

UWPHI Health Policy Group

D. Friedsam, Programs Director; T. DeLeire, Faculty Director
Summary of Programs and Activities: February 2012

Medicaid/BadgerCare

- Submitted two new reports related to BadgerCare Core Plan, under HRSA SHAP funding:
 - [Report #1: Evaluation of Wisconsin's BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Adults without Dependent Children: How Does Coverage of Childless Adults Affect Their Utilization?](#)
 - [Report #2: Evaluation of Wisconsin's BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Adults without Dependent Children: The Utility of the Health Needs Assessment \(HNA\)](#)
- Paper accepted for publication:
 - DeLeire T, Leininger L, Dague L, Mok S, Friedsam D. Wisconsin's Experience with Medicaid Auto-Enrollment: Lessons for Other States. *Medicare & Medicaid Research Review*. Forthcoming, 2012.
- Two papers published: [HSR special supplement](#) and [NBER](#).
- Published [RWJF Issue Brief on ACCESS](#) on-line applicants and impact on take-up.
- Conducted two presentations at November 2011 APPAM meeting.
- Submitted two abstracts for Academy Health 2012 Annual Research Meeting.
- Consulted with DHS on design and evaluation of medical homes pilot program to improve birth outcomes.

Evidence-Based Health Policy

- [Produced briefings in partnership with Wisconsin Legislative Council:](#)
 - [Policy Innovations in Mental Health and Corrections: Do they lower rates of recidivism? Can they improve mental health outcomes? Reduce state corrections or health care expenditures?](#)
 - [Private Sector Employer Innovations in Health Care Financing and Delivery: Do they translate to a broader population? Can they improve community wellness? Reduce state health expenditures?](#)
 - [Public Policy and Accountable Care Organizations](#)
- Developing on-line class for Wisconsin Center for Public Health Education and Training (WICPHET) on the use of evidence in policy making. Phase I (for PH professionals in the field) will begin during the spring. Phase II (for students) will be developed at a later point.

Healthcare Quality and Disparities in Outcomes

- Completed report:
 - [How do Medicaid, Medicare, and Commercial Insurance Vary in Community-Level Performance? Using Claims Data from the Wisconsin Health Information Organization \(WHIO\) to Assess Variation in Population Health Processes, November 2011.](#)
- Presented webinar to WHIO monthly users group.

New Research and Funding

- Awarded [grant from the Partnership Fund](#) to support Medicaid Medical Homes research.
- Submitted a grant proposal to the RWJF Health Care Financing and Organization (HCFO) program to study the labor market impact of public coverage for formerly uninsured adults.
- Selected as one of 10 participants in Public Health Institute HIA capacity building, sponsored by the Health Impact Project (a collaboration of RWJF and Pew Charitable Trusts); Now eligible for further support for HIA implementation. Collaborating with DHS HIA staff.

- Funded as Academic Partner with ABC for Rural Health on “Polk County Behavioral Health Access Audit” by the UW Partnership Fund.

Institute Issue Brief Series Overall content review and editing.

- Published:
 - *Online Application for Medicaid and BadgerCare: How Efficient Relative to Other Application Venues?*
 - *Increasing Wisconsin's Beer Tax: Would It Improve the State's Health? At What Cost?*
 - *Health Impact Assessment: Improved Policy-Making or Barrier to Economic Development?*
 - *Tractor Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS): How to Reduce Wisconsin's Farm Death and Injury*
 - *Zoning? Supermarkets? Farms and Gardens?: Improving Access to Healthy Affordable Food*
- Completing drafting of Brief on Wisconsin physician supply and workforce needs.

External Affairs

- Conducted two sets of grant reviews for DHHS HRSA.
- Served on the WCHQ Aligning Forces for Quality Leadership Team and UW Health ACO Task Force
- Serve on Northwestern University CTSA’s Community Engagement Research Center (CERC), External Advisory Committee
- Participating in National CTSA Health Policy Working Group

SMPH/MPH Program Teaching

- (Friedsam) Conducted annual summer course: [PHS 650 State Level Health System and Coverage Reform](#)
- (Feder) Lectured and conducted a lab for the Principles of Public Health class focusing on 1): the state of the field regarding the use of evidence in policymaking and, 2): how different institutional imperatives lead academics and legislators to different approaches for setting priorities, assessing evidence quality, and communicating.
- (Feder) Participated in the UWSMPH Integrated Cases for M-2 students. Co-led a “content” group and a “tool” group which included preparing and taking students to the Capitol for legislative appointments.

Monthly E-News: Produced with graduate student, Colleen Moran.

ICTR-CAP

- Designated as major partner, with lead responsibility for the health policy component.
- Participated as reviewer of Type 2 research and community-collaboration grant proposals.

Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) Group

B. Booske Catlin, Program Director; P. Remington, Faculty Director

Summary of Programs and Activities: February 2012

Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH)

The third release of the national [County Health Rankings](#) will take place on April 3, 2012. The original MATCH project is nearing its April 30, 2012 end with a long list of accomplishments. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has indicated that it will continue to fund the *Rankings* and negotiations are underway for a new grant to begin May 1, 2012 with Pat Remington and Bridget Booske Catlin as Co-Principal Investigators.

County Health Roadmaps (formerly MATCH Center)

The *County Health Roadmaps* project, funded by RWJF, (lead by Bridget Booske Catlin, Director, and Julie Willems Van Dijk, Deputy Director) includes several efforts to build connections with local communities and national partners and leaders, including

- grants to coalitions across the U.S. that are working to improve the health of people in their communities (with a new Call for Proposals to be released at the end of February 2012);
- grants to national organizations to activate local leaders and affiliates to improve health (the first went to United Way Worldwide);
- the *Roadmaps to Health Prize* to recognize communities taking action whose promising efforts will likely lead to better health (the Call for Applications will be announced on April 3 along with the release of the 2012 *County Health Rankings*, and
- the *Roadmaps to Health Action Center* with tools and resources to help groups working to improve the health of people in their communities (the new and improved *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* website will be available on April 3).

Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State

Activities include:

- Ongoing updates to the [What Works for Health](#) database
- The development of a new report monitoring trends in key indicators of Wisconsin's health, and
- Conducting a series of "bright spots" interviews in communities around Wisconsin that have strong, diverse health improvement activities underway. These interviews will include meetings with leaders from business, community development, urban planning, and education, as these types of leaders have been involved with health care and public health leaders in successful community coalitions

Community Health Assessments and Community Health Improvement Plans

Working on 2 projects addressing Wisconsin practices around community health assessments and community health improvement plans – one funded via a grant to the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards from the Wisconsin Partnership Program, the other funded by a grant to the Wisconsin Public Health Practice-Based Research Network.

The MATCH group is collaborating with the Wisconsin Hospital Association to hold a conference titled "Community Benefit for Health Improvement: Hospital, Public Health and Community Partnerships," March 23, The Kalahari, Wisconsin Dells.

[Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute \(HWLI\)](#)

HWLI received a record number of applications for the 2011-2012 Community Teams Program. The selection committee (a subgroup of the Advisory Committee) had the difficult task of narrowing the applicants down to seven teams. The teams participating this year are:

- **The Beloit LIHF Team** is applying the Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families model of evidence-based interventions to reduce pre-term births and decrease racial disparities in birth outcomes for African Americans in Beloit.
- **The Central Wisconsin Health Partnerships Team** is working toward better access to mental and behavioral health services in central Wisconsin through increasing effective, early behavioral health intervention for underserved and unserved populations.
- **The CHIPP Team** is working to increase capacity around Wisconsin to support local communities in conducting effective community health improvement plans and processes (CHIPP).
- **The Fostering Futures Team** is focusing on creating a plan to improve family stability by integrating trauma-informed care principles into the care, organizations and systems that affect the roughly 6,500 Wisconsin children in foster care.
- **The Healthier Douglas County Team** is focusing on obesity prevention through environmental and policy changes that will encourage healthier physical activity and eating choices.
- **The Healthy People Wisconsin-Oneida Tribe Team** is working to increase utilization of health services, screening opportunities, and preventive community resources to create change in Oneida community health, wellness and lifestyle.
- **The Sexually Transmitted Diseases Reduction Task Force Team** is developing a community-wide strategic plan to reduce cases of STDs among youth ages 15-24 in Winnebago County.

HWLI is planning an Alumni Event for April 2012 (date and location TBD). The event will include a learning and skill building session as well as time for teams to network and share successes.

[Wisconsin Population Health Service Program](#)

Recruits and deploys public health professionals to work for public health and community-based organizations throughout the state of Wisconsin. 2011-2013 Fellows and placement sites are:

- **Akbar Husain**– Western Regional Office of the Division of Public Health, Eau Claire.
- **Emma Hynes** – Maternal and Child Health Program, DPH
- **Rashonda Jones** – Milwaukee Health Department
- **Anneke Mohr** (MPH, MSW, Washington University, St. Louis) – STD Control Branch, Bureau of Communicable Diseases, DPH /Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center.
- **Daniella Uslan**– WI Public Health Preparedness Program DPH/Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative.
- **Tyler Weber**– Milwaukee Health Department

[First Monday Seminar Series \(Health Sciences Learning Center – Room 1309 unless otherwise specified\)](#)

February 6 Timothy M. Smeeding, PhD, Director, Institute for Research on Poverty, *"Economic Self-Sufficiency, Complex Families and the Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty."*

March 5 Speaker Pending.

April 9 Speaker Pending.

May 7 Camara Jones, MD, MPH, PhD, CDC Research Director on Social Determinants of Health and Equity, *"Achieving Health Equity: Frameworks to Guide and Mobilize Action."* Room 1325 HSLC.

UWPHI Evaluation Research Group

D. Paul Moberg, Program and Faculty Director

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

1. [SBIRT - Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment](#)

Conducting six-month follow-up of patients and an economic analysis of SBIRT services provided to Medicaid, in partnership with I Initiative to Promote Healthy Lifestyles (WIPHL). Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through DHS.

2. [SPF-SIG - Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentives Grant](#)

Working with WI DHS-DMHSAS and 20 local programs on a wide range of epidemiological and evaluation tasks related to community-based substance abuse prevention efforts. A similar evaluation of South Dakota's SPF-SIG site is underway. Funded by SAMHSA through state agencies.

3. **Mental Health Services Evaluation**

Collaborating with DHS on its ongoing statewide evaluations of the mental health service system examining client satisfaction, client outcomes, service utilization, and program effectiveness. Major projects include redesign of the State public mental health data system, monitoring statewide trends in the use of the mental health system, and evaluation of client and system-level outcomes in children's mental health programs that use a wraparound, integrated approach. Funded by the SAMHSA through DHS.

4. **Recovery Schools Research**

Since 1993, evaluating alternative high school programs for students in recovery from substance abuse. Funded by NIH- NIDA and the Department of Education.

MCH HEALTH DISPARITY-RELATED PROGRAMS

1. [Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families Evaluation](#)

Coordinating evaluation activities for a major multi-year initiative to reduce African American infant mortality in four communities in south east/central WI, sponsored by the WI Partnership Program.

2. **Honoring Our Children and HOC Doula Project**

Ongoing since 1999, evaluating Healthy Start initiative to reduce infant mortality and improve maternal and child health in 8 Wisconsin Tribal communities. For more recent Honoring Our Children Doula Project, assessing maternal and child health outcomes for a community based project that provides Doula support and birthing assistance to first-time mothers in 4 Tribal communities. Funded by HRSA via GLITC.

3. **Home Visiting Programs**

Evaluating program implementation and outcomes in 5 Tribal Communities. Using Healthy Families America model with at-risk families to improve maternal and child health, school readiness, economic self-sufficiency, prevent child maltreatment and domestic violence. Funded by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families via GLITC and the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS/SERVICES

1. [WI Collaborative Diabetes Quality Improvement Project](#)

Tracking progress on HEDIS[®] measures for comprehensive diabetes care from WI HMO Collaborators. Summarize and report data for cardiovascular care, cancer screening, asthma care, arthritis, and tobacco control. Funded by CDC via WI DHS Diabetes Prevention and Control Program.

2. **WI Chronic Disease Program Integration**

Working with WI DHS to evaluate federally-sponsored efforts to integrate chronic disease services. Funded by the CDC as part of a multi-site program.

3. [ICTR - Institute for Clinical Translational Research](#)

Leading the evaluation for the UW's NIH infrastructure grant. Moberg serves as ICTR's Director for Evaluation.

4. [Wisconsin Public Health Infrastructure Improvement](#)

Evaluating a five-year CDC-funded effort to systematically increase the performance management capacity of public health departments.

HEALTH PROMOTION: CHILDHOOD FITNESS

1. **WI Partnership for Childhood Fitness**
Attained second phase funding with a goal of reducing disparities in fitness in 50 schools in WI. Collaboration with Dept. of Pediatrics and WI DPI. Funded by the WI Partnership Fund.
2. **FIT Families**
Evaluating child obesity prevention program targeting parents of 2 to 4 year old children at 9 Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Projects in Wisconsin. Funded by USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education via the La Crosse County Health Department .
3. **Active Schools Evaluation (ARRA)**
Assisting DPH and DPI in evaluation of school-based efforts to increase physical activity among children in 20 schools throughout WI).

CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONAL HEALTH

1. **Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program (TAD)**
Evaluating nine WI counties that divert non-violent offenders from jail/prison into substance abuse treatment. Collaboration among the WI DOC, DHS, and the Office of Justice Assistance (2006-2014). [Report](#) submitted to the legislature in December 2011 confirming that TAD delivers \$1.93 in reduced incarceration for every \$1 spent. Evaluation extended for an three years to include two additional sites.
2. **Milwaukee Offender Reentry**
Providing technical assistance with program implementation, liaison between DOC and Milwaukee County, data collection design, instrumentation design, data collection and management, and preparation of semi-annual reports and continuing application materials for submission to SAMHSA. Funded by SAMHSA (2009-2012), with offender re-entry case management services, substance abuse treatment and employment support.
3. **Collaboration with the WI Office of Justice Assistance**
Providing technical assistance to the Office of Justice Assistance in the development and implementation of a web-based reporting system for 16 misdemeanor diversion and youthful offender programs in Wisconsin. Funded with ARRA funds through the Office of Justice Assistance (2011-2012)
4. **Outagamie County Mental Health Court**
Assist Outagamie County in the development of a database system to document the development, implementation, and participant characteristics of a mental health treatment court (2011-2013).
5. **Sawyer County Traffic Offender Program (STOP)**
Evaluated the provision of intensive supervision for offenders charged with repeat drunken driving (2009-2011). Provided database development, preparation of reports to WI DOT, recidivism data.
6. **Study of Wisconsin Probation and Parole Revocation**
Collaborated with the Wisconsin DOC examine patterns in probation/parole revocation of offenders admitted to prison without a new sentence/offense. Results include recidivism findings, analyses of agent decisions to file for revocation of probation/parole, an examination of racial disparities in revocation, and recommendations for system and departmental policy and practice improvement.

PROGRAM EVALUATION SHARED SERVICE

Developing, with seed money from the Collaborative Center for Health Equity, shared service providing program evaluation services to internal UW programs and external partners. Services offered include program planning and evaluation design, analysis of evaluative data sets, assistance in grant applications, training presentations on program evaluation, and conduct of program evaluations using the full range of evaluation methods and approaches as relevant to the needs of the client.