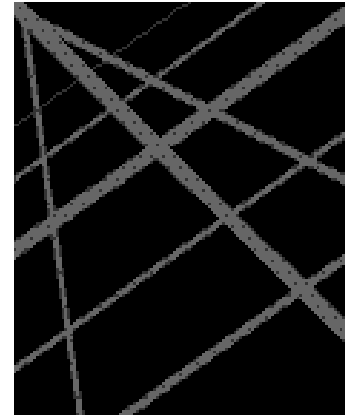


CROSS ROADS



COMMUNITY-BASED
COLLABORATIVE
RESEARCH FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE



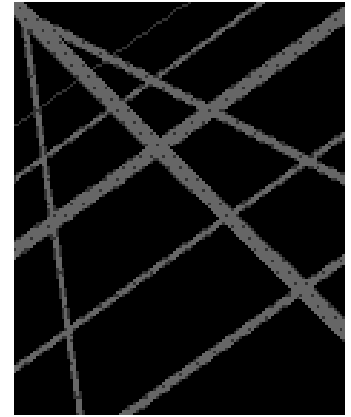
ABSTRACTS

CROSSROADS II
Community-Based Collaborative Research for Social Justice

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CROSS ROADS



COMMUNITY-BASED
COLLABORATIVE
RESEARCH FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE



SESSION ABSTRACTS



The Institute for
Community Research

SESSION ABSTRACTS

A Picture Isn't Worth a Thousand Words: Evaluating Community Arts Programs.

Evaluating a community arts program is an important, necessary, yet often confounding task. This session will include examples of successful evaluation tools and program models, address challenges that community arts organizations face in evaluating their programs, and hear from the funders' perspectives. Discussion will focus on such topics as how to measure the impact/success of a program; what tools are available; implementing appropriate and systematic evaluations and disseminating the results; and establishing and sustaining arts and research partnerships. The roundtable format will provide the opportunity for lively, thoughtful and informative discussion among participants and attendees. (F-2)

Panelists: **COLEMAN, Colleen and RADDA, Kim** (Institute for Community Research); **CUSANO, John** (CT Commission on Culture and Tourism); **KORZA, Pam** (Animating Democracy); and **MARSHALL, David** (Massachusetts Cultural Council).

A Revolution Conceived in the Most Unlikely of Places: A Community Based Action Research Journal. This session will be a large-scale informal "focus group" to discuss the challenges and synergies in the conception of a community-based research journal that enlists community leaders and activists as research designers and editors to assure the relevance of research and cultural "fit" for academic research, as well as to create a dialogic space for academic types to publicly converse with representatives of the communities that academic research seeks to understand and to change. The notion here is that a peer (both community and academic) reviewed journal will include articles containing research that is designed for and in collaboration with communities as well as essays, poetry, stories, etc., by community representatives that critiques the research that is published and suggests avenues for future research. The journal would be distributed to the communities involved through: (1) an academic journal; (2) a shorter-form free tabloid paper; and (3) a longer form, interactive "wiki" e-journal. (F-3)

Panelists: **SMITH, Doug** (Project Peacemaker, University of North Dakota); **NASTASIA, Diana Julia** (School of Communication, University of North Dakota); **MYERS, Monique A.** (Human Communications, Stonehill College).

Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Children and their Families. This panel will present research evaluating different models to engage and retain children and their families in mental health treatment. (S-7).

Panelists: **GOPALAN, Geetha** (Columbia University School of Social Work); **ANDONIAN, Jeanette** (University of Southern Maine School of Social Work); **RODRIGUEZ, James** (Columbia University School of Social Work and Columbia University Child and Adolescent Psychiatry).

All Health is Local: Community Partnerships to Address Health Inequities. The Riverwest Health Initiative is a neighborhood coalition that grew from a need for improved community health. It began in 2002, when a group of neighbors and community-organizing partners met to identify strategies for strengthening the health of local residents. Over the next four years the coalition completed a comprehensive community assessment and strategic plan for this community of 6,433 households, applied for local funding and hired a community health nurse to expand the community's capacity for health.

This report will include a description of the growing partnership, results of the community assessment developed and conducted by community partners, and health priorities identified by the community members. Most community health assessments are focused on health behaviors and other epidemiologic information. This assessment includes a comprehensive survey of residents' perceptions of their physical and emotional health, home and neighborhood environment, parenting and caretaking responsibilities and utilization of health and other community resources. The local priorities and strategic action plan identified by the Riverwest Health Initiative were specific to the needs and strengths of the neighborhood. These results will be reported in comparison with community health assessment priorities for the surrounding zip code area, the city and the state. This report will include the results of the local community assessment and the community-based, participatory action processes used to implement and sustain the community's capacity for health improvement. (F-1).

Panelists: **BAISCH, Mary Jo, Ph.D. RN, and SANDERS, James, MD, MPH**
(University of Wisconsin); **LOVERA, Dalia, McCABE-SELLER, B, FRAZIER, K.,**
STRICKLAND, E., and BOGLE, M.L. (USDA, Delta NRI); **BREDA, Karen and**
GROOT, Kim (University of Hartford).

Artist / Researcher Collaborations and Negotiations: A Roundtable discussion. How can artists and researchers most effectively work together to create change for social justice? Community-based researchers are turning to artists to help them better reach communities who may be uninterested or skeptical of traditional modes of scientific-based inquiry and practice. Artist collaborations can help foster scientific research data gathering and dissemination of results. Meanwhile artists who wish to create change in communities or amongst policy-makers may collaborate with researchers to produce scientifically informed art. This roundtable discussion will explore some of the challenges of integrating artists' creative processes with the requirements of scientific research. What are some of the major challenges that arise in artist-researcher collaborations and what are some solutions? (F-3)

Panelists: **BERMUDEZ, Rey and ICR XPerience Project Artist; McCARGAR, Laura;**
SCHENSUL, Jean J., VALEZCO, Orlando and COLEMAN, Colleen (Institute for
Community Research); **and SIMMONS, Deborah** (Manchester Community College).

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Art and Healing: Connecticut VNA's Hospice Program. Hospice programs have been providing care to patients at the end of life and to their families in the United States since the early 1980s. This care is provided by a multi-disciplinary team of nurses, social workers, spiritual care providers, bereavement counselors and volunteers. In 2000, Connecticut VNA added "Expressive Arts" as a component of our complementary services primarily in an effort to further broaden available choices of support and expression for our patients and their families.

Our Expressive Arts program offers a number of modalities including Puppetry, Poetry, Life Review Paths Murals, Music and Multi-Media expressive projects. Modalities are chosen based on indication of patient or through cues or "openings" as assessed by the Expressive Arts Practitioner. The results are often powerful expressions that help to facilitate connection to one's life and legacy and can help in finding meaning and enhancing quality of life. (F-1)

Panelists: TRUBEY, Paul, M.S.W., LCSW; BAILEY, Christine; ROSANO, Susan (Connecticut VNA's Hospice Program).

Autism Advocacy: A Long Way from Science to Practice. Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) are currently affecting 1 in 150 eight-year-old American children. Many effective screening and diagnostic instruments, as well as intervention methods, have been developed during the last 30 years. However, significant challenges remain in public awareness, early identification, and access to appropriate medical, behavioral, and educational intervention. Panelists from diverse backgrounds- such as researchers, educators, service providers, advocates, and parents- will discuss the following issues: a) economic, social, cultural, linguistic, institutional and environmental barriers in early identification of and effective intervention for autism; b) experiences and challenges of implementing science-based intervention in the home, school and community; c) politics and power struggles in advocating for appropriate services; d) building collaborative partnerships for advancing evidence- based approaches. (F-3)

Panelists: LI, Jianghong (Institute for Community Research); LETSO, Sozanne; MATHIU, Thyde Dumont; FOREMAN, Christina (Hope Speech and Language Center/UMASS Amherst).

Best Practices Intervention Models: Development, Implementation Evaluation, Dissemination and Replication. This Session will highlight the development, implementation, evaluation, replication and dissemination of best practice service models aimed at addressing health inequities through case study examples. (F-1)

Panelists: DAMIO, Grace; BAKER, Grace Duarte; KYER, Nan; VEGA, Sonia; PEREZ-RIVERA, Karem; SEGURA-PEREZ, Sofia (Hispanic Health Council).

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Bilingual language learning or language disorder -- How do you tell the difference?

Oftentimes the speech and language patterns produced by children who are learning English as a second language are confused with the patterns that indicate a speech and/or language disorder. This skill-building workshop focuses on differentiating typical characteristics of language learning from language disorders in bilingual children. We will explore cultural and linguistic differences that will shed light on some of the confusion faced by both parents and professionals in determining speech and language skills in bilingual children. Review of case studies and assessment materials will provide greater understanding of linguistically diverse children, particularly speakers of Spanish and African-American English dialect. Attendees are invited to share cases of interest.

(F-2).

Panelists: FOREMAN, Christina, PhD, CCC-SLP (Hope Speech and Language Center/UMASS Amherst)

Bridging the Gap Between Grassroots Organizing and Research for Policy Reform: The Connecticut Experience. In 2005, Connecticut became the first state in the country to equalize its sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine. The passing of this legislation came as a result of two years of planning and organizing by grassroots organizers and researchers. The strategies developed which ultimately equalized crack-powder sentencing has produced a model of advocacy that is centered on solid partnerships and strategies with and between researchers and grassroots organizers. The roundtable discussion will consist of researchers, grassroots organizers and advocates that worked on the crack-powder cocaine legislation. They will openly discuss key strategies to the crack-powder victory, what a solid partnership between researchers and organizers looks like, ways research was used to build the coalition that ultimately passed crack-powder legislation and how the model can be best applied in other settings. The goal of the roundtable is for attendees to gain knowledge of practical tools and strategies for grassroots advocacy and legislative reform to be used in their sector and setting. (S-5)

Panelists: JONES, Lorenzo (A Better Way Foundation); SAYEGH, Gabriel (State Organizing and Policy Project at Drug Policy Alliance); BLACK, Dr. Tim (Center for Social Research, University of Hartford); GREENE, Judy (Justice Strategies); ROOKS, Robert (Soros Justice Fellow with Justice Strategies)

Challenges Conducting Research to Benefit Those Moving Through Correctional Facilities.

The walls between prisons and communities are more permeable than most people realize. Prisoners frequently suffer from a variety of co-morbidities, including HIV, HCV, chemical dependency, mental illness, and TB. Incarceration and release affect both individual and public health. Identifying effective health interventions for this population is of critical importance, yet conducting prisoner research is fraught with ethical and operational challenges. This session will

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explore the intersection of prisoner and community health, present data from recent studies on prisoners, and discuss challenges and strategies for engaging in research with this population. (F-3)

Panelists: **ALTICE, Frederick L., MD** (Yale University School of Medicine); **SPAULDING, Anne, MD, MPH** (Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University); **WOHL, David, MD** (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill).

Challenges in HIV Prevention, Services and Research. This panel will discuss challenges in forging successful partnerships, conducting ethical research to prevent HIV, and providing services to those infected/affected by HIV. (S-5)

Panelists: **SALONIA, Jennifer** (Institute for Community Research); **KELLY, Kristin** (University of Connecticut); **GUTA, Adrian and FLICKER, Sarah Guta** (The Ontario HIV Network and York University); **SMITH, Ellen and WERKMEISTER-ROZAS, Lisa** (University of Connecticut School of Social Work).

Changing the Climate for Participation: Stakeholders in Climate Change Adaptation Research, Policy and Implementation. Public participation in adaptation to climate change in the United States is vital. Yet few have said so, and even fewer can say specifically how or why it's important, and how to achieve it. The panelists offer concrete examples, ideas, and strategies. (S-7)

Panelists: **RAPS, Beth and CARTER, Lynne** (Adaptation Network); **GALE, Sid** (Integrated Management Controls).

Community-Based Collaborative Research for Youth with Disabilities. This panel will explore various approaches to improving the lives of youth with disabilities, or disabled youth, through combined efforts of community-based researchers, service providers, youth with disabilities, parents and disability advocates. A focus will be on how community involvement in research and advocacy efforts enhances the health outcomes and quality of life for youth with disabilities. More specifically, youth involvement in research and advocacy efforts contributes to youth empowerment and the sustainability of advances in health and public policy for people with disabilities. (F-4)

Panelists: **CROMLEY, Ellen** (Institute for Community Research); **MILAZZO, Maria** (State University of New York, Department of Neurology); **and GIBBS, Wade** (University of Connecticut Center for Students with Disabilities).

Community Based Research Organizations (CBROs): Founders, Funders and Functions.

Community based research organizations are independent centers that are dedicated to research to promote social justice and to struggle against racial ethnic and other forms of discrimination and disparities. These organizations usually represent a unique combination of action oriented social science researchers, representatives of local communities the organization intends to collaborate with, and others with diverse interdisciplinary skills. The issues they address and the action, collaborative and community approaches they utilize are often very different from institutes and centers established in university settings and are subject to different opportunities and constraints. The reasons for establishing such centers, the resources (human, financial and social) brought to bear in their founding, the ways they build partnerships and negotiate the university/community collaborative research movement, their vulnerabilities and strengths, their current and future promise in the contemporary political and social environment and how researcher activists can build CBROs will constitute the focus of this session. Founders or long term action researchers and board members or trustees from each of four organizations, in Florida, Cincinnati and Hartford will constitute the panel for this session. (F-2)

Participants: UNTERMEYER, Alayne (Florida Institute for Community Research), MILLS, Lisa, BURLow, Kathleen and HARMONY, Judith (Harmony Center); SINGER, Merrill (Hispanic Health Council); SCHENSUL, Jean, MUELLER, Marnie and KREMER, Richard (Institute for Community Research).

Community Leadership and Empowerment Training. This workshop will provide participants with an opportunity to experience several sample exercises from the Community Leadership and Empowerment Training (CLET) series that has been offered to residents of public and assisted housing. The purpose of CLET is to teach skills that empower people to become more active and effective in their communities. The training is especially helpful for members of tenants' associations or those interested in forming an association. The exercises are based on a curriculum co-developed by the presenter entitled Learn to Organize Your Neighborhood. The longer version usually consists of six 90-minute sessions. Topics addressed include: 1) What is Community; 2) Finding our Leaders; 3) Running Effective Meetings; 4) How does a Neighborhood Grow; 5) Gaining Power to Organize; and 6) Celebrating Community. The interactive exercises and activities for each topic will be shared. (S-7)

Facilitator: KROM, Wendy (Community Consulting Services)

Community Research Partnership Program: A Project of Yale's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA). This panel describes Yale's Center for International Research on AIDS (CIRA) Community Research Partnership Program (CRPP) that supports pilot research by community-based organizations in collaboration with CIRA scientists.

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The panel, consisting of community and CIRA researchers, will explore the challenges and successes of this approach to community based research. (F-1)

Panelists: MITCHELL, Leif (Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS); MINOR, Laura (Wheeler Clinic); BOSHNACK, Nick and WILSON, Linda Faye (AIDS Project New Haven); BONTEMPI, Jean Breny (Southern Connecticut State University); HORTON, Kristin duBay (duBay Horton Associates).

Conceptualizing, Developing and Evaluating Structural Interventions to Prevent Health Disparities. The health care system provides an optimal opportunity for implementing structural interventions to increase access to sexual and reproductive health and HIV services and improve sexual and reproductive rights of HIV-infected persons. These interventions focus on changing the policies that shape services, the environment in which services are delivered, and the values and attitudes of people delivering care in relation to sexual behavior, contraception, and childbearing. We will describe the plan, start-up, and concerns in implementing a new multi-level structural intervention that will integrate sexual and reproductive health into HIV care in public sector clinics in Cape Town, South Africa. (S-6)

Panelists: MANTELL, Joanne (HIV Center for Clinical & Behavioral Studies, New York State Psychiatric Institute and Columbia University); DICKSON-GOMEZ, Julia (Institute for Community Research); BLANKENSHIP, Kim (CIRA, Yale University); SHERMAN, Susan (Johns Hopkins University); LIVINGSTON, Ann (VANDU).

Creating and Sustaining Real Partnerships that Support the Cultural Heritage of Immigrant Groups. In this interactive workshop, discussants describe the challenges of creating and sustaining partnerships to support the cultural heritage of immigrant groups. (F-1)

Panelists: WILLIAMSON, Lynne (Institute for Community Research); REYES, Mario (Association of Peruvian-American Professionals); PHENG SOMPHONE, Howard (Lao Association of Connecticut); HAIDAR, Nilofer (TESOL/ESL Teacher, South Windsor, CT).

Criminalization of Drug Use and HIV. This panel will present research examining the fundamental contradiction between criminalization of drug use and harm reduction/public health approaches to reduce HIV and other disease transmission among drug users.

Panelists: TORUELLA, Rafael (City University of New York); GLASSER, Irene (Community Renewal Team); ROJAS, Reinaldo and ROJANO, Ramon Reinaldo (City of Hartford, Health and Human Services); WEI, Feng (Yale University).

Cultural and Structural Dimensions of HIV Risk in India. HIV rates in India have been increasing in the general population in northern, western and southern India. A variety of factors have been suggested as fueling the epidemic, including migration (circular and linear), informal commercial sex work (male and female) driven by economic need and new lifestyle desires, male concerns about sexuality and sexual dysfunction associated with hypermasculinity and sexual violence, and the use of substances including alcohol. In this session we will report on three studies in which these factors are shown to contribute to HIV risk behavior in vulnerable men and rural women in urban and rural India. (S-6)

Panelists: SINGH, S.K. (International Institute of Population Science, Mumbai, India); SCHENSUL, Jean J.; BERG, Marlene; DIAMOND, Sarah and CROMLEY, Ellen (Institute for Community Research).

Culture, Tourism and Development on China's Lugu Lake. Over the past decade China's government has promoted tourism to develop the economies of rural areas, where most of the nation's ethnic minorities reside. The tourist industry has grown rapidly in recent years, and proven its potential to channel some of the prosperity of eastern urban areas to the expansive, underdeveloped western provinces. However, where not governed carefully, it has also revealed its capacity to bring forceful and damaging change to local cultures and the environment, and to fuel economic and ideological conflicts between all players involved.

The film *80 Meters* explores the tourist industry of Lige, a small village on Lugu Lake in Yunnan province. Locals share their perspectives on recent developments and policy shifts, including a forced-relocation mandate. At government orders they tear down guest homes they'd constructed only months before, losing both their life savings and their land. They struggle to understand how the industry they were encouraged to invest everything in has instead pushed them to the economic and physical margins of their own community. They discuss different theories about what went wrong in the development planning process, and share their concerns for the futures of their families and of Lugu Lake. (F-4)

Facilitator: Dunn, Jennifer M.A. (Institute for Community Research).

Developing Research Partnerships to Address Health Disparities Among Vulnerable Older Adults. Many older adults, primarily low income and minority older adults, face disparities in access to appropriate health care. Those disparities are exacerbated by financial stress, higher levels of chronic illness, language and cultural barriers, limited understanding of medications and treatment, and elderly individuals' lack of empowerment to advocate for themselves and others.

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This session will present examples of successful community-based research partnerships that address health disparities and implement innovative strategies to improve access to care, increase health literacy and train older adults to become knowledgeable public health advocates. (F-1)

Panelists: RADDA, Kim, VAZQUEZ, Elsie (Institute for Community Research); JARRIN, Olga and NEAFSEY, Patricia (University of Connecticut, School of Nursing); and KUCHEL, George.

Development in Developing Countries? Community-Based Research to Evaluate and Critique Development Programs. Panelists will present comparative case studies to highlight the strengths and pitfalls of community focused development programs.

Panelists: KEBEDE-FRANCIS, Enku (Tufts University Medical School); THORNTON, Alec (Poverty, Inequality and Development Research Center, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand); NICHOLS, Clinton III (Center for Cultural Understanding and Change, The Field School).

Displacement, Dislocation and Relocation: Lessons on Place. Over the past 15 years, HUD has funded the demolition of about 100,000 units of public housing in the US. Beginning in 2000, our research team began tracking the results of this program in Tampa, Florida. We have interviewed nearly 100 relocated public housing residents, and about 40 homeowners in neighborhoods into which they have been resettled. For the past 2 years we have been involved in a collaboration with the Tampa Housing Authority, consulting on plans to relocate residents from another complex that will be demolished this summer. Papers in this panel will describe this research and collaboration, including the results of three service-learning classes that were involved in various facets of the process. (F-1)

Panelists: WARD, Beverly; GREENBAUM, Susan; RODRIGUEZ, Cheryl; and MERVIS, Brett (University of South Florida).

Downside Up & Outside In: Student Education Through Project-Based Learning or Community Partnerships. In her Presidential Address to the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Marybeth Shinn (2007) proposed six principles for using social science toward policy change: (1) timing matters; (2) local leaders matter; (3) ideas matter; (4) factors that affect cost are relevant; (5) sectors of government have different opportunities; and (6) there is no ultimate control over how data is used. This study in progress has evolved thus far through the first three guidelines. In a time and place where homeless people living in wooded areas has garnered a great deal of media attention and HUD funding is being reassessed, local officials and university faculty have increased their attention to the problem. Now that community members

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have increased the visibility of the conditions, work is underway to develop sheltering solutions with those living outside.

This story begins with a multicultural advocacy group, mi casa, working to achieve social justice in a community of deep segregation and disparate housing opportunity. Mi casa includes social justice organizers, bilingual housing and health advocates, providers of services to homeless people, and a researcher with a doctoral degree. Group members periodically network with local university faculty on community issues to gain support for social justice actions. Supported by the university's philosophy of service learning, students of one social work course were recruited to participate in community based collaborative research. With input from community partners, students will prepare a report and recommendations from the perspective of homeless residents to be released to local leaders. The community partners have close relationships with the homeless people, understand university based research protocol, and have affiliations with local government committees. The group is helping guide the research program toward a meaningful and just intervention strategy and simultaneously uniting to work on issues that emerge in the process. (S-7)

Panelists: SORENSEN ALLACI, MaryAnn, PhD; LANIER, Hannah; FONTANES, Ileana (Mi Casa); THORN, Marla Rae and HERNANDEZ, Alba (Georgian Court University).

Effective Collaborative Partnerships: The University of Connecticut Urban Service Track and the Connecticut Primary Care Association. This presentation will focus on the collaborative partnership between the University of Connecticut's Urban Service Track and the Connecticut Primary Care Association. The Urban Service Track is a new initiative between the University's Schools of Dental Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing that brings students interested in providing care for urban underserved populations together for enhanced learning opportunities and exposure. (S-5)

Panelists: CLARK-DUFNER, Petra (University of Connecticut, Urban Service Track); DANG, Devra (University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy); RUSTICO, Jack (Connecticut Primary Care Association).

Effective Collaborative Partnerships: The University of Connecticut Urban Service Track and the Connecticut Primary Care Association. Today's presentation will focus on the collaborative partnership between the University of Connecticut's Urban Service Track and the Connecticut Primary Care Association. The Urban Service Track is a new initiative between the University's Schools of Dental Medicine, Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing that brings students interested in providing care for urban underserved populations together for enhanced learning opportunities and exposure. As one of UST's community partners, the Connecticut Primary Care Association has helped to develop curricular elements for this exciting new program as well as identify potential funding and mentorship opportunities.

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In addition to gaining an overview of the University's Urban Service Track, attendees will learn about workforce shortage and health disparities in Connecticut.

Panelists: CLARK-DUFNER, Petra; DANG, Devra; RUSTICO, Jack

Environmental Justice: Race, Place and Health. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defines environmental justice as: "The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means that no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies." Nonetheless, a growing body of evidence suggests that minority and low-income populations bear a disproportionate share of the adverse impacts of pollution and suffer from more adverse health risks than the society at large due to: a) discriminatory zoning and citing policies and practices; b) more barriers to the decision-making processes; c) exposure to harmful chemicals; and d) unequal enforcement of environmental laws. Papers in this session provide an overview of environmental justice issues in Connecticut, discuss how community based collaborative and provide case examples of how research and action are being used to address the disproportionate adverse health effects.

Panelists: PESTANA, Edith (Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection/Environmental Justice Program); MITCHELL, Mark (Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice); STEWART, John (University of Hartford); HAYES, Elizabeth (The Newhall Coalition, Inc.); MAZIARZ, Tom (Capital Region Council of Government, Hartford).

Effective Community Strategic Planning through Participatory Research. Successful community-action strategies are those, which are directed by participatory research, data-driven approaches, and are flexible to the unique cultural dynamics of a targeted community. Collaboration and partnership between community organizations, researchers, and local and state agencies is essential to a successful strategic planning process. In the state of Colorado, community partners actively engage and guide this research-supported strategic planning process, with the support of ASPIRE -- a resource and indicator web-database-- the Regional Prevention/Community Services Project, and legislative support for collaborative approaches.

The ASPIRE database is a unique online system designed to store and manage community, economic, social, and resource data. The use of this interactive tool by community partners empowers communities to explore data, conduct gaps analyses, and track trends through the unique lens of their cultural environment. Standard indicator data may be queried to investigate health disparities or higher-risk populations within communities. The system also integrates

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assessment tools, reporting capabilities, and GIS mapping technology to support communities through the strategic planning process.

Communities utilize the ASPIRE system with the assistance of Regional Prevention/Community Consultants, who work with communities and organizations in planning, implementing, and evaluating effective social service approaches. Community consultants work with each community to promote participatory research in all stages of the strategic planning process. The Consultants also serve as the primary liaison between state and local efforts to ensure communication between communities and policymakers.

Through a legislative mandate regarding the coordination of state and local service-delivery, all state-funded prevention agencies in Colorado are offered and supported in the use of this strategic-planning system. This model of collaboration has empowered local communities to address directly inequities and disparities through a participatory research approach utilizing resources, producing data-driven strategic plans, and ultimately turning research into action.(F-4)

Panelists: **WRIGHT, Summer, MPH and BRODERICK, Carole, PhD** (OMNI Institute); **ANTHONY, Jared** (SAMSHA Fellow); **ESQUIBEL, Jose** (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment).

Environmental Justice: Race, Place and Health. This panel will discuss community based collaborative research to discover and address environmental causes of health disparities. (F-3)

Panelists: **PESTANA, Edith** (Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection/Environmental Justice Program); **MITCHELL, Mark** (Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice); **STEWART, John** (University of Hartford); **HAYES, Elizabeth** (The Newhall Coalition, Inc.); **MAZIARZ, Tom** (Capital Region Council of Government, Hartford, CT).

Evidence-Based Interventions and Community. Papers in this session address issues that arise as states and communities respond to efforts by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), NIH, and other federal funders to support the development and utilization of evidence-based programs. As states and local communities seek to strengthen the capacity of programs, to increase the number and range of available programs for replication and to translate evidence-based programming to service/practice questions, which arise regarding the role of local communities, partnerships, innovation, cultural and developmental appropriateness are discussed in the papers. Two papers address issues through the lens of regional technical assistance providers, a third paper describes the process of forming partnerships in this environment, and the final paper uses a case experience with an NIH initiative designed to move clinical and translational medical research to the community to pose questions regarding CBPR in this process. (F-2)

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Panelists: **BERG, Marlene (Institute for Community Research); DASH, Kim, FUXMAN, SHai and GODDARD, Chelsey** (Northeast Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies); **PLACHTA-ELLIOT, Sara, DELMAN, Jonathan, LINCOLN, Alisa, and HAGAN, Melissa** (Consumer Quality Initiatives, Boston University School of Public Health); **VAUGHN, Lisa and BOLLING, Chris** (Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center/University of Cincinnati College of Medicine); **HARMONY, Judith** (Cincinnati community member / activist)

Gallery Talk: Conrad Mallet Gallery, Capital Community College.
The arts have the power to touch us through discovery, investigation, insight and elicitation. Come hear what motivated the artists and arts and research project coordinators of the Crossroads II exhibition: Explorations of Social and Environmental Justice Issues. (S-6)

Facilitator: **COLEMAN, Colleen** (Institute for Community Research)

Gender, Power and Violence. Much literature has shown that women who have suffered childhood sexual abuse and intimate partner violence have increased rates of sexual risk behaviors and HIV infection. This panel will explore the links between intimate partner violence, sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse and subsequent HIV risk. It will also explore ways in which gender oppression contributes to women and children's vulnerability to violence. (F-2)

Panelists: **DICKSON-GOMEZ, Julia** (ICR); **CAVANAUGH, Courtney and HANSES, Nathan** (CIRA, Yale University); **FRY, Deborah** (New York Alliance Against Sexual Assault); **MIKULAK, Marcia** (University of North Dakota and the Community Violence Center).

Harnessing the Media for Arts Based Intervention and Dissemination Projects. Today's youth grow up in a media-saturated environment. Recent community-based efforts are engaging youth in media production for the purposes of enhancing media literacy among youth and for giving youth a public voice. This panel will explore both the benefits and challenges of youth-produced media in effecting social change at both the local community and national level. (S-7)

Panelists: **COLEMAN, Colleen** (Institute for Community Research); **McCARGAR, Laura** (Youth Right Media); **YOUNG, Joe with KIMBLE, Terrice and BENNETT, Jennetta** (Hartford Animation Institute).

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Hispanic Health Council: A Model for Community Based Collaborative Research Designed to Address Health Inequities. The Hispanic Health Council (HHC) has for 29 years utilized a multi-strategy, culturally tailored approach toward addressing health inequities experienced by Latinos and other underserved communities. HHC's translational research, often conducted in partnership with academic, clinical and other institutions, has resulted in 1) development, implementation, evaluation and dissemination of best practice interventions; and 2) policy advocacy designed to effect systemic change. This session will present the HHC as a case study of a community based vehicle for research with a social justice agenda, with a focus on the essential elements and strategies of the HHC model. (S-7)

Chair: DAMIO, Grace (Hispanic Health Council) and DeJESUS, Jeannette.

HIV and Older Adults: Improving Knowledge, Challenging Assumptions and Developing Successful Partnerships for Research, Advocacy and Activism. In the 25th year since the recognition of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, many researchers are arguing that middle-aged and older Americans are neglected. While many public health campaigns are designed to target at-risk populations and youth aged 13- 24, the elderly are being ignored in terms of age-specific epidemiology and prevention, intervention and treatment programs. In 2006 a community-based research study between Wright State University's Sociology Department and the Combined Health District of Montgomery County was established to investigate this public health problem. This research study is entitled Project EED (Educating the Elderly about HIV/AIDS Disease) and is a mixed-methods pilot study that includes pre and post attitudinal surveys and focus groups. Preliminary findings from the data as well as some noteworthy research experiences from Project EED will be presented at this panel session. (S-6)

Panelists: SMALL, LaFLEUR (Wright State University); BAEZ, Evelyn (Institute for Community Research) and MILLER, Robert L (SUNY School of Social Welfare).

Innovative Methods in Community-Based Collaborative Research. Speakers will present projects that use art, poetry, dance, digital storytelling and information technologies as research tools. (S-5)

Panelists: URETSKY, Elanah (Columbia University, Department of Socio-Medical Sciences); GUBRIUM, Aline (University of Massachusetts), HEBERT, Pato (AIDS Project Los Angeles), ANDREJASICH, Elizabeth, CARD, Tinnah, BISHOP, Ann P., BRUCE, Bertram C., Elizabeth Andrejasich, Tinnah Card, Ann P. Bishop, Bertram C. Bruce (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

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Innovative Methods to Create Communities for Action. This Panel discusses the use of art, storytelling, research and blogging to disseminate information, open dialogue and create communities to address environmental and social justice concerns. (F-3)

Panelists: WILLIAMSON, Lynne (Institute for Community Research); ORLEANS, Laura (Working Waterfront, New Bedford, MA); NICHOLS, Clinton III (The Center for Cultural Understanding and Change, The Field School).

Innovative Methods to Identify Needs of Underserved Populations. This panel will present case studies using different methodologies (PAR, social network analysis) to identify and address needs of underserved and marginalized populations. (F-2)

Panelists: WILLIAMSON, Ken (University of South Florida); HUNTER, Rosemaryie and MOUNRO, Sarah (University of Utah); BARDIN, Erin and MONTOYA, Michael (Community Knowledge Project, University of California, Irvine); JEONG, Seonhee (Community Informatics Initiative, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign).

International Collaborations in HIV Prevention Research: Issues, Challenges, & Lessons Learned. Engaging in collaborative research in any context presents challenges. Doing so internationally, and specifically in resource-poor or developing settings where there is limited experience conducting ethnographic, community-based, or longitudinal research and in which there may be differing standards, brings additional challenges which must be overcome. Drawing from ICR's extensive experience in international HIV prevention research, this session will address a variety of issues that arise during the collaborative process and strategies for overcoming them. Some of the challenges to be discussed include creating and maintaining international partnerships including those with governmental, university, and community-based organizations, communication between project entities, partners' competing interests, staff training, engaging the study community, ethics and informed consent, and researching sensitive or taboo subjects. The initial discussion will center around experiences in past and current studies in China (Sociocultural Factors on Syringe Sharing and HIV Risks in Guangdong, China; and Microbicide and Female Condom Acceptability for HIV/STD Prevention Among Female Sex Workers in Southern China), India (Alcohol, Sexual Risk and HIV Prevention in Mumbai, India), and El Salvador (High Risk Crack Use Settings and HIV in El Salvador). The discussion will then be opened to session attendees who are encouraged to share their own experiences in international collaborative research and the strategies they have developed to address the challenges encountered during this process. Conference participants who are interested in conducting collaborative research in international settings are especially invited to attend this interactive session. (S-5)

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Panelists: CORBETT, A. Michelle (ICR); WEEKS, Margaret R. (ICR); LI, Jianghong (ICR); SINGH, SK (Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, India).

Living Histories: Incorporating Art, Ethnography and Reminiscence to Tell Our Stories. In our society we do not always recognize the reservoir of skills, talents and life experiences that older adults have but have little opportunity to share. Our communities are composed of multiple generations and diverse cultures that do not always appreciate their similarities and connectedness. What are called for are vehicles for individual and group expression and opportunities to create artistic bridges across generations and within communities. We can all gain knowledge through the celebration of elders and their stories. This session will present innovative programs that incorporate art, ethnography and reminiscence in a variety of community settings, involving multiple generations in the gathering, preserving and sharing of the histories of our community elders. (F-3)

Panelists: RADDA, Kim (Institute for Community Research); SHELLMAN, Julliette (Yale); WINN, Alisha (University of South Florida), MCGREGOR, Paloma (Urban Bush Women); and MITCHELL, Frank (Westside Works).

Microbicides: Revolutionizing HIV Prevention. This session provides a brief introduction to microbicides; what they are, how they work and why we need them. A short film will be shown followed by discussion. Learn about this new tool for HIV prevention. (F-4)

Facilitator: KAPLAN, Clair (Yale University School of Nursing)

National and Foundation-Funded Community Collaborative Research in Health: Peer Review Opportunities and Challenges. Community collaborative research and community level interventions often face significant challenges in rigorous peer review, even within national and foundation funding agencies that support this type of research. This is because of the often non-traditional methods and study designs needed to carry projects out effectively, the limits to using more dominant and accepted research designs such as randomized controlled trials, and the special process-oriented nature of this type of research. This panel will present views from CBCR-supportive funding arms within public (NIH) and private (Donaghue Medical Research Foundation) health research funders on expectations and challenges in the peer review process for community collaborative research and community level intervention proposals. William Elwood, Ph.D., from the Division of Clinical and Population-Based Studies of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center for Scientific Review (CSR), will speak about the NIH peer review system and challenges and opportunities for CBCR applications in that context. Lynne Garner, Ph.D., Executive Director of The Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation, will speak on similar challenges and opportunities from the perspective of

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a major Connecticut health research foundation, and discuss special programs designed to support innovative approaches to community collaborations for research. Both panelists will discuss challenges for CBCR relative to other health-related basic and intervention research in peer review within supportive funding agencies. (S-6)

Panelists: **WEEKS, Margaret R.** (Institute for Community Research); **ELWOOD, William** (NIH Center for Scientific Review); **GARNER, Lynne** (The Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation).

New Directions in Health. This panel will present examples of community based collaborative research to improve health and health care. (F-4)

Panelists: **BRAKONIECKI, Lucy and CAEZ, Maria** (Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund), **SHAW, Susan J.** (Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona); **CRONK, Christine and COSTELLA, Kate** (Medical College of Wisconsin, National Children's Study, National Institute of Child Mental Health and Human Development); **KSOBIECH, Kate** (Center for Urban Initiatives and Research, University of Wisconsin).

Obesity, Community-Based Collaborative Research and Social Justice. Obesity rates in the United States have risen dramatically in children and adolescents over the past 20 years. Many factors, such as poor diet, lack of physical activity, genetics, and certain medical disorders known to cause obesity are structurally associated with inequities in historical, social, economic, environmental, and policy development, that are manifest in higher than average rates of obesity and related chronic problems among children and families living in low-income African-American, Hispanic, Native American and Asian/ Pacific Islander communities. Papers in this session include an overview of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation obesity initiative and a Boston area case study designed to address social and environmental factors that inhibit physical activity. Another paper describes the African American Collaborative Obesity Research Network (AACORN), which seeks to merge insider knowledge, expand the interdisciplinary research paradigm, and include community voices in the process. The final paper in this session asks what communities can do to change public action and better understand where the power lies and how to use it.

Panelists: **PROCTOR, Dwayne C.** (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation); **BROWNELL, Kelly D. Brownell,** (Yale University -Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity) **Shiriki K. Kumanyika,** (University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and African-American Collaborative Obesity Research Network *AACORN*). **CRADOCK, Angie** (Harvard University).

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Peers Making a Difference: Community Level HIV/AIDS Prevention Interventions. Peer modeling is the foundation of community level HIV/AIDS prevention and intervention projects, such as the Risk Avoidance Partnership (RAP) and Peers Reaching Out and Modeling Intervention Strategies (PROMISE). This panel will discuss the impact these projects have had on the local community and how they represent partnerships between research and service organizations and representatives of the community that have elected to become peer models, leaders, advocates and educators. Peer educators/advocates and project staff will discuss the challenges of community level HIV prevention. (F-2)

Panelists: **CONVEY, Mark, MARTINEZ, Maria, FRYE, William and TURGEON, Michelle** (Institute for Community Research, RAP); **CRUZ, Tracy, BAEZ, Sonia, and STORMS, Gina** (Community PROMISE, Hartford Dispensary), **PATTERSON, Yvonne** (Community PROMISE, Community Renewal Team).

Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-based Interventions. Evidence-based HIV prevention interventions are those that are grounded in theories of behavioral change, and proven through rigorous evaluation research trials to be effective at reducing HIV risk behaviors. The CDC is currently engaged in a national diffusion project that has as its goal the dissemination of a collection of effective HIV prevention interventions for different populations and risk characteristics. Our session will describe the history, context and activities of the CDC's diffusion project (DEBI) as well as perspectives and experiences of community agencies replicating an effective intervention. A moderated question and answer session will follow the panel presentations. (F-3)

Panelists: **O'CONNELL, Ann A.** (University of Connecticut); **DAVEY- ROTHWELL, Melissa** (Johns Hopkins University); **CALLIS, Barry** (Massachusetts Department Public Health); **COLLINS, Charles** (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention); **FOWLER, Katherine** (Windham Regional Community Council); **AGRAMONTE-GOMEZ, Marie** (Hispanic Health Council).

Policy, Housing Access and Homeless Prevention. This panel will explore issues surrounding housing access among disenfranchised populations, and programs to prevent homelessness and help vulnerable populations maintain stable housing.

Panelists: **GLASSER, Irene, HUNES, Patrick, ZYWIAK, William H. and HIRSH, Eric** (Community Renewal Team); **CONDON, Eileen** (Dutchess County Arts Council); **DOLGON, Corey** (Worcester State College); **KALA, Mandira** (Centre for Social Policy, University of Massachusetts)

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Popular Culture and the Media in Community Activism. The media and popular culture play a significant role in shaping how we view the world around us. How can we effect change on it and what is the relationship to social justice issues having to do with race, class, and gender? Can the arts, be a means of representing a more balanced voice? How has commercialization impacted hip-hop's potential as a social justice movement? Is the Internet helping to maintain social movements worldwide? These questions will be explored from a historical and global perspective. (F-4)

Panelists: **MORGAN, Damion Sincere** (ICR); **MARCUM, Andrew** (University of New Mexico) and **KREBS, Joey** (Graffiti Artist, Los Angeles, California).

Power and Stigma in the LGBTQ Community. Considerable disparities exist within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans- communities with regard to individuals' physical and mental health status and services. The proposed panel will address topics related to physical and mental health disparities experienced by members of the LGBTQ communities and strategies to address these disparities. Specific emphasis will be placed on discussing how social stigmatization and experiences with discrimination influence LGBTQ individuals': receipt of health and mental health services; overrepresentation within certain mental and physical health conditions (e.g., depression, substance use); quality of patient-provider relationships; and physical/mental health-related help-seeking behaviors. (F-1)

Panelists: **LONG, Gannon** (ICR); **SHIELDS, Carl, MS, NCC, LPC** (DMHAS); and **SEACAT, Jason D., MS, PhD** (CHIP, University of Connecticut); **MARZULLO, Michelle A.** (American University); **KUBAN, Kaila and GREENE, Megan** (Greenfield Community College).

Research for Social Justice Organizing and Advocacy: The Example of New York City. This session is an account of and reflection on the outgrowth of the New York City Research and Organizing Initiative, a city-wide collaborative effort of advocacy, research and policy organizations. NYCROI seeks to provide ongoing training, resource development, skill-sharing and dialogue space with the purpose of generating strategic, grassroots research that supports both specific organizing campaigns and a broader social justice agenda in New York City. Since its inception, NYCROI has worked to achieve the following: 1) centralization of resources for social justice research in the city, including a directory of organizations using research or providing assistance and a website to exchange research tools, reports, tool kits and strategies; 2) increased capacity to conduct research for social justice through trainings and workshops (which address the use of secondary data in support of community-based research and organizing, qualitative methods, and use of ground surveys); and 3) provide forums of exchange, collaboration and discussion related to research for social justice-- including two gatherings on participatory action research and the development of a group of organizations working around issues of gentrification in their communities.

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The session will focus on the successes of the initiative, the challenges that NYCROI is facing in developing its partnerships and the strategies it is developing to overcome them. Bringing together diverse community-based, research and policy organizations-- each with different needs, agendas, political ideologies, and organizing strategies-- requires a broad vision that encompasses the efforts of everyone involved. In partnerships that cut across professional boundaries, issues of power, trust and ideology inevitably arise. (S-5)

Panelists: ROMERO-ALSTON, Laine (Urban Justice Center); DOZA, Shoshi and SINGH, Rishi (DRUM); EANNI, Rehka; IMPERATRICE, Samantha (ROCNV).

Results of the Hepatitis Vaccine Study. This session concerns improving the delivery of community-based hepatitis prevention in injection drug users (IDUs). Presenters will address: the superiority of a two-month accelerated HBV vaccine course (0, 1, 2 months) compared to the standard HBV vaccine course (0, 1, 6 months); the cost-savings of HBV vaccination; the urgent need for expansion of HCV screening, counseling on hepatitis transmission and high residual risks; and empirical research on informed consent in research with vulnerable populations such as IDUs. (S-6)

Panelists: HEIMER, Robert, PhD; GRAU, Laretta E., PhD; and HU, Yiqing (Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, Yale School of Medicine).

Service Learning, CBPR and Social Justice. (S-6) Papers in the session are presented by faculty and students who use service learning to engage students from the community college, 4 year college and university levels in the United States and abroad. Students learn to use the skills that they learn in the classroom to work with communities. The papers reflect a range of disciplines from social work, to science to journalism. In one of the papers, science is the basis for learning about and working with the Peruvian community on asthma in Hartford, Ct and also in Peru. Another paper situates service learning in Turkey through projects that crossed multiple boundaries and generated discussion, debate, and reflective writing both inside and outside the classroom.

Panelists: BROWN, Karen; ROBINSON-DILLON, Christina (Capital Community College); DRAPER, Alison; CASTILLO, Christina Wheeler (Trinity College Science Center); TÜRKÖZ, Meltem (Isak University).

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Spirituality, Research and Community: Partnerships for Health Equity and Social Justice.

This session brings together researchers, clergy, activists and service providers who will present examples of collaborative community and faith-based research and intervention initiatives and explore issues that clergy face in understanding and meeting the spiritual, physical and social needs of their congregations, often directly related to inequitable distribution of resources, stigma, and long-standing social injustice. It provides a forum to discuss opportunities and challenges in developing and sustaining partnerships that engage researchers, faith communities, service providers, local organizations and residents in dialogue and action to develop and implement programs that effectively address and reduce inequities and improve quality of life. (S-5)

Panelists: **RADA, Kim** (Institute for Community Research); **WILLIAMS, Maurice** (Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center); **MILLER, Robert L.** (SUNY, Albany); and **JONES, Cecilia** (AIDS Resource Coalition)

Strengthening Communities through Youth Arts-Based Programs. This panel explores interventions and dissemination projects, which have utilized young people's artistic expression as a means of communicating youth perspectives, empowering youth, and strengthening communities. Fostering youth artistic expression around issues that affect them and their communities is empowering and is an effective way to foster positive social change. This panel explores some of the different ways that youth art has been used in community-based programs ranging from efforts to reduce youth drug use to efforts to provide public awareness and services for homeless youth. (F-4)

Panelists: **DIAMOND, Sarah and LOPEZ, Maritza** (ICR); **RATHJE, Lisa** (Institute for Cultural Partnerships); **KHAIKLY, Irene** (New World Theatre); and **McCARGER, Laura** (Youth Rights Media).

Story Circle. The Story Circle Process as practiced by playwright/actor and social activist, John O'Neal, is an ongoing experiment in the application of the principles democratic group process to storytelling in a social context. The process encourages active listening and equitable sharing of time. The oral process is applicable to a variety of purposes from playmaking, to program planning and development to education. It rests on the assumption that people learn more from what they do together than from what is done to them. (S-5)

Facilitator: **O'NEAL, John** (Junebug Productions).

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The Artist as Researcher. Artists and researchers share a natural inclination toward inquiry and investigation. We seek to understand the world around us, the systems both organic and manufactured and to affect change. This panel will give an inside view of how five gifted artists accomplish these goals through visual media. (S-5)

Panelists: COLEMAN, Colleen (Institute for Community Research); ESKELL, Camille; WULKE, Joy; BRESLIN, Christine; BISANTZ, June and BETGEVARGIZ, Sharokin

The Future of CBCR: Financial Support and Political Will. Federal and foundation support for community based research partnerships has been enhanced by new research ideologies and advocacy efforts in the areas of public health, health services and environmental health. Advocates argue that good CBCR addresses social justice issues through social science with research partners. Critics argue that CBCR has become a buzzword for any research that involves partners and work in community settings and only coincidentally addresses root causes of social injustices. In this session representatives of the public, private and NGO sectors will contextualize CBCR, describe current support for and criticism of CBCR and project the financial and political future of this evolving movement.

Panelists: GREEN-MOTON, Ella (Campus-Community Partnerships for Health); HARMONY, Judith, WORTHINGTON, Richard (Pomona College); and SCHENSUL, Jean J. (Institute for Community Research).

The Project Choice Campaign and the Sheff Movement Coalition. Panelists will present an innovative inter-district parents organizing project that the Sheff Movement coalition in Hartford, Connecticut is undertaking to build a sustainable movement of both urban and suburban parents in support of integrated educational choices. There are presently over 3000 city and suburban families participating in 16 inter-district magnet schools and over 1000 city families participating in a suburban public school choice program as part of the remedy resulting from the landmark 1996 Sheff v. O'Neil ruling in the Connecticut Supreme Court. The self-interest of these parents in improving and expanding integrated school programs has the potential to be a powerful force in support of continued school desegregation and school improvement throughout the Hartford region. The power of this constituency has not yet been organized or harnessed, but it has already begun to confound expectations in the suburban controlled legislature, with suburban constituents demanding more support for inner city magnets where their children attend school, and city residents demanding more suburban school slots from their city council and state legislative representatives. The potential of this development for altering the usual school politics and rhetoric in the state legislature is profound, and can be an extremely valuable model for other cities and metropolitan areas struggling with similar issues. The first stage of this work has already begun with the Project Choice Campaign, an active research and organizing effort to build support for increasing choices for Hartford students in suburban

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schools. The panel presents the larger organizing goals in the context of a regional school desegregation remedy, and we will detail the steps we have taken to try to mobilize participating parents and suburban supporters. Panelists include our coalition leaders, our outreach coordinator, and our research specialist, who will present her draft findings and observations about the future of the Choice program in Hartford and comparable desegregation programs in Minneapolis, St.Louis, and Boston. (S-6)

Panelists: **TEGELER, Philip** (Poverty & Race Research Action Council) and **FRANKENBERG, Erica** (Civil Rights Project at Harvard University).

The Use of Art as a Research Tool. The once-separate worlds of art and research are converging on multiple fronts. Artists are collaborating with prevention researchers to develop and evaluate risk prevention curricula. Artists work with researchers to stimulate creative thinking about new projects, models and research questions and to convey complex social science theory and methodology in simple, user friendly graphic formats. Multi-media works of art, or processes of art making are used as elicitation techniques, or memory enhancements to deepen narrative and contribute to the enactment of culture and the dissemination of research results. This blurring of the boundaries between art and research is a global phenomenon. The speakers in this session will describe the variety of innovative ways in which they, as artists and researchers fuse these processes.

Panelists: **BERG, Marlene** (Institute for Community Research); **GALMAN, Sally Campbell** (University of Massachusetts); **PAVEY, Stephen** (Western Kentucky University, Center for Community Partnerships); **VAUGHN, Lisa M.** (Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center/ University of Cincinnati College of Medicine).

Understanding Communities: The Link Between Interdisciplinary Art and Community Development. Effective art/community development projects can provide community members with a greater sense of place, collective purpose and shared ownership of community life. Yet these two fields rarely intersect. This discussion explores their integration, and addresses the impact and implications of this practice. Topics include how to enhance neighborhood visibility while engaging residents in the process and how to judge quality and evaluate the impact of artistic/cultural expression and research. What are effective ways of integrating artistic and cultural expression into research and dissemination processes? What are innovative methods for public presentations and interactions? How do these impact community development? (S-7)

Panelists: **LIU, Jeremy** (Asian Community Development Corporation, Boston); **KIKUCHI, Hiroko** (Performance Artist and Educator, Boston); and **BLOCKSTEIN, Mike** (Visual Artist and Educator; Principal, Public Matters, Los Angeles).

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Up and Out of Poverty: An Activist Perspective. This session features a documentary film to explore the paradox of poverty and homelessness in the U.S. through the eyes and life of social activist Ron Casanova. Following the showing, the filmmaker, Jaime Gomez, and Ron Casanova will lead a discussion about the film and its implications. (F-4)

Facilitators: **CASANOVA, Ronald** (Artists for A Better America) and **GOMEZ, Jaime** (Eastern Connecticut State University).

Using Research to Support Advocacy and Policy Change. This panel discusses the use of art, storytelling, research and blogging to disseminate information, open dialogue and create communities to address environmental and social justice concerns. (F-3)

Panelists: **LANG, Shawn** (Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition); **MITCHELL, Leif** (Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, Yale University); **DICKSON-GOMEZ, Julia**, **CONVEY, Mark** and **HILARIO, Helen** (Institute for Community Research); **LIESGANG, Jerimarie** (Connecticut TransAdvocacy Coalition); **SCHWARTZ, Marlene** (Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, Yale University); **CANNY, Priscilla** (Connecticut Voices for Children).

Violence Prevention and Youth. Youth violence takes many forms from street level violence, to bullying, to intimate partner violence. Data from a longitudinal study is presented in one paper, provides a backdrop for other papers/performances in this session. Two presentations use youth-driven Participatory Action Research methods, which engage young people in defining the issue, collecting data, and bringing their perspectives to bear on the ways in which violence is understood and analyzed. Youth also share their ideas and visions for addressing violence. Art and performance are incorporated in the exploration of youth violence and to stimulate dialogue and reflection.

Panelists: **MORGAN, Damion Sincere** (Institute for Community Research); **RODRIGUEZ, Chiedza** (Institute for Community Research and Youth from the Connecticut Collaboration on Teen Dating Violence); **HAMILTON, Melissa** Capital Prep., Hartford); **KILPATRICK, Matt** (MOSAIC, Killingly High School); **RODRIGUEZ, Jennifer** (Institute for Community Research); **ROSA, Jennifer** (TEARs- Guilford High School); **OAKS, Ashley** (Windham High School); **WHITTINGTON, Felicia T. and AL-FADHLI, Hussain** (Tougaloo College); **McCANTS, Johanna R.** (Institute for Community Peace); **MOSES, Ras Mo** (Oakland – based artist/activist).

Who Do You Think You Are, and What (in the World) Are You Doing? Researchers, their topics, methodologies, interpretations, applications and co-researchers are influenced by

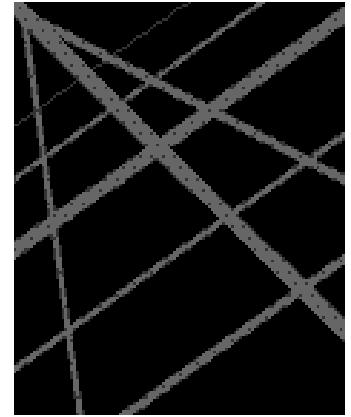
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individual developmental lines/intelligences, observable behavior, cultural beliefs and values, and social infrastructure/environment. Currently, on six continents, “integrally informed” leaders in social services, education, business, healthcare, politics, psychology, spirituality and the arts are adapting Ken Wilber’s AQAL (all quadrants, levels, lines, states and types) framework through which to view and assess themselves and their respective disciplines and models.

Workshop participants will receive an experiential/didactic introduction, apply the AQAL framework to a topic of their choosing, and leave with enhanced self-awareness (an invaluable interdisciplinary tool) and resources for further engagement. (F-4)

Facilitator: **MARRA, Reggie** (Integral Journeys for Pilgrims, Poets, Fools and Saints)

CROSS ROADS



COMMUNITY-BASED
COLLABORATIVE
RESEARCH FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE

INDIVIDUAL ABSTRACTS

INDIVIDUAL ABSTRACTS

AGRAMONTE-GOMEZ, Marie (Hispanic Health Council). *View from the Field, Part II: Hispanic Health Council*. The Hispanic Health Council (HHC) is a community-based non-profit organization serving the needs of the greater Hartford CT community for nearly 30 years through its combination of community-centered research, community-based services, and advocacy. HHC selected two of the DEBI's for replication within their community. *Empowerment* for young MSM, and *SISTA*, which has been locally adapted as the *Perlas* program for Latinas. Through their experiences in replication, several challenges have emerged that are consistent with experiences of many CBO's, including staffing turnover; access to training; strengthening the correspondence between community needs and the emphases of the intervention program; and matching the implementation requirements of the intervention given available resources and staffing or funding constraints. This presentation will discuss some history of HIV prevention programs at HHC prior to the DEBI project, as well as the current challenges faced and how they are being addressed, and will describe some of the adaptation process for *Perlas*.

F-3 *Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-based I interventions*

ANDONIAN, Jeanette, MSW, Ph.D., LCSW (University of Southern Maine). *Focus Groups for Change: Empowering parents with qualitative data for evaluation and advocacy in children's mental health service systems*. This presentation features a collaborative project involving parents of children with severe emotional and behavioral challenges as full partners in evaluating children's mental health services. Three parents joined an evaluation team with this researcher to develop skills for evaluating and advocating in a mental health service system. Team members were affiliated with the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (FFCMH), a national, family-driven organization established in the 1980's in response to the major policy changes of the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (Stroul, 1994). The FFCMH provides support and information, and promotes the perspectives and needs of children and families in mental health service systems. In accordance with the mission of the FFCMH, the parents employed in this project were interested in focus groups as an organized and systematic method for accessing the "collective voice" of families, and using qualitative data to provide feedback to mental health programs about experiences with services in a way that accurately represented the perspectives and voices of families. Sharing information obtained in focus groups with other parents and supporting advocacy efforts for program, policy, or systems change with the data was a high priority.

A focus group training curriculum was developed and implemented with this team of parents. The curriculum was based on *The Focus Group Kit* (Morgan & Krueger, 1997), and indigenized to the participants in the context of a mental health system serving a culturally and ethnically diverse population. The project involved focus group training (Andonian, 1998), and collaboration with the parent team in all phases leading to and including focus group implementation. This presentation will describe the focus group training curriculum, address the use of focus group data for evaluation and advocacy in service systems, discuss the dynamics of the collaboration process, and illuminate lessons learned overall.

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S-7 *Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Children and their Families*

ANDREJASICH, Elizabeth; CARD, Tinnah; BISHOP, Ann P. and BRUCE, Bertram C. (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) *Learning at the Border: How Young People in Informal Settings Use New Media for Community Action and Personal Growth.* "Learning at the border" has two meanings here. First, it refers to learning that occurs in border settings that exist between the highly-structured realm of schools and the more diffuse realms of life in neighborhoods and on the streets. These settings include after-school programs, boys and girls clubs, libraries, museums, and community centers. The second meaning of "learning at the border" is that society has placed participants in these programs on the border because of their language, cultural background, race, or social class. As a result, they are denied full participation in the public sphere.

This project comprises a set of connected programs in which university students and faculty work with community members to create spaces in which young people have fun, learn about new technologies, and develop academic potential through self-expression and self-understanding. A common thread is to enable young people to become active creators and sustainers of their own communities. In this way, young people learn how to use ICTs to promote community building. As such, they become junior community informatics researchers themselves.

The variety of projects by young people in these settings is quite diverse. To illustrate the possibilities we will share some of the pod casts made by young people in which they both investigate and express their cultural heritage. We will also discuss the complexity and challenges for enabling community participation, and the insights we have gained from looking across multiple sites.

S-5 *Innovative Methods in Community-Based Collaborative Research*

BAILEY, Christine, M.A. (Connecticut VNA's Hospice Program). The focus of hospice care is to provide symptom control and quality of life to people with a terminal illness. The use of Expressive Arts in hospice care provides a unique and broad opportunity to enhance quality of life by facilitating expression that speaks to or for the patient. As a specific modality of the Expressive Arts program, the use of the "Life Path", as well as puppetry and visual arts are effective means of facilitating reminiscence, life review and finding meaningful constructs within the context of the patient's life. They can also be used to bring patient from a focus of illness to the present moment thereby enhancing quality of life. The steps of facilitating such modalities will be briefly reviewed and some examples of work shared during this panel presentation and discussion.

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F-1 *Art and Healing: Connecticut VNA's Hospice Program*

BAISCH, Mary Jo, PhD, RN and SANDERS, James, MD, MPH (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee). *All Health is Local: Establishing Health Priorities in a Diverse Neighborhood*. The Riverwest Health Initiative is a neighborhood coalition that grew from a need for improved community health. Begun in 2002, a group of neighbors and community organizational partners met to identify strategies for strengthening the health of local residents. Over the next four years, the coalition completed a comprehensive community assessment and strategic plan for this community of 6,433 households, applied for local funding and hired a community health nurse to expand the community's capacity for health.

This report will include a description of the growing partnership, results of the community assessment developed and conducted by community partners, and health priorities identified by the community members. Most community health assessments are focused on health behaviors and other epidemiologic information. This assessment included a comprehensive survey of residents' perceptions of their physical and emotional health, home and neighborhood environment, parenting and caretaking responsibilities, and utilization of health and other community resources. The local priorities and strategic action plan identified by the Riverwest Health Initiative were specific to the needs and strengths of the neighborhood. These results will be reported in comparison with community health assessment priorities for the surrounding zipcode area, the city and the state. This report will include the results of the local community assessment and the community-based, participatory action processes used to implement and sustain the community's capacity for health improvement.

F-1 *All Health is Local: Community Partnerships to Address Health Inequities*

BARDIN, Eric and MONTOYA, Michael (Community Knowledge Project, University of California, Irvine). *The Community Knowledge Project: Moving from Community Participation to Community-Designed Action*. Community-based Collaborative Research (CBCR) methods rely on participation from identified community members at all stages of the project, from design, through implementation and dissemination of findings, and finally through development of future courses of action for social justice. Reports from the literature suggest that there are several instances of community involvement at one or more levels of the research process, but often incompletely or inconsistently. Here we present a case study on a university-affiliated research center method of recruiting local interviewers to carry out surveys in previously unreached pockets of urban, multi-ethnic and impoverished peoples. We discuss the methods and findings of this technique, and then continue to suggest ways in which this community participation effort could be expanded to foster community involvement at the remaining stages of the research process. We also describe beginning efforts of the Community Knowledge Project to create dialogues in Santa Ana, California, among community leaders through informal yet structured "circuitos de acción," beginning with community outsiders and extending through local connections to community insiders. Using these methods, we argue that allowing

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community members to define themselves and their issues of interest is necessary for initiating true community-based collaboration.

F-2 *Innovative Methods to Identify Needs of Underserved Populations*

BERG, Marlene and SCHENSUL, Stephen (University of Connecticut Department of Community Medicine). *Alcohol Use as a Contributor to Sexual Violence Among Urban Married Women*. Complex connections between alcohol use, violence and sex within marital relationships in Mumbai's low-income communities are structured through a number of prevalent cultural conventions and sustained by harsh economic realities. In-depth interviews with forty married women in six communities are used to understand women's perspectives regarding why and how physical, verbal, and sexual violence affect their lives and to explore reasons women accept and remain in difficult situations. The presentation investigates how alcohol exacerbates marginalized families' financial difficulties, increases the potential for risk exposure within the general population, and suggests how understanding these dynamics can increase acceptability and effectiveness of HIV/AIDS interventions.

S-6 *Cultural and Structural Dimensions of HIV Risk in India*

BLOCKSTEIN, Mike (Public Matters LLC). *A Chinatown Banquet*. Led by artist Mike Blockstein and the Asian Community Development Corporation, *A Chinatown Banquet* is a community-based public art and education project about the forces that shaped and continue to shape Boston Chinatown. It began in 1999, paralleling efforts to update Chinatown's Masterplan, aiming to enhance the engagement, accessibility and impact of the Plan. The *Banquet* is not only a community exploration of values, meaning and tradition, but also a reclaiming of public space and public perception. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, encumbered on all sides by massive developments, yet one of the few remaining residential U.S. Chinatowns, Boston Chinatown is seen by many as a "closed" community. Geographically tiny, its role and significance as New England's only "official" Chinatown far surpasses its boundaries, yet its physical limitations underscore its condition.

The *Banquet* fuses art, education, and community development. Its visual formats include web, video and exhibits. The submitted DVD features 45 short videos about the social history, character and meaning of Chinatown. These pieces offer an unprecedented glimpse into an area with little recorded history. Ultimately the videos will be screened daily through a sidewalk-level video installation at Chinatown's United Commercial Bank. They resulted from a six-year long process of community engagement.

The *Banquet's* educational workshops conducted with high school students combined neighborhood history, art and multimedia. Partnerships between organizations within and outside of the neighborhood guided the project. The *Banquet* has nurtured, inspired and continued to

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impact the lives of students who worked on the project; it has created jobs, programs and new Chinatown leaders. The video installation, the centerpiece of a planned Chinatown Heritage Trail, will create a unique form of public landmark that effectively allow various community voices and perspectives to guide its audience through their own history and community.

Friday Film Screening

BOSHACK, Nicholas, M.S.W.; WILSON, Lynda and NICCOLAI, Linda, Ph.D. (CIRA). *Wise Women Win: Mentoring by and for Mature Women for HIV/STD Prevention.* The project identified and recruited six local mature women, (50 years of age and older) who are recognized as leaders in their communities and are living with HIV (either infected or affected), who were trained as mentors for peers in their neighborhoods. The mentors have completed the seven training sessions on HIV/STI risk reduction interventions tailored to the changing health needs, sexual vulnerabilities, and behavior risks of mature women. Currently the mentors are performing education intervention sessions with their peer participants to teach them accurate and up-to date information, skills, resources and support necessary to decrease the risk of HIV infection and STIs.

F-1 *Community Research Partnership Program: A Project of Yale's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS*

BRAKONIECKI, Lucy (Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund). *Insider/Outsider Evaluation of a Bridge to Community College Program.* CWEALF has been involved, for the past two years, in the evaluation of the Bridges to Health Care Career program, a program designed with the goal of providing a 'bridge' for Certified Nursing Assistants to prepare them for continued study in a more advanced allied health or related field. Students were recruited to the pilot program, all Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) currently working in health care facilities. Many have families, and many have received their GED or high school diploma through an external degree program. It was our task to: look at program design, implementation, and outcomes; understand, through discussion with each constituent group, an overall picture of the pilot as seen through their eyes; conduct research on the best practices in community college and career ladder programming; and make recommendations relative to the program elements. In the second year of the evaluation The Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF) staff made the decision to enroll one of its' staff in the program, to gain an insider's view of the program and to complement the program achievement data, focus group and interview information. This strategy allowed CWEALF to more completely explore the dimensions of student engagement and perspective. Our presentation will address both the strengths and challenges of this method and the nuanced results and recommendations that emerged.

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F-4 *New Dimensions in Health*

BREDA, Karen and **GROOT, Kim** (University of Hartford). *Making a Difference with Community Partnerships for Social Justice and Health*. Social and health inequities decrease quality of life and threaten the social fabric of urban neighborhoods in the USA. Health professionals are ideally positioned to partner with stakeholders in local communities. However, a lack of social awareness and an ideological disjoint often exists between the professional and the populations they serve. Community service partnerships are successful vehicles for increasing awareness, knowledge and ultimately changing and democratizing the behavior of health professionals. The community partnership model presents a unique opportunity for professionals to weave their roles as advocates, political activists, scholars, and citizens. This paper examines a unique community partnership model that implements strategies to craft change and collaboration among professionals and their populations of interest. CBCR outcomes show the participants' increased understanding of the relationship between health inequities and social justice. The goal of the paper is to bring together community activists, health professionals and scholars from Hartford's academic and neighborhood communities. This alliance may share local research findings, program design innovations and CBCR advocacy methods associated with this unique campus community partnership model.

F-1 *All Health is Local: Community Partnerships to Address Health Inequities*

BRENY-BONTEMPI, Jean, Ph.D. (CIRA) and **DALE, Martha**. *Latinos Living with HIV/AIDS: Access to Sub-Acute Care*. This study assesses traditional patterns of health care utilization for the Latino population at various stages of illness with HIV, what Latinos currently know about skilled nursing care facilities, and what local HIV care providers advise their Latino clients about accessing care services. Information will be gathered through focus groups and provider interviews. Through identification and analysis of factors contributing to the disparity of Latinos access to HIV/AIDS sub-acute/skilled-nursing care, responses will be developed on multiple levels including provider, cultural and community approaches. Leeway views this project as a first step with the potential for broad implications relative to care for Latinos living with HIV/AIDS.

BROWNELL, Kelly D., Ph.D. (Yale University). *Obesity, Community Based Research and Social Justice*. Obesity is caused by a complicated series of inputs that include biology, behavior, and the environment, but it is changes in the food and physical activity environment that is the primary driver of rapidly increasing prevalence. The increase is happening not only in the U.S. but in surprising places such as China and India. Treatment of obesity is not very effective and is costly and hence is nearly irrelevant from a public health perspective, although is essential in the

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context of providing compassionate care to those in need. Prevention must be the public health priority. The challenge then becomes how to approach prevention in a thoughtful, data-based way so that public policies are given the greatest chance to succeed. It is logical to look at food groups (e.g., soft drinks), practices (e.g., food marketing to children), and conditions (e.g., higher costs for healthy than for unhealthy food) that contribute disproportionately to obesity and to establish public policies accordingly. This talk will cover these issues and will discuss how various people and groups can become involved to maximize change.

F-2 *Obesity, Community Based Research and Social Justice*

BURKLOW, Kathleen, Ph.D. and MILLS, Lisa Ph.D. (Harmony Center, OH) *Harmony Garden*. Harmony Garden is a newly formed organization established in September of 2006 as a non-governmental, non-profit 501(c) 3 community research center. Our mission is to build community research partnerships for girls health. As such, we examine the needs and concerns affecting the health and well-being of girls and families in our community. The long-term goal of the Harmony Garden is to create a collective community vision and action plan to achieve and sustain the physical, social, and emotional health of girls from birth through adolescence. In addition, Harmony Garden strives to translate research findings for the benefit of the community stakeholders as well as bring understanding of community perspectives to academic and scholarly work.

This presentation will highlight the first year of operation, including the process of establishing relationships with community partners, the support of academic involvement in community research, and challenges and opportunities that have informed our decisions at specific choice points along the way.

F-2 *Forming Community-Based Action Research Centers*

CALLIS, Barry (Massachusetts Department of Public Health). *View from Massachusetts: State-level Perspectives*. Implementing evidenced-based behavioral health interventions plays a critical role in reducing HIV and sexually transmitted diseases within a context of a comprehensive HIV prevention program. From assessing agency readiness to ensuring a fit to the intervention, implementers are required to have an understanding of their local conditions, population characteristics and ability to manage complex client concerns. Practice implementing these interventions requires a keen ability to screen and monitor participants. Opportunities for implementers to reinforce core elements and discuss implementation strategies are essential for success.

F-3 *Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-based Interventions*

CANNY, Priscilla, PhD (Connecticut Voices for Children). Connecticut Voices for Children has as its central mission the subject of this panel: Using data and research to support advocacy and policy change to promote the well-being of Connecticut's young people and their families. Areas of policy that we have worked on include: early care and education; juvenile justice; youth at risk, including foster youth; health insurance for children (Medicaid/HUSKY); family economic security; and tax and budget issues. The presenter, currently Managing Director of Voices, will provide examples of Voices' work with both state agencies and the legislature to affect public policies. Examples will include youth surveys and poverty policy.

F-3 *Using Research to Support Advocacy and Policy Change*

CARTER, Lynne (Adaptation Network). *The US National Assessment of the Potential Consequences of Climate Variability and Change*. The US National Assessment of the Potential Consequences of Climate Variability and Change was an enormous effort by regions around the country, sectors across the nation, and a synthesis group. While the effort was certainly a piecemeal approach funded at different levels for different groups by a variety of agencies, and we were figuring it out as we went along, some parts of the assessment were clearly on the right track. One of those parts was the intention to encourage public participation in the assessment effort.

Each of the regions held public scoping sessions to help to identify the particular issues of concern to be included in this first assessment effort. However, the publics that were involved were sometimes limited. The limitation could have been due to the lack of inclusiveness conceived by the regional director, or the lack of time and funding to find the right people to be involved, among other factors. After the first set of open meetings, however, different regions set about including ongoing public participation in a variety of ways. The variety of methods implemented to make public participation ongoing was interesting and will be described in some detail. Taking into account the variety of options that have been used to implement public participation in this science/social science program could encourage others to be innovative when considering public participation options.

S-7 *Changing the Climate for Participation: Stakeholders in Climate Change Adaptation Research, Policy and Implementation*

CASTILLO, Cristina Wheeler and DRAPER, Alison J. (Trinity College Science Center). *Learning about human rights-based approaches to health through asthma education*. In a first-year program for students interested in studying science, we offered a year-long course on asthma and its global implications. In the first semester, students carried out a community service

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project in collaboration with the American Lung Association (ALA) and the Hartford Department of Public Health. Asthma has reached nearly epidemic proportions in Hartford, particularly among Latino and African American children, and students took the ALA Open Airways program into elementary schools to help children learn how to manage their asthma. In the second semester, we explored the implications of asthma around the world, particularly in Hartford's Peruvian population and in Peru. Students carried out independent community service projects, including a documentary and design of an asthma education website. Additionally, students explored health care and asthma policy in Peru, and at the end of the semester, traveled there to learn about it first-hand. Examination of health care inequities both locally and globally expanded students' understanding of a human rights-based approach to public health.

S-6 *Service Learning, CBPR and Social Justice*

CAVANAUGH, Courtney and HANSEN, Nathan (Yale University). Violence against women (VAW), including acts of physical, sexual, or psychological aggression against females of any age, affects one in five women during their lifetime and is recognized as a major public health problem worldwide. Child sexual abuse (CSA) and intimate partner violence (IPV) are among the most common forms of VAW. Extant literature links VAW with a number of adverse health problems, including HIV/AIDS. This presentation reviews the links between violence against women and children and HIV infection, including socioeconomic variables related to victimization and HIV. Implications for future HIV prevention and treatment interventions will be discussed.

F-2 *Gender, Power and Violence*

COLLINS, Charles (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta GA). *Past, Present and Future: An Overview of the CDC's HIV/AIDS Prevention Efforts to Move Science into Effective Practice*. Since 1996, the CDC has been actively involved in the ongoing process of moving HIV prevention science into practice across diverse communities and settings in the US. This series of efforts began with work to synthesize the prevention literature in order to identify gaps, locate interventions found to be effective for HIV prevention, and summarize characteristics of these interventions that were associated with intervention efficacy. The *Prevention Research Synthesis* project resulted in a compilation of the best and most promising evidence-based interventions into an accessible Compendium for prevention researchers and practitioners that currently documents the evidence-basis for 40 interventions. The *Replication of Effective Programs* (REP+) project drew on several of the effective interventions identified through the research synthesis project and packaged the materials and intervention resources into intervention kits for use by community-based organizations in the field. The *DEBI* project is the culmination of these early and continuing efforts to identify effective prevention interventions for communities. The goal of the DEBI project is to disseminate efficacious HIV interventions nationwide through training, technical assistance, and other capacity building activities. This presentation will highlight the history and current status of the DEBI project and discuss future

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efforts to understand and strengthen the transfer of effective interventions to real-world practice settings.

F-3 *Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-based Interventions*

CONDON, Eileen (Dutchess County Arts Council). In this presentation I will share- via transcription, audiotape, and contextualization- a story about homeownership, shared with me on numerous occasions over the past two years by a Puerto Rican espiritista (healer/medium) and Latino community activist in Beacon, New York. Told as true, the story that Rita refers to as the tale of “How I Got A House with No Money” demonstrates her own and her social group’s complex synthesis of: (a) understandings of housing and homeownership problems facing Latinos and other residents of Dutchess County, with (b) culturally-informed/traditional supernatural beliefs about money, numbers, lottery play, and divine/ancestor influence or intervention in people’s economic affairs. Rita’s daily work at a health center allows her opportunities to educate community members about finances, housing, and homeownership; her work as an espiritista on weekends affords her contexts to reinforce her economic activism by sharing stories like this one to inspire people to consider, if not believe, that they might be able to overcome economic and housing problems with the help of advocates seen and unseen. The story of “How I Got A House with No Money” demonstrates the marvelous cultural and intellectual complexity of how hope for better housing can be promoted and maintained, in private spheres as well as the context of activism. Rita and the many people with whom she shares her story need not rely solely upon hard work, sharp mathematical calculations, state lottery games, or social cooperation to attain economic stability—all methods which the story affirms. It takes even more, the story shows, to keep housing hopes alive; people may need the stories themselves, imagination, prayer, memories of the dead, mystical experiences, and belief in the possibility of “earning” better economic fortune in this life by performing heroic acts of charity on behalf of others.

F-2 *Policy, Housing Access and Homeless Prevention*

CONVEY, Mark, M.A. (Institute for Community Research). *The Risk Avoidance Partnership (RAP): Urban Drug Users as Peer Health Advocates for HIV Prevention and Intervention*. The Risk Avoidance Partnership (RAP) is a four-year intervention study to train urban, active drug users as Peer Health Advocates (PHAs) to conduct HIV prevention interventions within drug using social networks and in high-risk drug use sites within the city of Hartford, CT. The research project was designed to train central or influential members of drug using social networks to become role models of harm reduction practices to further HIV prevention within the city. PHAs were selected based on similar characteristics that reflect Hartford’s drug using populations including drug of choice, ethnicity and neighborhood of residence. The RAP training focused on persuasive communication techniques and effective role modeling practices based on harm reduction models. The training covered information on the transmission and

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prevention of HIV, STDs and hepatitis so PHAs could effectively educate their peers. PHAs continued their training by attending monthly meetings that focused on community health issues faced by urban drug users in order to promote community-level health and conduct public health advocacy. Qualitative and quantitative assessment data indicate that active drug users were able to engage other active users in conversations about their HIV risk taking behavior and disseminate harm reduction materials and education in a variety of settings and times. Additionally, PHAs reduced their harmful behaviors and increased their safety, health, and well-being.

F-2 *Peers Making a Difference: Community Level HIV/AIDS Prevention and Interventions*

CRADOCK, Angie, ScD (Harvard Prevention Research Center, Harvard School of Public Health). Play Across Boston is a community initiative to reduce disparities in access to after-school physical activity programs for Boston's youth. Social and environmental factors may serve as barriers to physical activity, and may differ among boys and girls, by neighborhood, race and ethnicity. Data collected in the community identified several areas of disparity in access to physical activity programs and public recreation facilities. This presentation will explain the context and strategy used by Play Across Boston and discuss the steps taken by community stakeholders to address the study findings.

F-2 *Obesity, Community-Based Collaborative Research and Social Justice*

CROMLEY, Ellen K. and SCHENSUL, Jean J. (Institute for Community Research). *Spatial structural factors underlying alcohol access and use in low income immigrant communities in Mumbai.* Use of substances like alcohol may influence sexual behaviors that increase exposure to HIV. This presentation uses GIS to examine the spatial structure of opportunities to obtain and consume alcohol in low income immigrant communities in Mumbai. The research centers upon formative work in the community to identify places where different kinds of alcohol can be obtained, where people drink, and where other activities affecting HIV risk occur. Differences within and among communities in the number and location of places where alcohol use occurs suggest that there are a number of behavioral pathways where alcohol use and sexual risk intersect

S-6 *Cultural and Structural Dimensions of HIV Risk in India.*

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CRONK, Christine (Medical College of Wisconsin); **FAHRENWALD, Nancy** (South Dakota State University); **COSTELLA, Kate** (National Children's Study NICHD); **BAKER, Dean** (University of North California Irvine); **BENEDICT, Salli** (University of North Carolina); **BRADLEY, Chyrise** (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill); **DOLE, Nancy** (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill); **DASTON, Sandy** (Daston Communications); **DeBELLO, Angela** (National Opinion Research Center); **KEIM, Sarah** (National Children's Study NICHD); **MANCINI, Maureen** (Drexel University); **PIMENTEL, Pam** (Maternal Outreach Management System-MOMS); **SILBERMAN, Pam** (University of Utah); **TRASANDE, Leo** (Columbia University); **VANDERBEEK, Suzette** (Columbia University); **WILSON, Jean** (Westat).

Community Outreach and Engagement for the National Children's Study. The National Children's Study (NCS) (www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov) is a longitudinal study that, when fully operational, will include 100,000 US children from 105 study sites (counties or county clusters) that represent the overall US population. The Study will examine broad environmental influences on the health and development of children from before birth until 21 years of age. Environment is broadly defined to include: natural and man-made environments, biological, chemical, physical and social factors, behavior, genetics, culture, family and geographic location. The NCS will form the basis of future child health guidance, interventions and policy. Seven Vanguard Centers (Salt Lake County in Utah, Queens County in New York, Montgomery County in Pennsylvania, Duplin County in North Carolina, Waukesha County in Wisconsin, Orange County in California, and a four county cluster, Brookings, South Dakota, Yellow Medicine, Pipestone, Lincoln Counties in Minnesota) were selected from 105 probability sampled NCS locations across the nation. Additional sites will be added this year. A study of this magnitude requires dedicated efforts to engage and build trust with all Study communities. This presentation will describe the range of outreach and engagement efforts at the seven Vanguard Centers tailored to each community's characteristics.

F-4 *New Directions in Health*

CRUZ, Tracy, STORMS, Gina and BAEZ, Sonia. (Hartford Dispensary). In our presentation we will be discussing peer advocacy/outreach within the scope of the CDC-approved DEBI, Community Promise, utilizing patients within the Hartford Dispensary program. This involves going into different high risk areas within the City of Hartford to help educate and promote HIV prevention many different ways.

F-2 *Peers Making a Difference: Community Level HIV/AIDS Prevention and Interventions.*

CUSANO, John (Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism). *Evaluating Community Arts Programs: A Funder's Perspective.* Large and small community arts organizations face challenges in evaluating programs - from pre-planning to suitable methods. As the Community Development Coordinator for the Arts Division of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, I am pleased to join in this round table session. I will bring a funder's perspective to the discussion with attention on the development and management of a new funding program to

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strengthen community arts development through innovative state and local partnerships with local arts agencies. I will also draw upon experience in assisting state and private funding organizations with formal evaluation of grant applications, conducting community cultural assessments for local arts agencies, directing artisan training and evaluation, and managing arts education programming. The importance of community partnerships and cross sector collaborations requires the ability to implement appropriate program evaluation.

F-2 *A Picture Isn't Worth a Thousand Words: Evaluating Community Arts Programs*

DASH, Kim, MPH, MA; FUXMAN, Shai, Med; GODDARD, Chelsey, MPH (Northeast Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies). *The flip side of technology transfer: Helping grow local, innovative and effective prevention programming through CSAP's Service to Science Initiative.* During the past decade, SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) and other federal funders have encouraged states and local communities to use evidence-based substance abuse prevention programs. However, the programs the federal funders designate as evidence-based are limited; and the rating criteria for evidence-based practice can vary. Consequently, states and communities struggle to find programs that fit local needs or conditions well. Implementers often try to improve the fit by making programmatic adaptations which may decrease effectiveness. To remedy these problems and encourage innovation, CSAP funded the Service to Science (STS) initiative: a major federal initiative administered through regional training and technical assistance (TA) centers (CAPTs) to enhance the evaluation capacity of innovative prevention programs and practices. In the Northeast region, our methods for providing evaluation assistance and coaching are informed by theory, research, and extensive experience. Guiding theoretical frameworks include the Concerns-Based Adoption Model, the Transtheoretical Model of Change, research on adopter types and diffusion of innovation. Our work incorporates the following key elements: development of collaborative relationships between TA providers, practitioners, and evaluators at the local level; assessment of local practitioners' and researchers' readiness to evaluate with greater rigor; tailoring of TA according to program's expressed needs and in keeping with scientific methods; and demonstration of a commitment to programming that is culturally and developmentally appropriate. This presentation will focus on the ways in which STS operates based on these theories and principles and how such a theoretical base might allow us to enhance the way in which we monitor progress among and across program participants.

F-2 *Evidence-Based Interventions and Community*

DAVEY-ROTHWELL Melissa A., LATKIN, Carl A. and TOBIN, Karin E. (Johns Hopkins University). *Translating the SHIELD Intervention: A Peer Educator Training for Current and Former Drug Users.* The SHIELD (Self Help in Eliminating Life-Threatening Diseases) Project is a social network-based HIV prevention intervention. The goal of the intervention is to train former and current heroin and cocaine users to be Peer Educators. As Peer Educators,

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participants learn safer sex and injection skills as well as communication strategies so that they can talk their social network members about HIV risk reduction. Compared to an equal attention control group, individuals who participated in the SHIELD intervention reported: 1) increased condom use with their casual sex partners; 2) reduced needle sharing; 3) decreased drug use; and 4) injection drug use cessation.

SHIELD has been recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as an Effective Behavioral Intervention (EBI). The SHIELD intervention is currently being translated into an intervention package through CDC's Replicating Effective Programs (REP). This program is a mechanism to take research to practice. During this process, the SHIELD intervention package will be pilot-tested with local community-based organizations to examine its feasibility for use by a range of community-based organizations. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the SHIELD intervention and describe our experiences with developing the intervention package.

F-3 *Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-Based Interventions*

DIAMOND, Sarah, PhD (Institute for Community Research). *Sexual Risk, alcohol Consumption and Social divisions in Tamil Nadu, Southern India*. Tamil Nadu has high HIV rates compared to other states in India. Considerable variation exists across different socio-demographic groups within the region in regards to HIV knowledge and sex risk behavior. This presentation examines sexual risk behavior amongst a group of folk dancers of Southern India, as this relates to social stigma, alcohol consumption, and poverty. The findings are drawn from several years of ethnographic fieldwork with Karagattam performers. Ongoing state and NGO efforts to utilize folk arts to deliver HIV prevention messages will also be considered.

S-6 *Cultural and Structural Dimensions of HIV Risk in India*

DICKSON-GOMEZ, Julia, CONVEY, Mark and HILARIO, Helena (Institute for Community Research). *The Relationship between Housing Status and HIV Risk among Active Drug Users: A Qualitative Analysis*. The role of formal and informal housing policies in limiting drug users' access to stable housing has received little research attention but may have significant impact on the context in which drug and sex-related HIV risk occurs. This presentation examines the relationship between housing policy, housing status and HIV risk using longitudinal, qualitative data collected in 2004-2005, from a purposeful sample of 65 active drug users in a variety of housed and homeless situations in Hartford, Connecticut. Data reveal differences in social context within and among different housing statuses that affect HIV risky or protective behaviors including the ability to carry drug paraphernalia and HIV prevention materials, the amount of drugs in the immediate environment, access to subsidized and supportive housing, and relationships with others with whom drug users live.

F-3 *Using Research to Support Advocacy and Policy Change*

DOLGON, Corey (Worcester State College). *One Person-One Vote: Restoring Democracy to Disenfranchised Communities*. Last year, my class and I conducted a report on the neighborhood impact of group homes and social service agencies in Worcester. The final product, entitled *Mending Fences* (2006), found that most of the neighborhood opposition to supportive housing and service agencies was based on false claims or myths about property values, crime statistics and perceptions of neighborhood quality of life. Despite the positive impact of those programs studied and the neighborhood's overwhelming support for them, opponents continue to influence local legislators and policies, and dominate media coverage. While the report itself has generated publicity and impacted public debate in support of group homes and services, it has remained evident that the political power to shape policies remains in the hands of those constituencies best organized and most likely to vote.

Thus, our community partners for the initial study (Dismas House, Jeremiah's Inn, Community Health Link [CHL] and the People in Peril Shelter [PIP]) decided that the most effective way to increase the political voice of supportive housing residents would be to make sure that they have full access to and information about the ballot box. While efforts have been made before to register poor and disenfranchised populations in Worcester, this population remains absent as an organized voting block able to influence local political discourse. This paper will study the problems of electoral access, education, and resources for shelters, supportive housing, and low-income housing populations in Worcester. It will also look at some of the proposals that emanated from the research up-to-date.

F-2 *Policy, Housing Access and Homeless Prevention*

DOZA, Shoshi and SINGH, Rishi (Desis Rising Up and Moving-DRUM). *Participatory Research as a Tool in Youth Organizing*. DRUM - Desis Rising Up and Moving - is a membership-led, social justice organization of low-income South Asian immigrants, including immigrants facing deportation, in New York City. YouthPower! is DRUM's youth organizing program that builds leadership among low-income South Asian and Muslim immigrant youth, ages 15 to 21, as immigrant justice leaders in our community.

In June 2006, YouthPower released its *Education, Not Deportation* report. The research which formed the basis for this report was initiated in 2004, and was based on discussions among YouthPower! members concerned about the high levels of harassment and intimidation many of them were seeing and experiencing from law enforcement officials in and around their schools. In order to further document this issue, YouthPower!, in partnership with the Community Development Project of the Urban Justice Center, began a two-year research project which consisted of surveying over 650 South Asian high school youth and conducting a series of focus groups with South Asian students directly affected by immigration issues to document their experiences in greater depth. The findings of this community research project reveal that the Department of Education's (DoE) and Mayor Bloomberg's school safety strategy, which institutionalizes collaboration between the NYPD and DoE, creates unsafe conditions for South Asian immigrant students in NYC schools. Some impacts are specific to South Asian youth,

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whereas others are felt by the entire immigrant student population. This report highlights some of the main ways South Asian immigrant youth are adversely impacted by aggressive policing policies in NYC public schools, and identifies concrete barriers to education and services for this population.

YouthPower! members will discuss this entirely youth-led research initiative, the challenges that arose, how the research process was used to build leadership among youth members, and how the report has been used as a tool to promote alternative solutions to school safety issues in NYC public schools.

S-5 *Research for Social Justice Organizing and Advocacy: The example of New York City*

DYRNESS, Andrea (Trinity College). *Madres Unidas: Parents Researching for Change*. This unique and inspiring documentary follows five immigrant mothers who became involved in an effort to start a new small school for their children, and later became researchers and videographers to document their journey. Their stories are set in the context of a city-wide school reform and community organizing movement in Oakland, California. The small-schools movement began as an effort to improve education in Oakland's flatlands, where the majority of immigrants live, by creating new small autonomous schools and involving parents and community members as leaders in reform. The video explores parent participation in the reform through the eyes of the five parent researchers, and reveals unexpected lessons about the barriers to community participation. The video also chronicles the personal transformation of each of the mothers as they evolved into vocal advocates and skilled educational researchers, and the impact that their research had on the new small school.

The video thus tells two intersecting stories as one: the story of the parent researchers in Madres Unidas, and the story of the new small school they helped found. In elaborating on the process undertaken by the women, the video shows how the experience of engaging in research was tremendously empowering and transforming for them. Madres Unidas not only generates new knowledge about school reform, but also leaves a group of Latina mothers with new powers to act. In the end, the video is a strong testament to the value of participatory research as an alternative method that expands the possibilities for democratic participation and social change.

Languages: English and Spanish with Subtitles
57 minutes

EANNI, Rekha (Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York). *Role of Research in the Transformation of an Industry*. We will address the ways in which research has been integrated as a tool to support and further efforts to improve working conditions of low-wage workers in New York City's restaurant industry.

In 2005, the Restaurant Opportunities Center released its groundbreaking report *Behind the Kitchen Door* published by the New York City Restaurant Industry Coalition, a partnership

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between ROC-NY, the Urban Justice Center and other stakeholders. This report was based in quantitative analysis of industry and census data, over 500 restaurant worker surveys, and 35 interviews with employers.

Later that year, ROC-NY embarked on a second major participatory research initiative to document and explore industry-wide discrimination and identify proactive anti-discrimination strategies. We are in the final stages of data collection and analysis, and will be releasing the report in September 2007.

Our experience has served as an important model for how research can foster the internal development and organization of community groups' goals, and demonstrates how the experience can generate the critical data, analysis, and proposals that bring about positive change.

S-5 *Research for Social Justice Organizing and Advocacy; The Example of New York City*

FOWLER, Katherine (Windham Regional Community Council). *View from the Field, Part I: Windham Regional Community Council*. Windham Regional Community Council, WRCC, has been in existence since 1973 operating as a private, non-profit organization overseen by a 10-member volunteer Board of Directors. Our Board is comprised of health care, human services and municipal representatives. WRCC's primary mission is to coordinate, operate and improve upon the delivery of health and human services within Windham and Tolland Counties. The agency receives funds from federal, state and municipal governments, the Windham Regional United Way, private foundations, and contributions. Since 1989, WRCC has been providing HIV/AIDS services to at risk populations and people infected with HIV in both counties. The Outreach Services Program provides comprehensive HIV risk reduction education including HIV counseling, testing and partner referral as well as two interventions from the CDC's DEBI project: *Healthy Relationships* and *Street Smart*. This presentation and discussion will describe how our program got funded for these interventions, some of the issues we have experienced regarding their implementation in the field, and how we have approached these challenges.

F-3 *Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-based Interventions*

FRY, Deborah (NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault). *Sexual Violence and Undocumented Immigrant Women in NYC: A Participatory Action Research Project Pilot*. The NYC Alliance against Sexual Assault (The Alliance) worked on a participatory action research pilot on the topic of sexual violence and undocumented immigrant women. First, the Alliance partnered with New School University as the community partner in a practical graduate course for students of international affairs. The Alliance worked with the graduate students in the course to jointly pilot the project using PAR tools developed by the students. The research teams first

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interviewed 57 key stakeholders and community members in NYC. The research team incorporated the feedback from the community leaders and stakeholders to design participatory research tools that would provide immigrant women: 1) an opportunity to describe the impact sexual violence has on their lives; 2) a forum to reflect on the options women in their communities have when seeking help for sexual violence; 3) a forum to reflect on how sexual violence could be prevented in their community; and 4) a supportive and interactive environment to discuss a long-silenced danger in their lives.

From these interviews, several organizations expressed an interest in working on this topic more in-depth and agreed to host focus groups at their organizations. Five focus groups were held with immigrant women across NYC in multiple languages. All of the focus groups utilized participatory tools such as listing and ranking, vignettes, strategy diagrams and picture surveys. The immigrant women debriefed with the research team on every phase of the group discussion. Key findings highlight the difficulties accessing services, the problems posed by immigration status and ideas for community-based prevention.

Organizing around the results of the pilot study, several immigrant-focused organizations have formed a coalition to develop citywide PAR projects related to sexual and domestic violence among immigrant women. The process of working in a coalition to begin planning these projects will be discussed.

F-2 *Gender, Power and Violence*

GALE, Sid (Integrated Management Controls, LLC). *Climate Change Impacts and Public Policy: Lessons Learned and Lessons Learnable*. Sid Gale develops strategies and advocates for climate change impact and assessment as an outgrowth of 10 years of experience in regional land use planning, transportation, and economic development. He will review action plans he has initiated in local and state governments, and discuss in-depth challenges that advocates may encounter in advancing climate change adaptive strategies in community and governmental contexts.

He will focus on the need for participants to have: an information-based focus for public engagement, founded on relevant and sustainable facts more than philosophical dispositions; an understanding of the positions and constraints of opposing and neutral parties in order to effectively address and enlist them in more positive actions, and; a pragmatic awareness that responsive strategies to climate change impacts will likely be less than ideal due to challenges in achieving timely and optimal (not perfect, but practical) consensus on critical strategic goals and processes.

S-7 *Changing the Climate for Participation: Stakeholders in Climate Change Adaptation Research, Policy and Implementation*

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GALMAN, Sally Campbell (University of Massachusetts, Amherst). *Shane, The Lone Ethnographer* (Alta Mira Press, 2007) is a beginner's guide to ethnographic research that seeks to instruct as well as amuse, but the author's intentions go well beyond the production of an engaging book. The purpose of this presentation is to reflect on the process of writing this beginner's guide to ethnographic research as well as to discuss contemporary community and action research issues in the context of the art. Discussion will include aspects of writing the text itself, an overview of the graphic novel as research and representational method and the landscape of possibility in the interplay between arts and research. The presentation will conclude with the questions that surround and seek to "trouble" the role of researcher as "expert", the mystification of the research process and the role of "knower" in the work of inquiry.

S-5 *The Use of Art as a Research Tool*

GIBBS, Wade (UConn Center for Students with Disabilities). This presentation will discuss the enhancement of an accessibility map for individuals with disabilities at the University of Connecticut (UConn) main campus at Storrs. The map was a collaborative project between the Center for Students with Disabilities at UConn, Institute for Community Research, UConn Geography Department, UConn Facilities Operations, and UConn Parking and Transportation Services in an effort to improve community awareness regarding campus access. Due to the unprecedented growth of the physical infrastructure through renovations and construction of new facilities, this map meets a critical need to provide University community members and visitors with current access information. Participants will learn about the comprehensive research process used in the development of this resource.

F-4 *Community Based Collaborative Research for Youth with Disabilities*

GLASSER, Irene, Ph.D.; HYNES, Patrick, Ph.D.; ZYWIAK, William H., Ph.D.; HIRSH, Eric, Ph.D. (Community Renewal Team). Supported housing is often discussed as the answer to solving homelessness for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to permanent housing, yet there are few evaluations of supportive housing programs for homeless individuals. This presentation focuses on the evaluation of two such programs: the Supportive Housing Pilot Program sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Correction, for 15 individuals released from prison who were homeless before prison; and Rhode Island Pilot Program, which provides 50 homeless individuals with permanent housing in Rhode Island. This presentation focuses on the results of a two-year evaluation of the Connecticut program and the one-year evaluation of the Rhode Island program. In both cases, quantitative and qualitative data will be presented in order to discuss if and how these programs are successful. We will examine the outcomes of the two programs in terms of success, including decreased recidivism, increased health, increased employment and/or financial assistance, as well as the resident satisfaction with housing, support

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services, and quality of life. There are similarities and differences in both supportive housing programs, and suggestions for model programs that can be utilized for vulnerable populations throughout the US.

S-7 *Criminalization of Drug Use and HIV*

GLASSER, Irene, Ph.D.; ROJAS, Reinaldo, MSW; ROJANO, Ramon, M.D., MPH

(Community Renewal Team). *Evaluation of the Metro Prevention Coalition for the Prevention of HIV, Hepatitis, and Substance Abuse in the Re-Entry Minority Population.*

Each year, over 2,000 individuals are released from prison and return to the Hartford region. The Department of Correction estimates that 85% of the offenders have significant substance abuse problems, which puts the individual at increased risk for HIV and hepatitis C and increases their risk of re-offending

This is a presentation of the evaluation of a SAMHSA-funded project, the Metro Prevention Coalition for the Prevention of HIV, Hepatitis, and Substance Abuse in the Re-Entry Minority Population, a collaboration among the Health Departments of Hartford and three neighboring communities. The project delivers services to the minority re-entry community and suggests structural and policy changes that would facilitate the reduction of the incidence and prevalence of substance abuse, HIV and Hepatitis C.

The evaluation documents the process by which over 30 governmental and community organizations come together to plan an intervention and policy change strategy. The coalition building was aided by a needs assessment, which found that the re-entry population community faced significant barriers to accessing services. The evaluation also documents the impact of the Re-entry Partnership Initiative (RPI), the evidence-based intervention chosen by the coalition to best address the gaps in services for the individuals leaving prison and jail. The RPI workers meet the newly released offender in community settings, working with them for two months to give them information, referrals, and support. The evaluation measures the impact of RPI on substance abuse and on HIV and hepatitis risk behaviors using a SAMHSA-developed tool and local questions. The Metro Prevention Coalition for the Prevention of HIV, Hepatitis, and Substance Abuse in the Re-Entry Minority Population can serve as a model for reaching an under served and vulnerable population that is often hidden from view.

S-7 *Criminalization of Drug Use and HIV*

GONZALEZ, Evelyn; BANOS, Omar; and AYALA, George (AIDS Project Los Angeles).

Forging Strategic Alliances in the work of HIV/AIDS in Central America and the Caribbean.

Increasingly, individuals and organizations must work together locally, regionally, and internationally in order to maximize resources and create opportunities. However, the nature and processes of these bilateral and multilateral collaborations are largely un-documented or perhaps their well-intentioned plans fall through. Common reasons for alliances not to reach their goals have to do primarily with misunderstanding socio-cultural contexts, and lack of trust and

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commitment. Establishing shared agendas and opportunities for equal exchanges, on the other hand, may lead to improved collaborations. This study describes the phases of a successful partnership between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Central America and AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) in California. It describes several phases worthy of consideration among organizations and individuals forging partnerships abroad: 1) developing the collaborative relationship and establishing kinship; 2) identifying pivotal concerns; 3) generating sources of commonalities and differences experienced by the different countries; 4) formulating recommendations and strategies that inform future activities; and 5) managing expectations regarding limited resources and the prioritization of shared goals. Eighteen community advocates representing Central American NGOs and including several from APLA, participated in the formative process of forging a collaborative relationship. Their recommendations are presented for community, government, research, health providers, and policy makers seeking to form bilateral and multilateral partnerships with Central American NGOs.

GOPALAN, Geetha and RODRIGUEZ, James (Columbia School of Social Work). The proposed paper presentation will describe the development, feasibility, and preliminary outcomes associated with a multiple family group (MFG) service delivery strategy for treatment of oppositional defiant disorder (ODD) and conduct disorder (CD) among school-age, inner-city children (7 to 11 years) and their families. The MFG service delivery strategy has been designed in collaboration with urban parents to strengthen specific aspects of parenting skills and family relationship processes (child management skills, family communication, within family support and parent/child interaction). Sessions consists of a 16-week series of group meetings involving 6 to 8 families per group. The MFG service delivery model targets substantial weaknesses exhibited by the child mental health service system in inner-city communities: (1) low rates of engagement in mental health service use among children residing in low-income urban communities; and (2) the large number of children in need of mental health treatment in urban communities which far outstrips the availability of services and providers. The MFG service delivery model further address factors that impact the engagement and retention of minority children and families, including stigma associated with mental health services, and the importance of mutual support. Currently, the MFG service delivery model is being rigorously evaluated in a large scale, randomized clinical trial funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), under the leadership of Dr. Mary McKay, Ph.D. To date, two MFG groups have been successfully launched through the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, while a third Spanish-speaking group will begin shortly. The study will continue to recruit youth and their families nested within 10 child outpatient clinics in the New York City metropolitan area. In this way, the proposed study responds attempts to translate evidence-based engagement and treatment strategies across multiple urban child mental health centers that struggle with serious service capacity issues.

S-7 *Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Children and their Families*

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GOPALAN, G.; RODRIGUEZ, J.; and HOAGWOOD, K. (Columbia University); **McKAY, M.M.** (Mount Sinai); **CHUNG, M.** (Long Island University); and **LEGERSKI, J.** (University of Montana). *The impact of evidence-based engagement strategies on the recruitment and retention of youth into trauma treatments post- 9/11.*

Objective: The proposed paper presentation will describe the impact of utilizing evidence-based strategies to engage and retain ethnically diverse children in the New York City metropolitan area in cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for trauma for children and adolescents following the September 11th Disaster at the World Trade Center (WTC).

Rationale: Youth who have been affected by natural or man-made disasters frequently do not receive needed mental health services. Oftentimes, families are not sufficiently engaged to maintain initial intake or subsequent treatment sessions. Fortunately, innovative interventions can be integrated with established treatments in order to promote engagement and prevent premature termination in child mental health services.

Methods: Clinicians, supervisors, and staff at nine participating community child mental health center sites were trained to deliver CBT for traumatized youth and to employ evidence-based engagement interventions to improve show rates and retention of youth in treatment. A total of 445 children and adolescents ages 5-19 received CBT for trauma, with records kept for number of pretreatment and treatment visits.

Results: Show rates for pretreatment engagement, intake, and assessment visits were over 79% and treatment attendance was over 88% across the nine sites. More importantly, over 85% of youth eligible for CBT for trauma received treatment and over 60% of these children received clinically indicated levels of treatment.

Conclusions: These rates are considerably higher than those typically reported in the mental health services research literature. Results suggest that the combination of systematic strategies for engagement and evidence-based treatments is promising for children's mental health service use.

S-7 *Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Children and their Families*

GUBRIUM, Aline (UMASS Amherst). Digital storytelling is a technique used in community-based participatory action research that increases community members' participation in studies of local community issues. Digital stories are roughly three-minute visual narratives in which participants synthesize images, video, audio recordings of voice and music, and text to create compelling stories. The process of digital storytelling may be linked to the growth of spoken word as a mechanism for literacy and is based on a Freirian model, in which participants construct stories as they construct change. This can influence sustained healthiness and resilience--in knowing, being able to tell, and being able to own your own story. In this paper I look at the use of digital storytelling as a way to foreground women's reproductive and sexual health experiences. More specifically, I look at the potential use of digital storytelling in getting at women's stories of their experiences with long-term, provider controlled contraceptives (PCCs), including Depo Provera, Norplant/Implanon, and the IUD. The representations of PCCs

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used by family planning and population councils, and the medical and pharmaceutical industries in the U.S. are likely to indicate an ethnocentric, patriarchal, and potentially racist/eugenic bias, as they promote the use of PCCs among certain populations and downplay the significance of users' experiences, and the ways these contraceptives may affect women's everyday lives. By teaching other women how to construct digital stories, I seek to use a narrative approach as a way to illuminate the complex circumstances that affect their own reproductive choices and experiences. Digital storytelling-- in which women both learn the digital technologies to be used in the process of making a digital story and construct a multimedia piece based on their own experiences-- is a method that can be used in community based research contexts as well as within a broader reproductive justice framework.

S-5 *Innovative Methods in Community Based Collaborative Research*

GRAU, Laretta E., HE, Helen, SINGER, Merrill, and HEIMER, Robert (Yale School of Medicine). *Hepatitis C Seroprevalence and Risk Behaviors among Active Injection Drug Users in Bridgeport and Hartford, Connecticut.* **Background:** A secondary study aim was to determine HCV seroprevalence among Connecticut IDUs.

Methods: Blood drawn for HBV sero-analysis was also analyzed for HCV antibody. Those eligible for vaccination completed another questionnaire on risk behaviors and hepatitis knowledge at the Dose 1 visit and an additional blood sample was taken at the Dose 3 visit.

Results: Testing of 639 samples at baseline revealed that 79% were HCV-positive, with no difference between cities. The self-reported rate of HCV infection was only 34%. Three-fifths were both HCV-infected and previously infected with HBV; 3% were currently co-infected. Finally, 20% of participants who qualified for HBV vaccination and were HCV-negative at screen were HCV infected at follow-up.

Data on self-reported injection-associated risk behaviors were available for 101 participants. In the 30 days prior to interview, 19% of participants reported sharing syringes, 33% shared cookers, and 26% shared drug preparation water. Only 43% stanching post-injection blood flow with appropriate materials while 22% reported using alcohol pads to stanch the flow of blood despite several years' effort to encourage IDUs to use special non-alcohol pads instead.

Most participants were knowledgeable about HBV and HCV risks and preventive measures, but approximately one-third were unaware of the relative ease of hepatitis transmission and believed that a HCV vaccine was available.

Conclusions: HCV screening of IDUs should be increased, follow-up counseling should focus on overcoming the misapprehensions about transmission and the high residual risks, and access to treatment for active HCV infection should be expanded.

S-6 *Results of the Hepatitis Vaccine Study*

GUTA, Adrian and Flicker, Sarah (The Ontario HIV Treatment Network, York University). *Ethical Approaches to Protecting Adolescent Participants in Sexual Health Research: Alternatives to Parental Consent*. Standard practice is to obtain consent from a parent or guardian of anyone under the age of eighteen and assent from a youth prior to engaging in health research. In this paper we make the case for the importance of adolescent sexual health research as a key HIV prevention strategy. Further, we argue that requiring parental consent for adolescent participation (a) is unwarranted; (b) is inconsistent with the principles of justice and inclusiveness; (c) is confusing; and (d) may serve to silence young people who most need to have a voice in sexual health research.

S-5 *Challenges in HIV Prevention/Services*

HEBERT, Pato (AIDS Project Los Angeles). *Where There's a Querer: Knowledge Production and the Praxis of HIV Prevention*. This presentation shares strategies, successes and lessons learned from five years of community-based HIV prevention in Los Angeles and at the national level. The presentation focuses on two unique elements: 1) the use of art, photography, graphic design, poetry, fiction and memoir as innovative tools for HIV prevention, including dozens of examples of community members' work; and 2) the concept of "querer" (to love, to desire, to want, affection, longing) as a theory for infusing community mobilization with greater effectiveness and cohesion, particularly in the contested domain of HIV prevention with gay men and communities of color. The presentation shares numerous stories and examples of work produced in concert with dozens of community members, youth group participants, non-profit staff, academics, public health officials and families. We share the challenges and possibilities of this work, and the power of building a grass-roots, coordinated response to the HIV pandemic.

S-6 *Innovative Methods in Community Based Collaborative Research*

HOMICK, Jane (Windham Area Arts Collaborative). *Extracting the Essence of Lemon from a Quart of Lemonade*. The Windham Area Arts Collaborative is a small but growing arts organization, with the potential to expand existing programs and to develop new ones. However, with part-time staff stretched beyond the limit most days, the challenge is to find simple solutions that would not dangerously strain our organization's limited capacity, even with multiple volunteer resources. Planning and evaluating programs must also include when not to move ahead with exciting, new programs or projects. How can we possibly maintain or initiate programming and simply analyze success or failure? With varied programming that spans both visual and performing arts and community projects, what evaluation tools will best fit and benefit an organization like ours, and what choices top the priority list? What do funders expect and look for from small, young organizations like ours? This round table session provides us with an opportunity to pose these questions and participate with other members of arts, research

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and funding organizations in a fruitful discussion of the life, lemons and the challenges of community arts programming.

F-2 *A Picture Isn't Worth a Thousand Words: Evaluating Community Arts Programs*

HORTON, Kristin duBay, M.P.H.; SELKO, Ronni, M.P.H.; STATSKO, Emily and HARTWIG, Kari, Dr.P.H. (CIRA). *Developing a Social Marketing Campaign for Urban At-Risk Youth.* This project sought to identify effective messages, messengers, and message delivery systems to reach high-risk urban youth (aged 13-18) in Bridgeport and New Haven, Connecticut. We hired a youth coordinator who aided in running a core group of 8 youth to review and give input on protocol and analysis. In addition 8 focus groups with youth aged 13-18 were conducted and observed. Participants completed demographic, HIV knowledge, and risk assessment questionnaires. Participants responded strongly to humor, storytelling and graphic images/photos/colors in the ads that were developed in the first round of focus groups and tested in the second round. Participants recommended movie theaters, doctor's offices, bus stops and trains as good venues for prevention messages, rather than television, radio or the internet. Participants cautioned against a high-handed "preachy" tone in prevention messages. Participants thought that HIV- positive teens would serve best as prevention messengers, but the general lack of sensitivity expressed by participants, some of whom thought that HIV positive people should be isolated or marked, suggests that HIV stigma may have to be addressed in this peer group before employing HIV positive teens for prevention work in this peer group.

F-1 *Community Research Partnership Program: A Project of Yale's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS*

HUNTER, Rosemarie (University of Utah). *Reciprocal Relationships: Defining community-based research at the Hartland Apartment Complex.* The University of Utah/University Neighborhood Partners (UNP) and numerous campus and community partners are actively involved with efforts to bring greater access to higher education to west side neighborhoods and diverse populations. At the UNP Hartland Partnership Center, faculty, students, community partners and west side residents engage in reciprocal relationships focused on supporting families living in the Hartland Apartment complex, community capacity building and exchanging and creating knowledge.

The UNP/Hartland Partnership Center opened for operations September 2004. The Hartland community is a 300 unit apartment complex and home to over 1,000 residents from all over the world---Somalia, Sudan, Peru, Cuba, Mexico, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and the United States. Over 75% of the residents are non-native English speakers. The Partnership Center offers numerous programs that promote reciprocal sharing and learning. The programs include: ESL, citizenship classes, financial literacy and homebuyer education, legal education, health education and screenings, employment & life skills classes, early childhood, youth programs, Hartland

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resident instructor and committee, and social work services. In fall of 2006, the Center developed a research team consisting of Hartland residents, faculty members and community partners engaged at the Center to establish criteria and develop a process for research conducted at the Hartland Apts.

This presentation will describe the diversity and life circumstances of the Hartland community. It will explore the cultural implications of implementing campus-community partnerships and conducting community-based research. Additionally, we will identify “good community fit” and “campus-community perspectives on reciprocity,” and share successful research examples and lessons learned. Finally, attendees will learn how university-community relationships at the Hartland Apartments extend beyond the local agendas and seek to define the role of higher education in addressing societal problems.

F-2 *Innovative Methods to Identify the Needs of Underserved Populations*

IMPERATRICE, Samantha (Families United for Racial and Economic Equality).

Participatory Action Research as a Tool to Promote Equitable Development in Downtown Brooklyn. Downtown Brooklyn is the 3rd largest business district in the city, largely made up of small and minority-owned businesses catering to local residents and mostly African- and Caribbean-American consumers. The area is home to over 4,000 low-income families, mostly people of color residing in public housing developments, and is surrounded by rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods. Since 2001, the community has undergone an exclusive planning process driven by the Mayor, city agencies and development interests, resulting in the creation of a largely unregulated, market-driven development environment. As a result, local residents and small businesses are being displaced in order to make way for luxury housing, high end commercial businesses and professional office space.

As a result, in early 2006 FUREE, a multi-racial, women-led and membership-run organization based in downtown Brooklyn with a history of organizing in the community, decided to launch an intensive community research initiative that would serve to direct, frame and support their Campaign for Equitable Development in order to re-open the planning and decision making process related to the development of Downtown Brooklyn, and engage a broad range of stakeholders, particularly those traditionally marginalized from power, to ensure their voice and leadership in the important decision making processes that are affecting their community.

This presentation will address how this community-led participatory research project has served as an important tool in the organizing, advocacy and policy efforts of FUREE, including the challenges and lessons learned as a result of the process, the role of collaborations between community organizations, research support groups and lawyers in supporting community-led research for social change.

S-5 *Research for Social Justice Organizing and Advocacy: The Example of New York City*

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JARRIN, Olga and NEAFSEY, Patricia (UNCONN School of Nursing). *Self-Medication Practices of Hartford's Spanish-Speaking Older Adults*. In this study the self-medication practices of Spanish-speaking older adults in Hartford, CT are documented. A previously validated English self-medication practices survey was systematically translated into Spanish, pilot tested, and verbally administered via face-to-face interviews to 100 Spanish-speaking participants. Participants were recruited from five senior congregate housing sites. Eligibility criteria included individuals age 60 and over with diagnosis of hypertension and/or diabetes, and independent physical and cognitive functioning. Descriptive data are presented including demographics, use of prescription and non-prescription medications, reasons for self-medication choices, purchase sources, and frequencies of potentially adverse self-medication practices. Participants were predominately (93%) from Puerto Rico. Mean acculturation scores and education levels were low. Half of the participants reported at least one adverse self-medication practice, and 24% reported at least two. The data supports the need for an educational intervention targeted to older Hispanics to reduce adverse self-medication practices.

F-1 *Developing Research Partnerships to Address Health Disparities among Vulnerable Older Adults*

JEONG, Seonhee (Sunny) (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). *Assessing Community Structure and Community Interception: A Study of Social Network Analysis of a Community Organization*. Network analysis is a set of methods for mapping the real, often simultaneous, interpersonal relationships and interactions among community members. This study contributes to developing a theoretical and empirical framework to locate the concept of social capital and social networks within community settings. A clear recognition of confirmed and unconfirmed links or links to others in a community outside the core network of participants generates discussions on unbalanced community power structure and social justice issues that would not have occurred otherwise. Discussions about these findings can lead to the addition of new network members and stronger inclusion, involvement, and commitment of previously underused members that may be accomplished by suggesting whether there is significant fragmentation into cliques (especially based on location), and what new connections might be highly beneficial to develop. For community service providers and practitioners, network analysis can help community service agencies to be able to more clearly see the role they play within these networks, knowing where to intercept. This research concerns community service organizations based on the specific context of one community organization, Korean Cultural Center of Champaign, IL and analyzes the network structure of the center. With the increasing number of Korean residents in the local community of Champaign/Urbana with varying legal status, this study recognized that families of international students are underserved by the local community and university. Korean Cultural Center collaborates with various organizations to provide an array of services to the Korean community, and focuses on the accessibility of resources and services identified for community members in need. Based on the findings, research seeks to intercept the structure of power in an organization. By so doing, this research contributes to developing theoretical and methodological grounds for community based research using network analysis and social capital. Implications and challenges of community interventions based on findings will be discussed.

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F-2 *Innovative Methods to Identify the Needs of Underserved Populations*

JONES, Cecelia (CT AIDS Resource Coalition). *Addressing the Crisis of HIV/AIDS among African Americans: The Black Church as a Community Resource and Partner in Prevention, Advocacy and Care.* The HIV/AIDS crisis is affecting minority communities, particularly African American populations, in staggering numbers. As the historical community bedrock, the Black Church has been highlighted as a major resource for HIV prevention, advocacy, and care. This presentation will address the crisis among African Americans, the call for partnerships between CBOs and FBOs, and a brief look at models currently being used to fight HIV/AIDS in Connecticut's minority communities.

S-5 *Spirituality, Research and Community: Partnerships for Health Equity and Social Justice*

KALA, Mandira and TRIPP, Julia (Centre for Social Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston). Research evaluation is traditionally done by trained researchers, as opposed to the research subjects. However, in researching the impact of homeless prevention services, the Center for Social Policy (CSP) opted to fully engage the perspectives of people who had experienced homelessness, as part of evaluation of the Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI). Through the Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI), The Boston Foundation, Starr Foundation, Tufts Health Plan, and Massachusetts Medical Society & Alliance Charitable Foundation invested \$3 million in homelessness prevention funds to nineteen non-profit organizations throughout Massachusetts including the Greater Boston region, Cape Cod, Worcester and Western Massachusetts, to assess the effectiveness of homeless prevention strategies. The CSP at the University of Massachusetts Boston has been the evaluation partner for the HPI project throughout the three years and in the third year collaborated with an advocacy agency, Homes for Families (HFF), to evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts from the constituents' perspectives.

CSP and HFF engaged constituents in evaluation of homelessness prevention services from the understanding that constituents who have experienced homelessness or are on the brink of it, are in a unique position to lend a deeper understanding of the causes of homelessness and to shed light on prevention strategies. A team made up of researchers from CSP, HFF and the Constituent Advisory Board developed the research design, focus group protocols, and the analysis of their responses.

This paper presents the research findings embedded with constituent voices and language and provides important insights from constituent perspectives on homeless prevention services, their effectiveness, and suggestions for improvement. In addition, the paper highlights some of the important benefits and challenges of this collaboration, including: a discussion of how different perspectives enriched the analysis; the potential for collaboration and focus groups to empower

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constituents; and future opportunities for constituent involvement in policy research and evaluation.

F-2 *Policy, Housing Access and Homeless Prevention*

KELLY, Kristin (UCONN). *Public/Private Collaborations and the Prevention of HIV in Newborns: The Importance of Public Values*. In recent years a number of scholars have identified the destabilization of the public/private distinction as one of the most serious dangers associated with collaborations between state and non-state actors in the provision of public goods. According to those who are concerned about the implications of the destabilization of these boundaries, blurring the distinctions between public and private has the potential to undermine our capacity to hold private sector actors accountable to public values such as freedom, equality, and democracy. In this paper I explore the implications of these arguments through an examination of public/private partnerships forged around efforts to decrease the rate of HIV in newborns in the state of Connecticut. An analysis of the 1998 law requiring prenatal providers to screen their patients for HIV reveals the presence of contradictory messages about the State's commitment to upholding the informational and decisional privacy rights of pregnant women. These contradictions reinforce the importance of concerns about the status of public values in the context of public/private collaborations.

S-5 *Challenges in HIV Prevention/Services*

KING, Katharine (York University Center for Addiction and Mental Health).

Teen Homelessness and Diversity: Dissemination of the Youth Pathways Project.

Street-involved adolescents represent a significant vulnerable population for whom relatively little is known, especially over time. The Youth Pathways Project is a study of 185 at-risk youth in downtown Toronto, Canada. YPP is unique in its longitudinal aspects, multi-source sample of high-risk youth, and its focus on diversity. The study brought together a multidisciplinary research team and front-line partners serving homeless youth to create new knowledge about the characteristics of homeless youth and the factors that influence their pathways and outcomes. Working within a community-based research strategy YPP devised an innovative, arts-based dissemination project.

Dissemination of research results aims to reach a broad audience (including youth, other researchers, policy makers, and service agencies) with a web-based story-telling project. A collection of poems, stories, and drawings by youth is being compiled for publication on a YPP website. Results from the study will be presented, in part, in the words of street-involved and homeless youth. Writing or drawing about their stories will enable street involved youth to communicate their experiences to the public, policy makers, educators, service providers, and other youth potentially at risk. Dissemination is targeted around two central themes that emerged from the YPP study: (1) childhood maltreatment, street time, and maladjustment; (2) sexually diverse homeless and street-involved youth. This dissemination strategy facilitates youth community engagement, and raises awareness of the risks of street involvement.

KORZA, Pam (Animating Democracy). *Animating Democracy: Evaluating the impact of an arts-based initiative to foster civic engagement and social change*. Animating Democracy, a program of Americans for the Arts, fosters civic engagement and dialogue through arts and culture. Initially supported by the Ford Foundation, the initiative supported 35 cultural organizations nationally to experiment with the capacity of art to enhance the quality of and expand opportunity for meaningful public dialogue about issues such as race, gentrification, civic leadership, and youth violence, and affirmed that the creative contributions of artists and cultural organizations can be a powerful force for illuminating civic experience, reframing issues, facilitating conversations, bringing people together, and making voices heard.

For arts organizations, the notion of assessing *civic* impact poses new challenges and raises many questions. More accustomed to evaluating organizational and artistic outcomes, cultural groups are pressed to define what is meant by “civic” impact, whose standards to apply, and what evidence to look for. In this session, we will share reflections and lingering concerns around a variety of questions that arose among cultural leaders in many of the Animating Democracy projects, such as how to gauge hard-to-measure outcomes such as shifts in attitude or understanding; whether they could attribute civic effects to their arts-based civic dialogue efforts or to other factors; how much documentation is enough to learn what you want to know, and how do you sort and use such material; what cultural organizations can do realistically to track evidence of change over a longer term; and what did and didn’t work in the evaluation framework designed to support participating organizations’ own as well as Animating Democracy’s evaluation interests. We will also introduce and invite exchange on an Animating Democracy evaluation research initiative just getting underway with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to understand the impact of arts for social change efforts.

F-2 *A Picture Isn’t Worth a Thousand Words: Evaluating Community Arts Programs*

KSOBIECH, Kate PhD (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Center for Urban Initiatives and Research). Despite the controversy over the outcomes associated with abstinence-based education programs, this paper presents effects data related to adolescents’ participation in the Families United to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (FUTUP) Intervention. Unlike typical interventions, the multi-session, comprehensive content created for FUTUP was presented by middle school educators as well as educators employed by youth groups (e.g., Boys/Girls Club), and required students to participate in months, rather than days, of abstinence-related classroom periods. The target population for FUTUP was disadvantaged middle school-aged teens, primarily from urbanized locations.

A total of 291 students from multiple states successfully completed a pre-test survey, took part in the FUTUP class sessions, and completed a post-test survey. Overall attendance at the intervention was low (40%), although this may be attributable to educator error in entering attendance data. The federal government-expected intervention attendance rate is 70%, and so

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the gap, if accurate, is wide between expected and actual attendance rate for this DHHS-funded project.

After the third and final year of this evaluation, multiple analyses were run to determine what, if any, outcomes were related FUTUP participation. Beyond predictable gender differences in self-efficacy (girls score significantly higher), the primary analyses detailed here center on the predictive power of the data in two specific risk-related areas: past sexual history and student likelihood of abstaining from future sexual activity. A six variable binary logistic regression equation yielded 81.5% accuracy in predicting the accuracy of participants' self-disclosed sexual history. The variables, when combined, accounted for 57.9% of the variance (Nagelkerke R Square). Five variables predicted a student's future abstinence likelihood with 77.9% accuracy, accounting for 42.1% of the variance.

Implications of these findings for future abstinence-based interventions are discussed.

F-4 *New Directions in Health*

KUBAN, Kaila and GREENE, Megan (Greenfield Community College). *"It Made Me Feel Like Sh** About My Life": Stories of Failure and Friendship From the Frontlines of Collaborative Fieldwork*. How do we measure the success of collaborative ethnographic research? What happens when co-researchers are separated by power differentials yet connected through a history and friendship which transcends traditional research relationships? What if 'equalizing' strategies – such as paying community researchers or exchanging college credit for work – do little more than simply alleviate academic guilt for those of us who stand to benefit the most from collaborative research agendas? How do 'native' or community-based researchers negotiate their (split)-positionality as both members and researchers of their group? What feelings and anxieties arise in CB researchers that may be invisible or unimaginable to their academic or applied co-researchers, and to what extent are we responsible, or even able, to mediate these problems for (or with) our co-researchers? These are just some of the questions that the presenters, a doctoral candidate in cultural anthropology and an undergraduate at Greenfield Community College, have grappled with over the past year of collaborative ethnographic research on youth, class and sexuality in Franklin County, Massachusetts. Having worked together for nearly five years in a variety of contexts – as participant and leader in a youth serving organization, as student and teacher in a community college classroom, and as co-researchers on a dissertation project – they have also established a friendship outside of these roles which influences their collaboration in many ways. As they begin to wrap up the data collection phase their questions about research, relationships, life and the relevance of social science remains forefront in their discussions and a central part of their analysis of the research data. In this collaborative presentation the co-researchers will share their different - and differing - reflections, struggles and triumphs from a year of collaborative research.

F-1 *Power and Stigma in the LGBTQ Community*

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KUCHEL, George A., MD, FRCP, FAGS (UConn Center on Aging). The traditional model of academic medicine which has evolved during the 20th century incorporates well-defined clinical, educational and research efforts, with nearly all such activities taking place within the walls of an academic health center. While this model has been effective at addressing many important research questions over the years, it does not fully capture or respond to the needs of vulnerable older adults.

In geriatric research, as practiced at the UConn Center on Aging and at a number of other centers, partnerships with community-based organizations assume a pivotal role in research efforts designed to prevent or delay disability in older adults.

Above all, we believe that without such partnerships it is impossible to precisely define the nature and magnitude of disability and frailty among older adults living in the community. Moreover, without such information to guide clinical and basic research efforts into aging, mechanistic studies are likely to remain unfocused and ultimately unresponsive to the real needs of older adults. Furthermore, past history indicates that important scientific discoveries made in academic institutions must be tested for their feasibility in typical “real-world” settings if they are to have a clinically relevant impact. Finally, the delivery of health services for older adults is frequently disorganized and even irrational, providing major opportunities for research, meaningful quality improvement, as well as potential cost savings.

Viewed in this manner, the research relationship between an academic health center and its surrounding communities assumes far greater complexity than was imaginable even a few years ago. Knowledge and discovery transfer between such research partners must take place in both directions in order to be mutually beneficial and to ultimately address the needs of older adults.

F-1 *Developing Research Partnerships to Address Health Disparities Among Vulnerable Older Adults*

KUMANYIKA, Shiriki K., PhD. MPH (University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine). The African American Collaborative Obesity Research Network (AACORN) is committed to fostering “solution-oriented” research to prevent obesity in African American communities. For AACORN, efforts to ameliorate obesity and associated poor health and quality of life require a full commitment to basic human rights and to addressing the challenges posed by obesity within the broader social and political realities affecting African Americans. This presentation will explain AACORN’s expanded interdisciplinary obesity research paradigm and perspectives on CBCR and describe overall strategic directions for addressing disparities in obesity.

F-2 *Obesity, Community-Based Collaborative Research and Social Justice*

KALA, Mandira and TRIPP, Julia (Centre for Social Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston). Research evaluation is traditionally done by trained researchers, as opposed to the

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research subjects. However, in researching the impact of homeless prevention services, the Center for Social Policy (CSP) opted to fully engage the perspectives of people who had experienced homelessness, as part of evaluation of the Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI). Through the Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI), The Boston Foundation, Starr Foundation, Tufts Health Plan, and Massachusetts Medical Society & Alliance Charitable Foundation invested \$3 million in homelessness prevention funds to nineteen non-profit organizations throughout Massachusetts including the Greater Boston region, Cape Cod, Worcester and Western Massachusetts, to assess the effectiveness of homeless prevention strategies. The CSP at the University of Massachusetts Boston has been the evaluation partner for the HPI project throughout the three years and in the third year collaborated with an advocacy agency, Homes for Families (HFF), to evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts from the constituents' perspective.

CSP and HFF engaged constituents in evaluation of homelessness prevention services from the understanding that constituents who have experienced homelessness or are on the brink of it, are in a unique position to lend a deeper understanding of the causes of homelessness and shed light on prevention strategies. A team made up of researchers from CSP, HFF and the Constituent Advisory Board developed the research design, focus group protocols, and the analysis of their responses.

This paper presents the research findings embedded with constituent voices and language and provides important insights from constituent perspectives on homeless prevention services, their effectiveness, and suggestions for improvement. In addition, the paper highlights some of the important benefits and challenges of this collaboration including the way the different perspectives enriched the analysis; the potential of collaboration and focus groups in empowering constituents; and future opportunities for constituent involvement in policy research and evaluation.

F-2 *Policy, Housing Access and Homeless Prevention*

LIVINGSTON, Ann (Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users- VANDU). *Drug Users Respond to a Public Health Emergency*. The downtown eastside of Vancouver has a population of 12,000 and of these 5,000 are people who use cocaine and /or heroin daily. In response to the increase in illicit drug overdoses in BC-- 35 fatalities in 1989 to over 350 by 1994—drug-user groups began to organize. An unsanctioned injection facility was operated by user volunteers for 9 months before it was shut down due to lack of funds. Another drug-user organization attempt emerged in 1997 and miraculously received funding to operate from the local health board. This is VANDU and we continue to press for change in the midst of the world's most open illicit drug market and growing HIV epidemic.

VANDU was instrumental in opening a supervised injection facility, by attending for years every police board meeting, health board meeting, drug-related meeting, and any community meeting about the DTES. We gained credibility by being accountable for our funding and we put on demonstrations successfully involving 100's of drug users. Again in 2002 I and other individuals

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rented a storefront and eventually opened a guerilla safe site from 10 pm to 2 am, where people were able to inject from May until October 2003. This was after the government-sanctioned site was announced and stalled for many months.

What worked? 1) To organize the users and organize the parents of young users--"the public expression of pain is subversive" 2) to get political; running for office is cheap and effective at forcing candidates to speak about drug issues, and 3) To bite the hand that feeds you, as it is not ethical to treat someone else's misery as a career.

S-6 Conceptualizing, Developing and Evaluating Structural Interventions to Prevent Health Disparities

LOVERA, D.; BOGLE, M.L.; FRAZIER, K.; McCABE-SELLER, B.; and STRICKLAND, E. (USDA, ARS, Delta NIRA). *Building Research Literacy*. Context: Community Based Participatory Research is an equitable partnership of researchers and communities with community members being fully engaged and empowered to plan, implement, and evaluate research. Assumption of equitable roles requires a basic knowledge of the research process. The ability and willingness to assume these roles is a capacity that can be termed research literacy. The Lower Mississippi Delta Nutrition Intervention Research Initiative (Delta NIRA) initially found limited research literacy in these rural communities.

Purpose: Delta NIRA has a mission to evaluate nutritional health in the region, to identify nutritionally responsive problems, and to design and evaluate successful research interventions that can be sustained. Capacity within partner institutions has been built to enhance teaching, research and outreach in food, nutrition and health. Developing research literacy among community members is another key component of this mission.

Methods: The Delta NIRA has established three local research organizations known as NIRIs (Marvell, NIRA, Franklin NIRA, and Hollandale NIRA). Participation in community planning workshops led to assessments of community readiness for nutrition, physical activity and community resources. In addition, community members and local students have served on working groups to formulate a research plan, develop a manual of operation, obtain IRB and HIPAA certification through online courses, and serve as research assistants and peer educators. Open workshops on research basics have been held. Data collected and analyzed has been taken back to community meetings for review and interpretation from the community's viewpoint. The local NIRIs engage community members and researchers in monthly community meetings focused on research planning, implementation and evaluation.

Results: Community members take active roles in the research process, develop research literacy, enjoy achieving outcomes to benefit their community, and establish appropriate priorities to address their own concerns.

F-1 *All Health is Local: Community Partnerships to Address Health Inequities*

MARCUM, Andrew (University of New Mexico/Research Service Learning Program) *“The Revolution Will Not Be Televised”*: Thoughts on the Challenges and Possibilities of Using Qualitative Methods in Action-Oriented, Community-Based Service Learning Courses. I introduced my students to Gill Scott Heron’s polemic and impassioned poem “The Revolution Will Not Be Televised” on the first day of class. The poem/manifesto encapsulates a wide range of perspectives and concepts that I wanted to engage in the course I had titled “Pop Culture, Media, and Community Activism.” The piece issues a blistering critique of a white-supremacist mass-media and uses elements of popular culture and current events of the time to underscore processes of institutionalized racism and social inequality. It is also a call for the overthrow of apathy and to community activism. Yet, precisely what form that action should take can seem illusive to many readers.

Herein lies the challenge of teaching popular culture analysis within the framework of an action-oriented community-based service learning program. Once students begin to understand pop culture and mass-media as socializing forces that can, and as Heron’s words point out, often do play a role in sustaining injustice, oppression, and inequality, what then are they to do? How is this newly-acquired qualitative knowledge about our culture to be applied in a Community-Based Collaborative Research or Service-Learning Project? In this presentation, I want to attempt to address these questions, paying special attention to both the challenges and possibilities of using cultural analysis and culture studies methods in CBCR courses. I want to share ideas about how to use cultural analysis to, in the words of conference organizers, “examine and respond to the root causes of disparities” and injustice. I also want to reflect upon, and get feedback on, the challenges of taking the abstractions of critical cultural analysis and producing tangible and useful products with and for community partners.

F-4 Popular Culture and the Media in Community Activism

MARZULLO, Michelle A. (American University). *Lessons from “Reframing the Terms”*: Translating Frames and Values for Gender and Sexuality Advocacy. This presentation will report on a community-based research project entitled “Reframing the Terms: Exploring What Linguistics Can Do To Advance the LGBTQ Movements.” This project was held at an open and free forum during the 14th annual Lavender Languages and Linguistics Conference at American University in Washington, DC on February 10 and 11, 2007.

The participants invited to the forum were from local and national organizations doing work on gender and sexuality issues, communications professionals who have done work on these issues for various organizations and/or organizing efforts, long-time educators, activists, and therapists in the LGBTQ and women’s movements, linguistics researchers and academicians, and various interested students and community members. This presentation will comment on the challenges of working with such a necessarily diverse group to identify competing experiences, “knowledge” and viewpoints.

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Reframing the Terms was devised with two aims in mind. The first was to develop a method for practitioners and advocates working on sexuality and gender issues to use in practical, 'real-time' settings. Second, was to identify a knowable set of frames and values that are used to argue for and against those working for LGBTQ rights and women's rights. The method refined during this forum is currently being used by community and advocacy organizations for responding in live debate formats, in press releases, and in the development of talking points as well as for the branding of programs and policies. The retention of communication over time with these various people and organizations will be reported on. This presentation will review the method using an interactive example. It will then solicit feedback from conference members in regards to ways to further engage diverse community members in a sustained manner.

F-1 *Power and Stigma in the LGBTQ Community*

MASSAQUOI, Victor (Bowling Green State University). *Critical Review of Contemporary Political Governance and Social Change Policy*. Social Justice issues are evident in virtually every sphere of African life. From political instability to economic malaise and poor education for women and other vulnerable groups, the situation keeps getting worse. This paper will show the causes, dynamics and effects of social injustices, and what can be done through active participation of communities whose lives are affected. We can do this through action research, rooted in community need, knowledge generation and social action tradition.

McCANTS, Johanna (Visions to Peace). *The Visions to Peace Project: Developing, Documenting and Promoting Community Solutions to Violence through Arts-Based Research and Organizing*. While youth of color are often framed as the perpetrators of violence in the mass media and other sites, young people are rarely consulted for their analysis of violence or their visions for peace. This presentation describes the plan for a participatory action research project in which youth will consider and create community-based strategies and solutions to multiple forms of violence against youth. Multiple years as a youth justice organizer against criminalization and incarceration in Washington, D.C. led to the development of this project, which considers, for example, the relationships among state, structural, and interpersonal violence. The project will especially engage free and incarcerated youth in Washington, D.C. in analyzing the impacts of exclusive reliance on the criminal justice system to address and end interpersonal violence against youth and developing strategies for prevention and accountability that do not involve policing and incarceration.

This work will primarily take place through a series of arts-based workshops to be facilitated in a cluster of neighborhoods and a youth detention facility. The general research design for this project draws on emancipatory and activist qualitative research methodologies such as critical ethnography and participatory action research. It will also employ applied theatre methodologies such as theater of the oppressed and ethnodrama. As a form of activist research, this project is

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theoretically-driven, intended to be put to use, developed from a political commitment to solve social problems, and designed to empower marginalized groups vis-à-vis the research process.

S-6 *Violence Prevention and Youth*

McGLINCHY, Lisa, MPH and GODDARD, Chelsey, MPH (Northeast Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies, Health and Human Development Programs, Education Development Center, Inc., Newton, MA). *CSAP/CAPT's Learning Communities: A Mechanism for Encouraging Identification and Selection of Evidence-based Practices in Substance Abuse Prevention*. Increasingly, SAMHSA and other federal funders have required that States and local communities select and implement evidence-based substance abuse prevention. Practitioners at the local level, however, are faced with a variety of challenges in selecting and implementing evidence-based practice and programs including, but not limited to, inadequate data to inform decision-making, little time and resources for selecting interventions, lack of feedback or incentives to use evidence-based interventions, and inadequate infrastructure to support translation of research to practice. To help overcome these challenges, SAMHSA/CSAP has sponsored the Science to Service Learning Community (LC). The aim of the LC is to increase the dissemination of evidence-based interventions at the state and local levels, and ultimately, to reduce state or community-specific substance abuse problems. Based on theories of social and adult learning, diffusion of innovation and the Transtheoretical Model of Change, the LC engages communities in assessment, focused peer exchange, facilitated discussions and targeted technical assistance. More specifically, the LC asks that States and communities demonstrate readiness hallmarks, such as the completion of a statewide epidemiological profile or a community-level needs assessment and identification of state or local substance abuse priorities that will facilitate the program selection process. Members of the LC participate in a series of tailored workshops that focus on addressing community-specific needs in the selection of evidence-based practices and programming. Through the LC, members also collaborate with state systems, local experts, and other local technical assistance providers who provide specific guidance and recommendations on which evidence-based programs States and communities should select. This presentation will focus on the NECAPT experience implementing the LC and the advantages and disadvantages of the LC mechanism for disseminating evidence-based interventions into practice.

F-2 *Evidence-Based Interventions and Community*

MIKULAK, Marcia, Ph.D. and CHRISTIANSON, Julie (University of North Dakota and the Community Violence Intervention Center). Based on collaborative research by the Department of Anthropology at the University of North Dakota (UND), and the Community Violence Intervention Center (CVIC), this paper discusses current responses to domestic violence in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and outlines a new innovative program that transforms our data into practice through social action. A discussion of the efficacy of the Coordinated Community

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Response Project demonstrates gains made in mitigating violence against women through an increase in compliance and participation from key stakeholders in Grand Forks. However, our data also explicates the systemic cultural paradigms that continue to encourage violence against women. Hence, our collaborative research has resulted in the Department of Anthropology's partnership with CVIC. Together, we are working toward a new model of community activism based on survivors of domestic violence as agents for change within our community. Funds are being sought to develop a new program that promotes survivors as leaders within their community through a specially designed curriculum and community mentorship program projected to be offered by UND professors, CVIC advocates, and community mentors that focuses on leadership, social activism, and empowerment models. This paper ends by discussing how the survivor curriculum can radically alter the life circumstances of participating survivors by providing opportunities for them to collaboratively work with key stakeholders to target cultural stereotypes about gender, violence, and domination, and to become a stronger and more effective political voice within the State of North Dakota.

F-2 *Gender, Power and Violence*

MILLER, Robert L. Jr. (SUNY School of Social Welfare). *Reflections on HIV Prevention Research with African American Clergy.*

Purpose: Using qualitative methods, this study explored the decision making process and other factors involved in African American clergy efforts in HIV prevention in Albany, New York.

Methods: Sixteen clergy participated in a ninety minute auto-taped interview. Eight clergy were involved in HIV prevention efforts and eight had no HIV prevention effort. The interview schedule examined length of service and professional training, motivation for ordination, attitudes about sex and drug use, HIV awareness and any critical incidents that shaped their decision making process regarding HIV prevention efforts. The interviews were transcribed verbatim and analyzed using ATLAS-ti. An initial set of codes were developed to facilitate a content and thematic analysis of the data. The codes reflected factors with theoretical importance of clergies' experience as pastors in the capital district. The themes were reviewed with the respondents to maintain integrity with their intended messages.

Results: Participation in HIV prevention efforts by this clergy sample is predicated on biblical interpretation, educational attainment, personal experience with HIV disease, and the ability to tolerate stigma by association. Clergy members with church programs affiliated with community based organizations were more likely to participate in HIV prevention efforts.

Implications for Practice: The disproportionate rates of HIV infection among African Americans require more effective prevention strategies. The African American Church is at the crossroad of AIDS (Miller, 2000). Understanding the prominence of the black church for African Americans is a critical prevention strategy. There are many African Americans who have roots in the church who are leaving the church because of Social workers and others engaged in HIV prevention efforts can use these data to formulate education and collaboration efforts with clergy struggling to develop necessary programmatic responses for their communities.

S-5 *Spirituality, Research and Community Partnerships for Health Equity and Social Justice*

MILLER, Robert L. Jr. (SUNY School of Social Welfare). *The Copasetics: African American women over 50 living with AIDS in New York City.*

Purpose: Using qualitative methods, this study explored the experience of African American women over 50 living with AIDS in New York City.

Methods: 19 African American women over 50 living with AIDS in New York City participated in three ninety minute auto-taped interviews. All of the women were members of the mutual aid support group, The Copasetics. The interview schedule examined their childhood and adolescence, late adolescence/early adulthood, the families they created, their drug use, experiences of AIDS (including the psychosocial and medical aspects of the disease), and the history and value of the Copsetic Mutual Aid Group for the informants. The interviews were transcribed verbatim and analyzed using ATLAS-ti. An initial set of codes were developed to facilitate a content and thematic analysis of the data. The codes reflected the salient life events, their emotional, sexual and drug related experiences. The codes also illuminated their experience of HIV transmission and their coping strategies given the complexities of the disease.

Results: The women reported significant histories of emotional, sexual and physical abuse, economic oppression, and drug use. They also demonstrated self-efficacy and a willingness to manage the disease by seeking appropriate medical and psycho-social support. Four of the 19 informants were the founding members of the Copasetics organization. Through their leadership, the organization is developing a 501c3 nonprofit status organization.

Implications for Practice: Given the efficacy of the HIV disease pharmacological advances, many women who are in their 30s and 40s today, will live well into their 50s and 60s if not beyond. The development of psychosocial supports that are specific to the needs of African American women are necessary for quality services for this marginalized and traumatized population. Social work, public health, gerontological service providers can use this data to help empower women in less resource rich areas to create such services.

S-6 *HIV and Older Adults; Improving Knowledge, Challenging Assumptions and Developing Successful Partnerships for Research, Advocacy and Activism*

MINOR, Laura, P.A., C.P.P.-R., GROCE, Nora Ellen Ph.D. (CIRA). *Improving Sexual Communication Between Parents and Their Deaf Teens: A Critical Gap in Needs.*

This project assessed communication gaps about HIV/AIDS between Deaf youth and their parents through the Improving Sexual Communication Project. Data regarding Deaf youth and parent perception of family communication were collected through parent and youth focus groups and a parent survey. Focus groups and the survey indicated that there are significant communication problems between hearing parents and their deaf teens around issues of HIV and sexuality. Many parents are not fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) and were not aware that their Deaf child, unexposed to incidental sexual information on television, the radio and in

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daily conversation, might be uninformed about sexual issues. Even for parents who can sign fluently, there is confusion about the correct sign for HIV/AIDS and sexual terminology, resulting in an idiom of slang among deaf youth that parents rarely know. Survey and focus group results also pointed to a "values gap". Many parents who are fluent in ASL are not fluent enough to discuss religion and values with their Deaf children although they do so with hearing children. This values gap may be connected with poor sexual and other risk-taking behaviors in Deaf youth. An educational intervention based on these findings has been designed and is being offered to parents of Deaf youth. The interactive workshop offers knowledge, skills-based training and resources needed by parents to provide accurate HIV prevention information comfortably to their children. Survey and focus group results also pointed to a "values gap". Many parents who are fluent in ASL are not fluent enough to discuss religion and values with their Deaf children although they do so with hearing children. This values gap may be connected with poor sexual and other risk-taking behaviors in Deaf youth.

F-1 *Community Research Partnership Program: A Project of Yale's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS*

MURPHY, Yvette Ph.D. and COLLIER, Marta Ph.D. (University of Arkansas). *Building Bridges: A Literacy Initiative with the Marshallese Community*. The goal of the presentation is to share the methods used in creating an innovative, community faith-based, culturally sensitive, home-based, literacy-learning project in a Marshallese community. Community-Based Partnership Methods in Education (CPME) was used to gain entry into an immigrant Marshallese community for the purpose of improving English literacy for mothers and children in grades K-4. A formal Bilingual Education Program does not exist in Arkansas. Consequently, a gap exists in the provision of academic support and resources to address the English language needs of Marshallese students. CPME is a strategy used to access hard-to-reach communities to create collaborative interactive learning relationships and environments between students, parents, and educators. Advantages of using this strategy include overcoming the trust, communication, and cultural differences that may exist to create successful partnerships. The funded project is based in a Marshallese faith-based community in Northwest Arkansas and provides children's literacy materials that incorporate the Marshallese culture along with home-based learning activities for grades Pre-K – 4. The goals of the project are to (1) improve Marshallese children's English literacy skills by providing access to culturally appropriate children's literature (2) support the mother's involvement in their child's development of English literacy and (3) to use children's literature to promote and maintain a sense of pride and connection among Marshallese women and children to their culture. A display of culturally relevant and developmentally appropriate literacy materials along with an example of a completed learning kit, inclusive of home-based learning activities, resources, and learning aides will be showcased.

NICHOLS, Dr. Clinton III. (The Center for Cultural Understanding and Change, The Field Museum) *Collaborating With Globalized Shack Dwellers: New Visions of the Expert-Community Relationship*. How does collaboration with community-based organizations alter the

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expert-community relationship when the organization has transnational qualities? This question describes the situation I found myself in as I studied the efforts of squatters to secure housing and incomes in post-apartheid Windhoek, Namibia. The most successful housing organization—Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia—had a nationwide membership that was structured on the model of local savings groups. At the same time SDFN belonged to an emerging global network of the poor in Asia, Africa and Latin America who have challenged conventional approaches to the delivery of affordable shelter and services. As a result SDFN’s methods and ideological orientation derived from this contact with housing advocates in other parts of the world. A key aspect of SDFN’s success was its rejection of the shack dwellers as dependent on experts (either government planners or outside consultants and scholars) for the production of knowledge. By doing their own mapping and census-taking in squatter settlements, the savings groups in SDFN came to land negotiations often with more information than government officials. This approach countered the historical means by which non-white communities had been planned for rather than planned with during the colonial and apartheid periods of Namibia’s historical development in the twentieth century. Along with other methods such as daily savings, the impact was to strengthen the hand of squatters and back-yard renters at a historical moment when the Namibian state was retreating from the delivery of affordable housing.

F-3 *Innovative Methods to Create Communities for Action*

O’CONNELL, Ann A. (University of Connecticut, Storrs). Currently, the CDC is engaged in a national diffusion project that has as its goal the dissemination of a collection of effective HIV prevention interventions for different populations and risk characteristics. This session will describe the history, context, and activities of the CDC’s diffusion project (Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions, or DEBI). In addition to learning about the history, goals, and current efforts of the DEBI project, we will hear from national and state public health specialists and community agencies regarding their experiences and perspectives on replicating effective interventions, as well as from researchers and intervention scientists preparing their interventions for translation by other communities or community agencies. Evidence-based HIV prevention interventions are those that are grounded in theories of behavior change and proven to be effective at reducing HIV risk behaviors through rigorous evaluation research trials. These interventions hold great promise for the field in terms of bridging the gap between public health research and practice. However, effective transportability of these interventions to the field can be strengthened through knowledge exchange among all stakeholders at the national, state, and local levels. Our panel contributes to these discussions. A moderated question and answer session will follow the panel presentations.

F-3 *Perspectives and Experiences Translating CDC HIV Prevention Evidence-based Interventions*

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ORLEANS, Laura (The Working Waterfront Festival). *The New Bedford Working Waterfront Festival: An Innovative Public Dissemination Method*. The Working Waterfront Festival, a collaboration of individuals and organizations representing the fishing industry, the scientific community, arts, culture, tourism, and education, is an educational celebration of the culture of commercial fishing. The event takes place annually in September on working docks and waterfront parks in New Bedford, the nation's #1 fishing port. The Festival opens the working waterfront to the public and enables the fishing industry to tell its own story. Now in its fourth year, the Festival encourages dialogue across different points of view by bringing together fishermen, scientists, environmentalists, gear manufacturers, artists, authors, advocates, cooks, teachers and cultural workers. We have constructed a variety of programmatic approaches to attract audiences, document and present fishing culture, and convey information about the fishing industry and the issues facing those who work on the waterfront.

The Festival provides a forum for the dissemination of current scientific information as well as the direct presentation by fishermen and women about their concerns and best practices for maintaining a viable waterfront. In addition to descriptions of the various educational activities (contests, occupational demos, panel discussions, author readings, performances, etc.) that are featured during the Festival, my presentation will play recorded examples from the Festival's Narrative Stage where discussions of complex issues relating to the fishing industry and the livelihood of fishing families takes place. The Festival has had notable success in bringing together a variety of stakeholders with divergent opinions and goals, including government and regulatory agencies, men and women who fish for a living, authors, and workers in fish processing facilities.

F-3 *Innovative Methods to Create Communities for Action*

PANNUCCI, Cynthia (Art and Science Collaborations, Inc.) *Fishes Feed Us: A Global Art/Science Collaboration for Sustainable Oceans*. ***Fishes Feed Us*** is a global art-science project whose mission is to put a human face on the critically ill health of our planet's oceans—specifically the consequences of its rapidly diminishing fish supplies. 1 in 5 people globally [approximately one billion] depend on fish as their primary source of protein, and 200 million depend on the sustainability of ocean fisheries for their livelihoods. Children in coastal fishing villages [mostly in developing countries] are already suffering from rampant over-fishing and the destruction of their marine fisheries and ecosystems. This project will create a performance on a world stage, using the words of children directly impacted by this problem via a kids' *Fishes Blog*, website. It will also empower youth as “ocean stewards” to inform and inspire their parents, teachers, and community members to participate in ocean policy campaigns and ocean conservation actions. “*Fishes Feed Us*” will become a “model performance/ocean awareness action” that will first take place on World Environment Day, June 5, 2007, in New York City.

ASCI is eager to share information and gain reactions on our project from others with long experience in the field of nurturing community collaborations via the arts with many diverse partners. Our "next-step" is for the performance to become the centerpiece for Ocean Festivals on 4-5 continents that have the mission of integrating new marine ecosystem concepts into

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coastal communities via “traditional art” modalities (song, dance, story-telling of elders, games, crafts, murals on buildings, etc.).

PATTERSON, Yvonne. *Peer Advocacy: Successes and Challenges.* Self-empowerment dictates the need for peer advocacy in organizing the community for sustainability yet the challenges are great when confronted by the very obstacles which define any underserved population.

F-2 *Peers Making a Difference: Community Level HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention*

PAVEY, Stephen (Western Kentucky University, Center for Community Partnerships). *“Not Only Artists, but Activists” – A view of youth development through the lens of art, social justice and participatory action research.* This presentation provides a case study of a nascent community youth arts program, Kaleidoscope, located in suburban Bowling Green, Kentucky, that began in order to expand opportunities for a marginalized population of underserved youth to explore the arts, develop supportive relationships and connect with their community. The presentation explores the development of the expanding role of the arts, the movement towards addressing social inequities, and the multiple uses of participatory research methods. We will critically reflect especially upon the creative use of the arts for social justice and its relationship to participatory research within the development of Kaleidoscope through discussion of examples of youth-led community projects. This case study lends support to the integration of the arts within the whole research process as well as to the power of the arts to transform youth and community.

S-5 *The Use of Art as a Research Tool*

PLACHTA-ELLIOT, Sara and DELMAN, Jonathan and LINCOLN, Alisa and HAGAN, Melissa (Boston University School of Public Health). *Developing Partnerships to Conduct Community-Academic State Collaborative Community-based Research.* Developing partnerships to conduct community-based research is a challenging process, one that requires strategic forethought, adequate resources, and a commitment to collaboration. This presentation will discuss the formation of the Boston Community-Academic Mental Health Partnership (B-CAMHP) which seeks to put people with mental health and/or addiction recovery needs (MHARN) and their family members at the center of conducting research relevant to this diverse community. The B-CAMHP is unique because it was initiated in the community, and includes four community-based mental health “consumer” and family member led organizations, as well as one academic partner (Boston University School of Public Health) and one state level partner (Massachusetts Department of Mental Health).

Several years of collaboration among the partners prior to the formation of the B-CAMHP helped to gain the initial trust necessary to formalize the relationships into an on-going partnership. In 2006, the partnership received a grant from the National Institute of Mental

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Health (PI: Lincoln) to build the infrastructure of the B-CAMHP and to conduct a research project on the experiences of people with MHARN and their family members who have used psychiatric emergency room services in Boston. The B-CAMHP partners will continue to collaboratively apply for funding to conduct further research of interest to the community.

We will discuss the process of forming a community-academic-state partnership, focusing on the unique structure of the B-CAMHP, the role of each partner, and the rewards and challenges associated with having multiple stakeholders at the table.

F-2 *Evidence-Based Interventions and Community*

PLACHTA-ELLIOT, Sara (Bridgewater State College). *Using CBPR Principles in a Collaborative Classroom Research Project on Social Inequality*. Teaching about social inequality is a challenge in a college classroom, particularly when most of the students are relatively privileged. To help students see the effects of inequality in their lives and the lives of their peers, I used a collaborative class research project using CBPR principles to examine an area of inequality that was “close to home” for the students. Through a collaborative process, students decided to conduct five small-group research projects to study inequality in higher education, looking at both national and state trends in college enrollments, policies and organizations addressing inequality in higher education, as well as experiences and observations of inequality on their own college campus.

I led the class through a six-step process of collectively deciding on a general research topic, narrowing the topic into sub-topics, choosing appropriate research methods, conducting a literature review, collecting data, and analyzing data. While the project was collaborative, each student was individually responsible for five short assignments throughout the semester. Literature reviews and individual field reports were posted online so that all students had access to other students’ analyses. Finally, in class discussions helped students triangulate the research results and to think about action steps towards addressing inequality in higher education. In this presentation, I will give an overview of the steps used in class to complete the project, talk about facilitating students in identifying patterns of inequality in their everyday lives, and offer suggestions for ways to incorporate CBPR principles into classroom projects.

S-7 *Downside Up and Outside In: Student Education Through Project-Based Learning or Community Partnership*

▣ **RADDA, K., BAEZ, E., SCHENSUL, J.** (Institute for Community Research); **LEVY, Judith** (University of Illinois, School of Public Health), **REYES, C., M.S.M.** (North Central Area Agency on Aging). *Keeping Well and Healthy: A Study of HIV Risk Among Low-Income, Ethnically Diverse Senior Housing Residents*. The exploration of sensitive topics such as HIV risk is challenging when working with older adults. Discussing such intimate topics as sexual activity and drug use is important, yet revealing this information may place some older adults at

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risk for stigmatization, social isolation or possible eviction from their place of residence. Furthermore, many older adults do not consider themselves at risk for HIV infection and see little benefit to participating in a study that appears irrelevant to their lives. A community-based approach that engages researchers, community organizations and residents to collaboratively conduct research is essential and has met with much success, with the resulting partnership contributing to science as well as improvement in community health and well-being. *AIDS Risk in Older Urban Adult Senior Housing Residents*, a four-year two-city study to identify drug and sex related HIV risk exposure among lower income older adults living in senior housing in Hartford, CT and Chicago, IL, is an example of such a partnership. This presentation will provide an overview of the study, with a specific focus on senior housing residents in Hartford, and a subsample of shelter residents age 50 years and older and in-depth interviews with commercial sex workers whose clients include older adults. We will present the components of the study; discuss risk factors related to HIV transmission among this population; present study data including demographics, substance use, sexual activity, physical health, AIDS knowledge, and perceptions of HIV risk; identify challenges of conducting the research; and discuss the results in relation to developing appropriate HIV/AIDS education and prevention strategies.

F-1 *Developing Research Partnerships to Address Health Disparities Among Vulnerable Older Adults*

RADDA, K., COLEMAN, C., and SCHENSUL, J. (Institute for Community Research) *Recipes for Life*. Previous work with senior housing residents identified gaps in building-based social activities that could support the coping strategies older adults employ to foster physical and mental health and well being and promote social interaction through the sharing of lived experiences. This presentation will describe "Recipes for Life", an exploratory arts-based project that integrated narrative interviews, food recipes and photographic images by and of older adults residing in one senior housing building in Hartford, CT. This project tested the possibility integrating an arts-based intervention with narrative interviews, conducted on site among independently living older adults. The project provided age, gender and ethnically diverse residents with opportunities that fostered creativity and self-expression, increased social interaction, and share important memories, while enabling researchers to further understand how older adults view and cope with various aspects of aging. We will address the benefits, challenges and complexities of conducting arts-based interventions; describe the process and outcomes of this building-based interdisciplinary intervention; discuss implications for policy and practice, and offer suggestions for project expansion and sustainability.

F-3 *Incorporating Art, Ethnography and Reminiscence to Tell our Stories*

RADDA, K., SCHENSUL, J., BAEZ, E., and COMAN E. (Institute for Community Research), **ROBISON, J.** (Braceland Center for Mental Health and Aging or UCONN Center on Aging), **and REYES, C.** (North Central Area Agency on Aging). *Healthy Mind, Healthy Body:*

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Assessing Depression and Access to Mental Health Services Among Senior Housing Residents. Depression is a leading mental health problem among older adults, with low-income, minority older adults especially vulnerable to this disorder. Among older adults, depression is likely to be unreported. Left untreated, episodic depression can become chronic, negatively impacting physical health, activities of daily living, and social well-being. Further, cultural and ethnic differences shape identification, reporting and use of treatment options. Hartford, CT includes a large population of ethnic minority older adults, many of whom reside in public or private senior housing. This population is low income, often socially and culturally isolated, exposed to alcohol and drug use, and underutilizes health care and other community resources. This presentation will describe the methods and results from a three-year, multi-site study of the epidemiology of depression and anxiety and barriers to treatment in a multiethnic population of older adults, ages 50 and older, residing in senior housing in the city of Hartford. We will discuss quantitative measures used to identify rates of depression and anxiety, environmental stress, cultural phenomena, and somatization, and qualitative data collection methods implemented to determine indigenous concepts of the etiology and treatment of mental health issues, coping strategies and alternative helping resources, and barriers to care in this population. This project builds on previous work with senior housing residents, and provides an example of a successful community-based research partnership.

S-6 *HIV and Older Adults: Improving Knowledge, Challenging Assumptions and Developing Successful Partnerships for Research , Advocacy and Activism.*

RAPS, Beth (Adaptation Network). *“Because We Must: An Organizer and Philosopher Speak for Public Participation in Adaptation to Climate Change”*. I am a philosopher and a grassroots organizer, and my talk will show how both are useful in my work and offer useful strategies to session participants.

As a philosopher, I develop the strongest possible arguments for why public participation in climate change adaptation in the US is the most ethical, most intelligent, and most scientifically robust way to adapt to climatic change in what is claimed to be a democracy. My arguments come directly from my experiences as an organizer. I have published my work as a philosopher on democratic responses to climate change on several occasions. The first purpose of my talk is to share the main points of this argument in language accessible to all participants.

I use both kinds of work to co-develop and co-direct the only national network on adaptation comprised of citizens, scientists, policymakers, policy experts, planners, designers, architects, and many in the environmental and environmental justice communities. The second purpose of my talk is to share strategies from my work organizing the Adaptation Network.

Adaptation to climate change is not optional, and it is not opposed to mitigation (reducing greenhouse gas emissions). Continuing to accept that we must focus on mitigation and ignore adaptation only serves to delay response to climatic change in the United States that is *just, participatory, and as precautionary and cost-effective as possible*. We cannot allow others to

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tell us what or how to think about adaptation. If we do, we collude in closing down the possibilities offered by public participation in climate decision making.

S-7 Changing the Climate for Participation: Stakeholders in Climate Change Adaptation Research, Policy and Implementation

RATHJE, Lisa (Institute for Cultural Partnerships). *Finding a Voice in Poems, Scenes, Painting, and Pizza: An Alternative Tale*. It has not been business as usual in one hallway of William Penn “alternative” high school this year. Students are conducting a year-long research project into a topic that may seem disarmingly simple: themselves. In Arts Smarts, theatre, dance, spoken word, oral history, and visual arts become the conduits to developing appropriate and enriching interaction between core curriculum standards and a student’s growing awareness of self and community. The project culminates in a hip-hop theatre production for the larger community, providing an opportunity for education and dialogue to mitigate the documented fear and distrust linked to class, race, and social conditions (see phrc.state.pa.us).

My presentation explores how the public school system, artists rooted in specific artistic traditions, and folklorists from a community non-profit collaborated to create opportunities for students to see themselves as capable advocates for change and empowerment within their community and school contexts. Chronic absenteeism, a graduation rate of 44%, and students scoring 75-90% below basic scores on reading and math tests combine to create a school climate that required the district to think outside the box of traditional educational strategies. The resulting FOCUS program emphasizes interdisciplinary study with a flexible schedule that allows for project-based learning: the foundation for ICP’s Arts Smarts curriculum.

I hope to creatively engage the audience by re-presenting some of the work that came out of this project—poetry, visual arts, video of the final production—as well as share some of the early quantitative (attendance, behavior) and qualitative (narrative, observed motivation) assessments. This will provide the entrée for a critical discussion with conference participants regarding issues encountered in this type of work, including how the school itself acts as a culture that reinforces behaviors, thinking patterns, and certain assumptions of the students (see “Artful thinking,” Harvard Project Zero).

F-4 *Strengthening Communities through Youth Arts-Based Programs*

RODRIGUEZ, Chiedza, RODRIGUEZ, Jennifer, (Institute for Community Research); **HAMILTON, Melissa**, (Capital Prep Magnet School); **KILPATRICK, Matt**, (Killingly High School.); **ROSA, Jennifer**, (Guilford High School); **OAKS, Ashley**, (Windham High School). *Violence Prevention and Youth: Using Participatory Action Research to understand Teen Dating Violence in Urban, Suburban and Rural Communities*. Teen Dating Violence is raising concern across the country as well as in Connecticut. In the 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 16% of CT high school students reported having experienced teen dating violence making it the state

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with the second highest reported incidence, surpassed only by Maryland where the proportion was 16.9%. YRBS data indicate that both females and males engage in hitting, slapping and purposefully physically hurting their boyfriends/girlfriends and that this behavior is prevalent in urban, suburban, and rural communities and across racial/ethnic groups. While there is little doubt that teen dating violence is a serious and growing concern, there is limited systematic knowledge about the ways in which youth themselves conceptualize the issue, their attitudes, and the behaviors and current norms they consider common, appropriate or inappropriate in their relationships. Teens present key findings from their Participatory Action research Project facilitated by ICR staff. The project, a collaboration with the CT Office of the Child Advocate and several high schools, involved teens, with adult support, in creating a research model, learning research methods, designing and collecting data using survey, interview and pile sorting. Key research findings illustrate the nature of the problem from youth perspectives as well as illustrate attitudes, norms and behaviors of CT teens in relation to teen dating violence.

B-6 *Violence Prevention and Youth*

ROMERO-ALSTON, Laine (Urban Justice Center). *Research for Social Justice Organizing and Advocacy: The Example of New York City*. Research can be a powerful tool to support, strengthen and bolster organizing, advocacy and policy efforts of community organizations working to bring about social change. Through the experience of three New York City Organizations, led by low-income, immigrant and youth members that have and continue to carry out extensive participatory action research initiatives as part of their organizing and advocacy work, this session will discuss how research has built internal capacity, expanded and strengthened the membership base and leadership, informed collective analysis and vision, and informed strategic action and proposals. Panelists will discuss how research, policy, academics and community organizations collaboratively use social justice research to support local research and campaigns, and think about how to collectively push forward and hold up community-led research for a social justice agenda city-wide.

S-5 *Research for Social Justice Organizing and Advocacy: The Example of New York City*

ROSANO, Susan, M.A. (Connecticut VNA's Hospice Program). The focus of hospice care is to provide symptom control and quality of life to people with a terminal illness. The use of Expressive Arts in hospice care provides a unique and broad opportunity to enhance quality of life by facilitating expression that speaks to or for the patient. As a specific modality of the Expressive Arts program, the use of the "five sense" poem is an especially effective means of capturing experiences, memories and/or relationships that are important and meaningful within the context of the patient's life.

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The steps of facilitating such poems will be briefly reviewed and some examples of poetry shared during this panel presentation and discussion.

F-1 *Art and Healing VNA Panel*

SCHENSUL, Jean (Institute for Community Research); **SINGH, SK and GUPTA, Kamla.** *Attitudes Towards Alcohol and Risky Sex among Married and Unmarried Men in Mumbai.* International alcohol marketing and domestic production of home brew make India's alcohol consumption highest in Southeast Asia, despite proscriptions against use. Increased alcohol marketing via sexuality may enhance positive attitudes toward alcohol and expectancies that alcohol use will improve sexual experience. Under these circumstances, alcohol use can increase STI and HIV exposure via unprotected sex among men with multiple partners. This paper uses the results of survey and in depth interviews to report on attitudes toward alcohol consumption, condom use and sexuality among married and unmarried men in two low-income communities of Mumbai.

S-6 *Cultural and Structural Dimensions of HIV Risk in India*

SEACAT, Jason D. MS, Ph.D. (University of Connecticut, Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention). *Impact of Social Stigma/Discrimination on LGBT Individuals' Physical Health Status and Experiences with Health Care Services.*

Stigmatization and experiences with discrimination have been identified as significant factors contributing to the development and exacerbation of chronic health conditions within marginalized populations. Lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) individuals represent one community often marked by stigma and as disproportionately experiencing discrimination (Herek, 2000), yet limited data have been published on how these factors impact the health behaviors, health care experiences, and overall health status of members this population. Emerging research indicates that experiences of social stigma and discrimination are likely connected to physical health among LGB individuals (Wright & Perry, 2006); influencing health compromising behaviors such as delayed treatment seeking for sexually transmitted infections (e.g., Malta, Bastos, Strathdee, Cunningham, Pilotto, and Kerrigan, 2007); failure to disclose sexual orientation and/or other health concerns to health care providers (e.g., Meckler, Elliott, Kanouse, Beals, and Schuster, 2006); and increased sexual risk behavior (e.g., Preston, D'Augelli, Kassab, Cain, and Starks, 2004). Despite these initial findings, there have been few efforts to broadly review and discuss the health-related implications of social stigma/discrimination for the LGB community.

The proposed presentation will review identified LGB health-related disparities within the literature; specifically focusing on disparities in medical treatment seeking, disclosure of sexual orientation and health-related information to health care providers, and experiences with risky sexual behavior. A primary goal of this presentation will then be to highlight and discuss the role of stigmatization and experiences with discrimination as precipitants of health compromising behaviors within the LGB community. Though social stigma/discrimination are increasingly

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recognized as factors contributing to physical health, considerably more research is needed to identify mechanisms through which these factors operate and to identify strategies social scientists can implement to minimize any negative health consequences. As such, emphasis will also be placed on identifying/discussing future research and intervention strategies to support this need.

F-1 *Power and Stigma in the LGBTQ Community*

SHAW, Susan J. Ph.D. (University of Arizona). *Lessons Learned from Formative Community Involvement: Developing and Implementing a Culturally-Appropriate Research Design.* The term “Health literacy” has typically been used to describe a patient’s ability to understand and act on his/her physician’s instructions. Little work has been done, however, to place health literacy in the broader context of socioeconomic and cultural differences among patients and between providers and patients that hinder communication and compliance. The study “The Impact of Cultural Differences on Health Literacy and Chronic Disease Outcomes”, builds on participatory research conducted at Caring Health Center, a community health center in Springfield, MA, to better understand the impact that culture has on patient/provider effective communication, patient compliance, and health outcomes among four ethnic groups with diabetes and/or hypertension. Our previous research indicated a critical need at the clinic for more medical interpreters that the current research has been able to support by hiring outreach-interviewers who spend part of their time as medical interpreters.

Ethnic minorities are still largely underrepresented in health research due to barriers to recruitment and retention such as mistrust of research and researchers. This paper describes the lessons learned from formative meetings with the clinic staff and community members about the study design and how best to implement the study at the clinic. In response to significant issues raised in those meetings regarding patient flow and confidentiality, we changed the research protocol and survey content before the recruitment process has begun. Responding to needs identified in pilot research with funds to support clinic activities such as medical interpreters, holding formative meetings, and the subsequent changes that have been generated thus far reflect a critical set of opportunities for building trust between the community-based researchers and the community and the organization. The lessons learned from this process are a central step in the development of the research protocol in which the community and the organization have an active role in identifying potential barriers and in collaborating to design culturally appropriate alternatives.

F-4 *New Directions in Health*

SHELLMAN, Juliette, Ph.D. (Yale University School of Nursing). *Making a Connection: An Inter-generational Reminiscence Education Program.* The projected rise in the diversity of the older adult population along with increased healthcare needs has generated a demand for nurses prepared to care for older adults from different cultural backgrounds. The purpose of this

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presentation is to describe an intergenerational reminiscence education program for nursing students and community-dwelling older adults. Nursing students ($N=41$) who participated in a 13 week reminiscence education program during their community health clinical practicum completed an open-ended questionnaire for program evaluation. Data were analyzed using *Editing Analysis Style* (Crabtree & Miller, 1999). Three major themes emerged: 1) *Making a Connection*, 2) *Seeing the World through their Eyes*, and 3) *Benefits of Reminiscence*. Results indicate that implementing intergenerational reminiscence education programs in schools of nursing has benefits for older adults and nursing students. Older adults enjoyed sharing their stories with students and felt a sense of accomplishment as they reminisced about their life experiences. The nursing students learned about older adults' worldviews, cultural beliefs, and traditions by facilitating reminiscence as part of their home visit and were able to "connect" with their clients. Implications for intergenerational reminiscence programs as a way to foster nursing students' cultural sensitivity toward caring for our diverse older adult population will be discussed.

F-3 *Living Histories: Incorporating Art, Ethnography and Reminiscence to Tell our Stories*

SHWARTZ, Marlene (Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, Yale University). Researchers from Yale's Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity have collaborated with the State Department of Education to conduct studies that will inform policy regarding nutrition and wellness in Connecticut schools. One study examined the financial effect of removing unhealthy snacks from a la carte and vending machines in schools, which was useful in developing the 2006 legislation to address junk food in schools. The Rudd Center is currently working with SDE to evaluate all of the School Wellness Policies written by Connecticut school districts and is assisting them in providing feedback to the schools. Our next planned project is to work with preschools and child care centers throughout the state to improve the nutrition environment.

F-3 *Using Research to Support Advocacy and Policy Change*

SIMMONS, Deborah A., Ed.D (Manchester Community College). *Creation of a children's book entitled "Little Deboo and Big Sister Rose: Learning About Diabetes"*. This project consists of the creation of an illustrated children's book targeting Type 2 diabetes among pre-adolescent and adolescent African American youth. The project is conducted in collaboration with Jay Schensul, head Researcher at the Institute for Community Research. Areas of research in the creation of this project include: defining type 2 diabetes; the increase in the number of cases of type 2 diabetes among minority children (African American, Hispanic American, American Indians and Asian Americans); the link of type 2 diabetes occurrence to obesity, family history, sedentary lifestyle, and diet; the use of a children's book to promote health literacy.

S-5 *The Artist as Researcher*

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SINGER, Merrill (Hispanic Health Council). *Desperate Measures: Life in a Violent City*. This presentation explores the challenges of understanding the nature, meaning, and of violence in an unexpectedly violent city: Hartford, Connecticut. Focusing especially on inner city populations and what often is termed "meaningless street violence," the presentation examines insider experiences of victimization and participation in violence, community efforts to comprehend and respond to violence, and anthropological efforts to analyze the relationship of violence to community health. The latter endeavor suggests the importance of understanding the contexts and entwinements of violence and the assessment of violence as component of contemporary inner city disease syndemics. Violence, it is argued, inflicts far more than an immediate array of wounds and emotional shocks; additionally, it helps to create the experiential world of the inner city. In this, it is a critical factor in shaping health threats as a central quality of the tapestry of life among the urban poor. At the same time, while violence in the inner city is commonly used in the suburbs as a rationale for stereotyping, marginalizing processes, and the de-funding of programs, the paper examines the origin of inner city violence in social inequality, including structural relations between the urban poor and the suburban wealthy. The ultimate goal of the paper is to render meaningless street violence meaningful as an artifact of social injustice.

S-6 *Conceptualizing, Developing and Evaluating Structural Interventions to Prevent Disparities*

SMALL, Fleur F., PhD; DURR, Marlese, PhD; JONES, Diana Alexander (Wright State University and Combined Health District of Montgomery County). *Project EED: Preliminary Findings from a Community based Project on HIV and the Elderly*. In the 25th year since the recognition of the HIV/AIDS pandemic many researchers now argue that middle aged- and older Americans are neglected. While many public health campaigns are designed to target at risk populations and youth ages 13- 24, the elderly are being ignored in terms of age specific epidemiology, and prevention, intervention and treatment programs. In 2006 a community based research study between Wright State University's Sociology Department and the Combined Health District of Montgomery County was established to investigate this public health problem. This research study is entitled Project EED (Educating the elderly about HIV/AIDS Disease) and is a mixed-methods pilot study that includes pre and post attitudinal surveys and focus groups. Preliminary findings from data as well as some note worthy research experiences from Project EED will be discussed at this conference.

S-6 HIV and Older Adults: Improving Knowledge, Challenging Assumptions and Developing Successful Partnerships for Research, Advocacy and Activism

SMITH, Ellen and WERKMEISTER-ROZAS, Lisa (UConn School of Social Work). This presentation will discuss a collaboration between researchers from the University of Connecticut

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School of Social Work and a community-based agency in Connecticut, Community Health Center (CHC). CHC received funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support a mental health program for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Mental Health HIV/AIDS Service Component Project (MHHSC) was designed to increase access to integrated mental health, primary care and support services for clients with HIV/AIDS and their families. It allowed for the provision of mental health services, including clinical outreach, community-based psychiatric care, and intensive case management, for people who are infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. The target population consisted of Latino and African American residents of the city of Meriden and surrounding towns.

The presenters worked with the clients and staff of the Mental Health HIV/AIDS Service Component Project to evaluate the success of the program in meeting the needs of clients. Qualitative data were collected through focus groups and through individual interviews with clients and program staff.

F-2 *Gender, Power and Violence*

SMITH, Ellen (UConn School of Social Work). How does childhood trauma shape women's HIV risk and their experiences of being HIV-positive? While the literature has established a link between trauma, especially childhood sexual abuse, and HIV infection, this link is not well understood theoretically. Clearly, not all women with HIV/AIDS have experienced childhood trauma. For those women who have survived sexual abuse, however, it is likely that these histories contributed to their vulnerability to HIV. These histories also mediate their experience of illness in myriad and complex ways.

This presentation will discuss the findings of a research study exploring the intersection of trauma and HIV/AIDS in women's lives. Does child sexual abuse contribute to HIV risk? How do women conceptualize their illness in the context of abusive experiences? Do parallels exist for them between the experience of abuse and the experience of HIV? If so, how can these parallels be understood? These questions were explored through qualitative interviews with eighteen women, all HIV-positive, and all survivors of childhood physical or sexual abuse. The findings of the study address these issues in relation to five variables: identity and self-esteem, relationship to their bodies, sexuality, relational patterns, and sense of control over their lives. Implications for coping and self-care will also be addressed.

F-2 *Gender, Power and Violence*

STEWART, John (University of Hartford). *Possible Health Effects Related to Pollution Sources in Hartford, CT: Community-Based Research with University Collaboration.*

A 1998, community-based, health study in Hartford was initiated to investigate anecdotal reports of elevated rates of respiratory problems thought to be related to air pollution exposure. The reported health problems established basic rates for the Hartford population and some crude geographical clusters of higher rates, but no clear environmental causes. In 2001 a senior thesis

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at the University of Hartford combined the health survey results with information on over 20 air pollution sources identified from the US EPA 1999 National Emissions Inventory (EI). The EI point source data for SO₂, NO_x, VOC, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} pollutants were distributed in 16 wind directions around these sources using a simple dispersion model. At each residence pollution intensities were estimated by summing each pollutant from all sources. The sum was then correlated with reported health problems. After adjusting for several potential confounders, a multiple logistic regression model found that sulfur dioxide intensity correlated significantly with several health problems, including asthma. There will be discussion of how to avoid some of the problems in the study and how the results have been used to promote social change.

F-2 *Environmental Justice, Race, Place and Health*

St. JOHN, Julie (Center for Community Health Development, School of Rural Public Health, Texas A&M Health Science Center). *Diverse University- Community CBCR Partnership in Deep South Texas*. The Center for Community Health Development Program (CCHD) at the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Rural Public Health is currently involved in community based participatory research (CBCR) in two geographically diverse communities in South Texas. This abstract proposes a comparison of these two communities that will address in general: 1) the affects of class, ethnicity, race, gender, culture and power on CBCR partnerships; 2) the gaps between these communities and local service/government entities; and 3) ways that these community partnerships/networks are addressing cultural, health, environmental, and economic policy related issues.

First, the presenter will talk about the Integrated Health Outreach System (IHOS) Project—an \$8 million, seven-year effort, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Hidalgo County, Texas—a rapidly growing community of more than a million residents along the Texas-Mexico border with an 88% Hispanic population. The presenter will address the challenges in establishing and sustaining good community health partnerships that improve the health status of colonial residents. Next, the presenter will discuss a community health partnership in Starr County—a rural, underserved community also adjacent to the order (97% Hispanic). The presenter will emphasize the types of structures and communication strategies needed to facilitate this partnership, while considering the major challenge of overcoming a history of lack of coordination and sustainability of university-initiated projects. The session will end with an interactive discussion about the need to implement more community networks across the nation, as well as discussion of methods to enact such a CBCR network approach that will serve to improve the health status of communities.

THORN, Marla Rae (Mi Casa Project). *Homelessness in Ocean County NJ*.

I am a student majoring in at a private University in New Jersey. In the Social Work major there is a class called Research in Social Work, for which we developed a research project of our own interest. There had been several articles in local newspapers about homeless in our county and

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community that caught my attention. I approached the female leaders of Mi Casa regarding this issue, and they helped me conduct research on homelessness in our area. Mi Casa is an advocacy group that helps diverse communities seek social justice. A fellow classmate and I partnered with them in an effort to tell the truth about homelessness from the perspectives of the people that are living a homeless life. In our presentation we hope to present their perspectives and share insights relevant to all issues related to homelessness.

S-7 *Downside Up and Outside In: Student Education Through Project-Based Learning or Community Partnerships*

THORNTON, Alec (University of Otago/ Poverty, Inequality and Development Research Cluster) *Addressing the legacies of apartheid through intervention: The case of the Masizame Community Garden Project in Peddie, South Africa.* The post-apartheid South African government has emphasized poverty alleviation, inequality and sustainable development in several key policy documents, in which different types of urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) are mentioned. The promotion of land redistribution, especially for use by the urban poor often collides with historical and political barriers. Findings from recent research in a small former homeland (or black reserve) town, Peddie, located in South Africa, reveal that the availability of vacant land is often not known to those who may seek to use it for urban food security, nutrition and to generate an income. Respondents from a questionnaire survey in Peddie, of both UPA and non-UPA practicing households, frequently commented on the limited amount of space available to grow crops at home, and expressed their interest in pursuing community gardening. However, a lack of awareness of the municipality's current, post-apartheid land use policy and important exceptions are preventing many households from gaining access to available lands, and, in this way, realizing the full potential of urban agriculture in Peddie. This was illustrated by the case of the Masizame Community Garden Project (MCGP). A community-based intervention process revealed the difficulties experienced by members of the MCGP to secure land for gardening and identified a potential solution to ensure the sustainability of the Project and the supply of low-cost food for low-income households.

S-6 *Development in Developing Countries? Community-Based Research to Evaluate and Critique Development Programs.*

TORRUELLA, Rafael A. (City University of New York). *Alla en Nueva York Todo es Mejor: A study on drug prohibition, ideology, and the movement of drug users from Puerto Rico to the United States.* Over the last several years, a substantial but unknown number of hard drug users who live in Puerto Rico have been systematically relocated to New York City in hopes that they will receive treatment for their problem that is not currently available in Puerto Rico. Puerto Rican officials, overwhelmed with expanding numbers of problem drug users, have found relocating them to New York City is an effective and convenient way to solve a problem that they are ill prepared to deal with. The purpose of this research will be to document and understand the individual and community dimensions of this phenomenon. First, a brief

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historical account will be provided of the approach to drugs and drug treatment in Puerto Rico. Two general hypotheses will be tested. It is hypothesized that this movement of people from Puerto Rico to the United States is an enactment of the prohibitionist (or zero tolerance) approach to drugs – that is theorized to be caught in an irresolvable dilemma with the harm reduction and public health approaches. For this research project I am collecting qualitative data in the form of participant observation and interviews in New York City. Specifically, I have interviewed hard drug users who have been displaced from Puerto Rico to New York City for treatment. It is further hypothesized that prohibitionist approaches and their ideological underpinnings lead to ineffective provision of services to people who use drugs and detrimentally affect the daily lives of these individuals and their communities.

S-7 *Criminalization of Drug Use and HIV*

TÜRKÖZ, Meltem (Isik University). *Thinking about social difference, benevolence and responsibility with university students in Istanbul, Turkey*. Projects in community involvement and civic engagement at universities are usually designed to address issues of social inequality and to lay the foundations of a participatory democratic culture. This paper takes a reflective and critical look at the multi-faceted process of fostering student engagement and stakeholder participation in community involvement projects at a private university in Istanbul, Turkey. It is based on field notes, reflective material generated by students, and interviews with students and stakeholders. Supporting material includes still images and video footage from student field visits and performances. It focuses on issues about social responsibility, reciprocity, benevolence, volunteerism, and ideas about legitimate ways of conceiving diversity arising during projects undertaken during the first year of a course in community involvement. These issues arose around several projects which included: a) a newspaper sponsored campaign for girls' education in southeastern Turkey; b) student-initiated tutoring and school visits in the university town, and c) an oral history performance project exploring the experiences of Istanbul's official and unofficial minority populations. The catalyst for the creation of a course in community involvement at the university was a partnership with a national newspaper's campaign to increase girls' education nationwide but particularly in northeast and southeast Turkey. Projects within the university town of Sile, including an "arts day," were designed to create a closer relationship between the local community and the university students and foster mutual empowerment. The oral history performance project, called "Listening to Istanbul," was designed to broaden students understanding of members of minority and underrepresented groups following the assassination of a Turkish-Armenian journalist in January, 2007. The performance, in improvisational format, is to be staged in various locations. All of the projects involved the crossing of social, economic, ethnic and generational boundaries and generated discussion, debate, and reflective writing both inside and outside the class.

S-6 *Service Learning, CBPR and Social Justice*

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URETSKY, Elanah, PhD (Columbia University, Department of Sociomedical Sciences). *Dancing at the Margins: Employing Local Dance for HIV Prevention in a Southwestern Chinese Community*. This paper discusses the development a local project in southwestern China that employs traditional forms of music and dance to target HIV prevention in response to voids left by internationally funded programs in the region. Responses to local HIV epidemics in many international contexts are dominated by international organizations. This is particularly the case in China where we are only recently beginning to witness the emergence of a civil society. An increasing number of international organizations are initiating HIV prevention and intervention projects based on ‘best practices’ at the community level in China. However, implementation of these projects is often challenged by a local community culture that is not adaptable to the ‘best practices’ that have proven effective in other international contexts. I examine the impact of international HIV programming at a local level that is governed by very specific cultural, political, and economic structures. I also discuss the emergence of a locally designed response that employs traditional modes of music and dance to promote knowledge and awareness of HIV prevention in neighboring communities. Conclusions are based on twelve months of ethnographic research in a southwestern Chinese border town that has attracted attention from myriad international HIV prevention and intervention projects since the discovery of a local epidemic in the late 1980’s. Participant observation and in-depth interviews are used to explain the genesis of the program as well as the challenges it encounters in adapting traditional modes of the performing arts to the needs of a local community facing the effects of an international pandemic. I aim to show the need for a dialectical approach to designing effective HIV prevention and intervention programs that can incorporate the knowledge developed at an international level while also responding to the needs of the local community.

S-5 *Innovative Methods in Community-Based Collaborative Research*

VAUGHN, Lisa M and BOLLING, Chris (Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center/University of Cincinnati College); and **HARMONY, Judy** (Cincinnati community member/activist). *Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR): The “Hard Sell” in a Traditional Medical Environment*.

“Community members are so annoying. Do we have to include them?!”

--One researcher initially involved in the community engagement working group

The Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) is an NIH funding mechanism designed to facilitate moving clinical and translational medical research “from bench to bedside and to and from the community”. The CTSA funding mechanism requires that applicant institutions address nine core areas such as bioinformatics, innovative technologies and pilot studies to enhance clinical and translational research. A critical area to be addressed in the CTSA is community engagement. At our academic health center, a working group to address community engagement comprised of physicians, community leaders, community members and social scientists felt strongly that an increased ability to implement CBPR held great promise in transforming clinical research.

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In this presentation, we examine and attempt to answer several questions regarding this experience and offer lessons from our experience to other academic health centers and medical institutions.

- 1) In general, why is CBPR a “hard sell” in medical fields? Is it harder in some areas of medicine than in others?
- 2) Are there certain aspects of CBPR that “threaten” some academics?
- 3) What aspects of CBPR can be emphasized in order to aid understanding of CBPR with traditional medical researchers?
- 4) Why should traditional researchers change to CBPR when their work has been and will likely continue to be successfully funded?
- 5) What can we learn from the perspectives of community members about the traditional medical environment?
- 6) Would a “community placed” approach vs. a CBPR approach be more appropriate in a medical setting due to acceptance or other issues?
- 7) What is the scope of education required for medical researchers and for community members when an AHC seeks to enhance CBPR capability?

F-2 *Evidence-Based Interventions and Community*

VAZQUEZ, E., BA, RADDA, K. RN, MA, SCHENSUL, J., PhD, and COMAN, E. PhD (Institute for Community Research); **KUCHEL, G. MD and JEPSEN, R** (UCONN Center on Aging); **McELHANEY, J.** (UCONN Center on Aging, and Center for Immunotherapy of Cancer and Infectious Diseases, UCHC), **and ROSEN, D.** (Connecticut Department of Public Health). *VIP: Vaccinate for Influenza Prevention – A Peer-Led Intervention to Increase Flu Vaccine Acceptability Among Vulnerable Older Adults*. The incidence and deadly consequences of influenza for older adults can largely be prevented through vaccination. However, among older minority adults vaccination rates are half that in the general population of older adults and flu-related hospitalizations and mortality rates remain disproportionately high. This paper will present the process and outcomes of a collaborative community-based intervention study designed to improve flu vaccination uptake among low-income, minority residents of senior housing in Hartford, CT. It will: 1) explore factors that contribute to disparities in adult flu vaccination; 2) identify residents’ knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes about flu and flu vaccination; 3) describe an innovative and sustainable intervention that trained residents as peer health advocates to promote flu vaccination and organize a successful building-based flu campaign; and 4) address the challenges and benefits of conducting the intervention.

F-1 *Developing Research Partnerships to Address Health Disparities Among Vulnerable Older Adults*

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WEI, Feng (Yale University). China officially has recently adopted community-based methadone maintenance therapy (MMT) as part of the plan to control the epidemic of AIDS/HIV in China. It means that China has fundamentally changed its drug policy from mere interdiction to harm reduction; changed the treatment goal from a drug-free living style to maintenance. This is an important step in attempting to cope with the drug abuse problem and HIV/AIDS in China. However, there remain several problems and challenges, such as the chronic under-estimation of the drug problem, general and institutional discrimination against patients and MMT treatment, poor affordability of the service, and quality of the treatment providers. These challenges will hinder the implementation of the MMT plan if they are not rapidly addressed. This poster examines the context of drug abuse problems in China, analyzes the problems facing the new MMT policy, and finally makes some recommendations to the Chinese leadership as well as potential collaborators.

S-7 *Criminalization of Drug Use and HIV*

WHITTINGTON, Felicia T., M.A. (Tougaloo College). *Social Capital, Collective Efficacy, and Violence Prevention: West Jackson, Mississippi, As a Case Study*. Investing in community social capital and other resources as part of the strategic implementation of violence prevention programs has proven to be effective in enhancing academic performance, reinforcing school and social bonding, and reducing violent /anti social behaviour among at-risk youth. This study presents an evaluation data of five samples from 1998-2002 of approximately 180 at-risk male and female students attending elementary and junior high schools in West Jackson, MS. The study highlighted the importance of utilizing the social capital and collective efficacy models in altering the psycho-social milieu of the target population. A preliminary analysis of the five-year data reveals a significant positive change in the academic performance as well as the attitudes and levels of school and social bonding of the targeted youth. Reduction in the incidences of violent behavior among the youth was evident as well. Findings from the study indicate that the reduction in anti-social behavior could be attributed to the forged partnership with community stakeholders and organizations, and to the systematic prevention activities provided by the Tougaloo College FCVP Program.

S-6 *Violence Prevention and Youth*

WILLIAMS, Maurice (Yale-Griffin Prevention Center). **Purpose:** To test the feasibility of using the community health advisor model, in a faith based setting, to translate the findings of the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) to an urban African American community.

Significance: Type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) epidemic in the U.S. and the 7th leading cause of death in Connecticut. The Yale Prevention Research Center received funding to pilot test a diabetes prevention program among African-American communities in New Haven and Bridgeport, CT.

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Methods: Community participatory teams, consisting of academic, church and community partners were convened at both sites to oversee and guide program design and implementation. An abbreviated and culturally appropriate version of the DPP training manual was developed for the program. Twenty one CHAs, nominated by their pastors, participated in a 10 week, DPP based, training program focusing on diabetes prevention.

A convenience sample of 250 African American adults (125 in New Haven and 125 in Bridgeport) from 22 participating churches was recruited to participate in the study. The intervention consisted of didactic and skill building sessions to improve dietary practices and increase physical activity levels. The sessions were conducted by the CHAs over a 9 month period.

Results: There was a significant reduction in total caloric, total carbohydrate and total trans-fat intake in the intervention group. Diabetes related knowledge and social support also improved in the intervention group.

Conclusions: The DPP can be translated and implemented in an urban, African American high risk population by using community based participatory research methods.

S-5 *Spirituality, Research and Community: Partnerships for Health Equity and Social Justice*

WILLIAMSON, Ken (University of South Florida) and **BROWN, Karen** (Hartford Resident). *"Critical Reflections on Participatory Action Research as Strategy to Address Social Inequities"*. This presentation details the methods and critical reflections of a 3-year Participatory Action Research (PAR) Project in Hartford, CT. Latino, African and Caribbean American residents partnered with research educators from the Institute for Community Research (ICR) to examine critical local issues that residents identified. Four different groups of residents began by meeting with research educators once a week, for 16 weeks, to select an issue, receive training in research methods, conduct research, analyze and disseminate the results and design action strategies. Over the course of three years, groups continued to meet with researchers and work on their issues. This presentation discusses the process of developing a PAR project with different groups within an urban environment, as well as some of the results, challenges and lessons learned from the project, in particular the challenges of scaling up and partnering with funders and other service organizations to address social inequities.

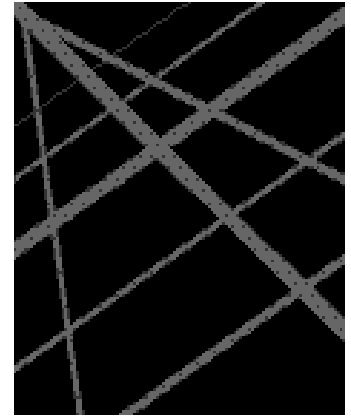
WINN, Alisha, R. (University of South Florida). *Connecting the Past and the Present through an Oral History Project*. The "Remembering St. Petersburg Oral History Project" provided an opportunity for youth to document the stories and lives of the thirty-five elders, who contributed to their community and the city of St. Petersburg, FL. Through taped oral narratives, archival materials, and donated personal artifacts, the oral histories captured memories and stories of the elders for a museum exhibit. The youth gained a greater appreciation for the elders and the past, while the museum exhibit highlighted and honored the lives of the elders in the community. As

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project director, the author discusses how the project enabled the development of positive relationships between the youth and elders, and the proper recognition of the elders who contributed to the well-being and success of their neighborhood and community.

F-3 *Living Histories: Incorporating Art, Ethnography and Reminiscence to Tell our Stories*

CROSS ROADS



COMMUNITY-BASED
COLLABORATIVE
RESEARCH FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE

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BERG, Marlene; COMAN, Emil (Institute for Community Research) **BURKHOLDER, Gary** (Walden University). *Youth action research for prevention: A multilevel PAR-based Prevention Intervention.*

Background: The goals of Youth Action Research for Prevention (YARP), a multilevel city-wide partnership intervention with urban adolescents aged 14-16, are to decrease/delay initiation of alcohol and drug use and associated risks, and to increase positive peer norms among urban adolescents of diverse ethnic backgrounds, residing in neighborhoods with high levels of poverty, drug sales, drug use, violence, poor schools, sex risk opportunities and other environmental stressors. It is an empowerment model for that engages youth in conducting their own formative group-conducted eco-critical research and transforming it into community change efforts. The process enhances cognitive development, develops positive peer norms, and reinforces them through self reflection and group action.

Methods: Theoretical foundations of YARP include social learning, social construction, eco-critical, empowerment, and social influence theories. Structured inquiry, data collection and analysis, self-reflection and practice promote the formation of prevention-oriented group norms and improve school attachment, as well as career and educational aspirations. YARP trained 114 African-American and Latino Hartford youth to become paid Youth Researchers through a 7 week intensive Summer Youth Research Institute (SYRI), a 4-hour per week after-school program, and educational/career counseling. A longitudinal quasi-experimental study design used a self-administered survey to compare intervention cohorts with a matched sample of 202 youth at four time points. A network instrument measured group structure, social cohesion, bonding, and interdependence. Process evaluation included ethnographic observation, staff interviews, youth focus groups, and youth self-reflection.

Results: The intervention group showed a significant reduction in marijuana use as well as increase in community self-efficacy and beliefs about peer use of drugs. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) demonstrated a significant reduction in 30-day marijuana day use at time four. Additionally, alcohol use decreased in the treatment group as compared to controls at the final measurement point (T4), as did number of sex partners at time 3 but these changes were not statistically significant. The intervention had an impact in the intended direction on social-cognitive variables including community self-efficacy and beliefs about peer use of drugs. Intervention youth shifted from believing that more peers were using drugs at baseline to believing that fewer peers were using drugs at the final test point. Youth approval of peers' drug use and the educational expectations scale showed changes in the desired direction. In sum, the YARP intervention showed clear indication of reducing drug related risks in the youth who received the treatment program

Conclusion: Results of this three-year intervention study demonstrate that Youth PAR for prevention (YARP) is a viable model for risk reduction among high school age adolescents. Efforts are in process to strengthen measures, and package the model for replication/adaptation in other sites.

BERG, Marlene and SCHENSUL, Jean (Institute for Community Research) **GUPTA, Kamla and SINGH, SK** (International Institute for Population Sciences). *Collaborative Research,*

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Cultural Scripts and Multi-Intervention Strategies for Alcohol Use and Sexual Risk Among Vulnerable Men in Mumbai.

Background: International alcohol marketing and domestic home brew production promote high alcohol consumption in India, despite proscriptions against use. Marketing alcohol via sexuality coincides with belief in alcohol as a sexual stimulant and expectancy that alcohol enhances sexual experience. Addressing increasing alcohol consumption in the context of sexual risk requires understanding the changing culture of alcohol use in relation to risky sexual practices, and collaborating with community stakeholders to reframe cultural norms that regulate sexual and drinking risks.

Methods: Through formative ethnography in low income Mumbai communities, researchers engaged community stakeholders, obtained and mapped alcohol and sex risk locations, obtained cultural level data on men's activities and reasons for drinking, interviewed in-depth 50 key informants and 48 male drinkers about their alcohol use, sexual partners and risk behavior in space and time. Stage I data are presenting showing the use of scripting theory to identify cultural beliefs about the relationship between alcohol use and sexual behavior and ways these beliefs were translated into interpersonal encounters with alcohol and sexuality. Results have been incorporated into a Stage II ethnographic survey of drinking and sex behavior in the same communities.

Results: Archival data show increasing wine production/consumption in Maharashtra. Promoting the belief that wine and beer are "not alcohol" reduces alcohol-related stigma. Forced dance bar closings lead to consumption of illegal alcohol and hidden sexual encounters. Key informant interviews reflect mixed, mainly positive attitudes toward controlled use of alcohol to relieve boredom and demonstrate masculinity. Behavioral interviews show different interpersonal scripts, trajectories and meanings, leading to protected versus unprotected sex including: "drink with friends, eat meat, have sex" (violation of taboos); drink with friends, desire wife, wife refuses sex, man seeks other woman (male right to sex on demand rationalizes sex outside of marriage); man insists that commercial sex worker drink with him, they have sex twice, once protected the second unprotected (alcohol improves women's sexual performance and decreases insistence on condom use); boy meets girl at festival, he drinks, they have unprotected sex (festival norm reversal).

Conclusion: Supportive norms and attitudes toward alcohol consumption and association of alcohol with increased masculinity and desire promote more drinking behavior and more potential for sexual risk taking. In Stage III, close collaborative analysis of mixed methods data will provide community stakeholders and NGOs with information useful in more precise targeting of risky drinking and sex behaviors.

BERMAN, Loren and DIAMOND, Lisa (Yale RWJ Clinical Scholars Program). *Healthy New Haven: A Community.*

Background: Through a series of conversations with New Haven community leaders we learned that socioeconomic and health indicator data are not being collected or utilized optimally to affect change.

Specific Objectives: To identify, from the perspective of New Haven community leaders: 1) the most relevant social determinants of health, 2) barriers to effective use of available health and

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social indicator data, 3) additional types of data required to affect change and 4) effective methods for collecting and disseminating data.

Methods: We are employing a mixed quantitative/qualitative approach. We will administer a brief survey to 100-150 community leaders to identify locally important social determinants of health. From this group, participants for in-depth key-informant interviews will be a purposefully selected to include representatives from religious, political and civic entities. We anticipate theoretical saturation will be achieved after 25-30 interviews. Coding and analysis of interviews will be performed in accordance with established qualitative methods. The analytic output will be a comprehensive list of factors important to assessing the health of New Haven. Strategies for enhancing credibility of the data include 1) independent transcription 2) use of multidisciplinary team for analysis 3) maintenance of an audit trail reflecting analytic decisions and 4) participant confirmation of findings and recommendations.

Results: A report of results and recommendations will be presented in a highly visible, inclusive format in collaboration with study participants. Recommendations will include a roadmap for quantitative data collection, dissemination and sustainability.

BERMUDEZ, Rey; COLEMAN, Colleen; DIAMOND, Sarah; SCHENSUL, Jean; SNYDER, Leslie (Institute for Community Research). *Collaborating With Young Urban Artists in a Multilevel Drug Prevention/Intervention Pilot.*

Background: “Place-based Social Marketing to Prevent Party Drug Use among Urban Youth,” is a 3 year intervention study utilizing branded live entertainment shows by peer performing artists who deliver and model drug risk avoidance messages about common “party drugs” to low level/non using urban youth, ages 15-20. Based on theories of social marketing, culturally-integrated intervention design, place based intervention and peer social influence, the project creates substance free spaces and social norms that endorse risk avoidance decisions of youth living in environments with high levels of alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and ecstasy use. Partners include schools, churches, production companies, radio/TV stations, CBOs and UCONN Stores Center for Health Communication and Marketing. The first year addressed message development and acceptability, artist capacity to deliver persuasive messages, feasibility and acceptability of shows and acceptability of outcome evaluation measures.

Methods: 11 messages to reinforce resistance to marijuana, alcohol and MDMA were developed with youth peers based on urban youth core values (e.g. respect, loyalty, power), party drug expectancies and social influence. We branded and marketed Xperience Hartford- drug-free shows by young urban artists with the tagline “for those who choose not to use”. African American and Latino performing artists ages 15 – 22 integrated the messages into their Rap, Reggaeton and R and B music and poetry which they performed at five 2 1/2 hour shows held from 5:30 – 8 PM in a safe central and accessible location. IRBs waived parental consent, due to low study risks, high study benefits and anonymous surveys, which facilitated recruitment of youth in the study community. 88 participants completed pilot pre and 66 post-intervention surveys.

Results: The intervention attracted non users aged 15 – 18, half African Americans, half Latinos; 50% and 75% respectively had never used alcohol or marijuana, 95% had never used MDMA; less than 10% had used once or more in the past 30 days. Enrollment increased from 30 in the first show to more than 70 at the last show, approximating the desired N=100. Participating audiences and artists strongly supported the idea of drug-free entertainment and

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persuasive drug resistance messaging in their city; post test survey responses showed high levels of trust and belief in messages and mode of delivery.

Conclusions: Process documentation, direct experience and survey results indicate feasibility and acceptability of this approach to sustain risk avoidance behavior with urban youth 15 – 18. A quasi-experimental design in 2007-8 will evaluate its short term efficacy.

BISHOP, Ann; ANDREJASICH, Elizabeth; BRUCE, Chip; CARD, Timnah; and JEONG, Sunny (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). *Community Informatics Corps: Engaging Students in Community-Based Research and Action*. “Community informatics allows me to see how libraries can be central to social justice by creating research that is both relevant academically and rooted within community. I am concretely learning how to link theory and practice in order to become a more dynamic and engaged information professional.” [CI Corps student.]

Community Informatics (CI) is the field devoted to understanding how information processes and technologies are used to help communities achieve their goals. The Community Informatics Corps, established formally in 2006 through the collaboration of the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) and the Puerto Rican Cultural Center (Chicago), is a cohort of students interested in the experiences of underserved groups in society, and in the opportunity to contribute to their communities. Students in the CIC focus their coursework on community-based inquiry, social entrepreneurship, action research, and library and information services across a range of organizations. Working primarily in Chicago, Champaign-Urbana, and East St. Louis, students’ projects include creating:

- A coloring book based on the oral histories of pre-Kindergarten children that emphasizes community assets and interdependency with the rest of world;
- A math and science hydroponics curriculum that serves as the base for a wider initiative in social ecology and urban agriculture;
- New collaborative programs developed jointly by librarians and Latino activists;
- A books-to-prisoners program;
- An exhibit of African-American comics creators and characters, whose proceeds are donated to Katrina disaster relief organizations;
- A digital production component for a youth theater company;
- An after school program providing free homework and literacy help, along with enrichment activities that link family strengths and stories, to at-risk students;
- A public access computer lab with in the national library of Sao Tome (Africa).

The poster relates lessons learned about the integration of students into ongoing inquiry in marginalized communities.

COMAN, Emil; RADD, Kim E.; SHENSUL, Jean J.; VAZQUEZ, Elsie (Institute for Community Research). *V.I.P.: Vaccinate for Influenza Prevention – A Multi-Level, Community-based participatory Intervention to Increase Flu Vaccination Rates Among Vulnerable Older Adults*. The incidence and deadly consequences of influenza for older adults can largely be

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prevented through vaccination. Among older minority adults, vaccination rates are half that in the general population of older adults and flu-related hospitalizations and mortality rates are disproportionately high. Factors affecting vaccination decision-making and rates include availability, acceptability, affordability and access. This poster presents methods and results of a pilot multi-level, participatory peer driven intervention, *V.I.P.: Vaccinate for Influenza Prevention*, which addressed these factors to improve and sustain flu vaccination rates among low-income primarily minority older adults in senior housing.

DICKSON-GOMEZ, Julia; CONVEY, Mark and CASTRO, Helena de Moura (Institute for Community Research). *A Culture of Blame: The Relationship between Housing Policy, Housing Status and HIV Risk among Active Drug Users in Hartford, CT*

Background: Much research has shown that the homeless have higher rates of substance abuse problems than housed populations and that substance abuse increases individuals' vulnerability to homelessness. In addition, research has shown an association between homelessness and housing instability and a variety of HIV risk behaviors compared to similar populations with stable housing. However, most studies have conducted dichotomous comparisons between homeless and non-homeless ignoring important variations within homeless and housed statuses. In addition, the effects of housing policies on drug users' access to housing have been understudied to date.

Methods: The "Housing Status/Stability and HIV Risk among Drug Users," project used longitudinal, in-depth interviews with both housed and homeless drug users and key informant interviews with housing caseworkers and other stakeholders in Hartford, CT to study the links between housing policies, drug users' access to housing, variations in housing status and housing options of drug users, and HIV risk

Results: Results indicate a number of unofficial policy mechanisms that limit drug users' access to housing, including limited outreach to non-shelter using homeless regarding housing programs, service provider priorities, and service provider discretion in processing applications and providing services. The unofficial policies are in turn shaped by official housing policy and dominant political discourse that create the context in which housing caseworkers attempt to provide services to their clients. Cultural scripts that blame inner-city minorities for their homelessness and poverty are internalized by drug users and may preclude their taking measures to avoid HIV infection. In addition, differences in social context within and among different housing statuses including, for example, the ability to carry drug paraphernalia and HIV prevention materials, the amount of drugs in the immediate environment, access to subsidized and supportive housing, and relationships with others with whom drug users live, affect drug users' ability to avoid HIV risk and engage in protective behaviors.

Conclusions: These findings have implications for developing a multi-level HIV prevention intervention that includes providing long-term, stable housing for homeless and precariously housed drug users. Such an intervention would engage various stakeholders identified in ethnographic research, including national policy makers to local advocates and service providers, as potential intervention partners in order to ultimately change the political culture and local context in which drug users struggle to secure stable, permanent housing.

FITZGERALD, Liam (UConn School of Nursing). *Compañeros Por Salud*.

This poster reflects upon the four principal components of a successful CBRP project by using as a case study the University of Connecticut's "Compañeros Por Salud" Latino rural health

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network in Willimantic, CT. “Compañeros Por Salud” is a three-year old on-going partnership between the UCONN School of Nursing and the Willimantic community. The aim of the project is to address health disparities of Latino families in the Willimantic area. (HP2010)The project consists of an ever-expanding network of community members, health care providers and researchers.

FUHREL, Andrea R, O’CONNEL, Ann A. Ed.D, DANG, Devra K. Pharm. D., and HRITCKO, Philip M., Pharm. D. (University of Connecticut); **CLARK-DUFNER, Petra, M.A.** (CT Area Health Education Center Program); and **GOULD, Bruce, M.D., FACP** (CT Area Health Education Center Program, University of Connecticut School of Medicine). *Inter-professional and service learning for health care students: An opportunity to reduce health disparities?*

Background: Interprofessional learning, when students from one profession learn with students from other professions through interaction and team work, gives students the opportunity to learn about interprofessional interactions, the terminology of other professions, and to strengthen their ties with members of other professions. Service learning, in which students provide health services in the community while reinforcing and extending their own knowledge, has been shown in previous studies to lead to increased understanding of and desire to work with underserved populations.

Methods: 499 students from medicine, dental medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and physician assistant programs at the University of Connecticut and Quinnipiac University completed anonymous surveys in August, 2006. The survey included items from the student version of the Jefferson Scale of Physician Empathy (Hojat *et al.*, 2001), and items assessing students’ attitudes toward interprofessional work, self-efficacy for working in interprofessional teams and with underserved populations, and knowledge regarding other professions and underserved populations. Outcomes were intentions for future work with underserved populations and for providing services to those who cannot pay.

Results: Students’ knowledge, attitudes and self-efficacy toward interprofessional work and their levels of empathy toward patients predicted their intentions to work with underserved populations, $F(4,492) = 43.997, p < .001$, and their intentions to provide services to patients who cannot pay for them, $F(4,492) = 59.46, p < .001$. However, differences in these relationships were found across professional groups. Additionally, compared to medical students, pharmacy and physician assistant students had lower intentions toward working with the underserved ($p < .001$ and $p < .05$, respectively), and pharmacy students had lower intentions toward providing services for patients who cannot pay ($p < .001$).

Discussion: Students’ baseline levels of attitudes, self-efficacy, and empathy indicate room for positive change, and inter-professional and service learning may be an effective way of attracting more students in health care professions to work with underserved populations.

HILARIO, Helena; BAEZ, Evelyn and SALONIA, Jennifer (Institute for Community Research). *Checking In: High-Risk Women (Re)Discovering the Female Condom in Hartford, CT*. The Sustained Safer Behavior (Female Condom Use) in High-Risk Women to Prevent HIV study represents CBCR in a number of ways. First and foremost, its impetus comes from the expressed need from female community members concerning the lack of availability and accessibility to female initiated methods of prevention. This study is addressing this concern by doing continuous community advocacy for and assessment of female condom availability in the community. The study also looks at contextual issues on various levels to uncover factors that facilitate or impede overcoming barriers to initial and sustained use of the female condom. The cohort study and particularly the couple's trial look at relationship dynamics from the participants' perspectives, which are often overlooked. The study has also held focus groups with community advocates, medical and service providers to start building community partnerships and to lay the groundwork for a multilevel community intervention.

HILARIO, Helena; BAEZ, Evelyn and SALONIA, Jennifer (Institute for Community Research). *Explore the Possibilities! Female Condoms: The Overlooked Alternative for Safer Sex in High Risk Couples*. The Sustained Safer Behavior (Female Condom Use) in High-Risk Women to Prevent HIV study represents CBCR in a number of ways. First and foremost, its impetus comes from the expressed need from female community members concerning the lack of availability and accessibility to female initiated methods of prevention. This study is addressing this concern by doing continuous community advocacy for and assessment of female condom availability in the community. The study also looks at contextual issues on various levels to uncover factors that facilitate or impede overcoming barriers to initial and sustained use of the female condom. The cohort study and particularly the couple's trial look at relationship dynamics from the participants' perspectives, which are often overlooked. The study has also held focus groups with community advocates, medical and service providers to start building community partnerships and to lay the groundwork for a multilevel community intervention.

McGILLIVRAY, Alan D., MA; WELCH, Kathleen J., MPH (Hightower & Sparks, University of Maine at Farmington). *Field of Beans and Dreams*.

Background: The Western Mountains of Maine is an economically-challenged area where approximately half the children live in low-income families. Two of the major industries, paper mills and shoe factories, continue to close. Many of the workers in these industries have been French-American, the largest ethnic group. There is a need to promote the rich, French-American heritage, which also includes local farming.

Purpose: Eco-theatre is an effective way to promote discussion about cultural identity and environmental disparities. Eco-theatre is interactive theatre which promotes the French-American heritage of Western Maine, inspiring participants to preserve their heritage and environment.

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Strategies: Local, French-American farmers have shared their oral histories in order to help create a one-act play, “Field of Beans and Dreams”, which illuminates the disappearing French-American cultural and agricultural heritage. The play has been performed at the French-American Festival, *Terre pis Ciel*, which celebrates the French-American culture. Life-size puppets and children in the audience portray the various characters in the play, which dance and sing traditional French-American songs. After the performance, the audience creates a mural or “eco-rama” of their future. Collaborators include the Western Mountains Alliance and the Izaak Walton League, which promote local farming through education and the Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) which promotes healthy eating through the use of WIC vouchers at farmers’ markets.

Outcomes: Participants will become more aware of their French-American heritage and mobilize to sustain their culture, which includes local farming.

Implications for Practitioners: Theatre has been shown to be an effective way to raise cultural awareness and promote social justice. In this project, research methods, such as narrative interviewing, are employed to enhance artistic and cultural expression. Action strategies and dreams are generated through direct participation of the audience.

MILLER, Jason (University of South Florida). *Participating in Web 2.0: Wiki, Flickr, YouTube and Collaborative Research*. In 2004, Tim O’Reilly first used the term ‘Web 2.0’ to describe the emerging proliferation of web-based technologies that allowed web-users to more actively participate with the world wide web as creators of content as opposed to being solely receivers. Today, websites like Myspace, YouTube and Wikipedia are among the most popular sites on the web ranking second, sixth and eight respectively. What sets these sites apart is the high level of participation that users have in creating and sharing content and information. Wiki technology and sites like Flickr and YouTube represent an exciting, emergent tool for researchers of all sorts. This type of internet technology presents an opportunity to engage in research collaboratively with others, as a classroom learning tool and as a method of disseminating results in an open source format.

Wiki’s are written collaboratively by anyone with access to the web. Users then have the option to discuss changes, to make changes or to add new content. Sites such as Wikipedia have been shown to be roughly as accurate as other paper-based encyclopedias. Flickr and other online photo sharing websites allow for real time sharing of images and sites such as YouTube allow for the uploading of video content. Both types of sites allow for the addition of ‘Meta-data’ to content.

This paper offers a brief overview of the history of Web 2.0 as well as three case studies of how Web 2.0 can be used in collaborative, community-based research including a discussion of the development of the Participatory Action Research (PAR) Wiki, also known as WikiPAR, created at the University of South Florida, a digital photo voice project utilizing Flickr and college students and the use of YouTube as a research, collaboration and dissemination tool.

MUKHI, Jason (University of Toronto in Mississauga). *The Partnership between Members of the Riverdale Community and Academic Researchers*. Residents and community organizations in Riverdale (Toronto, Canada) have been actively involved in conducting studies and projects with academic researchers. The purpose of this study was to learn more about the partnerships that have formed between the researchers and the community members. For example, what they thought of the experience, the factors that made the partnership a success, and the factors that hindered the relationship. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with three researchers and four community members. The results indicated that most of them liked the relationship they formed with each other. The interviewees said that having similar goals, being able to trust each other, and getting things done were factors that made the relationship a success. All the researchers said that there were no factors that hindered their relationship with community members. However, community members said that having a lack of resources was a factor that hindered their partnership with the researchers.

SHELTON, Deborah, PhD, RN; AMENDOLA, Mary Grace; DUTKA, Linda, MS, RN; MULL, Carolyn, PhD, RN (UConn School of Nursing) *Compañeros por Salud / Partners for Health*. This poster describes the three-year public-academic partnership between the School of Nursing and the Willimantic community to address health disparities impacting the health and well-being of the Latino/Hispanic families. A public-health nursing approach is highlighted.

Background: One of the overarching goals of Healthy People 2010 is to eliminate health disparities among different segments of the population. Poverty, low-literacy, barriers to health care access and stigma contribute to health disparities experienced by Latinos.

Methods: The community-as-partner model, developed from Neuman's Systems Model, guided data collection that included secondary analysis of existing records, focus groups and semi-structured interviews with health care providers and community residents.

Results: These assessments found limited culturally congruent health and mental health services; a lack of bi-lingual providers; a need to enhance Latino client understanding of how to negotiate the service system; and a fragmented system of care. Three faculty and 170 undergraduate and graduate nursing students have instituted numerous programs (education, screening, free clinic services) that mutually benefits the educational mission of the School and the health needs of the community.

Conclusions: It has been challenging to engage Latinos in a partnership to address health disparities. Persistence and physical presence in the community is important for earning the trust of the community. The community participatory process, over time, is expected to improve access to services that are culturally and linguistically designed. The information gathered highlights the wealth of contextual information that can be obtained when the community is approached as a partner in health through a public-academic partnership. The equalization of

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power in all aspects of health including education, prevention and advocacy is a challenging yet essential role for community/public health nursing.

VAUGHN, Lisa M. (Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center/University of Cincinnati College of Medicine). *Health Perceptions of Latina Tweens*. This presentation describes a *participatory needs assessment* project using Photovoice in order to engage Latina tweens (early adolescent girls ages 8-12) in identifying issues about perceptions of their health. In the Greater Cincinnati area, Latinos are a burgeoning population that has mostly arrived in the last five years. This population is at risk because 1) they are often misunderstood as a group and assumptions are made based on stereotypes and limited information, and 2) their needs are not adequately addressed because of these misperceptions. Latina tween girls are an often overlooked population in health care.

The Latina tween participants will be recruited through Latino community organizations in the area. There will be three groups of 6-10 girls who are willing to participate for the length of the project. Participants will be asked to attend an information session where they receive disposable cameras, training about the Photovoice method, and determine their first photographic assignment related to their health. Participants will spend a week photographing their lives according to the assignment. They will do this for a total of three weekly assignments. At the end of each week's assignment, researchers will collect the cameras and develop the film. Participants will then engage in a photo discussion session where they share and reflect upon their photos. At the end of all groups and assignments, a community photo exhibition will be held for community members and leaders and health care providers.

The advantages, disadvantages, attributes and difficulties of using Photovoice for this topic and group will be highlighted in the presentation. In addition, Photovoice methodology will be analyzed in terms of its efficacy as a collaborative model of community partnership, a pathway to social justice aimed at reducing health disparities, and as an "expressive" research tool.

WEEKS, Margaret R.; ABBOTT, Maryann (Institute for Community Research); **BIN, He** (Hainan Province CDC); **JINGMEI, Jiang; LIAO, Susu; YU, Wang** (Peking Union Medical College); **ZHOU, Yuejiao WEI, Liu** (Guangxi Province CDC). *Microbicides Readiness in Southern Chinese Sex Workers: Cultural Meanings of HIV Prevention Options*. Rapid changes in China over the past two decades have led to significant problems associated with population migration and changing social attitudes, including a growing sex industry and concurrent increases in STIs including HIV. This poster reports results of an exploratory study of microbicide acceptability and readiness and current HIV prevention efforts among female sex workers in two rural and one urban town in Hainan and Guangxi Provinces in southern China. The study focused on these women's knowledge and cultural understandings of options for protecting themselves from exposure to STDs and HIV, and the potential viability and acceptability of woman-initiated prevention methods. We present data from ethnographic elicitation interviews conducted with women working within informal sex-work establishments

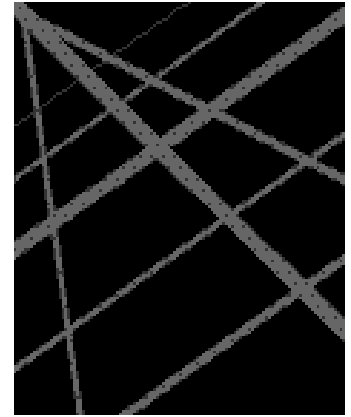
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(hotels, massage and beauty parlors, roadside restaurants, boarding houses) that used free listing and card sorting of prevention options.

WEEKS, Margaret; ANGULO, Rory; BACKMAN, Lauren; GARNER, Michelle; LI, JiangHong; MARTINEZ, Maria; PINO, Raul; ROBLES, Eduardo; ROOME, Aaron; SALONIA, Jennifer (Institute for Community Research, NHBS IDU).; **SCHENSUL, Stephen** (University of Connecticut Department of Community Medicine). *Injections Drug Users' Population Estimates in Waterbury and Bridgeport*. As a grantee of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) among Injection Drug Users (IDUs), the Connecticut site reached and interviewed 496 eligible non-seeds IDUs between August 2005 and February 2006 in the city of Waterbury and Bridgeport. The recruitment method is Respondent-Driven Sampling (RDS), which allows population estimate of the target population in the two cities. The sample and population characteristics, such as gender and ethnicity compositions, choice of drugs, HIV risk behaviors, and self reported sero-status will be reported. The differences between sample characteristics and population estimates will be analyzed and methodology challenges and implications will be discussed.

WEEKS, Margaret R.; CONVEY, Mark; MARTINEZ, Maria; LI, Jianghong; DICKSON, Julia; ROBLES, Eduardo; PALMER, Gregory; RADD, Kim; GARNER, Michelle and RESTREPO, Juan (Institute for Community Research). *Changing Drug-users' Risk Environments: Peer Health Advocates as Multi-Level Community Change Agents*. Peer driven, social oriented HIV prevention and other interventions conducted with networks of high-risk groups are increasingly popular for addressing broader contexts of health risk beyond individual factors. To the degree that these models take on multiple levels of risk and change, they become more effective mechanisms to support sustained health improvement. The Risk Avoidance Partnership, conducted with drug users in Hartford, CT, builds on individual identity of trained Peer Health Advocates (PHAs) as social change agents, group processes of norm modification for harm reduction, and community engagement in advocacy for broad health enhancement. This poster reviews the project design and presents data on intervention outcomes. Pre/post risk assessments showed significant reduction in all drug risk measures (use of drugs and rates of use, needle risk practices) and some sex risk measures (number of partners, number of unprotected sexual encounters) among PHAs, as well as very similar outcomes among their network contacts. Measures of exposure to the RAP interventions indicated a relationship between the RAP programs and risk reduction behavior changes. PHA advocates became involved with program staff in promoting better housing conditions and health provision for active drug users.

CROSS ROADS



COMMUNITY-BASED
COLLABORATIVE
RESEARCH FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE

GALLERY ABSTRACTS

GALLERY ABSTRACTS

ABADJIAN, Linda. *Our Basement* and *View from My School in Souk El Gharb*. War has been and continues to be a major issue intertwined with social injustice. War results in a great deal of atrocities, including irreplaceable loss of innocent lives, displacement, economic crises, sometimes even famine and genocide. War at times seems inevitable. These facts deeply concern me. Having fled my country, Lebanon, at age 13 due to civil war, I am deeply sensitive to the current global political instability. My work is a personal examination of the aftermath of war. These paintings of war-torn buildings of my home and places from my childhood are more than personal memories and references to my identity. Through them I stress that when it comes to war, no repetition is ever necessary. I wish to focus, not on the violence of war, but on the humanity's amazing ability of endurance and resilience.

Medium: Sharpie and acrylic on paper

BARCELO, Diane (ISAAC Charter School). *Untitled*. My work hinges on the ways we apprehend the world. On the one hand, the world of ideas and idea-related understanding expressed with images and words encourages a logical understanding of the world around us. Today we are typically trained through book learning, sequential logic and now the computer and Internet. The other more innate and instinctual understanding of the world is our haptic absorption of information, the way we have learned since conception. I have always been curious about that particular locus of information gathering and un-worded processing. Following my natural inclinations of the sensual, I work very physically, interested in the physical responses from the unconscious and subconscious realms. Woven into this is my fascination with words, their power of suggestion and pull towards a narrative.

I am interested in how words and sensations can trigger memory, false association and misunderstanding. Here I am matching words with images of nature rich in texture. In this way I am using a conceptual and abstract process by which we understand the world. Words demand a particular kind of logic. Images evoke personal and collective memory that implies a kind of nostalgia. The combination of these words and images forces associations that depend on cultural norms and connect them to sensate memories.

Medium: Digital Photography

BARRETT, Deborah (Center for Health Communication & Marketing at the University of Connecticut). *Public Works: Terminating a Needle Exchange*. History reveals that visual images have been a useful, if not necessary, component of any successful campaign for social change. As a photographer, I make pictures to influence people's understanding of social injustice and, hopefully, their will to act against it. In March of 1997, political forces and years of community controversy and opposition put an end to the needle exchange program in Willimantic, CT. During the two months prior to its closing, I spent time photographing the exchange and community context.

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I am currently conducting an independent photo/video documentary project on activist efforts against a landfill dump in rural upstate New York. Some of my photos provide evidence of environmental changes that have taken place as a result of the landfill installation.

Medium: Black and White Photography

BRESLIN, Christine. *Beyond the Veil.* This work is part of a project started at a journalism workshop in Florida in 2001. My camera is the tool I use to examine issues of Muslim faith and culture. I wanted to explore why women and girls wear the veil in the Hartford area where I live and what it meant to them. In the process, I discovered that there was no ‘one way’ to wear the veil. In doing this project, I wanted to break down fears and misunderstandings that I have had as an observer after 9/11. I investigated these issues not only through photography but also through interviews with my subjects. In the course of finding and interviewing these young women, I discovered a group called “We refuse to be Enemies” which is attempting to unify Christians, Jews and Muslims. More than ever before, it seems that communication between different religions and cultures is paramount. As several of the young women said to me during the interviews, “...Ask questions. ...Get to know a Muslim.”

Medium: Digital Photography

BETGEVARGIZ, Sharokin (Amna Design Assyrian Academic Society, Central Connecticut State University). *Form Follows Function: A Design of An Assyrian Identity.*

Artists of non-dominant cultures have an inherent responsibility to communicate a message that is genuinely personal yet able to transcend multilayered boundaries of identity. Being Assyrian, or a displaced person in the global world, I have strengthened my ability to examine, imagine, author, create, and produce art and tell stories through my visual explorations.

Graphic Design is a form of visual art that is concerned with the presentation and management of image and text as well as their relationships. Its primary function is to communicate by creating either a visceral reaction or to initiate an intellectual decoding process or both. The form of the neo-Assyrian alphabet, specifically Eastern Syriac letterforms, has a unique affect on my design sensibilities, as they are the core foundation of my semiotic coding of meaning. Assyrian is what I heard in relation to what I saw visually and what I first coded and decoded, gives meaning to the world around me. I have chosen to examine the semiotics of this letterform along side ancient Assyrian patterns, by constructing and deconstructing their form. Through this investigation, the subject matter spans 20th Century Assyrian history, depicting an autobiographical connection to the subject.

The relationship of patterns and ornamentation is juxtaposed with abstract form and documentary content. Formation of a cluster of letterforms transform into a variegated visual repetition of patterns, utilizing historic and contemporary photos and text to document a specific aspect of 20th Century Assyrian history. Assyrian letters function as a visual tool through which I can express my design sensibility. The letterform holds who we are as Assyrians. Nothing can

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threaten the existence of this culture so long as the language remains. Despite all of the language deterioration, it is the alphabet, as the form of the language, which gives us our identity.

Medium: Digital prints on paper and canvas

BISANTZ, June. *Directions for Use.* The work shown here is from a project created for outdoor installation in downtown New Haven, Connecticut entitled *Directions for Use*. This project was designed to become part of the urban streetscape while transforming it into a more interactive environment – one that embraced rather than resisted community use. In *Directions for Use*, I use altered street signs as a tool for creative and personal connection. Familiar directional symbols are combined with unexpected words to attract people and invite them to feel safe and happy in the space. Like all my work, *Directions for Use* is based in my belief that when we are happy and cared for we are more likely to engage in the work of making the world a better place. This optimistic philosophy was crafted in the context of the troubled world we live in, burdened with social injustice, economic imbalance, and loss of personal connection.

I believe art can change the world. I want people to know that public space belongs to them, that art belongs to them, and that the world needs and welcomes individual expression, meaningful connection and joyful interaction.

Medium: Vinyl on metal

BULL, Rodney (Bull Studios). *Free Your Mind.* Visual Artwork is a way for my self expression. It helps communicate ideas and thoughts, which are indescribable through words alone. In my recent works I hope to help people realize social injustice through trying to reach false goals.

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

CROMWELL, Stanwyck. *John Doe.* John Doe was a familiar human being, of Urban America. The only known classification attached to this human, was the familiar “N” word, or “Crack Head”. He departed this life during the frigid winter season that gripped most of America. John Doe died of smoke affixation, in a building frequented by crack heads and prostitutes. No one inquired about him, except the drug dealers with whom he had an open credit line, due his disability check, and other means of hustles. Upon removing his corpse from the burnt out building, the only sign of life surrounding him, was the crows (black birds) that seem to pay their last respect. In spite of his drug addiction and affections, John Doe took the time to feed the crows with his partially stale, leftover, Dunkin Doughnut.

It is from this unfortunate situation that the assemblage *John Doe* was reborn. This resurrection arose from the debris of the demolished building that temporary entombed Joe Doe, spiritually

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and mentally. *John Doe* is a spiritual, economical and moral reminder of the ongoing problems of not only Urban America, but also the Diaspora. While this problem is rampant in Urban America, it does not discriminate. Who is really John Doe? He is Black, Caucasian, Hispanic, Native American, Asian and some more. John Doe is someone that everyone “**No’s**” but no one “**knows**”.

Medium: Mixed media assemblage

ESKELL, Camille. *Tattooed Lady: The Raising of Lazarus.* Truncated Series. My work resonates with questions of social and cultural mores, coding, and expectations, and uses the damaged female body as metaphor and testimonial. Drawn from a personal history of trauma and triumph, the fragmented “tattooed” forms point to ideas of self-perception, self-value, transformation, and transcendence. The pleasing florals inscribed on the shell-like torsos and broken limbs disguise the strains of aggression and disenfranchisement suggested by disquieting found objects or reconfigurations; and they become symbols of will, resilience, and redemption. Two and three-dimensional elements merge and become reordered, undermining the integrity of form and image to describe psychological experience, invert meaning, and undercut assumptions about appearance and reality

Medium: Resin, graphite, colored pencil, lace, mixed media

GALMAN, Sally Campbell, Ed.D. (University of Massachusetts, Amherst). *Shane, The Lone Ethnographer.* As an educator and an award-winning cartoonist and humorist I combine my experience and my passions in *Shane, The Lone Ethnographer.* This work presents excerpts from my book, *Shane, The Lone Ethnographer*, published by Alta Mira Press, which is an accessible and entertaining introduction to ethnography. The book walks the reader through the process of doing ethnographic research, via a comic character Shane, the Lone Ethnographer, on the campus of an unnamed university. It is designed for the novice researcher, who is about to embark on fieldwork using qualitative ethnographic research methods.

Medium: Ink on paper

KREBS, Joey (Art Saves Lives). *The Phantom.* The Street Phantom is the voice of his generation. The spirit of the time. You have seen the anonymous Street Phantoms work before - stark silhouetted body figures with provocative text such as " Art Saves Lives" and " Looking for America." These highly politicized street spectacles address post-apocalyptic urban decay and contemporary social issues, responding with charged timely phrases that confront problems of our day such as AIDS, racism, domestic violence, censorship and media alienation. The Street Phantom uses urban walls as a canvas for commentary of political expression. The Street Phantom is the spokesperson of our time, effecting change through mobilizing individual activism. I coin political phrases that reach out to our generation in need of a voice of

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representation. The elusive street artist comments on our social conditions by voicing thoughts of a personal and intimate nature, which transcends cultural prejudices. I believe in effectively raising a level of social conscious and personal inquiry through usurping the power of mass media as a vehicle for awareness. As an artist, I choose to speak to the psyche of our nations alienated youth, representing a generation in search of a sign.

Medium: Spray paint on paper

LARDIS, Jack (Oil Drum Art). *Forget-Me-Not*. The mission of Oil Drum Art is aesthetic and environmental. Its objective is to recycle used oil drums by having artists of all creative disciplines transform them into artworks and public art. The long-range goal is to have drum artworks come to Connecticut from artists worldwide for an International Oil Drum Art Exhibition.

Forget-Me-Not was created because I felt Americans have become desensitized about the loss of life and the maiming of thousands of our soldiers. The over-saturation of war news by the media has made Americans almost indifferent to what the death of a soldier means. When the news announces "another three marines died in Iraq today," the viewer thinks, "Oh, that is terrible," then switches channels to local news. How many impressions of death and destruction on television does it take for an average person to become desensitized? When does the average American stop caring about another dead or wounded soldier in Iraq? Another military death has become just a statistic in an unpopular war. The sculpture, *Forget-Me-Not* intends to jar the viewer into reconnecting with those in a questionable conflict and who return home maimed or wrapped in the American flag. The symbolic metal figure of a soldier is draped with shreds of a marine's uniform and is seated amongst bullet shells inside a 55-gallon oil drum painted with the American flag. Hopefully the artwork will touch viewers and remind them not to forget those who are dying for them. If the viewer leaves disturbed and with a sense of the futility of war, then the artwork has made a difference.

Medium: Mixed media-metal sculpture

MacDONALD, KATE (Vancouver 2110 Collective). (1.) *Last Meal: Cameron Todd Willingham* (2.) *Last Meal: James Colburn* (3.) *Last Meal: Stanley 'Tookie' Williams*.

A realist working in oils, I approach my artwork with the belief that art can influence social policy through awareness and education. It is my belief that greater awareness can only result in positive change.

Last Meals is a continuing series of paintings that juxtaposes the atrocity of capital punishment with our own morbid fascination in the final requests of the condemned. Found groupings of leftover meals poignantly underline the humanity of the executed, while alluding to the terrible finality of their sentences. Originally conceived to participate in the Texas Moratorium Network's exhibit Justice For All? Artists Reflect on the Death Penalty, the first painting of the series, *Last Meal: Ruben Cantu*, has been shown in Austin and Houston, and most recently at the Texas State Capitol. *Last Meal: James Colburn* has most recently been exhibited at Gallery Gachet in Vancouver, BC.

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James Colburn, executed in 2003, was not only unfit to stand trial, but was heavily sedated for courtroom appearances and unable to assist in his own defense. Ten percent of US executions since 1977 have been of severely mentally ill offenders.

Cameron Todd Willingham was accused of setting the fire that killed his children. Arson experts that have reviewed the evidence believe that the fire was accidental, and that his conviction was based more on old wives tales than science. Now widely believed to be innocent, he was executed in February 2004 after serving twelve years on death row.

The chosen examples in this series inform the viewer of various injustices surrounding the issue of capital punishment, including mental health and lack of advocacy, racial discrimination, poverty, and at its basest, the innocence of the executed; while the leftover table scraps relate the humanity of the condemned to our own ordinary experience.

Medium: Oil on canvas

MAXEY, Janette. *Brick-a-brack.* The undertone of my work describes the social issues of want, need, and abandonment. They frame the emotional simplicity and complexity of ordinary human existence. To assemble these images, multiple sources are used, from observation, photographs, and recollections of a time and place that describes the lives of the objects owners. I like to work in a series, working on several panels or drawings at once and creating a new surface rich with color and texture to parallel to overcome old layers of meaning. Stories and lives are told through the inadvertent witnesses of inert belongings, tools and props. The inference of an invisible humane presence is a consistent theme throughout my work both in the framing of the subject and the subject itself.

Medium: Mixed media on paper

PACHECO, Victor. *10 Notes with Luger.* This piece came out of my exploration of gun violence, which included discovering the ease with which I was able to purchase 22 mm bullets at local gun shops. In creating this work I focused all my energy on transforming the symbol of the bullet into an instrument of music that made noise although no particular musical note could be played. Bullets are used to play the instrument and to decorate its mahogany body. As an artist dealing with live ammunition I feel that it is important to disarm the bullets and to portray them as beautiful objects that lose their functional purpose. They are no longer able to kill people in their current state of being. The viewer can play the instrument with a simple pluck of the strings. A closer look however reveals that this beautiful instrument resembles parts of guns. Gun imagery and transposing it to create an instrument changes the perspective of how even something beautiful challenges the viewer to grapple with contradictions.

Medium: Mahogany wood, bullet casings, steel, brass, and music wire

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RATHIE, Lisa, (Institute for Cultural Partnership). *Ashley's Self Portrait*. The first photo shows Ashley, standing next to her self-portrait. Ashley had not stayed past 2:00 in any previous club, and was often disruptive when she was in the clubs. However, she really began to find herself through the painting and visual arts projects that she worked on. As Nancy Mendes commented, "She really seemed to find her feet finally." As Nancy tried to articulate what this meant, she described how she saw Ashley begin to focus and to consider who she was as an adult as she painted her self-portrait. She even worked through the breaks so that she could finish her work. It really absorbed her. Even after finishing her piece, she stayed well past the end of class at 5:00 to help Nancy clean up.

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

ROSANO, Susan, MA (CT Expressive Arts). *Night and Day: A Musical Mosaic*.

Live music has a unifying effect on communities of diverse cultures. No matter what type of music is being presented, hundreds of citizens of small towns in CT will come out to a concert on the green. Whether it is rock and roll, classical, or culturally specific, music brings harmony, unity and kinship among the spectators. When music represents different cultures in a community, it can be educational, sensational and bring about understanding of beauty and diversity in the world.

This violin shaped mosaic represents the different cultures and communities of the world that are brought together through music. I used the violin as a shape for this mosaic to represent the diversity of this instrument in our culture. The violin in our country is used regularly by musicians who play the fiddle. Fiddle music, as in bluegrass and folk music of our country, is culturally different music than the classical violin. The audiences for each are culturally diverse in our country and many different cultures of the world have their own versions of the fiddle as well.

Night music (the back of the violin, using the blues & purples of night time colors with one shining star in the night time sky) – represents all the wonderful night time concerts, restaurants/bars with live bands, outdoor night time concerts, and all the other musical community gatherings that grace the towns of our country in the evening. Day music (the front of the violin with the brightly colored sun in the daytime warm sky) – represents all the music of the daytime that includes ceremonial music of weddings and church services, festivals and children's concerts, live lunch time concerts on the green, parades, marching bands for daytime sports and many occasions for music during the day.

Medium: Mosaics using ceramic and glass tiles

SIMMONS, Deborah Annette, Ed. D. (Professor of Music, Manchester Community College, Manchester, Connecticut). *Creation of an illustrated children's book addressing health literacy of type 2 diabetes for pre-adolescent and adolescent African Americans*. The creation of this

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project is in collaboration with the Institute for Community Research and it's Founding Director and Senior Researcher, Jean J. Schensul, Ph.D. The text and creation of illustrations was based on research conducted in the following areas: definition of type 2 diabetes; increase rate of type 2 diabetes among African American children; the use of picture based material as a tool for promoting health literacy; the impact of type 2 diabetes on the anatomy and physiology of the human body of pre-adolescent and adolescent; the impact of obesity and family history in the development of type 2 diabetes. The completed project will be made available to schools, libraries, community centers and health care providers to promote health literacy and prevention of type 2 diabetes among this population

Medium: Acrylic on bristol board

YOUNG, Joe (Hartford Animation Institute). *Scruples* from *Big Time Saver*. Illustrations from a series of 90-second video shorts called "Big Time Saver," which features the "Scruples" characters. The characters were developed by the Hartford Animation Institute, a non-profit organization that mentors local youth in the art and business of high-tech digital animation. The founder, Joe Young, developed "Scruples" for other youth-related initiatives, and worked with the State Treasurer's office to develop themes, storyboards and lyrics for the financial education video shorts. Funding for development of the financial education video series was provided by Bank of America, Connecticut. The videos are geared to kids ages 7-12, and present the financial lessons using modern music and high-tech animation.

Medium: Digital Animation

STUDIER, Lisa. These woodcut prints are part of a series of portraits intended to celebrate the beauty and diversity of marine life in the face of increasing threats posed by over fishing, global climate change, pollution, and habitat destruction. Many marine ecosystems are in great danger, with most major fisheries severely overexploited and some species facing extinction. We have a frontier mentality toward the ocean, and decades of abuse are taking their toll.

Most of us have a very limited connection with the sea, and it's hard to inspire sympathy or concern for creatures normally only seen on dinner plates. In the tradition of portraiture, I seek to give a sense of dignity and identity to the individual, and by extension a collective face to the previously anonymous species we so easily dismiss as seafood or sport. I hope that the prints will spark an interest in the fish and a desire to learn more.

My creative process is informed by a great deal of reading, both about the individual animals as well as in the broader areas of environmental responsibility, conservation, biodiversity, and natural history. I am intrigued by how science can inform art and how art can contribute to political and scientific dialogues. The medium of the artwork is also very important to me: the printed image has a long history as a means for social or political commentary and as a democratic, accessible medium. In the reduction printing technique, a single woodblock is gradually cut away in-between each color pressing, leaving it destroyed by the end of the process with a closed edition of prints. Working with the wood grain and watching the image emerge and

GALLERY ABSTRACTS

become more defined as each color is printed gives me a sense of getting to know the creature, and a feeling for its fragility and sentience that is truly humbling. With our ability to affect life and death in the sea comes a tremendous responsibility to protect and conserve. Who hears the fishes when they cry? Their loss will diminish us all.

Medium: Woodcut

WELSH, Kathleen & MCGILLIVRAY, Alan (Hightower & Sparks - University of Maine at Farmington). *Masks from Field of Beans and Dreams*. The masks are used in eco-theatre, which is interactive and designed as an effective way to promote discussion about cultural identity and environmental disparities. Eco-theatre is used to promote the French-American heritage of the western mountains of Maine, an economically challenged area where approximately half of the children live in low-income families; and where two of the major industries, paper mills and shoe factories, continue to close. Through eco-theatre participants become more aware of their French-American heritage and mobilize to sustain their culture, which includes local farming.

Medium: Papier Maché

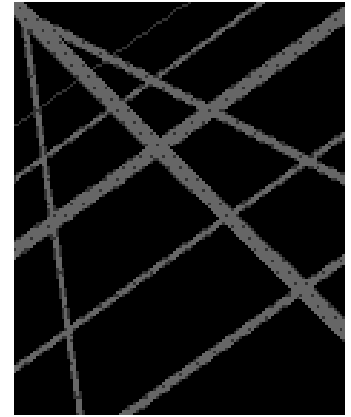
WINN, Alisha R. (University of South Florida). *Remembering ST Petersburg Oral History Project*. This project provided an opportunity for youth to document the stories and lives of the thirty-five elders, who contributed to their community and the city of St. Petersburg, Florida. Through taped oral narratives, archival materials, and donated personal artifacts, the oral histories captured memories and stories of the elders for a museum exhibit. The youth gained a greater appreciation for the elders and the past, while the museum exhibit highlighted and honored the lives of the elders in the community. The project enabled the development of positive relationships between the youth and elders, and the proper recognition of the elders who contributed to the well-being and success of their neighborhood and community.

Medium: Digital Images

WULKE, Joy. *Future Curio*. Using encased sage and broken glass in a static growth form, I convey the perspective that without our stewardship of the environment, we may only be able to experience nature as museum curios in the future.

Medium: Sage and glass

CROSS ROADS



COMMUNITY-BASED
COLLABORATIVE
RESEARCH FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE

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