May 2009

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

As we start our eighth year, I am pleased to present to you the Center for Urban Population Health’s Annual Report for 2008. Much has changed over the years and the Center continues to experience growth. What hasn’t changed is our core mission. Although the language used to describe the Center may have evolved, at the heart, the Center continues to “advance population health research and education to improve the health of communities.” This year’s report highlights how the Center realizes its mission through its many partnerships and allocations of human and financial resources.

It has been an exciting year for population health in Milwaukee. Through a Public Health Development Plan grant from the Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Future’s Medical Education and Research Committee, the Center led UW-Milwaukee’s School of Public Health’s Faculty Search and Screen Committee, which achieved UWM’s first interdisciplinary cluster hire of two population health faculty members, Dr. Amy Harley and Dr. Paul Florsheim. Newly relocated to Milwaukee, they bring fresh expertise in research and community partnerships to the Center and UWM. In addition to two new faculty, the Center continues to seek ways to build the capacity for population health research in Milwaukee and the region. In March 2008, with support from the same grant, the Center hired Dr. Naoyo Mori as an epidemiologist, adding yet another expert available to researchers and the community.

As announced in 2007, the Center began to focus resources in three areas that need immediate attention in Milwaukee and across the state: Maternal, Infant and Child Health, Violence Prevention and Public Safety, and Healthy Aging. Over the past year the Center has made strides to coalesce resources and projects around these focus areas by allocating the efforts of program managers to lead in the development of these areas. This report highlights this work.

This year’s annual report also features the essential support cores that work to help realize the Center scientists’ and our many partners’ research and education initiatives. Each support core is comprised of teams with expertise that are highlighted in select projects.

In the end, if you are a current partner, you already understand the mutually beneficial relationship that exists between the Center and the community. If you are not, I would encourage you to contact us to learn more about how we can work together to “improve the health of our communities.” To learn more, please visit our updated website at www.cuph.org.

Sincerely,

Ron Cisler, PhD
Director, Center for Urban Population Health
Associate Professor of Health Sciences, UW-Milwaukee
Associate Professor of Population Health Sciences,
UW School of Medicine and Public Health
**Mission** Advancing population health research and education to improve the health of urban communities.

**Vision** To be a destination where researchers can lead innovative, community-connected urban population health research and education.

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**STAFF PHOTOS**

In keeping with the Center’s vision this year’s annual report photos were taken at a “destination” that has a similar mission to connect innovation and science with the community. Unless indicated otherwise, all staff photos were taken at Discovery World in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Discovery World connects innovation, science, technology and the environment with exploration and learning through interactive exhibits and experiential learning programs. Discovery World is dedicated to helping people positively impact their communities by developing a better understanding of technology and the environment while fostering both innovation and creativity.

It is an appropriate destination to have as a backdrop to our Center photos.

For more information regarding Discovery World, please visit them on the web at [www.discoveryworld.org](http://www.discoveryworld.org).
Public Health Development Plan Grant

In 2006, the Center for Urban Population Health received a $1,058,448 Public Health Development Plan award from the Wisconsin Partnership Program’s Medical Education and Research Committee. The main goal of the plan was to develop an increased capacity for conducting population health research and education activities to advance the health and well-being of the greater Milwaukee community. Since its inception, the plan has made great strides in increasing capacity in Milwaukee.

OBJECTIVE 1:
Recruit faculty and scientists to collaborate in population health research.

The Center launched a Center Scientist Development Program in late 2006 which has provided seed funding for a total of 16 investigators in the areas of Laboratory Sciences, Geography, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Health Administration and Informatics, Communication Sciences, Nutrition, Human Movement Sciences, and Population Health Science and 10 students and staff. This seed funding returned additional external funding to these investigators as well as publications and presentations based on their work.

On-Going Projects

Family Caregiver Self-Management of the Unmet Needs of Persons with Dementia
Sarah Morgan, Ph.D., R.N., Assistant Professor, College of Nursing
Linda Dennison, R.N. (APN), Stephanie Sue Stein (Milwaukee Dept. on Aging)

Development of a Senior Housing Health Environment and Health Behavior Index
Kathryn Zalewski, Ph.D., M.A., P.T., Assistant Professor, Human Movement Sciences
Lori A. Neighbors, Ph.D., R.D., Assistant Professor of Human Movement Sciences
Ali Rud, Malinda Mueller (students); Lisa Stueland, R.N. (Laureate Group)

Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis of the Milwaukee and Menomonee Rivers: pathogen concentrations
Robert S. Burlage, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Health Sciences
Changshan Wu, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Geography
Alexis Cogswell (Graduate Student)

Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Project of Racine
Teresa S. Johnson, Ph.D., R.N., Associate Professor, College of Nursing
S.T. Kelber, M.S. (Information Processing Consultant/Biostatistician); Emily Nowak, B.A.N. (Graduate Student)

Improving the Health of Children with Special Needs in Birth to 3 Programs through Health Literacy and Maternal Depression Screening
Jennifer J. Runquist, Ph.D., R.N., Assistant Professor, College of Nursing
Kris A. Pizur-Barnekow, Ph.D., Occupational Therapy; Timothy B. Patrick, Ph.D., Health Administration & Informatics; Paula M. Rhyner, Ph.D., Communication Sciences
Susan E. Cashin, Ph.D. (Associate Scientist); Marjorie Willett (Graduate Student)

Piloting a Community-Based Participatory Research Approach to Investigate the Health Issues and Resource Needs of Latinas Living with HIV
Patricia E. Stevens, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N., Professor, College of Nursing
Loren Galvão, M.D., M.P.H., Associate Scientist, College of Nursing & Associate Director, CIUPH and Honorary Population Health Fellow at UWSMPH
Virginia Zerpa-Uriona, M.P.H. (Outreach Specialist)

Feasibility of an academic partnership with Aurora Health Care’s Information Technology/Care Management databases
Timothy B. Patrick, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Health Administration and Informatics

Utilizing Tailored Step-Count Feedback to Enhance Physical Activity in the Elderly
Scott J. Strath, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Human Movement Sciences

Improving the Health of Children with Special Needs in Birth to 3 Programs through Health Literacy and Maternal Depression Screening
Jennifer J. Runquist, Ph.D., R.N., Assistant Professor, College of Nursing
Kris A. Pizur-Barnekow, Ph.D., Occupational Therapy; Timothy B. Patrick, Ph.D., Health Administration & Informatics; Paula M. Rhyner, Ph.D., Communication Sciences
Susan E. Cashin, Ph.D. (Associate Scientist); Marjorie Willett (Graduate Student)

*Bold indicates Center Scientist Development Program funded faculty, staff or students.
In 2008, the Center leveraged funding to hire two Population Health Faculty members, Dr. Amy Harley and Dr. Paul Florsheim.

Amy Harley, Ph.D.
Center Scientist, Center for Urban Population Health
Assistant Professor of Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Dr. Harley’s current research is focused on reducing racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in chronic disease prevalence and outcomes through long-term participation in healthy lifestyle behaviors including physical activity and healthy eating. She is particularly interested in examining effective techniques for addressing multiple behaviors concurrently, examining health behaviors within the socio-cultural contexts in which they occur and utilizing what can be learned from ‘success cases’ or asset-based methodologies. Dr. Harley has developed a foundation of experience studying health disparities among urban, African American women. She has also examined participation in healthy lifestyle behaviors among residents of low-income housing developments and blue-collar workers. Dr. Harley teaches a course in population health at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. She completed her doctoral training at The Ohio State University College of Public Health. She also spent three years at the Harvard School of Public Health as a postdoctoral fellow in their Cancer Prevention and Control education program.

Paul Florsheim, Ph.D.
Center Scientist, Center for Urban Population Health
Associate Professor in Social Welfare, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Dr. Florsheim’s primary interests include adolescent mental health and the development of prevention and treatment programs for high-risk youth. Dr. Florsheim’s future research in Milwaukee will include (1) developing mental health programs for adolescents in the public school systems, (2) adapting the Young Parenthood Program to address the needs of adolescent mothers and young fathers in Milwaukee, and (3) developing substance abuse and mental health treatment programs for court-involved youth.

Dr. Florsheim earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Wesleyan University, a master’s degree in social sciences from the University of Chicago, and a doctorate in clinical psychology from Northwestern University. Dr. Florsheim has worked as a clinician and supervisor in various treatment and educational settings, and has received research funding from the NIMH, the Fogarty International Center (National Institutes of Health), the Office of Population Affairs, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Objective 2:
Support and Facilitate Population Health Research

• The Aurora UIW Medical Group (AUWMG) Research Committee and Dr. Baumgardner are providing research support (through the Center for Urban Population Health) to approximately 50 AUWMG faculty, fellow, and resident health services projects. Specific examples of success include 25 Center-involved publications/presentations and approximately 20 projects that received external funding and/or support.

• Naoyo Mori, Ph.D., Epidemiologist, joined the Center in March 2008. Since then, she has collaborated with Center scientists, Aurora faculty, residents, and fellows, as well as community partners to provide research support.

Dr. Naoyo Mori
**OBJECTIVE 3:**
Coordinate and Facilitate Mentoring and Learning Opportunities for Faculty, Scientists and Students

Dr. Baumgardner, as well as multiple staff at the Center, provided mentoring and learning opportunities through 19 service-learning opportunities in 2008:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internship/Project Title</th>
<th>Learner</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Primary Supervisor/Other Staff</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant Student Internship</td>
<td>R. Rodriguez</td>
<td>Milwaukee Public School Loyola Academy sophomore high school student gaining work experience in administrative support.</td>
<td>A.M. Talsky, M. Anderson, K. Blanchard</td>
<td>9/24/2008 — 1/16/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost and analysis of usual source of care</td>
<td>M. Gamez</td>
<td>Master of Public Health student.</td>
<td>D. Baumgardner, M. Briggs-Sedlachek, D. Steber</td>
<td>1/08 — 6/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced contrast of food tray for Parkinson’s patients</td>
<td>C. Henning-Smith</td>
<td>Experience in Geriatric Care for a Milwaukee Health Department Fellow.</td>
<td>A. Khan, M. Lemke, Hy Chen</td>
<td>8/07 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Paid Student Internship</td>
<td>M. Weiss</td>
<td>Under-graduate UW-Milwaukee IT student working with the Center’s Information Technology Core.</td>
<td>D. Steber, A. Marek</td>
<td>6/08 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Public Health Project Assistantship in Infant and Maternal Health</td>
<td>E. Gutowski</td>
<td>Master of Public Health Project Assistant working on population health projects in infant and maternal health.</td>
<td>T. Salm Ward, D. Frazer</td>
<td>9/08 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Public Health Project Assistantship in Population Health Design and Analysis</td>
<td>P. Tran</td>
<td>Master of Public Health Project Assistant working on population health research projects.</td>
<td>J. Bergstrom, D. Frazer</td>
<td>9/08 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Clinical Research Assistantship</td>
<td>J. Pradarelli</td>
<td>Undergraduate students supporting the Evaluation of Ultrasensitive Troponin Assay to Detect Heart Attack project and other Health Services research.</td>
<td>J. Evertsen</td>
<td>5/08 — 11/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Clinical Research Assistantship</td>
<td>J. Katrichis</td>
<td></td>
<td>J. Evertsen</td>
<td>5/08 — 11/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodic fever, aphthous stomatitis, pharyngitis syndrome</td>
<td>I. Banerjee</td>
<td>Health services research experience. The assistantship is shared with Aurora UW Medical Group administration and is also associated with the INROADS program.</td>
<td>D. Baumgardner</td>
<td>2/08 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodic fever, aphthous stomatitis, pharyngitis syndrome</td>
<td>M. Ranade</td>
<td>Department of Family Medicine Summer Research Externship.</td>
<td>D. Baumgardner</td>
<td>5/08 — 7/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Blastomycosis — Prospective with strain type analysis</td>
<td>D. Long</td>
<td>Internship experience for a pre-med student.</td>
<td>D. Baumgardner, C. Brumitt, M. Lemke, G. Swain</td>
<td>8/08 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracking Lead Screening via WIR system</td>
<td>J. Collins</td>
<td>Master of Public Health student field experience primarily working on a lead screening improvement project at Clarke Square.</td>
<td>J. Bidwell, D. Baumgardner, S. Ohly</td>
<td>5/08 — present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“The Apprentice — Working in the Real World” University of Wisconsin Milwaukee College for Teen’s Program</td>
<td>B. Stuart, B. Robinson, D. Sturdivant</td>
<td>The Center hosted three high school students to learn about the application of clinical research.</td>
<td>J. Evertsen, M. Lemke</td>
<td>6/16/08 — 6/27/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAHEC Community Health Internship Program (CHIP) Internship</td>
<td>N. Blum</td>
<td>Population health experience for an undergraduate student.</td>
<td>D. Frazer, A.M. Talsky, L. Galvao</td>
<td>5/08 — 7/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical Support for a Master of Public Health Fellow</td>
<td>M. Alexander-Young</td>
<td>For a project looking at hospital factors determining the completion of infant primary Hepatitis B vaccinations.</td>
<td>D. Baumgardner</td>
<td>5/07 — 5/08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Initiatives

In 2008, the Center for Urban Population Health focused resources around concerns of three particular populations that were in need of immediate attention in Milwaukee and across the State:

- Maternal, Infant and Child Health
- Violence Prevention and Public Safety
- Healthy Aging.

The Center for Urban Population Health is well situated to contribute to a deeper understanding of these issues across the population health framework and to assist with the implementation and rigorous evaluation of interventions to address them. The Center’s vision, to be a destination where researchers can lead innovative, community-connected, urban population health research and education, allows the Center to act as a “convener” to address these issues by providing infrastructure for those researchers who already have expertise and are working in this area. Below are projects in each special initiative.

Maternal, Infant and Child Health

The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), the number of infants under 1 year old who have died per 1,000 live births, is commonly used as a measure of a community’s overall health. Wisconsin’s IMR remains close to the national average at 6.4 for the 5-year period from 2003 to 2007. However, within that same time period, Milwaukee infants fared worse with an average IMR of 11.2. The city of Milwaukee’s IMR ranked 46th among the 53 largest cities in the U.S. Of even greater concern are the striking racial disparities that affect babies. From 2003-2007, Milwaukee babies born to African American mothers were 2.5 times more likely to die in Milwaukee than babies born to white mothers: IMRs of 16.4 and 6.6 respectively. The Center, along with various community and academic partners, is actively participating in a variety of coalitions and workgroups examining the problem and is collaborating on numerous projects studying issues related to infant, maternal and child health, including:

- Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Project of Racine, funded by the Center Scientist Development Program. T. Johnson, City of Racine Health Department.

Working with the CUPH allows busy clinicians to continue hands-on patient care while participating in important public health research.

– Tina C. Mason MD, MPH, FACOG
Program Director, Department Obstetrics and Gynecology
Director, Medical Operations, AUWMG

[Map of Geographic Clustering of ADHD in Children in Milwaukee, WI]
For many in Milwaukee, the burden of violence can be felt across the lifespan. At any given stage of life, one or more types of violence can affect an individual, from child maltreatment to intimate partner and sexual violence, from suicide and homicide to elder abuse. Experiences of violence often shape health, social and economic outcomes, both on an individual and a community level. The impact of violence on health runs deeper than the fatal events that coincide with homicide and suicide. The physical effects of non-fatal violent injury such as brain injury, bruising, and chronic pain can pose long-term challenges to those affected. There are also psychological consequences that can include depression and anxiety, phobias and panic disorders, and behavioral effects such as drug and alcohol abuse and physical inactivity. Violence can also play a role in reproductive health and complicate fertility and pregnancy.

Violence Prevention and Public Safety

The investigation of factors contributing to the burden of violence can better inform interventions and prevention programming. As part of the Center’s commitment to improving the health of Wisconsin, violence and public safety have been important foci of our research. The Center is especially focused in the area of reducing harm to infants and youth. Listed below are several projects on which the Center is collaborating to address this issue:


1 U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov, 2004


Healthy Aging
The proportion of the United States population aged 65 years or older is projected to increase more than 113 percent in the next 45 years. This dramatic rise in the number of older adults will place an increased strain on existing public health and medical resources, including Medicaid and Medicare.

Chronic conditions, such as coronary heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, and depression, many of which are preventable, affect the elderly segment of society disproportionately. Public health programs must respond to the needs of a growing cohort of older adults, and address the increased burden of chronic diseases, disabilities, and rising health care costs for individuals, their communities, and the country.

The Center is currently collaborating closely with some strong partners, and is involved in several projects addressing healthy aging:


Utilizing Tailored Step-Count Feedback to Enhance Physical Activity in the Elderly, funded by the Center Scientist Development Program. Project. S. Strath.


A Hospital Prepared for Seniors. Quality improvement project supported through the Aurora University of Wisconsin Medical Group Research Committee. A. Kahn.

Enhanced Contrast of Food Tray for Parkinson’s Projects. Quality improvement project supported through the Aurora University of Wisconsin Medical Group Research Committee. A. Kahn.

Nurses’ Attitudes Toward Patients with Delirium. Quality improvement project supported through the Aurora University of Wisconsin Medical Group Research Committee. A. Kahn.

Healthy Aging Tracker: Medication Reconciliation. Quality improvement project supported through the Aurora University of Wisconsin Medical Group Research Committee. R. Demircioglu, M. Malone.

Wellness Works. L. Cieslik, S. Strath, D. Steber, S. Todorova

Family Caregiver Self-Management of the Unmet Needs of Persons with Dementia, S. Morgan, L. Dennison, S. Stein.

Development of a Senior Housing Health Environment and Health Behavior Index, funded by the Center Scientist Development Program. K. Zalewski, L. Neighbors, L. Stueland.


**Translational Health Research Continuum**

The Center’s internal organizational structure is defined by two program areas—Health Services Research and Community Partnerships—that span the population health continuum.

This continuum reflects the National Institutes of Health’s recent focus on conducting translational research that transforms and applies the outcomes of scientific studies from the “bench” to the “bedside” to directly benefit the community.

The Center provides an environment to conduct translational research by supporting both academic health researchers and health care providers in applying research results to clinical practices. In addition, the Center’s involvement in many community-based participatory research projects provides a unique opportunity to translate what is learned from the community about their health needs to investigators’ conducting “bench” research.

**2008 PROJECTS: HEALTHIEST WISCONSIN 2010 PRIORITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Category</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to primary &amp; preventive health services</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate and appropriate nutrition</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol use and other substance abuse and addiction</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and occupational health hazards</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-risk sexual behavior</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intentional and unintentional injuries and violence</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health and mental disorders</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overweight, obesity, and lack of physical activity</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and economic factors that influence health</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco use and exposure</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System (Infrastructure) Priorities</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated electronic data and information systems</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community health improvement processes and plans</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination of state and local public health system partnerships</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sufficient, competent workforce</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2008 PROJECTS: HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010**

- Access to Quality Health Services: 9%
- Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions: 1%
- Cancer: 3%
- Chronic Kidney Diseases: 1%
- Diabetes: 2%
- Disability and Secondary Conditions: 1%
- Educational and Community-based Programs: 9%
- Environmental Health: 3%
- Family Planning: 3%
- Food Safety: 0%
- Health Communication: 5%
- Heart Disease and Stroke: 6%
- HIV: 3%
- Immunization and Infectious Diseases: 1%
- Injury and Violence Prevention: 4%
- Maternal, Infant, and Child Health: 22%
- Medical Product Safety: 0%
- Mental Health and Mental Disorders: 4%
- Nutrition and Overweight: 2%
- Occupational Safety and Health: 0%
- Oral Health: 1%
- Physical Activity and Fitness: 4%
- Public Health Infrastructure: 16%
- Respiratory Diseases: 2%
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases: 1%
- Substance Abuse: 1%
- Tobacco Use: 1%
- Vision and Hearing: 1%

**Across the continuum, the Center supports the national and local efforts that prioritize and address health disparities. Below are tables that demonstrate where the Center-related projects fall within the Healthy People 2010 and the Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 priorities.**


www.healthypeople.gov
Health Services Research Initiatives (HSRI)

GOAL
To provide research, research training, and development of faculty, medical residents, fellows and students in population and translational research.

THE AIMS OF THE HSRI:
- Provide research and project support for Aurora Health Care, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Madison initiated projects with investigators at all levels, including facilitating inter-institutional collaborations.
- Establish opportunities for urban populations to participate in clinical trials and population health research.
- Expand translational research initiatives through participation in the UWS Institute of Clinical and Translational Research.
- Work hand-in-hand with the Center’s Community Partnership Initiatives to bring together community partners and clinic partners in collaboration on research that will improve the health of urban communities.

The Health Services Research Initiatives team has expertise in a number of areas including:
- Translational research
- Quantitative and qualitative research
- Protocol development
- Multi-site study coordination
- Study implementation
- Laboratory assistance
- Data management
- Statistical analysis
- Institutional Review Board submission
- Survey design and research methods.

The Center realizes its health service goals through the work of its entire faculty and staff, but has an HSRI team with diverse expertise that takes the lead. Team members include:

Jennifer Evertsen, MS, Health Services Research Program Manager
Meredith Keller, BA, WRAP Research Program Manager
Julie Katrichis, Research Assistant, Pediatric Asthma Assistant
Jennifer Kroll, BA, Associate Research Specialist, WiNHR Coordinator, Pediatric Asthma Clinical Coordinator
Ruth Perez, BA, Associate Research Specialist, Pediatric Asthma Clinical Coordinator
Katherine Pronschinske, BS, Associate Research Specialist, Wisconsin Research Education Network (WREN) Coordinator
Karen Blanchard, Senior Administrative Assistant for Aurora UW Medical Groups’ Research Core

“Translational research is the application of discoveries from basic biomedical and behavioral research toward the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of human disease, with the ultimate goal of improving public health.” – NIH
Selected Ongoing Health Service Research Initiatives

The Wisconsin Network for Health Research (WiNHR), is a collaborative effort involving the
- UW School of Medicine and Public Health,
- Aurora Health Care / Center for Urban Population Health,
- Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation, and
- Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation.

WiNHR was established to promote greater inter-institutional cooperation in research and to move research results to the bedside more efficiently and effectively. WiNHR has developed a multi-site infrastructure to facilitate clinical research that can be utilized and accessed by academic researchers and communities.

**Current on-going WiNHR projects by local investigators in which the Center is involved include:**

**Possible Complications of Infections During Pregnancy,**

- Enrolling 200 pregnant women to determine whether certain bacterial infections increase the risk of pre-term labor.

**Angiotensin converting enzyme polymorphism in Hispanic patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) and its relationship with kidney failure,** P. Vardeny, J. Bidwell, D. Baumgardner, J. Brill, J. Kroll, J. Evertsen, et al.

- Recruiting 15 Hispanic and 15 Caucasian patients with T2DM and assessing whether Hispanics have an increased risk of diabetic-related kidney failure.

**Past WiNHR Studies:**


- Enrolled 41 African American patients who had achieved a stable Warfarin dose to assist in the development of a pre-dosing Warfarin Calculator.

The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN), associated with WiNHR, is a statewide network of family medicine clinicians who plan and conduct joint research projects and education.

The mission of WREN is to improve health outcomes for the people of Wisconsin through education and through promoting and conducting primary care research in partnership with primary care clinicians and the communities they serve.

Two examples of WREN research projects being implemented in partnership with the Center are:

**AZMATICS: Arithromycin Asthma Trial in Community Settings (WREN/WiNHR),** D. Hahn, E. Bade, D. Baumgardner, K. Pronschinske

- Assess the use of azithromycin for the treatment of 12 adult patients diagnosed with asthma and the impact on quality of life.

**Quality of Life and Depression as Determinants of Treatment Adherence in Hypertension Patients,** L. Bautista, D. Baumgardner, K. Pronschinske

- Assess 280 patients newly diagnosed with hypertension who are starting antihypertensive medications to determine the relationship between medication compliance, depression, and quality of life.

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Working with the CUPH makes research possible, even with a busy clinical practice. They are there to support and guide you from the beginning of a project to the end, the staff is always friendly and helpful with ideas for resources I could never come up with alone...

– Elizabeth Bade, MD, UW Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Family Care Center
HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

AUW MG Research

Health Services Research Initiatives provide ongoing research support for AUW MG health care providers in conducting research and scholarly activities. The AUW MG Research Committee and the Center for Urban Population Health are currently supporting

- 15 AUW MG faculty with dedicated research time
- 50 AUW MG faculty projects.

Projects are aimed at quality improvement, geriatrics, women's health and pregnancy, geographic determinants of health, chronic disease management, healthy lifestyles, and health disparities.

CARE

A satellite site was established at Aurora Health Care for the implementation of pediatric asthma clinical trials through the nationwide Childhood Asthma Research and Education (CARE) Network.

Elizabeth Bade, MD, the Aurora Health Care Principal Investigator, is working hand-in-hand with Drs. Robert Lemanske and Christine Sorkness from UW-Madison to provide the opportunity for underserved, urban children to become involved with these clinical trials.

The Center has established an asthma research team that is dedicated to performing study visits including pulmonary function testing and teaching kids and parents about how to better care for their asthma.

The current CARE initiative includes Treating children to prevent Exacerbations of Asthma (TREXA). D. Baumgardner, E. Bade, R. Perez, J. Kroll, J. Katritis, J. Evertsen, D. Frazer. Children with mild asthma are often prescribed daily-inhaled corticosteroids (ICS); however, it is not clear how long these children must continue to take them. Keeping children on daily doses of ICS when their asthma is under good control could be costly, both in terms of medication as well as potential side effects and the burden daily doses place on the children and families.

The current goal is to randomize 15 children (6-18 years old) with mild asthma to determine how to safely and systematically wean children off daily ICS controller use and to administer ICS only during periods of illness.

Wisconsin Initiative to Promote Healthy Lifestyles (WIPHL) is a 5-year grant to provide evidence-based, cost effective SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) for substance abuse services using laypersons trained in motivational interviewing in three Aurora primary care clinics. Participants are given a brief screen and positive brief screens receive a full screen and other on-site SBIRT services.

The Center provides program management and quality improvement expertise across the three Milwaukee-based sites. Health educators for this project include C. Casselman and W. Rusch.

In year two of this project AUW MG clinics have brief-screened over 2,700 patients, full-screened over 630 patients, and referred a number of patients to treatment. In year three the goal is to brief-screen and full screen 75% of eligible patients and expand services to adolescents.

For more information about projects related to Health Services Research please visit www.cuph.org.

...It is truly inspirational to see a group of people so motivated to accomplish the task of improving the overall health of a community, with innovative ideas and commitment to goals. I have always enjoyed working with the Center and will continue to do so in the future whenever the opportunity arises.

– Elizabeth Bade, MD UW Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine Family Care Center
Bridging the Continuum from Health Science Research to Community Partnerships

By 2050, the number of individuals age 65 and over with Alzheimer’s could range from 11 million to 16 million unless science finds a way to prevent or effectively treat the disease.

The Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute (WAI), established by the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health under the leadership of Dr. Mark Sager, has a mission to create a public health environment in which Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias are widely recognized, well understood, aggressively and appropriately treated, and in which those who are afflicted and those who care for them receive the education, services and support they need to cope effectively with this devastating chronic disease.

In the spirit of the University of Wisconsin’s Wisconsin Idea, the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute has created a partnership with the Center for Urban Population Health to initiate a WAI Milwaukee site that will contribute to and collaborate with the rich programming that is taking place in the healthy aging community in Milwaukee.

Taking the lead in Milwaukee for WAI in bridging the continuum from Health Science to the Community is Gina Green-Harris, Senior Outreach Specialist. Gina leads WAI’s outreach programming and brings the Institute’s expertise to Milwaukee. She is working to assess the need for additional services for persons with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers, particularly in the African American community in the Milwaukee area. The Center supports the Institute’s focus in the following areas:

Community Education, Outreach and Public Awareness by obtaining input from community members to acknowledge current resources to promote empowerment, identify gaps in services, and partner with the community to create user friendly options to reverse the adverse affects of the disease for care givers and those with the disease.

Building Strong Collaborative Relationships with community-based organizations, state and local governmental aging agencies, local and regional medical systems, as well as other organizations that serve persons with dementia.

Professional Education/CME Training for medical professionals about Alzheimer’s disease and the importance of early diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

Research: The Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer’s Prevention (WRAP) is led by Mark Sager, MD, and the researchers at UW’s Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute, and consists of adult children of persons with Alzheimer’s disease, who are being studied for an increased risk of developing the disease. Participants provide lifestyle, health and genetic information and undergo memory and cognitive testing every two to four years. The information is used to better understand the cause of Alzheimer’s disease and ultimately identify ways to delay or prevent its onset. The local investigator for this study is Soryal Soryal, MD, at Aurora Health Care, and the Milwaukee site research program manager is Meredith Keller.

In late 2008, WAI, with support from the Center, continued to grow their community programming in Milwaukee through recruitment of additional team members. In 2009 the WAI Community team consists of:

Dorothy Edwards, PhD, Center Scientist, WAI Milwaukee Site Director
Gina Green-Harris, MBA, Senior Outreach Specialist
Stephanie Houston, MBA, Social Worker
Stephanie Johnson, PhD, Consultant
Nia Norris, BA, Outreach Assistant

Right to left: Aurora Health Care’s Soryal Soryal, MD and the Milwaukee site Research Program Manager, Meredith Keller
Community Partnership Initiatives

The Center’s Community Partnership Initiatives’ (CPI) goal is to strengthen and expand community partnerships that lead to the development of community-based research including community-based participatory and translational research.

The Center has developed 6 overarching aims that support their strategic plan and provide a framework for developing new projects and relationships.

AIMS
1. Establish connections and develop equitable community-academic partnerships with organizations that have a major potential for
   a. sustainability, and
   b. translation of research findings into practice, policy and community interventions.
2. Conduct community-based research, document health outcomes and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions by using a broad range of methodologies.
3. Assess urban population health needs including behavioral, environmental and social determinants and assess health risk factors in individuals and populations that will lead to improvements in overall community health outcomes.
4. Provide access to and disseminate user-friendly population health data to the community, stakeholders and researchers.
5. Build the capacity of community organizations through innovative partnerships, technical support and training.
6. Foster two-way translation (from the community to the Center and back again) and provide a connection between community partners and researchers.

The Center realizes its community partnership goals through the work of the entire faculty and staff at the Center, with leadership from the CPI team.

Loren Galvão, MD, MPH, Associate Director for Community Partnerships Initiatives
Robert Cherry, BS, Associate Outreach Specialist for Community-Based Initiatives
David Frazer, MPH, Community Partnerships and Communications Manager
Gina Green-Harris, MBA, Senior Outreach Specialist
Stephanie Houston, MBA, Social Worker
Virginia Zerpa Uriona, MPH, Outreach Specialist for Community-based Research
Nia Norris, BA, Outreach Assistant

This chart provides an overview of the types of partners with whom the Center works. These partners all exist within the community but are not necessarily defined as community partners. The coalitions, taskforces and workgroups are comprised of dozens of other community-based organizations, governmental institutions, and other academicians. New partnerships come from the strong relationships the CPI staff have made while actively participating in these coalitions, taskforces and workgroups.
Center Collaboration

The Community Partnership Initiatives team believes that participation in health- and research-related committees are key to being current with trends, best practices and to developing new partnerships. The Center’s participation results in positioning staff and the Center at the forefront of community-based research and other initiatives.

As of the end of 2008, the Community Partnership Initiatives staff participated in over 20 community-related committees or taskforces. The follow are examples of the types of committees they serve on:

- Black Health Coalition – Faith African American Network and HIV Community Issues Committee
- Milwaukee Community Health Assessment (MAPP): Steering Committee
- Milwaukee County Department on Aging: Wellness Council
- Milwaukee County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
- Milwaukee Latino Health Coalition: Steering Committee
- Milwaukee Regional Cancer Care Network
- Healthy Birth Outcomes Working Group

Partner Relationships

It is the Center’s vision to lead innovative, community-connected urban research and education and community engagement is the cornerstone to achieving this. In addition to the Center’s founding institutions, the Center’s partners and collaborators, as of 2008, number over 260 and are involved on various levels. There are many ways to categorize partnerships.

Of the more than 260 collaborators and partners, some lead projects and the Center contributes to their common mission and others participate along side the Center. The Center also contributes to existing networks’ and organizations’ projects in-kind without any formal agreements.

**Funded Key Partners** are organizations that have funded the Center and/or have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Center to implement specific projects or research activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funded Key Partners, 116</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project-Related/Community Participating Partners, 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributing Partners, 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissemination Partners, 16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This chart defines and quantifies the partner relationships of the Center.

**Project Related / Community Participating Partners** are organizations that participate in Center-related projects. They do not have any binding contracts with the Center but collaborate voluntarily.

**Contributing Partners** are organizations to which Center staff contribute in-kind assistance towards accomplishing the mission of the organization or partnership. This can also describe a workgroup or taskforce that Center staff contributes to on a regular basis.

**Dissemination Partners** are organizations that contribute to the dissemination of Center-related projects. These can also be organizations that contribute to the dissemination of health issue information with the Center that is not related to a specific Center project.

Examples of the many community partners that the Center works with include:

- AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
- Black Health Coalition of WI Inc
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Core / El Centro
- The Council for the Spanish Speaking
- Cream City Medical Society
- Komen for the Cure® Milwaukee Affiliate
- Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin
- Social Development Commission
- United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc. (UMOS)

Visit www.cuph.org for a full list of Center partners, coalitions and committees CPI staff participate on and additional details of community partner projects.
Core Expertise

Health Services Research and Community Partnerships Initiatives are supported by four cores that provide expertise in the areas of
- Design, Analysis and Evaluation
- Information Technology
- Communication and Dissemination
- Business Services and Operations.

These functions are integrated through a centralized administrative unit that negotiates human and financial resources among its three institutional partners.

The following describes the human capacity and expertise that support over 100 active Center projects and collaborations.

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CUPH has a top-notch team of grant-savvy administrators who have provided me with high quality support through the difficult process of applying for federal funds. This administrative expertise is critical to our scientific endeavors and makes it possible to successfully compete for larger, more complex research grants.

– Paul Florsheim, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Social Welfare, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

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Design, Analysis and Evaluation

GOAL

The goal of the Design, Analysis and Evaluation (DAE) core is to provide quantitative and qualitative research and evaluation support to Center staff, faculty and partners.

The DAE team has experience in designing research studies, basic and advanced statistical analysis, qualitative analysis and presentation of results. It also has expertise in multiple data collection methodologies including survey design, web-based surveys, Teleform (scannable) surveys, semi-structured and structured interviews and focus groups. Additionally, they have worked with many community groups to plan and conduct evaluations of their programming both for reporting to funders and for program improvement.

The Design, Analysis and Evaluation Core’s expertise and support to research and community collaborations is provided by a highly qualified team that includes

Jessica Bergstrom, MPH, Manager and Associate Researcher
Han-Yang Chen, MS, Biostatistician
Melissa Lemke, BA, Research Specialist
Naoyo Mori, PhD, Epidemiologist.
Select Highlighted Projects

The Health Care Task Force on Pre- and Inter-Conception Care began in the Spring of 2007 and examined the issue of cultural competency and its relation to receipt of pre- and inter-conception care by low-income Milwaukee women. In this project, DAE staff provided project coordination, conducted data collection, analysis, and disseminated results. With Task Force direction, Bergstrom and Lemke worked together to develop and implement a survey of healthcare providers, and conduct and analyze 13 focus groups containing women from different cultural backgrounds.

The final report examined the differences between the self-reported cultural competency of the providers and what the healthcare consumers were reporting. The results led to the development of an action plan and a Wisconsin Partnership Project implementation grant and were presented at several local and national conferences.

During 2008, the Center undertook a project to document the health of Milwaukee. Using many different data sources and modeling it after the UW Population Health Institute’s Wisconsin County Health Rankings, the Health of Milwaukee Report examines the intersection between socioeconomic status and health indicators within the City of Milwaukee. Chen and Mori accessed information from a variety of local and national sources and created a clear and meaningful presentation of the data.

For more information on DAE-supported projects and to learn more about their services, please visit [www.cuph.org](http://www.cuph.org).

Information Technology

**GOAL**

The purpose of the Information Technology Core is to provide computing services to the Center’s staff and partners to advance their research and educational endeavors. The Center is able to create and provide a wide range of innovative and secure information technologies by building on the infrastructures of its institutional partners.

The IT staff has expertise in a number of areas including:

- Grant/proposal consultation
- Needs/gap assessments
- Project management
- Requirements delineation
- Secure storage of sensitive data
- Database development
- Web application development
- Interfaces with other information systems
- New technology development
- Linking data sets (patient-level and spatial).

The Core’s expertise and support to research and community collaborations is realized by an innovative team that includes:

Dale Steber, MS, Supervisor

Andy Marek, BBA, Senior Web Application Developer

Simeona Todorova, BA, Web Application Developer

Matthew Weiss, Information Technology Intern.
The Information Technology Core has been amazing to work with. Their level of expertise and professionalism has taken the Milwaukee County Department on Aging-UWM community-academic partnership to the next level. The automated process has positioned us to more effectively track outcomes, and also solicit extramural funding investigating long-term benefits of physical activity on selected health parameters. – Scott J. Strath, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, College of Health Sciences, Department of Human Movement Sciences

Select Highlighted Projects

Starting Strong
Early intervention programs in Milwaukee County that provide services to young children with disabilities have identified a need for a database system that will improve collection, storage, and sharing of information among providers. The County and the project’s principal investigators, Paula Rhyner, PhD, and Tim Patrick, PhD, from UWM, partnered with CUPH to develop this system. The information technology core has defined the project requirements and completed the development of the referral management module. In 2009, the team will complete the Individual Family Service Plan module and pursue integration with the state’s Birth-to-3 Program.

Wellness Works
The Milwaukee County Department on Aging and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee have partnered to track the outcomes of seniors aged 65+ who utilized fitness centers at five senior centers around the county. Working with the principal investigator, Scott Strath, PhD, the information technology team has automated the data collection process through the development of scannable forms, a web application to manage project data, summary reports, and a download of study data for analysis. The implementation of the data collection process will save tremendous staff time and reduce opportunities for human error. The system will be placed into production in January 2009.

For more information on IT Core-supported projects and to learn more about their services, please visit www.cuph.org.

Communication and Dissemination
The Center’s strategic plan for 2008 through 2011 has a goal to “develop internal infrastructure including information technology, design and analysis, communications, and business operations.” To this end, resources were aligned to begin to develop a concerted communication plan for the Center and its related projects. The plan provides the framework for more targeted and consistent communication by the Center and for its institutional partners. The plan also utilizes the valued resources of each of its partners to create a synergy in its communication efforts.

The strategic goal is to continue to grow this Core and its human and resource capacity.

GOAL
The Communication and Dissemination Core’s goal is to provide the infrastructure for the Center to professionally and consistently communicate, in a targeted manner, to its faculty, staff, many partners and its various stakeholders.

EXPERTISE
The Center and its staff achieve their communication and dissemination goals through a team effort. The team assists the faculty, Center Scientists and community partners to meet their communication needs. The team also supports the Center’s faculty and scientists in preparation and dissemination of their project findings through poster, presentation, and manuscript preparation. Team members include:

David Frazer, MPH, Community Partnerships and Communications Manager
Trina Salm Ward, MSW, CCRC, Research Program Manager II
Andrew Marek, BBA, Senior Web Application Developer
Marilyn Anderson, ASB, Administrative Assistant
Anne Marie Talsky, BA, Senior Administrative Assistant
**Select Highlighted Projects**

In addition to creating a communication plan for the Center and its related projects, a number of other products have been created to broaden knowledge about what the Center does and how it can assist others. Communication consists of reports, brochures, presentations, and posters.

In early 2008, the Center completed a report that documented the history of the Center since its inception. This report details how the strengths of each of the Center’s institutional partners have provided the platform for the Center to realize its vision, “to be a destination where researchers can lead innovative, community-connected urban population health research and education.” To download a copy of the report please visit www.cuph.org

**Business Services and Operations**

**GOAL**

To be responsive to the business and operational needs of the Center faculty, investigators and research staff.

**EXPERTISE**

The Business Services and Operations core has developed a unique set of skills and expertise over the history of the Center. Through the hundreds of research projects the Center has led and collaborated on as well as the unique partnerships among public and private entities, the Center has developed expertise in the following areas:

- Project management
- Institutional Review Board submission and reporting
- Collaborative fund development
- Contracts and agreements
- Pre-award grant process (including budget development)
- Multi-institutional collaborations/agreements
- Business associate/affiliate agreements

The Center’s business and operations goals are realized through the collective work of the faculty and staff at the Center, with the support of the Business Services and Operations Core.

**Lee Banfi MBA, CPA, FHFMA**, Manager of External Research and Business Services

**Trina Salm Ward MSW, CCRC**, Research Program Manager II

**Marilyn Anderson, ASB**, Administrative Assistant
Human Capacity

The Center is governed by an Executive Committee which provides oversight and guidance on the Center's mission and goals. The Executive Committee is made up of representatives from each of the Center’s collaborating institutions, as well as representatives from key community organizations.

Current Executive Committee Members
Patricia Arredondo, EdD
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Professor, Educational Psychology
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Luis Antonio (Tony) Báez, PhD
President/CEO
Council for the Spanish Speaking, Inc.

Bevan Baker, CHE
Commissioner
Milwaukee Health Department

Deborah Blanks, CCAP (Chair)
Chief Executive Officer
Social Development Commission

Maureen Durkin, PhD
Associate Professor
UW School of Medicine and Public Health

Patrick Falvey, PhD
Senior Vice President and Chief Integration Officer
Aurora Health Care

Randall Lambrecht, PhD
Vice President for Research and Academic Relations
Aurora Health Care

Sally Lundeen, PhD, RN
Dean, College of Nursing
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Paula Rhyner, PhD
Professor
Interim Associate Dean for Research
College of Health Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Jeffrey Stearns, MD
Medical Director for Medical Education
Aurora UW Medical Group

Bruce Van Cleave, MD
Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer
Aurora Health Care

Ex Officio
Dennis Baumgardner, MD
Associate Director for Health Services Initiatives, Center for Urban Population Health
Director of Campus Research
Aurora UW Medical Group
Professor of Family Medicine
UW School of Medicine and Public Health

Ron Cisler, PhD
Director, Center for Urban Population Health
Associate Professor
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee/UW School of Medicine and Public Health

Loren Galvão, MD, MPH
Associate Director for Community Partnerships, Center for Urban Population Health
Associate Scientist, College of Nursing’s Center for Cultural Diversity and Global Health
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Honorary Fellow
UW School of Medicine and Public Health

Core Faculty and Staff
The Center’s directorship maintains administrative and/or academic affiliations and responsibilities which allow them to strategically develop the Center’s population health activities while maintaining a strong connectedness with the Center’s institutional partners. This allows them to bring a broad perspective to the table when guiding the Center.

Ron Cisler, PhD, Director, Associate Professor of Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Associate Professor of Population Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Dennis Baumgardner, MD, Associate Director for Health Services Initiatives, Director of Campus Research, Aurora University of Wisconsin Medical Group, and Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Loren Galvão, MD, MPH, Associate Director for Community Partnerships, Associate Scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Nursing’s Center for Cultural Diversity and Global Health, and Honorary Fellow at the Department of Population Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.
2008 Staff:
Marilyn Anderson, ASB, Administrative Assistant
Lee Banfi, MBA, CPA, FH-FMA, Manager, External Research and Business Services
Barbara Beck, PhD, Public Health Education and Training Coordinator
Jessica Bergstrom, MPH, Manager, Design and Analysis & Associate Researcher
Karen Blanchard, Senior Administrative Assistant
Han-Yang Chen, MS, Biostatistician/Assistant Researcher
Robert Cherry, Jr., BS, Outreach Specialist
Jennifer Everts, MS, Health Services Research Program Manager I
Paul Florsheim, PhD, Center Scientist & Associate Professor
David Frazer, MPH, Manager, Community Based Initiatives & Communications
Gina Green-Harris, MBA, Senior Outreach Specialist
Erin Gutowski, BS, Project Assistant
Amy Harley, PhD, Center Scientist & Assistant Professor
Julie Katrichis, Research Assistant
Meredith Keller, BA, Healthy Aging Research Program Manager I
Jennifer Kroll, BA, Associate Research Specialist
Melissa Lemke, BA, Research Specialist
Andrew Marek, BBA, Senior Web Application Developer
Emelia Mcauliff, MPH, Assistant Researcher
Naoyo Mori, PhD, Epidemiologist/Assistant Researcher
Nia Norris, BA, Outreach Assistant
Ruth Perez, BA, Associate Research Specialist
Katherine Pronschinske, BS, MT, Practice Enhancement & Education Asst. & Associate Research Specialist
Trina Salm Ward, MSW, CCRC, Research Program Manager II
Dale Steber, MS, Supervisor, Information Technology
Geoffrey Swain, MD, MPH, Center Scientist & Associate Professor
Anne Marie Talsky, BA, Senior Administrative Assistant
Simeona Todorova, BA, Web Application Developer
Paula Tran, BS, Project Assistant
Matthew Weiss, Information Technology Intern
Virginia Zerpa-Uriona, MPH, Outreach Specialist

Center Scientists and Affiliates with Active Projects in 2008
Betty Amuzu, MD, Aurora UW Medical Group
Laura Anderko, PhD, RN, UW-Milwaukee College of Nursing
Nicole Angresano, United Way of Greater Milwaukee
Elizabeth Bade, MD, Aurora UW Medical Group
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Ella Dunbar, MS, Social Development Commission
Maureen Durkin, PhD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health
New Faculty and Staff in 2008

Han-Yang Chen, MS, Biostatistician/Assistant Researcher, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Robert Cherry, Jr., BS, Outreach Specialist, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Midwest AIDS Training and Education Center

Paul Florsheim, PhD, Center Scientist & Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Helen Bader School of Social Welfare

Amy Harley, PhD, Center Scientist & Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Health Sciences

Gina Green-Harris, MBA, Outreach Specialist, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute

Erin Gutowski, BS, Project Assistant, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Julie Katrichis, Research Assistant, Aurora Diversified
Other Staff News
Jennifer Everts, MS, accepted the position of Health Services Research Program Manager I; she previously worked as an Assistant Researcher at the Center.

David Frazer, MPH, was promoted to the role of Manager, Community Partnerships and Communications from his previous role as Coordinator of Community-Based Initiatives.

Meredith Keller, BA, was promoted to the role of Healthy Aging Program Manager in addition to her role as Program Manager of the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention.

Melissa Lemke, BA, was promoted to Research Specialist supporting the Design and Analysis team; she previously worked as an Associate Research Specialist on the Health Services Research Initiatives team.

Trina Salm Ward, MSW, was promoted to the role of Infant, Maternal and Child Health Research Program Manager in addition to her role as Research Program Manager II of the Center.

Dale Steber, MS, Supervisor, Information Technology, was recognized by Aurora Distinguished Paper presented at Aurora Scientific Day, Milwaukee, WI.

Virginia Zerpa-Uriona, MPH, was promoted to the role of Service Learning Coordinator in addition to her role as Outreach Specialist for Community Partnerships Initiatives.

Select 2008 Publications


Selected 2008 Presentations
Alexander-Young, M. & Baumgardner, D.J. Hepatitis B Vaccine Provision to Milwaukee-Area Infants. Presentation at Aurora Scientific Day, Milwaukee, WI.

Bade, E., Everts, J., Smiley, S. Health Care Disparities: Patient perspectives on navigating the health care system. Oral presentation at the Wisconsin Research and Education Network Forum, Wisconsin Dells, WI.


Bidwell, J. & Gamez, M. Medical Home for Spanish-Speaking Diabetics. Special Topic Breakfast, 4th Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Annual Spring Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Burlage, R. & Wu, C. Cryptosporidium and our water. On Public Health Series, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Dunbar, E., Bergstrom, J. Public Health Partnerships: An example of a successful community academic partnership valuing African American cultural perspectives and community assets while addressing youth violence in Milwaukee. Oral presentation at the Public Health Partners Wisconsin Public Health Association meeting in Madison, Wisconsin.


Johnson, T., Stier, A. Strategic Approaches to Increasing Healthy Birth Outcomes Update on Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) project in Racine. Wingspread Conference Center, Racine.

Johnson, T., Nowak, E., Malnory, M., Stich, D., Stier, A., Jones, T. Fetal and infant mortality in the city of Racine – Update for Racine Infant Mortality Coalition, Racine, WI.


Miller, N., Strath, S., Swartz, A., Loy, M., & Ewalt, L. Validity of downloadable pedometers during laboratory and overground walking in young and older adults. Free Communication Presentation. American College of Sports Medicine, Indianapolis, IN.


Nowak, E., Johnson, T., Malnory, M., Jones, T. Losing a Baby: Statistics and What Mothers Stories Tell Us. Peer reviewed poster presentation, Midwest Society for Nursing Research, Indianapolis, IN. Peer reviewed poster presentation, Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care, Appleton, WI. Peer reviewed poster presentation, Building Bridges to Evidence Based Practice, Milwaukee, WI.


Salm Ward, T.C. Interviewed by WUWM Radio’s LaToya Dennis, WUWMNews, “Disparity in Infant Mortality Rates Troubling.”

Swain, G.R., Booske, B., Athens, J., Taylor, K., Remington, P. Wisconsin County Health Rankings: A Tool for Population Health Improvement. Poster at the National Association of County and City Health Officials annual meeting.


Wolkenstein, A., Evertsen, J. Partners of Prostate Cancer Patients: Support Needs and the Role of the Primary Care Physician. Presented at the Wisconsin Research and Education Network Forum, Wisconsin Dells, WI. Presented at The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, Behavior Science Forum, Chicago, IL.


Financial Capacity

The Center for Urban Population Health leverages its three institutional partners’ contributions in a complimentary way that limits duplications of human and physical resources. The Center provides the best outcomes for the community and a solid return on investment for its institutional partners.

From 2003-2008, infrastructure funds from the Center’s institutional partners – the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Aurora Health Care – totaled approximately $3,407,176 million. With these funds, the Center leveraged another $7,663,390 million in extramural funding to its institutional partners. Overall, approximately $2.24 has been returned for every $1 invested. During the same time span, the Center has experienced a four-fold increase in its annual budget from approximately $520,000 in 2003 to $2.6 million in 2008.

2008 SOURCES OF FUNDS

WISCONSIN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS ($1,036,126)
- Evaluation of the Milwaukee Nurse Family Partnership Program
- Expanded Community Role in the Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission
- Expanding and Sustaining the “Safe Mom, Safe Baby” Project
- Group Prenatal Care for Vulnerable Pregnant Teens
- Health Care Task Force on Pre- and Inter-Conception Care
- Homicide Review Commission
- Milwaukee Alzheimers Prevention Program
- Milwaukee Regional Cancer Care Network
- Multi-Level Information Systems and Health Promotion Interventions for Milwaukee’s School Children
- PeriData.Net®: A Rural/Urban Information Network
- Proposal to Implement MPH Degree Program
- Public Health Development Plan
- Safe Mom, Safe Baby
- Social Network Testing to Identify Undiagnosed HIV Infection in Vulnerable Populations to AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
- Starting Strong: Early Childhood Integrated Database System: Implementation and Evaluation of grant to UWM
- Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW)
- Wisconsin Network for Health Research (WiNHR)
- Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN)
FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL CONTRACTS ($504,162)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (Social Network Testing)
American Geriatric Society, Online CME
Aurora Health Care (Susan G. Komen Community Profile)
City of Milwaukee Health Department
Marquette Dental School, Geriatric Oral Health Website
Nanosphere, Inc. (Evaluation of Ultrasensitive Troponin Assay to Detect Heart Attack)
United Way of Greater Milwaukee (Evaluation of Teen Pregnancy Programs)
UIW-Milwaukee Research Growth Initiative Grant (Violence in the Lives of HIV-Infected Women in Malawi to UWM
Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention with the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute
Wisconsin Association of Perinatal Care, Perinatal Database Technology Development
Wisconsin Hospitals (~80 hospitals statewide), PeriData.Net® System Maintenance and Service

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment of the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Wisconsin Initiative to Promote Healthy Lifestyles – WIPHL)
Midwest AIDS Training & Education Center
National Association of County and City Health Officials (Pandemic Preparedness Plans for Antiviral Use and Distribution) to Milwaukee Health Department
National Institutes of Health's National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (TReating EXacerbations of Asthma – TREXA)
National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Aging (K01 Mentored Career Award – Scott Strath, PhD)
National Institutes of Health (Proactive Risk Assessment of Primary Care of the Elderly – with WREN)
Office of Justice Assistance (City of Milwaukee Homicide Review Records Needs Assessment)

Faye McBeath Foundation (E-Sight Maintenance and Development to Prevent Blindness Wisconsin)
Greater Milwaukee Foundation (Telemedicine in Milwaukee's Elementary Schools – TIMES)
Starting Strong: Early Childhood Integrated Database System Information Technology grant to UWM
Starting Strong: Early Childhood Integrated Database System: Standardizing the Data for Birth to 3 Programs to UWM
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (Weight Management for a Defined Employee Population Using an Interactive e-Health Portal)
Silberman Fund (Development of a Lifecourse Timeline Followback Approach to Assessing Alcohol Dependence Recovery and Change Attempts grant to the UWM Center for Addiction and Behavioral Health Research)

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER CORE SUPPORT ($1,067,176)
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Aurora Health Care, Inc.
Aurora Medical Group