

**Evaluation Research Unit**  
**Summary of Programs and Activities: October 2009**

**Mental Health Services Evaluation**

1. Evaluation of state-funded children's mental health programs: evaluation of child- and system-level outcomes of 36 programs that use a wraparound, integrated approach to serving children with mental health disorders.
2. State data collection systems: Analyst for improving the design of state mental health data collection systems and analyzing data for prevalence, consumer outcomes, service utilization, and costs.
3. Monitoring and reporting of state mental health indicators for federal reporting: manage and analyze mental health consumer data from multiple state MH data systems to report on the status of the MH system for federal and state reporting purposes. Manage an annual statewide MH consumer satisfaction survey.
4. Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services through the WI DHS, Bureau of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery.

**Health Promotion**

1. FIT WIC-FIT Families: Evaluation of child obesity prevention involving parents, WIC staff, and community partners at Wisconsin WIC Association Projects in six counties. Funded by the Wisconsin Partnership Fund. After one year, children in the intervention group, but not in the comparison group, had increased fruits and vegetables, decreased juice, and decreased screen time. A new grant from the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (formerly known as Food Stamp Education), will continue Fit Families for another year in four counties, with the potential for future expansion.
2. Wisconsin Partnership for Childhood Fitness: Consultation, evaluation and research regarding school-based fitness assessment and programming, in collaboration with Dept. of Pediatrics. Funded by the Wisconsin Partnership Fund.

**Health Care Systems Evaluation**

1. Wisconsin Collaborative Diabetes Quality Improvement Project: Evaluation/QI program with Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures for diabetes care, cardiovascular care, cancer screening, and asthma care from Wisconsin HMO Collaborators. Funded by CDC via WI Diabetes Prevention and Control Program.
2. Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA), UW Institute for Clinical Translational Research (ICTR): Articulating and implementing the program evaluation plan for the UW's NIH infrastructure grant, overseeing the work of Jan Hogle, Ph.D. who is coordinating this evaluation at ICTR. Paul Moberg is ICTR's Assistant Director for Evaluation.
3. Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program Integration: Working with Wisconsin DHS to evaluate federally-sponsored efforts to integrate chronic disease services. Funded by the CDC as part of a multi-site program.

**Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment**

1. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention and Intervention Project: CDC funded surveillance and brief intervention program ended Sept. 29. Final report and articles under preparation.
2. Continuing Care for High School Students with Drug Abuse: Paul Moberg's R21 grant from NIDA ended; now in final stages of completion of final report and preparation of articles. Results presented at regional meeting early in October and national conference late October.

NIDA R01 and Dept. of Education IES proposals were submitted in October in collaboration with investigators at Vanderbilt and Univ. of Minnesota for further work in this area.

3. Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT) project, known as the Wisconsin Initiative to Promote Healthy Lifestyles (WIPHL) – continuing six-month follow-up with patients to determine how the program may have changed their lifestyle. Completed a qualitative study of implementation in primary care; results were presented at the program’s biannual meeting in October. Funded by SAMHSA.
4. Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentives Grant (SPF-SIG). Working with the state DHS-DMHSAS and 20 local programs on a wide range of epidemiological and evaluation tasks related to community-based substance abuse prevention efforts. Adding South Dakota site under direction of Doug Piper, PhD, newly hired staff scientist. Funded by SAMHSA.
5. Evaluation of Victim Impact Panels: Using a natural experiment, we assessed whether participation by 2<sup>nd</sup> offense OWI offenders reduces recidivism. Article under preparation. Funded by the Department of Transportation using Federal Highway Safety Funds.

### **American Indian Partnership Projects**

1. Honoring Our Children (HOC): Ongoing evaluation of MCH indicators and program services for a Healthy Start Project that provides outreach, health education, case management and consortia building to reduce infant mortality in 8 tribal communities. Funded by HRSA, DHHS via Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC).
2. Honoring Our Families: Evaluation of a Healthy Marriage Initiative that offers focus groups, case management, curricula, workshops, and mentoring to support healthy family relationships. Funded by the Administration for Native Americans via GLITC.
3. HOC Urban/Rural Outreach Project: Evaluation of HOC expansion to increase project staff at existing sites and establish a Milwaukee site. Funded by the Wisconsin Partnership Fund.
4. Tribal Academic Partnership: Evaluation technical assistance for the Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health, other GLITC programs, and individual tribal health programs. Funded by UWSMPH.
5. Healthy Children Strong Families/Supportive Communities: Evaluation consultation for a child obesity prevention program in three tribal communities. The process evaluation includes a survey to assess the community based participatory research component. Funded by NHLBI and Wisconsin Partnership Fund via Family Medicine, with Alex Adams, MD, PI.

### **Corrections and Drug Court**

1. Sawyer County OWI Diversion and Monitoring: Providing technical assistance to the Sawyer County Department of Health and Human Services in the evaluation of a program providing intensive supervision for second and subsequent OWI offenders (in progress)
2. Evaluation of Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Programs: Process and outcome evaluation of the seven-site WI Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program funded by Wisconsin Department of Corrections, WI Department of Health Services, and the WI Office of Justice Assistance; includes database development and implementation, collection of electronic outcomes data, and preparation and release of annual report of criminal recidivism outcomes.
3. Study of Probation/Parole Revocation in Wisconsin: Policy and practice evaluation of probation and parole revocation due to technical violation, including best practices review, aggregate analysis of historical data, case-level abstraction of narrative data, analysis of racial disparities in revocation, and policy recommendations for reducing revocation;

collaboration with the Justice Reinvestment Initiative conducted by the Council of State Governments. The report was released in June 2009 and has been widely disseminated both externally and internally within DOC. Multiple presentations of policy findings and recommendations to the Governor's Racial Disparities Oversight Commission, statewide regional probation and parole chiefs, and all state prison wardens and correctional center superintendents.

4. **New Project:** Milwaukee Offender Reentry Project: Process and outcome evaluation of comprehensive prisoner reentry project to link returning inmates to substance abuse and mental health treatment upon release. A three-year project in collaboration with the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division and funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. (begins Fall 2009)

### **Health Disparities**

“What Works: Reducing Health Disparities in Wisconsin Communities.” Three-year, collaborative project with DHFS, funded through the Wisconsin Partnership Fund. The goal of the project is to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority communities in Wisconsin. Our strategies include identifying and disseminating information about evidence-based practices with potential for improving health in these communities and recognizing, developing and supporting promising practices already underway.

### **Internal and External Service Work Performed by Evaluation Team**

- Board of Governors for the UW-ICTR (ex officio)
- CTSA National Consortium--Evaluation Key Function Committee
- Department of Corrections Earned Release Program Oversight Committee
- Department of Corrections Prisoner Reentry Initiative
- Governor's Policy Steering Committee for WIPHL
- Honoring Our Children Project Advisory Committee
- Native American Health Working Group
- Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center (U of Iowa)
- Prevention Committee of the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse
- Secure Public Health Electronic Record Environment (SPHERE) Lead Team
- Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program Advisory Committee
- UW Medical Education and Research Committee
- Wisconsin Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Statewide Task Force
- Wisconsin Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Steering Committee
- WI Association of Treatment Court Professionals
- WI Medicaid Pay for Performance Tobacco Cessation Advisory Group
- WI Partnership Program Evaluation Implementation Committee

## **Health Policy Unit**

### **Summary of Programs and Activities: October 2009**

#### **Medicaid/BadgerCare Plus**

- Continue as one of 12 national grantees in the RWJF state health reform evaluation (SHARE) program, supporting evaluation of BC+ program in partnership with DHS.
  - Continue DHS contract to study affordability and crowd-out on BC+.
  - Presented poster at Pop Health 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium
  - Presented at Academy Health Annual Research Meeting.
  - Abstract accepted to APPAM for November conference.
  - Abstract accepted for HSR special supplement.
- Submitted proposal to evaluate Childless Adults Core Plan Coverage. Proposal funded for a five year project.
- Hired Kristen Voskuil as new researcher/data manager.
- Completed RWJF SHARE issue brief, currently in publication.

#### **Evidence-Based Health Policy**

- Prepared and submitted successful funding renewal proposal to Partnership Fund. Support renewed, with matching Chancellor support, for three years, at a 20% reduction.
- Programs for fall:
  - October 8: Paying for Effectiveness: What are Wisconsin Purchasers Doing?
  - Dates TBD: Infant Mortality Forum and Briefing on Scope of Practice
- Program Coordinator, Liz Feder, began September 1.

#### **Wisconsin Medical Society Consulting**

- Final manuscript published in September issue of *WMJ: Wisconsin Physicians' Attitudes and Positions on Major Elements of Health Care Reform*
- Initiated work on 18-month consulting contract focusing on payment reform

#### **Institute Issue Brief Series** Overall content review and editing.

- Completed re-design of format and transfer of publishing to Media Solutions.
- Complete:
  - Clare O'Connor and Paul Stiegler. *Out-of-Hospital Sudden Cardiac Arrests: Advancing the Use of Cardiocerebral Resuscitation (CCR) to Improve Survival*
  - Tim Connor and Anne Ziege. *Co-Occurring Mental and Physical Health Conditions in Wisconsin: Implications for Health Care Delivery*
- In editing: Tiffany Diage. *Menu Calorie Postings in Restaurants, Policy Intervention to Treat and Prevent Obesity*

#### **ICTR-CAP**

- Designated as major partner, with lead responsibility for the health policy component.
- Presented to the External Advisory Board of Northwestern University's CTSA Community-Engaged Research Center (CERC).

#### **Monthly E-News:** Emma Hynes now drafting.

**External Affairs** 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.

#### **Tribal-Academic Partnership Program**

- Represent the UW SMPH in partnership with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council and Wisconsin Tribal Health Directors Association.
- Entered into contractual partnership with UW's new Collaborative

## **Education and Training Unit**

### **Summary of Programs and Activities: October 2009**

#### **First Monday Seminars**

- October 5**            **Thomas Oliver, PhD, MHA**, Professor of Population Health Sciences and Associate Director for Health Policy, UW Population Health Institute (co-sponsored by the UW Population Health Institute), *“Health Care Reform in 2009: You Can’t Always Get What You Want”*
- November 2**        **James Cleary, MB, BS (MD), FRACP, FACHPM**, University of Wisconsin Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center, *Palliative Care and Public Health*
- December 7**        **Paul Moberg, PhD**, Research Professor, Department of Population Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (co-sponsored by the UW Population Health Institute), *“The Social Epidemiology of Alcohol Use and Related Problems in Wisconsin”*

#### **Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute**

Created in 2005 to develop collaborative leaders who engage in innovative community health improvement activities that effectively protect and promote the health of the public. The Leadership Institute has reached over 800 practitioners to date with its programming.

**Seven teams graduated from the Community Teams Program in September, 2009.** Below is a list of teams and the project each chose to complete during their year-long participation in the Program:

- **Healthy People Wood County, *Fit-tastic***: This team piloted an after school wellness program developed with evidence based research. Their after school program not only showed early promise in terms of increasing physical fitness and healthy eating, but also led to additional funding for the group. Their program will be repeated in the spring. They are refining a tool kit, which will hopefully take the program district-wide.
- **Milwaukee County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition**: This team project focused on evidenced-based practices around role modeling of healthy behaviors by parents, caregivers, and other youth in order to address the childhood obesity epidemic. The Coalition developed and piloted an evidence based online role modeling action guide and training module for increasing physical activity and healthy eating. They created a 3-year strategic plan to promote the guide and secure additional funding for the project.
- **Fond du Lac Drug Free Communities Task Force**: This team successfully piloted a policy of requiring wristbands at the county fair to reduce underage drinking and will continue to work on influencing county wide policies at fairs and festivals.
- **The Milwaukee Latino Health Coalition**: This team is creating a Community Action Coalition to build greater local leadership for health among the Latino community in Milwaukee and establishing foundation for future community based participatory research in collaboration with academic partners
- Lincoln County
- **Healthy People Lincoln County: Obesity, Physical Activity and Nutrition**: This team undertook a difficult and in many communities controversial effort of measuring and recording BMIs for all K-12 students in the county. Despite challenges, the team will now be in a position to disseminate data and encourage decision makers to take action.
- **Mental Health Inter-Agency Council (Oneida County)**: This team has built a strong base and created an action plan to address a large systems change project; coordination of mental health

services in rural, and underserved areas county-wide (including access and delivery ). They especially seek to improve child and adolescent services.

- **Healthy Beginnings Dane County:** In order to address Infant mortality, this team has organized and held two major community events to mobilize increased coordination of services and advocacy for policies that help families thrive and ultimately improve birth outcomes. From this ground work, they hope to launch an ongoing collaborative effort to protect and enhance healthy birth outcomes.

**Consistent with gains found in previous cohorts, these teams reported building their capacity to drive improvements in community health through:**

- more robust and effective coalitions;
- formation of advocacy groups;
- increased delivery of services;
- new programs established (e.g., worksite farmer's markets, walking school bus, pilot alcohol prevention program);
- more media coverage of priority health issues;
- grant awards received;
- dissemination of tools and resources to community coalitions.

**Nine new teams joined the 2009-2010 cohort of the HWLI Community Teams Program.** Each team completed an orientation/site visit during August -September and attended a 2-day workshop in early October. Teams include:

- **Challenge Chippewa; Chippewa County**  
*Overweight, obesity, and physical activity*
- **Healthy Lifestyles; Calumet County**  
*Nutrition and physical activity*
- **Eau Claire Childhood Nutrition Coalition; Eau Claire County**  
*Expand current community initiatives and resources aimed at improving nutritional and physical activity habits of Eau Claire County Children*
- **Greater Green Bay Cancer Network; Green Bay**  
*Cancer-access to care*
- **Green Lake Area Health & Wellness Coalition; Green Lake County**  
*Prevention of overweight and obesity*
- **Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health; Milwaukee Hmong Community**  
*Increasing the rates of cervical cancer screening*
- **Urban Indian Wellness Consortium; Milwaukee**  
*Health disparities among American Indians living in off-reservation/urban settings of Milwaukee*
- **Polk county Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition; Polk County**  
*Obesity, overweight and related chronic disease*
- **Tobacco-Free & Drug-Free Communities Coalition of Winnebago County; Winnebago County**  
*Tobacco use and exposure, alcohol and other substance use, abuse and addiction*

### **Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program**

The Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program is a two-year public health service learning program to contribute to workforce development in Wisconsin by training the next generation of public health professionals.

In the 2009 program evaluation, Preceptors described contributions of the program as follows:

- provides an opportunity for recent graduates and young professional to develop their public health skills
- provides an opportunity for agencies to work with a young talented health professionals
- builds the public health workforce in Wisconsin

Both Fellows and Preceptors named specific contributions Fellows had made during their time in the program, including:

#### **Analytic/Assessment**

- An analysis and report on financing of public health in Wisconsin
- A community needs assessment and report for the Susan G. Komen Foundation that has been utilized to guide strategic planning, grantmaking and policy work around breast cancer awareness
- A county-wide community health assessment report for the newly merged Madison and Dane County health department.
- A baseline index of wellness for older adults in Milwaukee County

#### **Policy Development/Program Planning**

- An infant mortality white paper produced for the Wisconsin Partnership Program
- A curriculum for health promoters for a Latino health organization in Milwaukee
- A three-day staff training on program planning and evaluation
- National Center on Senior Transportation Demonstration Grant Proposal

#### **Communication Activity**

- A powerpoint presentation on the quality improvement process as part of a Robert Wood Johnson multi-state learning collaborative with local health departments
- Two seminars presented at the in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health on health and place
- An article on strength training for flexibility, for the *Aurora Freedom 55+* newsletter

#### **Cultural Competency/Community Dimensions of Practice Activity**

- Internal review and report developed for the Wisconsin Department of Human Services Minority Health/Health Equity program
- Participatory photo mapping projects that lead to community-driven policy recommendations for changes in the built environment
- Community-based Wellness Council created in collaboration with older individuals in the Milwaukee Community
- Connecting Caring Communities project launched in the Amani neighborhood in Milwaukee. This nationwide initiative aims to enhance older adults' ability to continue to live in and contribute to their neighborhoods

#### **Financial Planning and Management Activity**

- Successful grant application for funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation created the opportunity for Wisconsin to participate in a multi-state learning collaborative on accreditation of local public health departments

#### **Leadership and Systems Thinking Skills**

- Participation in the response to H1N1

### Fellows and Community-Based Training Site Placements:

Class	Fellow	Community Service	Current Position	Location
<b>1 (04-06)</b>	Alison Gustafson	Dane Co. Health Dept.	Student	U. North Carolina
	<b>Benjamin Jones*</b>	<b>Milwaukee Health Dept.(MHD)</b>	<b>Epidemiologist</b>	<b>Waukesha Co. Health Dept.</b>
<b>2 (05-07)</b>	Deannah Byrd	MHD/American Cancer Soc.	Student	UCLA
	David Garcia	MHD/	Outreach	Seattle CBO
	Matthew Landis	Division of Public Health	Student	U. Minnesota Law School
	PaChia Vue	La Crosse Co. Health Dept.	Wellness Coordinator	Minneapolis (Wellness org.)
<b>3 (06-08)</b>	Morgan Alexander-Young	MHD	Researcher	U. Illinois Chicago
	<b>Casey Schumann*</b>	<b>Division of Public Health</b>	<b>Epidemiologist</b>	<b>Division of Public Health</b>
	Sabrina Smiley	MHD/Planned Parenthood	Student	Howard U. -D.C.
	<b>Jessica Tobin*</b>	<b>Center for Resilient Cities</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Campus Community Partnerships for Health</b>
	<b>Melissa Olson*</b>	<b>Southern Regional Office - DPH</b>	<b>Epidemiologist</b>	<b>Division of Public Health</b>
<b>4 (07-09)</b>	<b>Traici Brockman*</b>	<b>Division of Public Health</b>	Primary Care Specialist	<b>Wisconsin DHS, Office of Policy and Practice Alignment</b>
	<b>Suzanne Gaulocher*</b>	<b>Public Health Madison/Dane</b>	PhD student	<b>UW-Madison</b>
	Carrie Henning-Smith	Milwaukee Co. Dept on Aging/S.E.T. Ministry	ESL Teacher	Shanghai, China
	Amanda Schultz	MHD/Core El Centro/Walker's Point Clinic	Volunteer	Central American Solar Energy Project – Orocuina, Honduras
<b>5 (08-10)</b>	Evan Cole	Div. Healthcare Access and Accountability		
	Marjory Givens	Division of Public Health		
	Courtenay Kessler	MHD/Task Force on Family Violence		
	Kate Konkle	Western Regional Office - DPH		
	Samantha Perry	MHD/March of Dimes		
<b>6 (09-11)</b>	Sara Kazmierczak	DPH/Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association		
	Raisa Koltun	MHD/Core El Centro		
	Marisa Stanley	DPH		

\* Working in Wisconsin post completion of Fellowship

## **Population Health Assessment Unit**

### **Summary of Programs and Activities: October 2009**

#### **Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH)**

The MATCH project is well underway with the addition of key staff members (Julie Willems Van Dijk, former Marathon County Health Officer, and Kirstin Siemerling from WI AHEC) and several new graduate students. Significant progress has been towards compiling data for the February 2010 release of the new County Health Rankings in all 50 states. These Rankings will be based on the “Wisconsin Model of Population Health.” A “starter” web site is available at [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org) providing introductory information about the Rankings. Contacts have been made with state health departments in all 50 states and plans are developing to form a Rankings Rollout Team in each state. The Institute is working closely with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and their consultants on implementing a comprehensive communications plan for the release.

In addition, 23 essays were commissioned addressing on one of three broad population health improvement topics: metrics, partnerships, and incentives. The authors of these essays were recently invited to Madison for a 2-day meeting to discuss lessons learned and next steps toward identifying population health metrics, solid partnerships, and real incentives for community health improvement.

#### **Wisconsin County Health Rankings**

Preparations for the 2009 Rankings are moving along well – the Rankings will include the MATCH measures and additional Wisconsin-specific measures.

#### **Catalysts for Action Toward Community Health (CATCH)**

This Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) funded project is coming to a close. A survey is currently in the field in the 10 intervention and 10 control counties to determine whether the project has had any impact on building awareness of the multiple determinants of health and catalyzing action toward community health improvement. Preliminary results show that the media assistance phase during the release of the 2008 County Rankings led to a significant increase in media coverage among the 10 intervention counties. In addition, as part of the project, UWPHI has assisted Jackson County in developing its own community health assessment and in initiating a community health improvement process.

#### **Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State**

The third Healthiest State publication, [\*What Works: Policies and Programs to Improve Wisconsin's Health\*](#), was recently disseminated to about 1000 individuals in organizations across the state. Preliminary response has been very positive. The supporting database is now available at [www.whatworksforhealth.wisc.edu](http://www.whatworksforhealth.wisc.edu). Over the course of the next year, we will be working on publishing an updated version of the Health of Wisconsin Report Card, enhancing and disseminating the online What Works for Health database, adding new programs as they are identified as well as updating evidence of their effectiveness; where available, adding evidence of the relative cost effectiveness of those programs and policies, and enhancing community engagement activities including collaboration with the development of the *2020 Wisconsin State Health Plan*, integration with other UW Population Health Institute activities, and development of a more comprehensive statewide communications strategy.

#### **National Opinion Survey on Health and Health:**

This study is designed to increase understanding of general knowledge and attitudes about health and health disparities, and to determine which socioeconomic policy areas are viewed as important for improving health and reducing health disparities. An initial paper is under review at *Health Affairs* and other publications are in development.