teacher and parent as exhibiting disruptive behavior at school and home, and their parent or guardian provides permission to participate in the project. Classrooms are randomly assigned to receive PALS or clinic-based mental health services at the Institute for Juvenile Research.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
Chicago Public Schools
Community Mental Health Council, Inc.
National Institute of Mental Health

Contacts:

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Director, Disruptive Behavior
Disorders Clinic

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(see also *Education Innovation*)

Pregnancy Intention in African American and Latina Women

The aims of this project are (1) to develop and test measures to capture the complex motivations, desires, and attitudes that underlie the construct of "pregnancy intention" for young African American and Latina women, and (2) to assess the ability of the resulting instruments to predict fertility-related behaviors and intentions, such as sexual decision making, intentions to use contraceptives, actual use of contraceptives, and pregnancy.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
UIC Public Health
Association of Schools of Public Health
(ASPH)

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Email: sefurner@uic.edu

Dates Active:

October 2004–September 2007

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Prenatal Diagnosis Study

UIC researchers are developing a powerful new prenatal diagnostic technique for detecting genetic abnormalities in the DNA of fetal blood cells found in the mother's bloodstream. As part of this study, researchers will also investigate a technique for identifying defects in individual genes within the chromosomes.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
National Institutes of Health

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REACH 2010/Lawndale Health Promotion Project

Sponsored by the Chicago Department of Public Health and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the REACH 2010/Lawndale Health Promotion Project (LHPP) is a coalition of North and South Lawndale organizations, businesses, health service providers and residents that work together to promote healthy lifestyles in their communities. LHPP's mission is to eliminate health disparities by reducing and preventing illnesses linked to type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular related diseases among African Americans and Hispanics. The Division of Community Health partners with the Chicago Department of Public Health, University of Chicago and Loyola University to oversee evaluation activities for the REACH 2010 project. Activities include: Community Peer Educator Training, Health Care Provider Education, Community Coalition Development and Assessment, Community assessment, Community resident risk and knowledge assessment, University/Community Evaluation Committee.

Partners:

UIC Department of Sociology
UIC Department of Anthropology
UIC College of Nursing
Chicago Department of Public Health
Lawndale Health Promotion
Community Council
Loyola University
University of Chicago

Contacts:

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Dates Active:

2003—present
*(see also Health and Wellness,
Neighborhood Revitalization)*

READII Process Assessment and Evaluation

Racial and ethnic disparities in immunization rates are a widely recognized and documented problem in the United States. African Americans and Hispanics have significantly lower influenza and pneumococcal immunization rates compared to the rest of the population. Influenza vaccination coverage among adults 65 years of age and older is 68 percent for whites, 48 percent for African Americans, and 54 percent for Hispanics. The gap for pneumococcal vaccination coverage among ethnic groups is even wider, with 60 percent for whites, 38 percent for African Americans, and 36 percent for Hispanics.

Eliminating health disparities remains a national goal, and the READII is an effort to reduce and eliminate racial and ethnic differences in adult immunization rates. Specifically, The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has made the elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in influenza and pneumococcal vaccination coverage for people 65 years of age and older a priority. To address these disparities and to assist in reaching the 2010 national health goal of 90% influenza and pneumococcal vaccination rates among persons 65 and over, HHS, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal partners, launched the Racial and Ethnic Adult Disparities Immunization Initiative (READII) in July 2002.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
UIC Institute for Health Policy
and Research
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Chicago Department of Public Health
United States Department of Health
and Human Services

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Dates Active:

January 2005–December 2005

(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Research to Explore the Association Between Crack Cocaine Use and HIV Risk Behavior

This study examines crack cocaine use by African American and Latino/a women and men who have sex with men. About 100 study participants will complete a survey and engage in-depth, semi-structured but open-ended interviews that place participants' perceptions and understandings at the forefront. The study will focus on specifics of crack use, barriers to risk reduction, service needs and access to services. To develop deeper, 'real-time' understandings of factors likely to impact the chances for success of current or future harm reduction interventions for crack users, we will conduct 30 follow-up qualitative interviews with participants who indicate they are struggling with harm reduction issues or have recently experienced a significant life event likely to affect their drug use or sexual practices. The study is expected to provide insights regarding the local context of crack use and HIV risk, barriers to HIV-related and substance use services, and opportunities for prevention interventions.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
Chicago Department of Public Health

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Dates Active:

January 2007–December 2007

Schools And Families Educating Children (SAFE Children)

The primary aim of this study is to test a family-based comprehensive preventive intervention with children living in inner-city Chicago and entering first grade for effects on key risk markers for later drug and other substance use.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
United States Department of Health
and Human Services, Substance Abuse
and Mental Health Services Administration

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Tailored Intervention to Increase MI Symptom Recognition

Patient delay prior to seeking treatment for acute myocardial infarction (AMI) symptoms is the major factor limiting the ability to use reperfusion treatments to limit morbidity and mortality. African Americans are at particular risk for longer delays. Lack of knowledge is not the reason why patients delay, rather patients seem to have an image of AMI symptoms that is not consistent with their experience. The purpose of this pilot investigation is two-fold. The first purpose is to develop a computerized tailored educational program for African American men about the risk factors for cardiovascular disease (CVD), the symptoms associated with AMI, and the actions to take when experiencing the symptoms of AMI. The second purpose of this investigation is to examine the effectiveness of this computerized tailored educational program in improving African American men's knowledge and identification of AMI symptoms, risk factors and actions to take if symptoms are experienced compared to a usual care group.

Partners:

UIC Nursing
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Nursing Research

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Dates Active:

June 2004—May 2007

TCE/HIV Outreach Prevention for Southeast Chicago

The proposal uses street outreach, case management, and rapid HIV testing to reduce HIV transmission and the number of persons infected with HIV who are unaware of their serostatus and not receiving appropriate care.

The project will be guided and evaluated according to the following goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Reduce HIV high-risk practices in targeted populations.

Goal 2: Increase the number of high-risk persons who are counseled and tested for HIV, the proportion of HIV-positive persons who learn their test results, and - of those who are HIV-positive - who obtain appropriate medical care and supportive services.

Goal 3: Facilitate access to drug treatment, mental health, and other psychosocial and medical services that support healthier lifestyles.

Partners:

UIC Public Health
Alliance for Community Empowerment
Chicago Department of Public Health
Hektoen Institute for Medical Research
Mexican Community Committee
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

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Dates Active:

September 2003–September 2008

Twelve Step Recovery and HIV Risk

The use of methamphetamine by men who have sex with men, from being a West Coast phenomenon, is becoming a serious problem in urban areas across the country and is highly correlated with HIV transmission. This study explores the effect of involvement in community-based Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) on reducing risky sexual behavior. These programs are more like social movements than formal treatment programs, and the current study is being conducted in collaboration with these programs. Through semistructured interviews and ethnographic observation, the study explores mechanisms behind the association between program involvement and reduction in high HIV risk sexual behavior. Eighty program participants are being interviewed during the first three months of their attendance in CMA, and reinterviewed six months later. We focus on CMA due to the lack of studies of this program despite a pressing need for specialized treatment for methamphetamine users. Where drug/alcohol use is associated with HIV risk behavior, the study will document that 12 Step groups are an important referral resource for clinicians dealing with HIV.

Partners:

UIC Urban Planning and Public Affairs
Crystal Meth Anonymous—Chicago
National Institutes of Health
New Town Alamo Club

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Twinning Center Project

The Twinning Center Project is a partnership between the Jane Addams College of Social Work's, Midwest Aids Training and Education Center (MATEC) and the Tanzania's Institute of Social Work (ISW), located in the city of Dar es Salaam. The goal of the project is to strengthen the institutional capacity of the ISW to equip social workers and others with knowledge and skills necessary to ensure comprehensive social services to children affected by HIV/AIDS in all districts of Tanzania.

Partners:

UIC Applied Health Sciences
UIC Dentistry
UIC Education
UIC Graduate College
UIC Medicine
UIC Nursing
UIC Pharmacy
UIC Public Health
UIC Social Work
UIC Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
American International Health Alliance
Tanzania Institute of Social Work

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Dates Active:

2006–2007

(see also Global Healthcare)

UIC HIV/AIDS Project (UICHP)

UIC has been providing services to HIV-infected individuals for more than seventeen years. The UICHP was founded by Dr. Richard Novak in 1992. With the philosophy to bring nonjudgmental HIV services into the communities where our clients reside, and to provide quality primary care for all clients. To that end, the UICHP staff strives to increase our cultural competence and has developed a strong knowledge base and a good community reputation in providing effective primary care to all targeted communities. Our nonjudgmental, complete care model, originally developed for IDUs, has been expanded to take on new target populations as the epidemic has changed, including Spanish-speaking individuals, sex workers, transgendered persons, MSMs of color, persons leaving the correctional system, and women with HIV. A critical part of our care model is determining how to ensure that clients retain access and remain in primary care by working with each client individually, taking into account their life situation in developing the primary care treatment strategy that has the best likelihood of success.

The UICHP provides primary care to HIV-infected clients through a multicenter network of primary care services, focusing on underserved communities. The UICHP uses a multidisciplinary approach to HIV disease management and a graded system of client management. Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic clients can receive services at any UICHP site, including the UICHP community-based sites. As their health status requires, clients can be referred to a physician-directed clinic for medical management, subspecialty referrals and, when necessary, hospitalization at UICMC. Clients keep the same provider team as they move through different levels of care. In response to the changing nature of the epidemic, the UICHP has placed an increased emphasis on making new therapies available to as many clients as possible. The UICHP also provides enhanced pharmaceutical education, nutritional and gynecological services to its clients. We provide linkages to substance abuse treatment, case management, and other service providers. (As part of our multidisciplinary care model, we have ongoing funding for mental health and dental care as well as treatment adherence.) We also ensure that our clients, who often live in areas of the city that are underserved by public transportation, can get to their appointments by providing transportation for primary and subspecialty care appointments. Our care providers work together in a multidisciplinary team to ensure client adherence to treatment regimens. Infectious disease-trained physicians and nurse clinicians provide medical management, with the help of nurses, licensed clinical social workers, clinical pharmacists, mental health providers, dentists, nutritionists, Patient Care Advocates/patient transporters, and support staff. Our project successfully integrates mental health services (available concurrently with primary care appointments) and substance abuse treatment (all clients are encouraged to seek treatment if appropriate, and we have linkages with treatment providers to ensure that clients seeking treatment can “strike while the iron is hot.”) Our EMA-wide network of linkages to other service providers enables us to provide a continuum of care to our clients, including access to home health/hospice, food, etc. We currently have a staff of about fifty. The UICHP supports numerous collaborative clinical and translational research programs. These include: the Women and Infant’s Transmission Study (WITS), the Women’s Interagency HIV Study (WIHS). It also houses a pediatric ACTU. Adult Clinical Trials: CPCRA site, numerous HIV and Herpevac HSV2 vaccine trials; HIV Outpatient Study (HOPS, CDC); WHIN project: program project focusing on HIV pathogenesis.

Partners:

UIC Medicine
Centers for Disease Control

National Institutes of Health
US DHHS Health Resources
& Services Administration

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Dates Active:

1992–present
(see also *Health and Wellness*)

Urban Health Program

Recruits and provides support for students from groups underrepresented in the health professions, aiming to increase the number of health care professionals prepared to improve the quality and availability of health care services in underserved urban areas.

Partners:

UIC Applied Health Sciences

UIC Dentistry

UIC Education

UIC Graduate College

UIC Medicine

UIC Nursing

UIC Pharmacy

UIC Public Health

UIC Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Chicago Public Schools

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Dates Active:

1978–present

(see also Undergraduate Support)

Using Evidence for Prenatal Case Management Structure

Prenatal case management (PCM) is a community-based, health service provided to medically or socially high risk pregnant women. Twenty years of data from three longitudinal clinical trials show that PCM provided by registered nurses (RNs) has better outcomes for pregnant and parenting women than programs using lay or para-professionals. Yet, the evidence-based (EB) professional model is not universally implemented and program structure varies. The purpose of this research is to understand barriers to the use of the EB professional model so that more effective adoption of interventions can be developed.

The aims of this study are to: (1) Characterize the types of existing PCM PROGRAM MODELS based on staff' mix and extent to which it is an EB professional nursing PCM PROGRAM MODEL; (2) Identify the relationship of ORGANIZATIONAL and PROGRAMINTERNAL ENVIRONMENT to use of the EB professional nursing PCM MODEL; (3) Identify the relationship of COMMUNITY, ORGANIZATIONAL, PROGRAM INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT, and PROGRAM MODEL to CM PRACTICE PATTERNS; and (4) Identify the relationship of PCM PROGRAM MODEL and PRACTICE PATTERNS to PROGRAM OUTCOMES, given COMMUNITY, ORGANIZATIONAL, and PROGRAM INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT. These aims are derived from four preliminary studies and a multi-level conceptual model. Study Aim 2 encompasses specific hypotheses predicting use of the EB program model.

A survey methodology is used with a multi-stage sample design with probabilities proportionate to number of PCM programs per state, yielding ten states from which a random sample of thirty programs are selected per state. Survey data are collected from 250 PCM program directors and 1250 personnel involved in directly providing PCM to clients. Instruments include scales with demonstrated reliability with PCM personnel. Intervention data are also collected from case managers. Data are aggregated to the program level for analyses, and linked with community data from the Area Resource File and state vital statistics. Descriptive statistics are used to derive types of PCM program models and address hypotheses regarding contextual influences on the program model. Multiple regression, MANCOVA, and hierarchical linear modeling analyses are planned for Study Aims 3 and 4.

Partners:

UIC Public Health

UIC Urban Planning and Public Affairs

UIC Survey Research Lab

Health Resources and Services

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Dates Active:

September 2005–August 2007

(see also Health and Wellness)