



PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

December 19, 2003

Volume V, Issue 25

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES FIGHTS FAT

Excerpted from Environmental Health Perspectives, Volume 111, #13, p. A698

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Obesity is an enormous public health threat for Americans of all ages, but is an especially serious problem for children and minorities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently estimated that 15% of all children and 25% of black and Hispanic children are overweight. With significant increases in weight comes a host of health problems and resultant health care expenditures. Obesity, like most chronic health problems, is caused by complex interactions between genetic, environmental, and behavioral factors.

Recognizing that basic research is needed to untangle these interactions and that intervention strategies are needed to prevent the potentially catastrophic health effects of obesity, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is launching an initiative to support studies that will elucidate the mechanisms by which the built environment influences obesity and related diseases, and to develop effective models to reverse the trend toward increased obesity.

“The NIEHS is planning a multipronged approach, involving both research and education, to enable us to understand better how the environment affects obesity and to develop appropriate interventions,” says Allen Dearry, the institutes’ associate director for research coordination, planning, and translation. “We are planning a concerted effort in conjunction with other NIH institutes, with other federal agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and with private foundations in order to ensure that a coordinated response is implemented to address the obesity problem.”

The first step in the planned research effort will be to create and validate instruments to measure the impact that the community where one lives has on behavior and lifestyle choices affecting rates of obesity. To do this, it will be necessary to delineate the role and impact of factors such urban/rural community design and planning, housing structure, transportation, and availability of public green spaces on issues including mental health, physical activity, nutrition, and access to healthy food for both individuals and populations. This research effort will require the input of multidisciplinary research teams from disparate fields including biomedical scientists, behavioral scientists, social scientists, clinicians, epidemiologists, planners, developers, and architects, as well as active participation of community members.

The second step in the NIEHS research approach will be to identify successful strategies for changing eating behavior, promoting a more active lifestyle, and altering the design of residential communities to make them more conducive to physical activity. Individual and community-wide interventions can be developed, implemented, and evaluated in order to assess their effectiveness in reducing obesity.

One of the more innovative educational strategies already launched by the NIEHS is the development of *Fitness Fighters*, a children’s television program that would promote healthy eating behavior and an active lifestyle. The NIEHS is working with a writer and producer of the children’s show *Sesame Street* to develop a pilot episode and series format. Efforts are under way to solicit co-funding for the series from industry and private foundations.

Another NIEHS effort in the initial stages of execution is a collaboration with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The foundation is supporting a program titled *Active Living by Design*,

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Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

Address:
UW Box 354809
Seattle, WA
98195-4809

Tel. (206) 543-8178
Fax: (206) 685-6747

Email:
ccphuw@u.washington.edu

Website:
<http://www.ccph.info>

Editor:
Annika Robbins

Email:
ccphpm@u.washington.edu

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As the holiday season draws near, many of us are looking for gifts to recognize the family, friends and colleagues who bring meaning and joy to our lives. We hope you will consider Community-Campus Partnerships for Health among your gift options this year! If you have valued your membership in CCPH, surprise a friend or colleague with a membership. If you have found a CCPH publication to be a useful tool in your work, why not send a copy to a friend or colleague who could also benefit? (Remember, donations to CCPH are tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law.)

We encourage you to share your experiences with others involved in community-campus partnerships, and invite them to become a member of CCPH's growing network. Just like you, they want to connect with dynamic individuals dedicated to partnerships that are addressing health disparities and increasing health workforce diversity. Just like you, they are struggling to find resources, overcome challenges and become reinvigorated about their work. More CCPH members means a stronger voice to influence policies that affect community-campus partnerships. More members means a diversity of viewpoints, ideas and perspectives. When you recruit new members you'll also reward yourself. For every five new members you recruit you'll earn \$50 CCPH dollars that can be used to purchase CCPH products, such as publications, registrations for CCPH events or a new membership!

For the latest information on membership benefits, categories and how to join, please visit our website at <http://www.futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/members.html>

Thank you for your support and involvement. Together, we can make the world healthier for all. Best wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful holiday season and New Year!

PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Excerpted from an article by Erin E. Dooley in Environmental Health Perspectives Environews October 2003, p. A695

Compared to adults, children are disproportionately and uniquely vulnerable to environmental toxicants, a reality that the children's environmental health movement has sought to bring to the attention of policy makers and government agencies over the past decade. In 1999, the Children's Health Environmental Coalition and the Institute for Children's Environmental Health convened the Children's Environmental Health Summit. Following that summit, the Partnership for Children's Health and Environment was formed as a means for building and sustaining the movement's growing momentum. Today this partnership of North American government, academic, and community groups has a membership of almost 100 organizations. Its website, located at <http://www.partnersforchildren.org/>, is designed to promote its agenda and to educate the public about children's environmental health issues.

The partnership's guiding principles are set forth on their own separate page of the site. These principles include the rights of children to clean air, food, and drinking water; to healthy homes and other built environments where they spend the majority of their time (such as schools); and to information about health and safety risks that could possibly compromise their health. The Collaborative Initiatives page provides links to the websites of partnership members and brief overviews of their philosophies and activities. The partnership's membership is far-reaching, including national, state, and local environmental and health advocacy groups; federal agencies; professional associations; academic centers; and international organizations including the Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America.

The Major Consensus Statements page includes the full text of five important declarations relevant to children's environmental health. These statements, developed by various bodies over the past several years, have done much to focus international attention on the differences between child and adult health effects stemming from environmental exposures and on related issues such as environmental justice. Among the texts available on this page are the statement from the multidisciplinary international work session on the effects of environmental endocrine-disrupting chemicals that was held in Erice, Sicily, in November 1995 and the Declaration of the Environmental Leaders of the Eight on Children's Environmental Health that was developed at the May 1997 summit of the environmental ministers of the eight major industrialized countries.

NEW NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS LACK OF HISPANICS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY

Excerpted from the 10/09/03 issue of Black Issues in Higher Education

A new task force of leading experts in advanced science education outreach to minority college students has been formed to address the need to increase the ranks of Hispanics in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

With a \$100,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) has appointed 12 top educators from HACU-member colleges and universities in California, Texas, New York, Florida, Arizona and Puerto Rico to form the NSF/HACU Task Force for the National Study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education at Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

The goals of the study are:

- Assess the major barriers to Hispanic undergraduate and graduate students successfully completing their STEM degrees.
- Assess the status of U.S. Hispanic STEM faculty at HSIs.
- Assess STEM research and technology infrastructure at HSIs.
- Assess STEM research, education and training programs designed to attract, train and retain Hispanic students and faculty.
- Strengthen the NSF-HACU-HSI partnership.

Hispanics make up the youngest and largest ethnic population in this country; one of every three new workers joining the U.S. work force today is Hispanic. Yet, Hispanics also suffer the lowest high school and college graduation rates of any major population group, exacerbating already historically low Hispanic representation in STEM professions demanding advanced degrees.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Give the Gift of Membership

During the holidays it can be difficult to find that unique gift that keeps giving throughout the year to a valued friend or colleague. A membership to CCPH is a great way to do both! And it's easy!

To give the gift of membership, you can visit us online at <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/members.html#BecomeAMember> to learn about the different ways to join or renew an existing membership.

If you have any questions about membership processing, the status of your membership or about which membership is the right gift, please contact us at ccphuw@u.washington.edu or (206) 543-8178.



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which will provide support to 25 communities across the country to implement active living programs, policies, and communication strategies that involve local public health, planning, and transportation agencies (For more information, visit <http://www.activelivingbydesign.org/>). The NIEHS has partnered with the foundation to provide an evaluation component to this program in order to determine the efficacy of various policies and promotions in combating obesity.

To further refine a research, education, and intervention strategy to address the relationship between the environment and obesity, the NIEHS is planning a national workshop on the issues next spring. Those interested in participating may contact Dearry at dearry@niehs.nih.gov.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome announcements, comments and questions from you! Please forward them to the PM Editor at ccphpm@u.washington.edu. Below are some simple submission guidelines:

- Please limit announcements and questions to not more than 150 words. As for articles and editorials, not more than 250 words;
- Provide the names of all authors, their current institutional affiliations and/or photos;
- Explain all abbreviations and unusual terms when first used.



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UPCOMING EVENTS!

CCPH SPONSORED EVENTS

For more event listings, see CCPH's website at <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/conferences.html>

October 6-10, 2004: CCPH and The Network: Toward Unity for Health are cosponsoring an International Conference: **Overcoming Health Disparities: Global Experiences from Partnerships Between Communities, Health Services and Health Professional Schools** in Atlanta, Georgia, USA that will replace our individual conferences for that year. By collaborating in these and other ways, we hope to strengthen the many wonderful partnerships already underway around the world, as well as to engage new individuals and organizations in this important work. For more information, visit <http://www.ccph.info>. For more information on The Network, visit <http://www.the-network.org>

OTHER EVENTS

January 20-22, 2004: **What Faculty and Administrators Need to Know About Learning** workshop, American Association for Higher Education, at University of Maryland University College, in College Park, MD. Contact: (202) 293-6440, <http://www.AAHE.org>.

28-29, 2004: AcademyHealth and *Health Affairs* are co-sponsoring the **2004 National Health Policy Conference** in Washington, DC. Leaders of the field will be addressing the following kinds of health policy issues: Medicare and Prescription Drugs; 2004 Candidates' Health Care Proposals; Critical Issues for States; Non-Visit-Based Communications; Consequences of Uninsurance; Bioterrorism Preparedness; Using Information Technology to Manage Care; Strategies to Combat the Obesity Epidemic. For more information, see http://www.magnetmail.net/Actions/linktosite.cfm?message_id=22310&user_id=AcadHealth&recipient_id=7174694&site=http://www.academyhealth.org/nhpc/.

29-Feb. 1, 2004: **The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's Predoctoral Education Conference** will celebrate its 30th birthday in New Orleans. <http://www.stfm.org/PreDocConf/pd04/index.htm>.

February 18-20, 2004: **18th National Conference on Chronic Disease Prevention and Control** in Washington, D.C. Join your colleagues in a thoughtful, spirited, and timely exploration of the challenge to secure investment in prevention—a challenge we cannot afford to ignore! The conference theme is "Investing in Health: The Dollars and Sense of Prevention". <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/conference/index.htm>

27-28, 2004: **International Conference on Women & Infectious Diseases** in Atlanta, Georgia. The goal of the conference is to enhance prevention and control of infectious diseases among women worldwide. Featured topics include the impact of globalization, women and HIV/AIDS, perinatal infectious diseases, immunizations, and linkages between infectious and chronic diseases. Other topics include infectious disease disparities, gender-appropriate interventions, effective health communications, and cultural competence in preventing infectious diseases among women. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/omwh/icwid.htm>

March 8-11, National STD Prevention Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This conference will bring together delegates from academia, public health departments, nongovernmental organizations, the private health sector, and policy-related organizations to explore goals, to share successes, to ask new questions, and to seek new answers that will enlighten the movement of STD prevention into the next few years. <http://www.stdconference.org/>

2004: 19-20, 2004: **Lilly-West Conference on College & University Teaching** in Pomona, California. Lilly conferences are learning communities that combine workshops, discussion sessions, and major presentations with opportunities for informal discussion about excellence in teaching and learning.

<http://www.iats.com>.

24-28, 2004: **The 9th Biennial Symposium on Minorities, the Medically Underserved & Cancer** in Washington, D.C. <http://iccnetwork.org/symposium>

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MEMBERS IN ACTION!

CCPH Represented on National Primary Care Week Advisory Committee

We are pleased to report that **Penny Rembolt**, Financial Aid Counselor in the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine at the University of Iowa, will serve as CCPH's representative to the National Primary Care Week advisory committee. The American Medical Student Association coordinates National Primary Care Week, October 17-23, 2004. The goals of NPCW include raising awareness of primary care careers, interdisciplinary practice and the link between primary care and the elimination of health disparities. Health professional students lead activities during NPCW, including having panel discussions, community service projects and career fairs. An interdisciplinary advisory committee meets regularly by conference call to advise on the NPCW theme and activities and to help publicize the event.



NEWS FROM CCPH

The June 2003 Introductory Service-Learning Institute Proceedings Now Online!

Would you like to expand the community-based component of your curriculum? Interested in Developing or strengthening partnerships with community organizations? Are you looking to better equip future health professionals for community-based practice? The proceedings from CCPH's 7th annual Introductory Service-Learning Institute on [Service-Learning in the Health Professions: Advancing Educational Innovations for Improved Student Learning and Community Health](http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/guide.html) are now available online at <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/guide.html>.

FEATURED MEMBER OF THE MONTH!

The Glue That Holds it All Together

The New CCPH Featured Member is **Cynthia Barnes-Boyd**. Cynthia is **Assistant Dean of Community Health in the College of Nursing, at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)**. She is also the **Director of Neighborhoods Initiative of the Great Cities Institute at UIC**, which brings together resources from the community and the university to help strengthen the quality of life for the benefit of current residents, businesses, the university, and other institutions. In Cynthia's interview, she passionately speaks on the necessity of building long-lasting relationships between communities and universities to create successful partnerships. "A distinctive characteristic is that we maintain relationships over time. University staff and students come and go, projects start and end and community organizations and those who run them change. Our constant presence in the community arena is sometimes the glue that holds it all together."

For the full text of the interview go to <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/featuredmember.html>.

To read about previous featured members go to <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/pastfeaturedmembers.html>.



*Happy
Holidays!*

*From CCPH
board and staff*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Online Journal: Preventing Chronic Disease. The inaugural issue of Preventing Chronic Disease is now available. You will find downloadable articles from the January 2004 issue and more information. Issue highlights include an essay by Syme, "Social Determinants of Health: The Community as an Empowered Partner" and an article by Katz, "Representing Your Community in Community-based Participatory Research: Differences Made and Measured."
<http://www.cdc.gov/pcd>

The Hesperian Foundation Year-End Discount on Books to The Foundation is offering a single-title discount on mixed orders of 12 or more books, to be sent to the same address, if ordered by December 30. As a further incentive, if you pay for your order by December 30, they will cover the cost of shipping inside the U.S. <http://www.hesperian.org>

Examples of Promotion & Tenure Guidelines Now Available The Association of Schools of Public Health has posted the faculty promotion and tenure guidelines from 11 schools of public health whose guidelines recognize and reward outstanding academic public health practice as it relates to schools' overarching mission or research, teaching and service. <http://www.asph.org/UserFiles/Compilation.pdf> For more information and resources about academic public health practice and other forms of community-engaged scholarship, please visit CCPH online at: <http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/scholarship.html>.

Jewish American Medical Project (JAMP) Seeks Volunteers JAMP is seeking volunteers to join an upcoming delegation to Israel and the Occupied Territories. JAMP is a project of four groups within the Jewish peace movement in the U.S. Contact: Alan Meyers at afmeyers@bu.edu or visit <http://www.vopj.org/jamp.htm>.

Recruiting and Training Health Care Personnel Current approaches run counter to notions of long-term domestic capacity building and neglect efforts that could enhance multiple aspects of the common good in our communities. The Center for Health Professions of the University of California, San Francisco reports: http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/from_the_director.html

Obesity Screening and Treatment The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force said standard treatment for obesity should include twice-monthly behavior therapy for at least 3 months. The new guidelines recommend an approach that combines counseling, diet changes, and physical activity. The recommendations are highly significant because they generally become the standard of care for medical practice in the U.S., and may prompt insurers to pay for obesity treatment. <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstf/uspsobes.htm>

New Protocol to Prevent Wrong Site Surgery The effort, lead by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), establishes a new "Universal Protocol" to standardize pre-surgery procedures for verifying the correct patient, the correct procedure, and the correct surgical site. The Protocol becomes effective on July 1 for all JCAHO-accredited hospitals, ambulatory care surgery centers, and office-based surgery sites.
<http://www.jcaho.org>

Report Compares Health Care Quality Studies of Teaching vs. Non-Teaching Hospitals The report, "Quality of Care in Teaching Hospitals," reviews and analyzes 23 studies that compare quality of care in teaching hospitals to other institutions for a variety of conditions, types of patients, outcomes and geographic locations.
<http://www.aamc.org/quality>

The December 2003 Supplement of the Medical Care Research and Review Journal is on "Community Partnerships and Collaboration" Titles include: Overview of the Community Care Network Demonstration Program and Its Evaluation; Members Perceptions of Community Care Network Partnerships Effectiveness; and Community Care Networks: Linking Vision to Outcomes for Community Health Improvement, to name a few.
<http://www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=220>

Community Schools Online Community Schools Online provides updates on developments in the community schools field. To subscribe register at ccs@iel.org

Service-Learning Videos and CDs In partnership with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Learning In Deed initiative and high-quality practitioners in the service-learning community, the following videos and CDs are available free from the National Service-Learning Partnership. http://www.service-learningpartnership.org/service_learning/Toole.cfm

Latin American Social Medicine Papers presented at the American Public Health Association 2002 meeting in the Spirit of 1848 session on "Latin American Social Medicine: The Quest for Social Justice and Public Health" are now published in the December 2003 issue of American Journal of Public Health. The issue also includes other articles on Latin American Social Medicine.
<http://www.ajph.org>

New Certificate Program in Health Disparities and Health Inequality Offered by Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, this is a 12 credit hour program that provides training in health inequality as it relates to race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or gender.
<http://commprojects.jhsph.edu/academics/Detail.cfm?id=21>

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, January 19

On January 19, 2004, Americans across the country will celebrate the national holiday honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As they have since 1994, thousands of Americans remembered Dr. King by serving in their communities—by making the holiday “*a day ON, not a day off.*” If you are still looking for ideas for a project for MLK Day or sample releases to help you promote your project, please visit the website. The sections on project tips, toolkits and resources should be particularly helpful. <http://www.mlkday.org/>.

The Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)

Launches New Jobs Website ASPH’s Career Services Council is pleased to announce the unveiling of their latest online resources. Visitors to the site now have the option of registering, which allows them to save jobs for later in their virtual “bookbag.” Registration is free for both job seekers and employers. <http://www.publichealthjobs.net>.

New Training Opportunity in Health Behavior Theory

The National Cancer Institute will sponsor an intensive, 8-day session for early career investigators during July 10 - 18, 2004 in San Diego. The primary objective of the institute is to allow 25 attendees to extend their knowledge of and experience with the conceptual, methodological, and statistical underpinnings of health behavior theories. <http://www.scgcorp.com/ati2004>

Stanford Medical School Professor Receives Humanism in Medicine Award

Samuel LeBaron, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of family medicine and director for the Center of Education in Family and Community Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine, has received the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Humanism in Medicine Award. Dr. LeBaron, who is trained both as a psychologist and a family practice physician, has been recognized as a compassionate teacher and mentor, a tireless advocate for the underserved, and a role model to his peers. <http://www.aamc.org/newsroom/pressrel/2003/031108d.htm>

Five Organizations Named 2004 Families Count Honorees

These remarkable organizations are recognized for connecting families to the resources, opportunities and support they need to thrive in tough neighborhoods.

- Asian American LEAD, Washington, D.C.
- Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center, Wa, D.C.
- Connectinc., Battleboro, N.C.
- Family Services Woodfield, Bridgeport, CT
- Mutual Assistance Network of Del Paso Heights, Sacramento, CA <http://www.aecf.org/familiescount/>

Training and Technical Assistance Available from the Community College National Center for Community Engagement

There is training and technical assistance available as well as written materials to any community college in the country. Training and technical assistance is free to community colleges, with an honorarium provided to the trainers. <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/engagement>

New Web Site Helps Adolescents Understand How Drugs Affect the Brain and the Body

The National Institute on Drug Abuse for Teens: The Science Behind Drug Abuse is an interactive Web site containing information about addiction and drug abuse geared specifically for adolescents ages 11 to 15. <http://www.teens.drugabuse.gov>

Report Evaluates Data on Health Status and Health Policy Indicators Related to Smoking Among Women and Girls

A national and state-by-state evaluation of both smoking-related health status data and health policies was conducted. The report, produced by the National Women’s Law Center and Oregon Health and Science University, addresses smoking as part of a comprehensive assessment of women’s overall health. <http://www.nwlc.org/pdf/Women&SmokingReportCard2003.pdf>

New Web Site for HIV-Positive Women

The Well Project, an initiative by and for women living with HIV/AIDS, has launched a new Web site to serve as a comprehensive woman-specific HIV resource offering the latest information on managing the disease for infected women, health care providers, and advocates. <http://www.thewellproject.com>

CALLING ALL CLINICIANS!!! Your help is needed in the development of a website for the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU). The JHCPU is creating a website that will access information on-line specific to health care for the poor and underserved. The website will consist of an organized series of web pages that will provide an overview and salient facts regarding one health or health-care related topic, such as diabetes, prenatal care, HIV/AIDS, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, access to care, availability of insurance, and the effects of managed care on indigent health. They thought it would be a good idea to include stories from the front-line clinicians who are most connected to the underserved communities in order to present a realistic and practical perspective that would compliment the data and make the website more interesting. They are looking for short anecdotes, stories, or recollections over any aspect of working with the underserved, whether it be a broad statement, or a specific incidence.

Please send narratives to:
Saqi Maleque: smaleque@mmc.edu

GRANTS ALERT!

Title IV: Grants for Coordinated HIV Services and Access to Research for Women, Infants, Children, and Youth

Deadline: January 5, 2004 The purpose of the Title IV funding is to improve access to primary medical care, research, and support services for HIV-infected women, infants, children and youth, and to provide support services for their affected family members.

<http://www.hrsa.gov/grants.htm>

Overweight and Obesity Control at Worksites - Deadline: Letters of Intent: January 15, 2004

The National, Heart, Lung and Blood Institute invites applications for research project grants to test interventions that are innovative and emphasize environmental approaches or a combination of environmental and individual approaches at worksites to prevent or treat obesity in adults. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-04-006.html>

Grant Opportunity from Hewlett-Packard - Deadline:

January 23, 2004 The goal of the program is to accelerate the ability of nonprofit microenterprise development agencies to advance economic growth in diverse, low-income communities.

http://grants.hp.com/us/programs/micro_index.html.

Join Hands Day Youth-Led Mini-Grants Deadline:

February 2, 2004 On May 1, 2004, young people will join adults across the country to volunteer together to make their neighborhoods a better place.

http://www.joinhandsday.org/scripts/minigrants_index.cfm

or contact Youth & Family Outreach at

youthandfamily@pointsoflight.org

Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) Grant Competition - Deadline:

February 18, 2004 CIRCLE is pleased to announce a new grant competition for research on civic engagement that is conducted by youth. Research teams that include youth and adults working together, or research teams of youth and adult mentors are welcome to apply.

<http://www.civicyouth.org/grants/applying/index.htm>



HARD WORK OPENS COLLEGE DOOR FOR A CLASS

Excerpted from an article by Katie Zezima in the June 4, 2003 New York Times, p. A29

When Damian Ramsey enrolled at the University Park Campus School here six years ago as a seventh grader, he could barely read a fourth-grade textbook or tackle a basic multiplication problem. Today, Damian, a tall, bespectacled 18-year-old, devours the works of Dickens and Fitzgerald. In the fall, he will attend Brown University. Damian is one of 31 students who graduated from the University Park Campus School in May 2003. His story is not unlike those of his classmates. They live in Main South, a neighborhood notorious for its high crime rate and low academic standards in this blue-collar city of 173,000. High school graduation was questionable for these students; college did not seem to be an option. But that is where each is heading this fall. Their school was hatched out of a partnership between Clark University, which was founded here in 1887, and the Worcester public schools. In the 1980's, Clark pledged to help clean up the neighborhood. In 1995, it invested some of its endowment in a \$10 million revitalization effort, and it approached the school system about developing a rigorous neighborhood high school. It offered \$390,000 from a federal grant, as well as teachers, tutors, aides and access to classes and facilities at Clark.

The city provided the school building and agreed to pay for building maintenance, salaries and supplies. The school began enrolling students in 1997, starting with seventh grade and adding a grade each year. The only admissions requirement is that students, who are chosen by lottery, live in Main South. "These are average neighborhood kids, not select kids," said John Bassett, the president of Clark. "But by raising the bar and saying, 'You can do this,' we've changed their whole outlook." The school's principal, Donna Rodrigues, laid out her demands: an eight-hour school day, with tutoring after that and a summer session. Course work and homework would be difficult, and plentiful. Street talk, swearing and fighting were outlawed. Teachers call when students are absent, and they show up at the student's home if they are suspicious. Failure was not an option to Mrs. Rodrigues, who promised parents their children would go to college. But dreams of college did not resonate in a neighborhood where few residents had graduated from high school and annual incomes fall short of \$20,000. So Mrs. Rodrigues, a veteran educator and a 30-year resident of the neighborhood, grabbed a list of incoming seventh graders and went door to door. "I promised them a safe school," she said. "There were parents saying 'Amen, amen.' It was like a revival meeting at points."

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She soon began promoting the idea of college. Campus visits were arranged. Teachers pitched in to cover the cost of standardized tests and college applications. Soon tears were shed with every acceptance letter. Tiffani Brown, a graduate, will attend Clark free, as all neighborhood students who pass the admissions process can. Mrs. Rodrigues said that all of the students would get the financial help they need to attend college.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Deadline Extended for Call for Abstracts for the 9th Biennial Symposium on Minorities, the Medically Underserved & Cancer - Deadline: December 31

The Symposium will take place on March 24-28, 2004 in Washington, D.C. <http://iccnetwork.org/symposium>

Youth Violence Prevention Through Community-Level Change - Deadline: January 2, 2004

Fiscal year 2004 funds are available for a cooperative agreement program for the evaluation of community-level interventions to reduce youth violence. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2010" focus area Injury and Violence Prevention. Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with the following performance goal: Conduct a targeted program of research to reduce injury-related death and disability.

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/04054.htm>

Minority Health Policy Fellowship - Deadline: January 2, 2004

The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship Program in Minority Health Policy is a one-year program designed to create physician-leaders interested in pursuing careers in minority health and health policy.

http://www.mfdp.med.harvard.edu/fellows_faculty/cfhuf/

Youth Violence Prevention Through Community-Level Change Funding - Deadline: January 2, 2004

Priority will be given to the evaluation of primary prevention interventions and programs that focus on the social and economic environment, and/or the physical environment, over those that focus on criminal justice responses.

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/04054.htm>

Advocacy Institute's Leadership for a Changing World Awards - Deadline: January 5, 2004

The awards are supported by the Ford Foundation in partnership with the Robert E. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University. The awards are given to outstanding individuals or groups of people who are tackling social problems but are not widely known.

<http://www.leadershipforchange.org>

2004 Talbots Women's Scholarship Fund - Deadline:

January 15, 2004 The \$100,000 scholarship program that awards five \$10,000 scholarships and fifty \$1,000 scholarships annually to women seeking a bachelor's or associate's degree later in life. <http://www.talbots.com/>

Call for Abstracts for the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting - Deadline: January 15, 2004

AcademyHealth is the professional home for health services researchers, policy analysts, and practitioners, and is a leading, non-partisan resource for the best in health research and policy. The meeting will be held June 6-8, 2004 in San Diego, California.

<http://www.academyhealth.org/arm/abstracts/index.htm>.

Rosalynn Carter Institute for Human Development

Caregiving Award - Deadline: January 15, 2004

The award honors an individual dedicated to caring for persons who are developmentally disabled, elderly, and mentally or physically ill. Associations, individuals, groups and organizations involved in caregiving may be nominated. http://rci.gsw.edu/care_award.htm

Call for Presentations for International Symposium on Work-Integrated Learning - Deadline: January 16, 2004

World Association for Cooperative Education (WACE) in partnership with the University of Trollhattan/Uddevalla are pleased to announce a Call for Presentations at the WACE 2004 International Symposium. The Symposium will be held June 14-17, 2004 in Trollhattan, Sweden. <http://www.waceinc.org>

Nominations for the Volvo Cars of North America's Volvo for Life Awards - Deadline: January 16, 2004

The awards recognize individuals who have made significant contributions in the categories of environment, quality of life, and safety.

<http://www.volvoforlifeawards.com>

Call for Papers for the Learning Technology Newsletter - Deadline: January 20, 2004

The theme of the issue is "Learning Communities & Web Service Technologies." Learning Technology Newsletter invites short articles, case studies, and project reports for special issue on "Learning Communities & Web Service Technologies". The special issue will be published in January, 2004. http://lutf.ieee.org/learn_tech/



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National Association of County and City Health Officials Annual Conference - Deadline: January 26, 2004 The conference will be held July 14-17, 2004 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The conference theme, "Shaping Our Potential: Competencies, Capacities, and Core Functions in Local Public Health," will examine the very essence of local public health in an era of change. The conference program will identify and address the professional competencies and capacities required to successfully and energetically take local public health into the 21st Century.
http://www.naccho.org/files/documents/2004_naccho_annual.html

The Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program is Now Accepting Applications - Deadline: January 30, 2004 The Scholars Program brings talented African American, Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native college seniors and recent graduates to Washington, D.C., where they work in congressional offices and learn about health policy.
<http://www.kff.org/docs/topics/jordanscholars.html>

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Offers Fellowships for Executive Nurses - Deadline: January 30, 2004 Fellowships are offered to nurses in senior executive roles in health services, public health, and nursing education to help them lead and shape the health care system. The fellowships help participants gain the experiences, insights and skills necessary to advance in executive leadership positions. CCPH member Bill Cody is currently a fellow. Read his "featured member" profile on CCPH's website at:
<http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/pastfeaturedmembers.html>
For application guidelines visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/applying/cfpDetail.jsp?cfpCode=ENL&type=open>

Call for Abstracts for the 2nd Biennial Distance Education Conference - Deadline: January 30, 2004 The conference on Best Practices in Distance Education for Health Professions will be held September 24-25, 2004 in Omaha, Nebraska. For abstract instructions, contact Mary Wendl, at mwendl@unmc.edu.

Oral Health of Special Needs and Older Population Program Announcement - Deadline: Ongoing, next: February 1, 2004 The program announcement is to encourage investigator-initiated clinical research focused on the oral health of special needs populations, including those with developmental or acquired physical or mental disabilities, people with mental retardation, people living with HIV/AIDS, and frail or functionally dependent elders. <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-04-031.html>

Call for Papers for the 11th Annual EDiNEB International Conference - Deadline: February 1, 2004 The conference theme is "The Changing Face of Globalization: Its Impact on Educating Future Leaders" and will be held June 16-18, 2004 at the College of Staten Island in New York. <http://www.fdewb4.unimaas.nl/edineb/conference.asp>

Call for Proposals for Search Institute's 2004 Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth Conference - Deadline: February 2, 2004 The conference will take place November 4-6, 2004 in St. Paul Minnesota. The theme is "Assets in Action —Making a Difference," and was chosen to showcase the ways communities are making change, measuring change and creating tools and processes to keep the asset-building momentum going. <http://www.search-institute.org/hchy/RFP-Overview2004.html>

Wellstone Fellowship for Social Justice - Deadline: February 6, 2004 The fellow will learn about conducting health care campaigns, and part of his or her time will be spent working with state-based health care advocacy organizations. <http://www.familiesusa.org/site/R?i=8mAYVCOYPtcDRYvcWDDmjg>

Youth Service America (YSA) Announces Call for Nominations for the Third Annual Harris Wofford Awards - Deadline: February 9, 2004 Two awards will be given.
Individual: An individual between the ages of 5 and 25 who has demonstrated exemplary commitment and action to involve themselves and other peers in service, youth voice, service-learning, and civic engagement activities.
Institution: Institutions can be a national, state, or local nonprofit organization, a Foundation, or a Corporation with demonstrated record of activity and impact devoted to youth service, youth voice, service-learning, and civic engagement. http://www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm

Special Projects of National Significance - Deadline: February 13, 2004 The purpose of this program is to fund Demonstration Models of Outreach, Care, and Prevention Engaging Young HIV Seropositive Men of Color. In the United States, the predominant mode of transmission of HIV remains men who have sex with men. <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants.htm>

Scholars in Health Disparities - Deadline: February 16, 2004 The W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Center for the Advancement of Health announce recruitment for the 2004 cohort of W.K. Kellogg Foundation Scholars in Health Disparities. This program challenges post doctoral investigators from a variety of disciplines such as economics, sociology, political science, public health and law, to examine the causes and consider policy solutions for health disparities in race/ethnicity and socioeconomic status. <http://www.cfah.org>

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Call for Proposals from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for Active Living/Obesity Research, Round 3

Deadline: February 18, 2004 Active Living Research is a \$12.5 million national program to stimulate and support research that will identify environmental factors and policies that influence physical activity. Findings are expected to inform environmental and policy changes that will promote active living among Americans.

<http://www.rwjf.org/applying/cfpDetail.jsp?cfpCode=PAP&emailid=1110+000002+11252003>

Minority Training Program in Cancer Control Research (MTPCCR) - Deadline: February 23, 2004

The purpose of the MTPCCR is to increase ethnic diversity in the field of research and cancer control by encouraging minority students in master's level health programs as well as master's trained professionals to pursue a doctoral degree and a career in research.

Southern CA: <http://www.ph.ucla.edu/mtppccr>

Northern CA: <http://cc.ucsf.edu/mtppccr>

Applications Invited for Gates Foundation Access to Learning Award - Deadline: February 28, 2004

The Council on Library and Information Resources is accepting applications for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Access to Learning Award for 2004. The award is given annually to a public library or similar organization outside the United States that has shown a commitment to offering to the public free access to information technology through an existing innovative program. The award includes a grant of up to \$1 million.

<http://www.clir.org/fellowships/gates/gates.html>

Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program (IFP)

Deadline: Varies The IFP provides opportunities for advanced study to exceptional individuals who will use this education to become leaders in their respective fields, furthering development in their own countries and greater economic and social justice worldwide. To ensure that Fellows are drawn from diverse backgrounds, IFP actively seeks candidates from social groups and communities that lack systematic access to higher education.

<http://www.fordifp.net/>

JC Penney Program - Deadline: Applications Accepted Year-Round

JC Penney provides funding for drug abuse prevention and after school programs. Eligible candidates are nonprofits or state agencies; schools are not usually funded.

<http://www.jcpenney.net/company/commrel/guidelin.htm>



FOCUS ON STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

American Medical Student Association Seeks Students

The American Medical Student Association is in need of hardworking and enthusiastic medical and premedical students looking for a one-of-a-kind internship experience working for AMSA. They are seeking interns for the months of January and February on many various topics.

<http://www.amsa.org/resource/positions.cfm>

Horace Mann Companies Scholarships - Deadline:

February 12, 2004 The scholarships will benefit the children of employees of public and private schools and higher-education institutions. College-bound high-school seniors with a parent or guardian who is a full- or part-time employee of a U.S. public or private school district or U.S. public or private college or university.

<http://www.horacemann.com/html/edprograms/scholarships.html>

Student Entries for Secretary's Award - Deadline:

February 13, 2004 Papers are being solicited for the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Award for Innovation in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. This competition is an opportunity for health professional students to describe their innovative health-promotion or disease-prevention projects and have them considered for cash awards from the federal government. <http://www.aamc.org/about/awards>

Summer Union Scholarship Opportunity for College

Students - Deadline: February 27, 2004 Are you a person of color and interested in fighting for social justice, creating change or making a difference in the lives of working families? Earn money for college through the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)/United Negro College Fund Union Scholars Program while working on the front lines of the labor movement.

<http://www.afscmeorganizers.org/unconf.pdf>

Health Policy And Politics Internship (HPPI) - Deadline:

March 15, 2004 HPPI on the 2004 Elections, Medicare Reform, or Medical Malpractice. During the elective, interns will work with the American Medical Student Association's (AMSA) Legislative Affairs Director, assisting in the everyday business of AMSA's Legislative Branch. This may include lobbying on Capitol Hill, attending coalition strategy meetings, researching current topics, drafting policy statements, and organizing briefings.

<http://www.amsa.org/hp/hippi.cfm>

PUBLICATIONS

Elder Perspectives on Physical Activity: A Multi-Cultural Discussion This community report detailing results from multi-cultural focus groups has been published and distributed to many service providers and policy makers in the Northwest region. The report identifies culturally specific features of physical activity programming for ethnically diverse older adults. Ethnic/cultural groups included were: American Indian/Alaskan Native, African American, Cantonese-speaking Chinese, Korean, Spanish-speaking Latinos, Tagalog-speaking Filipinos, and Vietnamese. To get a copy of the report, call (206) 543.2891 or email yaely@u.washington.edu

27th Annual Report Card on the Nation's Health: Health, United States, 2003 is the 27th annual report card on the nation's health. This 400-page edition presents the latest findings from health surveys and other sources in more than 150 detailed tables, as well as a set of charts on trends in America's health. This year's "Health, US" charts the steady gains in life expectancy and advances in preventive care, as well as a narrowing of gaps between the sexes and between black and white Americans. Amid the good news is evidence that the problem of diabetes is getting worse.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>

The Community Economic Development Handbook

by Mihailo Temali The step-by-step guide to turning any neighborhood around. A weak local economy can be strengthened. A run-down neighborhood of boarded-up storefronts, litter-strewn sidewalks, high unemployment, and poorly maintained housing can be transformed. An entire community can be lifted. To order, call 1-800-274-6024 or visit <http://www.wilder.org/pubs>

Minority AIDS Initiative Report Available

The National Minority AIDS Council recently made the report, "Extending the Reach of the Ryan White CARE Act: The Minority AIDS Initiative" available online. The publication provides an historical overview of the Minority AIDS Initiative, which targets funds to address persistent HIV/AIDS-related health disparities among ethnic and racial minorities. http://www.nmac.org/public_policy/pdf/MAItext.pdf

Social Determinants of Health. The Solid Facts edited by Richard Wilkinson and Michael Marmot. This is the second edition from the World Health Organization. ".....Poorer people live shorter lives and are more often ill than the rich. This disparity has drawn attention to the remarkable sensitivity of health to the social environment. Available on-line at <http://www.euro.who.int/document/e81384.pdf>

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

The December 2003 issue of **Critical Public Health** is now available on the Taylor & Francis web site at <http://taylorandfrancis.metapress.com/link.asp?id=MAGXGYMMX1RB>

Sample titles in this issue are:

- "Adding value and equity to primary healthcare through partnership working to establish a viable community health workers' programme in Namibia" by Anne Low, Taati Ithindi
- "Young people's accounts of smoking, exercising, eating and drinking alcohol: being cool or being unhealthy?" by Soula Ioannou
- "More 'con' than 'joint': problems with the application of conjoint analysis to participatory healthcare decision making" by David M. Wainwright
- "Learning from differences between ordinary and expert theories of health and physical activity" by Colin MacDougall

"Many Families Turn to Food Pantries for Help"

A new article by Sheila R. Zedlewski published on the web in November 2003. Data from the 2002 round of the National Survey of America's Families documents that the working poor are struggling to cover food costs. Over 4 million nonelderly low-income families reported using a food pantry in the past year. Working parents with children made up nearly half the families that turned to food pantries. Forty-six percent of low-income families using food pantries also reported receiving federal food stamps.

<http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=310895>

Articles from Academic Medicine, November 2003

<http://www.academicmedicine.org/content/vol78/issue11/index.shtml?etoc>

- "The Building and Sustaining of a Health Care Partnership: The Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance" by Vera Stevens Chatman, Juanita F. Buford, and Brynne Plant <http://www.academicmedicine.org/cgi/content/abstract/78/11/1105?etoc>
- "First-Year Medical Students' Attitudes toward Diversity and its Teaching: An Investigation at One U.S. Medical School" by Nisha Dogra and Niranjan Karnik <http://www.academicmedicine.org/cgi/content/abstract/78/11/1191?etoc>



MISSION: TO FOSTER PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THAT BUILD ON EACH OTHER'S STRENGTHS AND DEVELOP THEIR ROLES AS CHANGE AGENTS FOR IMPROVING HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION, CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AND THE OVERALL HEALTH OF COMMUNITIES

