UWPHI Health Policy Group  
D. Friedsam, Programs Director  
Summary of Programs and Activities: June 2014

PPACA Implementation (Friedsam)
- Designated Field Researcher and Lead Medicaid Specialist by the Rockefeller Institute of Government/Brookings Institute national study of ACA implementation
- Presented findings from Wisconsin field report and national Medicaid expansion review to ACA implementation conference convened by the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania.
- Invited member of Wisconsin Medicaid Director’s Strategic Working Group for Medicaid Transition and ACA Enrollment, and leading the working on measurement and evaluation.
- Contracted advisor to UW Extension on health care access, coverage, and ACA implementation.
- Serve as Project Director and Principal Investigator for Wisconsin Covering Kids and Families, providing policy and strategic direction and oversight.
- Tracking the impact of the ACA in Milwaukee County and producing the Milwaukee enrollment and coverage report, with support from the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership

Medicaid/BadgerCare (Voskuil, Friedsam, Burns, and other collaborators)
- Completed work under Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2012 SHARE funding of two grants:
  - Planning for Coverage Expansion: How Insurance Coverage of Low-Income Childless Adults Will Affect Health Care Utilization
  - Informing Medicaid Program Design for Low-Income Childless Adults: The Promise of Self-Reported Health Measures
- Prepared and submitted proposal, in collaboration with Dr. Marguerite Burns, for next round of RWJF SHARE funding for a project titled The effects of extending parity for behavioral health care to adult Medicaid beneficiaries
- Conducting study under DHS procurement call to evaluate Wisconsin’s 2012 federal waivers for changes to BadgerCare Plus and Core Plan.
- Continued evaluation and Milwaukee-area site visits for the Medicaid medical homes pilot program to improve birth outcomes. Completed component funded by a grant from the Partnership Fund, and submitted interim report to DHS. Initiated next phase funded by the Department of Health Services.
- Conducted briefing of senior staff of WI Department of Health Services and of southeastern Wisconsin health plans and provider leadership on Medical Homes project evaluation and interim findings.
- Completed study on pre- and post- Core Plan utilization of Marshfield Clinic patients.

Recent project-related published papers

Papers accepted for publication
Papers Submitted for Publication
  - Burns M, DeLeire T, Dague L, Leininger L, Voskuil K, Friedsam D. “Expanding Public Insurance to Rural Wisconsin Low-Income Childless Adults Increases the Use of Medical Care.” (In R&R phase)
  - Presenting two abstracts to Academy Health 2014 Annual Research Meeting

Evidence-Based Health Policy (Feder)
  - Conducted capitol briefings on and prepared post-program Briefing Summaries:
    - Pharmaceutical Waste in Wisconsin’s Water: Risks and Solutions, March 13, 2014
  - Serving as major partner for UW’s ICTR-CAP, with lead responsibility for the health policy component.
  - Participating as reviewer/advisor for ICTR’s Type 2 research and community-collaboration grant proposals.
  - Conducted strategic planning for project future, including retreat with close stakeholders and series of key informant interviews.

Other Research and Funding
  - (Friedsam) Conducting project with Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association to assess progress of community health centers under a strategic development and quality improvement initiative.
  - (Feder) Serving as Partner with ABC for Rural Health on “Polk County Behavioral Health Access Audit” with funding by the UW Partnership Fund (2 years) and by HRSA (3 years).

Other External Affairs
  - Appointed member of Academy Health Steering Committee for State Policy and Technical Assistance (Friedsam)
  - Serve as Advisor to the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) State ReFor(u)m Project (Friedsam)
  - Chair of National CTSA Health Policy Working Group. (Feder)
  - Presented, as invitational speaker on health reform, to a range of groups (Friedsam), including:
    - Madison Downtown Rotary
    - Wisconsin Medical Society Annual Meeting
    - Wisconsin Nurses Association Annual Meeting

SMPH/MPH Program Teaching
  - (Friedsam) Conducting PHS 661 Summer Seminar on State Level Health System and Financing Reform
  - (Friedsam) Presenting lectures in on Health Care Financing, Access, and Reform in
    - Physician Assistant 611 Clinical Prevention and Population Health
    - Nursing 105 Introduction to Nursing and the Health System
  - (Feder) Developed 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) began during the spring. Phase II (for students) being developed.

Employed Graduate Students
  - Sara Eskrich – MPH/MPA student
  - Mai Ka Hang – MPH student
  - Christa Fields – MPH student
  - Ann Gargano Ahmed – MPA/MPH student
  - Mariyana Zapryanova and Gaston Palmucci – Economics doctoral students

Monthly E-News: Produced with graduate students Eskrich, Fields, and Hang.
Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) Group
B. Catlin, Program Director
Summary of Programs and Activities: June 2014

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps
Measures health in nearly every U.S. County, builds connections with local communities and national partners, and creates solutions that make it easier for people to be healthy in their own communities

- On March 26th, the fifth annual County Health Rankings were released and once again received extensive media coverage from print, broadcast, and internet venues—including a shout-out on Chelsea Clinton’s Facebook page. Highlights from the 2014 release include
  - The publication of a Key Findings Report that features a national view of key Rankings measures
  - Working with local communities or regions that have been active adopters of the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps as an approach to improve their community’s health, we hosted three local 5th anniversary Rankings release events in
    - Rockingham County, NC in collaboration with the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and the Rockingham County Health Alliance
    - Frankfort, KY in collaboration with the Friedell Committee for Health Care Systems Transformation
    - Buffalo, NY in collaboration with the P2 Collaborative of Western New York.
  - A special five-year celebration page on the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps website that features a look back, new features for 2014 and a look forward.

- Roadmaps to Health Action Center staff continue to offer tools and guidance to help groups working to improve the health of communities in Wisconsin and across nation including community coaching and summarizing evidence for What Works for Health

- In addition to work with individual communities, presentations have been given across the nation:
  - Association for Community Health Improvement Annual Conference (Orlando, FL)
  - Grantmakers in Health Annual Conference (Atlanta, GA)
  - Institute of Medicine Population Health Roundtable Meeting (Los Angeles, CA)
  - National Network of Public Health Institutes (New Orleans, LA)
  - National Rural Health Association Annual Conference (Las Vegas, NV)
  - United Way Community Leaders Conference (National Harbor, MD)
  - Kansas County Health Rankings Conference (Kansas City, KS)
  - New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials County Health Rankings Conference (Mercer, NJ)
  - North Carolina Public Health Association Annual Conference (Raleigh, NC)
  - Presbyterian Health Systems Annual Retreat (Albuquerque, NM)
  - South Carolina Transforming Health Symposium (Columbia, SC)
  - Tennessee Institute for Public Health Local Grants Meeting (Greenville, TN)
  - Wisconsin Public Health Association Meeting (Milwaukee, WI)

- Ongoing work with national partner organizations (currently United Way Worldwide, National Association of Counties, and National Business Coalition on Health)

- Our national advisory group met in February to develop a slate of winners to recommend to RWJF for the 2014 RWJF Culture of Health Prize (previously known as the Roadmaps to Health Prize). Winners will be announced on June 25, 2014 during the new Health portion of the annual Aspen Institute event in Colorado.

What’s next?
- Final negotiations are underway for the renewal of the program. The RWJF Board approved a reauthorization proposal for four years for the entire program. Additions to current work will include hiring six more community coaches in other locations around the nation, providing coaching and technical assistance to new grantees, adding additional national partners, and developing a new health gap index.
Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State

Measures and reports on Wisconsin’s health and health disparities and supports local efforts in health improvement

What’s next?
- Release a web site by the end of June 2014 housing priorities from community health assessments and improvement plans from local health departments and hospitals.
- Working with the Wisconsin Partnership Program to conduct some focused evidence reviews for the LIHF initiative.

Supporting Community Health Improvement in Wisconsin

Addresses WI practices around community health assessments and community health improvement plans

- Serve as Academic Partner for new Wisconsin Partnership Program project: Building the Infrastructure to Make Wisconsin the Healthiest State: Strengthening Community Health Improvement Implementation and Evaluation for Greater Impact—will create a learning community focused on alcohol misuse.

What’s next?
- Completing a self-assessment tool for local health departments (and others) to use to determine the quality of their community health assessment and planning processes.
- Determining next steps for a Wisconsin Healthy Community Designation.

Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute (HWLI)

Builds public and community health skills and leadership capacity throughout Wisconsin.

- Six teams will graduate from the program in June. They are representing coalitions in Dane, Eau Claire, Langlade, Polk, Portage and Winnebago counties and implemented initiatives to improve mental health, increase access to preventive services, and promote physical activity and improved nutrition.

What’s next?
- HWLI has received five years of continued funding from the Wisconsin Partnership Program to expand its programming, and beginning this summer will be recruiting for a regional community teams program and providing training and technical assistance to HWLI alumni communities and to Wisconsin Partnership Program grantees.

Wisconsin Population Health Service Fellowship Program

Recruits and deploys public health professionals to work for public health and community-based organizations throughout the state of Wisconsin.

- Five Fellows, placed in Madison, La Crosse and Milwaukee will graduate from the program in June. Five Fellows, placed in Menominee, Madison and Milwaukee, will continue in their second year of the program. With the incorporation of Preventive Medicine Residents into the Fellowship, six new Fellows will start July 1, 2014, including one Preventive Medicine Resident.

What’s next?
- The Fellowship received three years of continued funding (including the funding of an additional 2014-2016 Fellow slot by the United Way of Greater Milwaukee) and will increase integration with other UWSMPH public health and medical education programs, including the Preventive Medicine Residency, the Path of Distinction in Public Health and the TRIUMPH program (Training in Urban Medicine and Public Health).

First Monday Seminars

Explores current issues and policy relevant topics in public health.

- Planning is underway for the 2014-2015 academic year; we welcome suggestions for speakers.
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

1. **Mental Health Services Evaluation**
   Continued collaboration with DHS on its ongoing statewide evaluations of the mental health service system. Funded by SAMHSA through DHS.

2. **Recovery Schools Research**
   Since 1993, evaluating alternative high school programs for students in recovery from substance abuse. Expanded into Wisconsin schools. Currently funded by NIH-NIDA and the Department of Education.

3. **Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnership for Success II**
   SAMHSA-funded three-year grant to address misuse of prescription drugs. UW PHI conducting the required evaluation.

4. **Strategic Prevention Framework – State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW)**
   Serving as consulting epidemiologist and SEOW chair; coordinating statewide surveillance of alcohol and other drug-related indicators. Will release statewide epidemiological report in fall 2014. Funded by SAMHSA thru DHS.

5. **Milwaukee County Behavioral Health—Homeless Project**
   Collaborating with the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division to evaluate the "Milwaukee Welcomes You to Income, Sobriety, and Housing" (MI-WISH) project, focusing on improving treatment outcomes for homeless individuals in Milwaukee. Funded by SAMHSA (2013-2014).

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 a Healthy Start initiative to reduce infant mortality and improve maternal and child health in 8 Wisconsin Tribal communities. A final report was completed for the Doula Project, assessing maternal and child health outcomes for 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 and one county. Funded by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families via GLITC and the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe.

4. **Increasing Cultural Congruence among Nurses in Wisconsin**
   Evaluating efforts to advance culturally congruent nursing practice and to increase the number of American Indian nurses. Collaborating with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council. Funded by WI Partnership Program.

5. **Adams County Community Wellness Program**
   Evaluating program that applies both community- and individual-level chronic disease prevention and management strategies through the integration of evidence-based Community Health Worker and Health Navigator functions. Funded by the WI Partnership Program.

6. **Menominee Community Journey to Wellness**
   Provide evaluation guidance and support for the development of a comprehensive community-designed obesity prevention and evaluation project for the Menominee Indian Tribe. Funded by the WI Partnership Program and the Collaborative Center for Heath Equity.

7. **Beloit Family Peer Navigation Project**
   Evaluating and providing support for the Beloit Family Peer Navigation (FPN) project. Funded by the WI Partnership Program.
HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS/SERVICES

1. **WI Collaborative Diabetes Quality Improvement Project**
   Tracking progress and reporting on HEDIS® measures from WI HMO Collaborators for comprehensive diabetes care, cardiovascular care, cancer screening, asthma care, arthritis, and tobacco control. Funded by CDC via WI DHS Diabetes Prevention and Control Program.

2. **ICTR - Institute for Clinical Translational Research**
   Leading the evaluation for the UW’s NIH (CTSA) infrastructure grant. D.P. Moberg serves as ICTR’s Director for Evaluation.

3. **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

1. **WI Partnership for Childhood Fitness**
   Second phase funding with a goal of reducing disparities in fitness in 50 schools in WI. Collaboration with Dept. of Pediatrics, WI DPI and middle schools throughout WI. Funded by the WI Partnership Fund.

2. **FIT Families**
   Evaluating a child obesity prevention program targeting parents of 2 to 4 year old children at 21 Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Projects in Wisconsin. The program has continued to expand and will serve 1,150 children at 21 agencies in FY2014. Funded by USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education via DHS.

3. **Safe and Supportive Schools**
   Collaborating with DPI to evaluate effectiveness of the Safe and Supportive Schools program to improve school climate, behavioral and academic outcomes in 56 high schools. Recently presented data on school climate, suspensions and student perceptions to representatives of these 56 schools.

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 PHI, WI DOC, DHS, and the Office of Justice Assistance (DOJ beginning July 1, 2013). Invited to collaborate with Governor’s Statewide Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Wisconsin Supreme Court, National Council on State Courts drug court study, and the Pew Center on the States. The 2013-15 Biennial Budget provides, for each year of the biennium, an additional $1.0 million for TAD expansion and $0.5 million for new drug courts.

2. **Milwaukee Offender Reentry**
   Evaluating collaboration between Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division and the WI Department of Corrections that provides offender re-entry case management services, substance abuse treatment, and employment support. Funded by SAMHSA.

3. **Outagamie County Mental Health Court**
   Developed a Microsoft Access database system to document the development, implementation, and participant characteristics of the Outagamie County mental health treatment court. Funded by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance.

4. **Dane County Fast Track Deferred Prosecution Program**
   The Dane County Office of Equal Opportunity and the Dane County District Attorney's office plan to launch a new diversion program, Fast Track, which will target minority parents who encounter the criminal justice system following an arrest for physical abuse to a child, offering deferred prosecution to these parents. PHI conducting evaluation. Funded by Dane County.

5. **Disproportionate Minority Contact Reduction Efforts**
   Evaluating the effectiveness of state and local efforts to reduce disproportionate minority contacts at nine identified points within the juvenile justice system. Funded by OJJDP through the WI Department of Justice.

Recent Publications:

Recent Presentations:
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America National Leadership Forum; Northwoods Coalition; Society for Prevention Research