Wisconsin County Health Rankings
The 2008 Rankings were released on November 20, 2008. A full listing of all the newspaper, radio, and television coverage is available at http://www.pqhealth.wisc.edu/wpwp/research/rankings_2008/rankings_2008.htm

Catalyst for Action Toward Community Health (CATCH) – CATCH is our Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) funded project to test a low-cost intervention involving the provision of intensive media and technical assistance to counties. We provided special assistance to our 10 intervention counties prior to the statewide release of the Rankings and will be continuing to work with these counties to further disseminate the Rankings and engage community members in health improvement activities.

Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State
The Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State project will have accomplished all of its proposed objectives by the end of the current grant on February 28, 2009. Major accomplishments have been:

- Multiple research Issue Briefs and Brief Reports
- July 2007 Health of Wisconsin Report Card
- February 2008 Opportunities to Make Wisconsin the Healthiest State

For upcoming publications and events include:
- January 2009 What Works: Policies and Programs to Improve Wisconsin's Health and its web-based data base
- January 20-30 2009 Meeting Real Talk, for Real Action: Getting Together for a Healthier Wisconsin

National Opinion Survey on Health and Health Disparities:
- With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, we began national data collection for this survey on November 13, 2008. Data collection is expected to be completed in February 2009.

Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Planning: We are continuing to work closely with the Division of Public Health as they develop the state’s Health Plan for 2020. Bridge Bookie is co-chairing the Data Expert Advisory Group (DEAG) that developed the initial set of recommended priorities and objectives and Patrick Barrington is serving on the Strategic Leadership Team.

Motivating Action Toward Community Health:
We have recently been awarded a $4.9 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a 3-year, 35-month set of activities intended to bring broad population health metrics, solid partnerships, and real incentives to the challenge of mobilizing action toward community health (MATCH). The project’s aims are to stimulate community health improvement by increasing awareness of the multiple determinants of health, identifying best practices for multi-sectoral governance partnerships, and developing frame- and governance models for applying incentives. Our research team will carry out a set of case-based activities with guidance from the National Advisory Committee. These activities will include preparation of National County Health Rankings (based on the Wisconsin model), case studies of multi-sectoral partnerships to improve health, development and analysis of population health metrics and financial models, and identification of best practices for the use of incentives.
Major Accomplishments 2008 Year to Date

• The evaluation group has had significant involvement in providing data for use in the policy development arena in the areas of alcohol problem prevention and control, correctional policy for treatment and diversion for substance abuse, and recovery schools for high school students with substance abuse disorders.

• We have increasingly participated in the past (CDC) level in fatal alcohol syndrome surveillance, and will have an influence on future CDC activities in this area.

• We have expanded our work in partnership with the DPI in the areas of school-based health, with projects focusing on physical fitness and physical activity, and obesity reduction.

• Native American health continues to be a major focus, with expansion of efforts in tribal health programs targeting maternal and child health. Chartiers Fitzgerald recently completed the GLITEC.

• Honoring Our Children 2007 Data Reports (see all sites combined report and 8 tribal site reports.

Major Ongoing Projects

• Wisconsin Partnership Fund – 3 Implementation Grants (Moberg is named partner)

- Adolescent Research Children Urban/Rural Outreach Project with GLITEC (Charlottesville)
- HeartWorks: Reducing Health Disparities in Wisconsin Communities, with DHFS, DHPR, BHRP (Nancy Elf bene as lead UWPHS staff; Nathan Jones)
- NIH-FIT Family with Wisconsin WIC Association (Charlottesville)

• Fatal Alcohol Syndrome prevention and intervention project, funded by the CDC through September 2009.

• Continuing Care for High School Students with Drug Abuse. $210,000 from NIDA, now on no cost extension through June 2009; submission of R01 planned. Paper published in July 2008.

• Paul Moberg serves as Assistant Director for Evaluation for the Institute for Clinical Translational Research (ICTR) funded under the NIH infrastructure Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA).

• Several projects are funded through the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council which target Native American populations. These include the Honoring Our Children (Healthy Start) program, which has been expanded with an urban rural partnership grant—Honoring Our Children Urban/Rural Outreach Project, and a family project, Honoring Our Families. We are also involved in the Tribal Academic Partnership for American Indian Health, and Prevention of Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease in Wisconsin American Indian Children: Assessing Academic-Community Partnership (subsequent to Healthy Children Strong Families)

• Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT), funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), continues to screen large number of patients in primary care—about 40,000 to date. UWPHS is providing the evaluation component.

• Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SP-SIG) is also funded by SAMHSA; UWPHS is providing services to program evaluation services for this large 3 year competitive agreement.

• The Department of Corrections is funding a study of probation and parole revocation in WI and, collaboratively with the Office of Justice Assistance, and the Dept. of Health Services, the Treatment and Diversion Project (TaD).

• Two Physical Activity and Fitness projects funded through the Department of Public Instruction are underway to assess and improve school-based physical activity and fitness programs.
- Evaluation services for Wisconsin’s mental health programs (via DHS) includes implementations of children’s MH assessment tool and children’s well-based MH data entry/surveillance for count programs.

- The Diabetes Quality Improvement Project continues as a long-standing collaborative effort of the institute.
Summary of Programs and Activities, September 2008

Medicaid/BedCare Plus (D. Friedman)
- Selected as one of 12 national grantees in the RWJF state health reform evaluation (SHARE) program, supporting evaluation of BC+ program in partnership with DHFS.
- Awarded DHFS contract to study additional components of BC+, focusing on affordability and crowd-out.
- Assisted team of collaborating faculty and researchers, and initiated project.
- Participating as a member on DHFS Advisory Committee on Pay-for-Performance
- Designed program evaluation plan for BC+ Healthy Lifestyles and assisting DHFS on implementation of health literacy pilot projects.

Governor's Health Quality and Patient Safety Board (A. Bergman, D. Friedman)
- Produced third annual WI Health Implementation Summit: 270 attendees.
- Lead staff in partnership with WI DHFS, on Health Information Privacy and Security Collaborative, focusing on matters relevant to the exchange of electronic health records.
- Compiled an annual survey of health technology adoption and information exchange.

Evidence-Based Health Policy (C. Jenkins, D. Friedman, A. McDonald)
- Produced health policy symposium and forums, along with background materials.

January 2008 Breakfast Briefing: Public Health Preparedness in Wisconsin: Progress and Challenges for State Policy – 52 participants

February 2008 Roundtable Briefing: A Pathway toward Health Care Reform: Exploring Spending, Supply and Health Outcomes, with Elliot Fisher – 44 participants

April 2008 Methods Exchange: with Representative Steve Vierck on healthy lifestyle promotion and Dr. Julian LeGrand, a former health policy advisor to Prime Minister Tony Blair

April 2008 UW La Follette Symposium: Wisconsin Health Care Payment Reform and Pay-for-Performance: How to Promote System Transformation (and What Not to Do) 145 participants

May 2008 Capital Briefing: Sobering News: How We Can Reduces Wisconsin’s Top-Ranked Drinking Problem 85 participants

NMS Survey of Wisconsin Physicians (A. Bergman, C. Jenkins, D. Friedman, K. Krom, A. Utzlin)
- Produced and managed a statewide survey of Wisconsin physicians and Wisconsin medical students about their views on various aspects of health care reform.
- Partnership with WI Survey Research Center, with funding from Wisconsin Medical Society.
- Drafted two articles for publication:
  - Factors that Affect Specialty and Career Choice of Wisconsin Medical Students (submitted to WMD, August 2008)
  - Wisconsin Physicians’ Attitudes and Prioritizes on Major Elements of Health Care Reform (in progress)

Institute Issue Brief Series
- Overall summer review and editing, (D. Friedman)
- Published issue brief on Computer Engagement and Values-Driven Health Care (D. Friedman)
- Drafted brief on Physically Active Kids: How to Grow Healthy, Active Adults (J. Brown)
- ICTR-CAP
- Designated as major partner, with lead responsibility for the health policy component.
- Conducted review of translational research pilot project proposals. Outreach Teaching (D. Friedman)
- Designed and led instruction for Summer Institute class on Health Insurance Coverage and State Health Reform.

Monthly E-News (S. Mierer)
External Affairs (D. Friedsam)
- Represent the Institute with appointments on several government and industry committees including Wisconsin BadgerCare Plus Advisory Committee, WCHQ Aligning Forces for Quality initiative, and the WI Hospital Association Quality Steering Committee.
- Present at the Ripon College Ethic in Healthcare Conference on April 4.

Tribal-Academic Partnership Program (R. Fitzgerald, R. Strickland, D. Friedsam)
- Represent the UW SMPH in partnership with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council and Wisconsin Tribal Health Directors Association.
- Develop and support programs through the Great Lakes Native American Research Centers for Health (GLNARCH).
- Convene the UW Native American Health Working Group.
- Provide policy consultation and technical assistance to tribes and GLoTC.
- Produced the annual American Indian Health & Science Symposium – April 4.
OUTREACH EDUCATION AND TRAINING
Marion Cerozo, MPH, Program Director
December 2008

Seminars/Scheduled:

December 1 Karen Timberlake, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, "Childhood Lead Poisoning, Oral Health and Partnerships for Change: Challenges and Opportunities in Public Health".

December 8 Richard E. Riemerbach, MD, UW SMPH and Donna Freedman, MPH
"WI Physicians’ Attitudes and Positions on Major Elements of Health Care Reform"

April 6, 2000 Barbara Stiefel, Herbert Stiefel, MPH, MPH, Professor, John Hyatt Bloom School of Public Health, Department of Health Policy and Management, Primary Care Policy Center invited, tentative topic: "Patient Centered Medical Home"

May 4, 2000 Jonathan Goberman, PhD, Associate Professor of Social Medicine and Health Policy and Administration, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
"Great Expectations: Health Reform and the Obama Administration"

Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program:
The Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program is a two year public health service and training program that was initiated in 2004 with funding through the Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Farm.

Fellows and Community-Based Training Site Placements:

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<tr>
<th>Fellow</th>
<th>2009-2010</th>
<th>Community Placement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tracy Decker, MPH, St. Louis University School of Public Health</td>
<td>Office of the Administrator, Division of Public Health: analysis of state support for local public health, health policy analysis and program evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simeone Gilchrist, MPH, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health</td>
<td>Madison/Dane County Public Health Department: participatory strategies to address health disparities within communities and the relationship between the built environment and health</td>
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<td>Carrie Heuning-Smith, MSW, MPH, University of Michigan</td>
<td>Milwaukee County Department of Aging: Developing interventions to coordinate the local level with existing health care providers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ananda Salisbury, MPH, University of Illinois-Chicago</td>
<td>Care4U Center (Walker’s Point Community Health Center) and Milwaukee Health Department: men's health building community movement for community health in South Milwaukee</td>
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Fellowship 2008-2010 | Community Placement
---|---
Evan S. Cole, MPH, University of Minnesota | Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Division of Health Access & Accountability: Health Care Policy, Access to Health Care, Chronic Disease
Marjory Gibbon, PhD, MPH, University of California and Rollins School of Public Health | Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Health: Environmental Health
Courtney L. Kessler, MA, Harvard School of Public Health | City of Milwaukee Health Department/Sustainable Task Force on Family Violence: risk, resilience, women’s health and health disparities
Katherine (Kate) M. Kurka, MPH, University of Alabama School of Public Health | Wisconsin Division of Public Health - Western Region, Rural health, reproductive health, emergency preparedness, nutrition and physical activity
Samara J. Perry, MPH, University of Southern Illinois | City of Milwaukee Health Department/March of Dimes: Maternal and child health, health education

Fellowship Highlights:
* Orientation Program: Five-day, in-depth orientation for first and second-year Preceptors and Fellows.
* Training: Monthly meetings with Fellows held at sites across the state. November 2008 focused on Civil and Mental Health and took place at Mendota Mental Health and Access Community Health Center.
* Recruitment: Increased focus on applicants with an expressed interest in career in Wisconsin will increase likelihood of keeping Fellowship graduates in the state.
* Dissemination of Fellows’ Work: Fellows continue to present their work at local, state, national, and international forums. Papers and presentations have spanned issues as diverse as public health financing, addressing health issues of the elderly, AIDS/HIV prevention and community organizing for health.

Health: Wisconsin Leadership Institute: Community Teams Program
- The third, expanded group of seven teams was recruited for the 2008-2009 program year which started in August 2008 with orientation visits to all new teams. The 2008-2009 community teams and their health priorities are:
  - Find the Loe Drug Free Communities Task Force: Underage drinking
  - Healthy Beginnings Dane County: Infant mortality
  - Healthy People Lincoln County: Obesity, physical activity and nutrition
  - Healthy People Wood County: Obesity, physical activity and nutrition
  - Mental Health Intergovernmental Council (Ozaukee County): Access to mental health care
  - Milwaukie County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition: Obesity, physical activity and nutrition
  - Milwaukee Latino Health Coalition: Health care access

Lifelong Learning and Mentoring Program/Health Policy Program
- Coordinating with the Wisconsin Public Health Association on the creation of mentoring opportunities for Wisconsin’s public health workforce.
- Plans for the future include combining the Lifelong Learning and Mentoring Program and the Health Policy Program to encompass all regional workshops.
Plans for upcoming workshops include:

January 15, 2009: Regional Workshop in Milwaukee, in coordination with the Fourth Street Forums. The topic will be: Healthy Birth Outcomes.

May 5, 2009: Pre-WPHS WAEHLDAH conference workshop with statewide audience. The topic will be Conflict Management.

Evaluation Findings

- The Leadership Institute has trained more than 700 public health practitioners statewide to date, and participants report increases in grant funding, improved data collection, media coverage, and broader partnerships.
- In January, the Leadership Institute will contact the first cohort of Community Teams to begin collecting data on longer term community outcomes related to participation in the Leadership Institute’s Community Teams Program.
- In January, 2009, the Leadership Institute will present a one-year proposal to the Wisconsin Partnership Program. There has been very strong support from community members for the continuation and expansion of the Leadership Institute, but initial plans to request resources for expanded programming will likely be put on hold given the economic downturn and subsequent demands on Partnership Program funding.