



Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

Transforming Communities & Higher Education

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL SERIES: BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY FOR RESEARCH

Public Participation and Community Engagement in Research: Reports & Recommendations from the NIH Council of Public Representatives

Wednesday September 23, 2009
12:30-2 pm pacific time / 3:30-5 pm eastern time

AGENDA, SPEAKER BIOS & CCPH INFO

Agenda

On the call, participants will learn about the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Council of Public Representatives (COPR), its Role of the Public in Research Workgroup, and COPR reports and recommendations in these areas:

- Definition of public participation and community engagement in research
- Peer review criteria for assessing community engagement in research proposals
- Community engagement framework for development of researcher education and training
- Strategies for implementing these definitions, criteria and framework at national & local levels.

The call will include several brief presentations, each followed by audience Q&A/discussion.

Background info on COPR and the material being presented on the call are available on these websites:

COPR: <http://copr.nih.gov/index.asp>

Recommendations and reports being discussed on the call: <http://copr.nih.gov/reports.asp> (see October 31, 2008)

Although not the focus of the call, the nomination process for new COPR members is underway with a September 25 postmark deadline for nominations. For details, visit <http://copr.nih.gov/nomination.asp>

Speaker Bios

The co-chairs of the NIH COPR Role of the Public in Research Workgroup, Dr. Syed M. Ahmed and Ms. Ann-Gel S. Palermo, will be the featured presenters on the call. See pages 2-3 for their photos and bios.



Dr. Syed M. Ahmed is the Director of the Center for Healthy Communities (CHC) at the Medical College of Wisconsin, where he is also a Professor of Family and Community Medicine. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and a diplomate of the American Board of Family Medicine.

Dr. Ahmed has 16 years of experience working with communities in Ohio and Wisconsin as a researcher on more than a dozen federal, non-federal, and foundation grants. As the Director of CHC, he works with very large constituencies, including minorities and the underserved, in Milwaukee. CHC was formed in 1997 to develop community-academic partnerships to improve health in Wisconsin communities. It has established numerous programs related to cardiovascular disease, cancer, substance abuse, and mental health. CHC conducts activities in rural parts of Wisconsin, as well as in Milwaukee, and it is developing programs with Latino communities.

Prior to joining the Medical College of Wisconsin, Dr. Ahmed was vice chair of research in Wright State University's Department of Family Medicine and Director of the Alliance for Research in Community Health in Dayton. In Ohio, he was director of Reach Out of Montgomery County, a successful volunteer health care program that he founded in 1994 with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Through his educational, scholarly, and community work, Dr. Ahmed has made nationally recognized contributions to the fields of community health, community academic partnerships, and community-based participatory research. He has been an invited expert on community academic partnership and community-based participatory research at the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality and, most recently, at NIH. He has presented at a variety of national conferences and published numerous academic papers and book chapters focusing on the health care of underserved and uninsured populations.

Dr. Ahmed has received numerous awards, including the Presidential Award for Faculty Excellence in Professional Service from Wright State University, the Ohio Quality of Care Award from the State of Ohio, and the Humanism in Medicine Award from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Dr. Ahmed received degrees in medicine and surgery from the Sir Salimullah Medical College at Dhaka University in Bangladesh and a master's and a doctorate in Public Health from the University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston. He completed a residency and a fellowship in family medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Recently, Dr. Ahmed was a scholar at the National Public Health Leadership Institute, a highly regarded training program funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Ms. Ann-Gel S. Palermo has worked in the area of community-based public health for the past decade, with a principal focus on issues related to social determinants of health using a community-based participatory research approach. Since 1999, Ms. Palermo has served as the chair of the Harlem Community & Academic Partnership (HCAP), a diverse partnership of representatives from community and academic organizations committed to identifying social determinants of health and implementing community-based interventions in Harlem. HCAP evolved out of the CDC-funded Harlem Urban Research Center, a partnership developed to establish credibility in the Harlem community, demonstrate a true commitment to improving the health of its residents, and create a platform from which to address local health issues. When core funding ceased, Ms. Palermo led a major transition to reinvent the collaboration so that it could continue its important work as HCAP. HCAP is located at the Center for Urban Epidemiologic Studies at the New York Academy of Medicine.

Ms. Palermo also serves as a board member of the East Harlem Community Health Committee and is chair of the board of directors for the Manhattan-Staten Island Area Health Education Center. She is a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine as well as a member of its Institutional Review Board.

Previous community research by Ms. Palermo includes analyses of diabetes care in East Harlem and of coverage for Medicare recipients. In addition to her public health activities, Ms. Palermo is the Associate Director of Operations at the Center for Multicultural and Community Affairs at New York City's Mount Sinai School of Medicine. In this role, she is responsible for overseeing and managing programs in the areas of community relations, medical education and training, and research to improve the health of all populations by diversifying the health care workforce and influencing health policy and research.

Ms. Palermo earned a Master of Public Health degree (majoring in health policy) from the University of Michigan in 1999. She is currently a doctoral student in public health at the City University of New York Graduate Center.

Please see next page for more information about Community-Campus Partnerships for Health...

About Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) promotes health (broadly defined) through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions. A non-profit organization founded in 1996, CCPH's strategic goals are to:

- Combine the knowledge, wisdom and experience in communities and in academic institutions to solve major health, social and economic challenges
- Build the capacity of communities and higher educational institutions to engage each other in authentic partnerships
- Support communities in their relationships and work with academic partners
- Recognize and reward faculty for community engagement and community-engaged scholarship
- Develop partnerships that balance power and share resources equitably among partners
- Ensure that community-driven social change is central to service-learning and community-based participatory research

At a grass-roots level, our members are advancing these goals in their work on a daily basis. Our growing network of over 1,800 communities and campuses are collaborating to promote health through service-learning, community-based participatory research and other partnerships. What ties CCPH members together is our commitment to social justice and our passion for the power of partnerships to transform communities and academe. We believe that only by combining the knowledge, wisdom and experience in communities and in academic institutions will we solve the major health, social and economic challenges facing our society.

At an organizational level, CCPH advances our mission through knowledge exchange, training and technical assistance, research and evaluation, policy development and advocacy, and coalition-building. Learn more about CCPH at www.ccph.info or email us at ccphuw@u.washington.edu.