What we know about individuals, no matter how rich the details, will never give us the ability to predict how they will behave as a system. Once individuals link together they become something different...Relationships change us, reveal us, evoke more from us.

*Only when we join with others do our gifts become visible, even to ourselves.*

- Unknown
Welcome to The Milwaukee Community Health Research Forum:  
*Making Connections to Make a Difference*

Welcome to the Milwaukee Community Health Research Forum, a program planned and co-sponsored by Community Health Connections/UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR), the Medical College of Wisconsin, the Center for Urban Population Health, the Collaborative Center for Health Equity/UW ICTR, the UW-Milwaukee Center for Urban Initiatives and Research, Walnut Way Conservation Corp, the Milwaukee Health Department, the Milwaukee Area Health Education Center, and the UW-Milwaukee Helen Bader School of Social Welfare.

Since an initial meeting less than a year ago, representatives from these organizations have come together around their shared interests in supporting the development and success of community-academic research partnerships focusing on local health and wellness priorities. We recognize the challenges in doing this work, as well as the short and long-term success stories coming from these partnerships. We also recognize that both community and academic partners are seeking opportunities to build their partnering and research capacity. As a result, we have planned this forum as an initial opportunity to highlight a wide variety of research and other health initiatives and partnerships underway in Milwaukee. We see the Forum as a starting point. With your involvement, we hope to continue to build and support community-academic partnerships and community-engaged research in Milwaukee.

We extend our compliments to all presenters, academic and community partners represented at today’s research forum. Your dedication and work are essential to creating a shared vision of community-engaged health improvement and outcomes that matter.

Onwards!

Research Planning Partners
8:15  Registration Table Open  
Continental breakfast  
Opportunity to visit information tables

9:00  Welcome: Origin and Purpose of Today’s Program  
John Frey, Community Engagement, UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research  
Sharon Adams, Walnut Way Conservation Corp

9:15  Research That Makes a Difference:  
The View from the Health Commissioner’s Office  
Bevan Baker, City of Milwaukee Health Department

9:40  Overview of the Day’s Activities  
Forum Facilitator: Sheri Johnson, Medical College of Wisconsin

9:45  Break  
Coffee, light snacks available  
Opportunity to visit information tables

10:00  Making and Sustaining Connections:  
Experiences of 3 Milwaukee Community-Academic Research Partnerships

11:30  Discussions at “Home” Tables: Making and Sustaining Connections  
Participants will be asked to discuss the following questions, and record discussion highlights:

- What challenges and opportunities highlighted by the plenary speakers resonate with your experience conducting community-engaged research/programs in Milwaukee?
- What suggestions or strategies discussed by the plenary speakers do you think are important to moderating the challenges and enhancing opportunities for community-engaged research/programs in Milwaukee?

12:15  Lunch – To Be Provided  
Opportunity to visit information tables  
Summaries of all “Home Table” discussions will be posted for viewing
1:15 **Conversation Cafés: Innovative Approaches for Research and Partnerships That Make a Difference**

Among the “Conversation Café” tables that will be featured, specific groups have been invited to focus on the following topic areas:

1. **What is “Research” Anyway? Developing a Research Agenda**
2. **Getting to Know You: Innovations in Partnership Development and Nurture**
3. **Understanding Your Study Population: Identifying the Cultural Perspective**
4. **Knowing Your Funder: Matching Project Objectives to Funders’ Expectations**
5. **Evaluation From Day One: How to Plan For and Measure Success**
6. **Translation and Dissemination: Interpreting Results, Getting the Message Out**
7. **Sustaining the Work: Planning for What Will Happen When Grant Money Goes Away**

Two rounds of these Conversation Cafés will occur, providing the opportunity for each forum registrant to participate in conversations on two of the above topic areas.

2:30 **Break**

2:45 **Research That Makes a Difference: A Funder’s Perspective**

Susan Lloyd, Zilber Neighborhood Initiative

3:00 **Outcomes that Matter: What Does “Success” Look Like?**

Local stories of making a difference in the community

Writing your “Five-Year Headline” of Success

- What would you like to achieve?
- What kinds of resources would be helpful in making that happen?

3:45 **Wrap-up: Where Do We Go from Here?**
Purpose:

Community health improvement in Milwaukee's Children (CHIMC) is a grant aimed at identifying and addressing the main child health issues within each of the four communities. The CHIMC grant is a collaborative partnership between residents, community agencies, and academic institutions. It is community driven, in that it includes community members and their views in the entire research process.

CHIMC: Save Lives-Immunize has received a five-year continuation grant from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health to expand upon its 3-year Community-based Participatory Research pilot planning grant for a community-based approach to health disparities in immunizations. The five-year continuation grant (July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013) has as its primary goal to eliminate immunization rate disparities within low-income ethnic/racial populations less than 14 years of age in four Milwaukee zip codes (53205, 53206, 53208, 53210).
Title: Understanding Youth Violence Using African-American Traditions

Academic Partners: UW-Milwaukee
UW School of Medicine and Public Health (UW SMPH)
Center for Urban Population Health (CUPH)

Community Partners: Social Development Commission

Presenters: Deborah Blanks, Social Development Commission
Ella Dunbar, Social Development Commission
Jessica Bergstrom, UW SMPH and CUPH
Barbra Beck, UW SMPH and CUPH

Purpose:

Partnerships between academics and community members can lead to powerful and meaningful research, especially when community-driven. In 2006 and 2007, four grassroots community organizations came together with a large community organization and an academic partner to address their concerns about youth violence in the African-American community. They collectively identified a need to learn more about the root causes of the violence and designed a strategy to gather this information. Community members developed questions and completed interviews with adults and youth. This project also blends in a research component focusing on the African American concept of mutual aid and self-help. The successes and challenges of conducting a community-led project within an academic framework and the future directions of the project will be discussed.
Title: Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute’s Milwaukee Site

Academic Partners: UW School of Medicine and Public Health
Center for Urban Population Health
Medical College of Wisconsin

Community Partners: Aurora Health Care,
Alzheimer’s Association SE WI
Black Health Coalition of WI
Helen Bader Foundation
Milwaukee County Department on Aging
Milwaukee Health Services, Inc.
and many more.

Presenters: Mark Sager, Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute, UW School of Medicine and Public Health
Dorothy Farrar Edwards, Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute, UW School of Medicine and Public Health
Gina Green-Harris, Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute, UW School of Medicine and Public Health & Center for Urban Population Health
Carla Wright, Milwaukee Health Services, Inc.

Purpose:
The Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute’s Milwaukee site focuses on community outreach, education, research and in-home memory and functional assessment within the African-American community. Health fairs and advocacy meetings are attended regularly, and a Community Advisory Board has been developed to better address the needs of the community. Our approach to educating and reaching into the community starts from the bottom-up; developing trust and building relationships that can lead to education, knowledge and research.

The WAI has developed a NIH supported research project called the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer’s Prevention (WRAP). WRAP is a registry of people between the ages 40 to 65 who have or had a parent diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. Persons with a father who lived to the age of 70 or greater and a mother to the age of 75 or greater without memory problems are also eligible to participate. A social worker is available to provide individualized care plans through clinical outreach and assessment of cognitively impaired and medically underserved minority older adults.
Café: What is “Research” Anyway? Developing a Research Agenda

Title: Piloting a Community-Based Participatory Research Approach to Investigate the Health Issues and Resource Needs of Latinas Living with HIV

Academic Partners: UW-Milwaukee, College of Nursing
UW-Milwaukee, College of Health Sciences
Center for Urban Population Health

Community Partners: Project Advisory Committee Members:
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center
The Healing Center
Planned Parenthood
United Migrant Opportunity Services
Community members

Presenters: Patricia E. Stevens, UW-Milwaukee, College of Nursing
Virginia Zerpa-Uriona, UW-Milwaukee College of Health Sciences and Center for Urban Population Health
Maria Barker, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin

Purpose:
The specific aims of this community-based participatory research (CBPR) project are to 1) explore the impact of HIV in the lives of HIV-infected women through qualitative interviews (conducted in participants' primary language), and 2) integrate the dynamic involvement of a community advisory board throughout all stages including research design, sample recruitment, data collection, data analysis, dissemination of results, and generation of policy and practice recommendations.

Dr. Patricia Stevens utilized the Center's infrastructure to hire a full-time highly qualified, bilingual Outreach Specialist, Virginia Zerpa-Uriona, MPH, to coordinate this and other CBPR projects.
Title: Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Health Alliance

Academic Partners: MCW Center for Healthy Communities
UW-Milwaukee
UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health

Community Partners:

Bread of Healing Clinic
Center for Resilient Cities
Community Planning Council, Neighborhood Strategic Planning Area #10
Cross Lutheran Church
Fondy Food Center
House of Peace UWM Community Nursing Center
Johnsons Park Neighborhood Assoc.
Neu-Life Community Resource Center
Outpost Natural Foods
Residents
SeedFolks Youth Ministry
SHARE Wisconsin
UWEX Milwaukee County Community Gardening Program
Walnut Way Conservation Corp
YMCA Northside

Presenters: Steve Adams, Johnsons Park Resident
Marcia Caton Campbell, Center for Resilient Cities
Linda Meurer, MCW Center for Healthy Communities

Purpose: The Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Health Alliance (LHNHA) is an alliance of community-anchored groups and neighbors, their friends and partners, committed to reducing health disparities and creating a deep and sustained culture of health and community sufficiency in our families and neighborhood. Its vision is to “celebrate healthy lifestyles, where health and wellness consciousness is reflected in the culture of the neighborhood, and where healthy amenities and support systems are accessible, inclusive, and present.” Since its inception in 2006, LHNHA has assessed community health priorities, mapped community assets, and planned and implemented pilot programs. Early work has included:

- ongoing building of partnership principles and goals;
- a community food assessment to assess neighborhood access to healthy food;
- pilot projects to improve healthy food access, including a teen employment Gardens to Market program and neighborhood cooking clubs;
- the development of a “Farm to Fork” vision that encompasses growing, harvesting, preparing, selling and distributing nutritious foods;
- an environmental walkability assessment and a youth photo-voice project that led to the City’s commitment to improved pedestrian safety infrastructure; and
- pilot physical activity programs including walking groups, exercise dance groups, youth bike camps, and an annual neighborhood treasure walk event.
Café: Understanding Your Study Population: Identifying the Cultural Perspective

**Title:** Latino Seniors Health and Depression Survey

**Academic Partners:** UW-Milwaukee

**Community Partners:** United Community Center

**Presenters:** Angélica Delgado Rendón, United Community Center
René Farías, United Community Center

**Purpose:**
The purpose of the Latino Seniors Health and Depression Survey is to help the United Community Center (UCC) better identify, access, and treat the mental health needs of Latino older adults who are utilizing the elderly program services. UCC uses the data to identify older adults who need to be referred for mental health services and/or further assess psychological concerns. The survey also expands the knowledge of the psychosocial factors, cultural values, and beliefs about mental health and well-being that might be linked to overall physical and mental health of Latino seniors.

Data gathered through the Latino Seniors Health and Depression Survey successfully informed the development of a new program, *Un Nuevo Amanecer*, or the New Dawn Program, funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The New Dawn Program helps identify, educate and provide free individualized case management services to address the growing epidemic of late life depression in the Hispanic population. Services are provided to Latino Seniors ages 60 years and older who are experiencing symptoms of depression. The program utilizes a collaborative team approach with a New Dawn case manager who works in partnership with the patient and their primary care provider. Together they monitor the patient’s progress as well as the effectiveness of medications and other treatments to ensure the patient shows improvement. This approach has shown an almost 50% reduction in depression symptoms over traditional care models.
Café: Knowing Your Funder: Matching Project Objectives to Funders’ Expectations

**Title:** Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission

**Academic Partners:** UW-Milwaukee  
UW School of Medicine and Public Health  
Center for Urban Population Health

**Community Partners:** Milwaukee Police Department  
Numerous government and community partners

**Presenters:** Mallory O’Brien, Milwaukee Police Department  
Barbra Beck, UW School of Medicine and Public Health and the Center for Urban Population Health

**Purpose:**

Violence poses a significant threat to the health and safety of Wisconsin citizens. The Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission approaches violence from both public health and criminal justice perspectives, which focus on prevention and improving the health and safety of the population as a whole. The Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission (MHRC) strives to reduce homicide and non-fatal shootings through a multi-level, multi-disciplinary and multi-agency homicide review process. The MHRC is comprised of criminal justice professionals, community service providers, public officials, and residents who meet regularly to exchange information regarding the city’s homicides and identify methods of prevention. The MHRC makes recommendations based on trends identified through a case review process. These recommendations range from micro-level case specific enforcement strategies to macro-level system change. Many of the recommendations made to date have been successfully implemented. The Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission provides a unique forum for addressing violence in the city of Milwaukee.
Title: Safe Mom, Safe Baby

Academic Partners: Aurora UW Medical Group (AUWMG), UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Center for Urban Population Health

Community Partners: Aurora Health Care, Sojourner Family Peace Center

Presenters: Alice Kramer, Aurora Health Care, Jessica Bergstrom, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, and the Center for Urban Population Health

Purpose: Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a significant risk factor for maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality. Increased screening for IPV among this population can lead to disclosure, and then women can be connected to support services that promote safety planning and adoption of risk-reducing behaviors.

Safe Mom, Safe Baby is an implementation project funded in part by the Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Future that began in June 2005. The project supports a collaboration among the Sojourner Family Peace Center, Aurora Health Care (AHC), Prenatal Care Coordination Program, the Aurora - UWMG Women's Health Clinic and Midwifery and Wellness Center and the Center for Urban Population Health to identify pregnant women and new mothers at risk for IPV and provide targeted assessments, case management, education, prenatal care, advocacy, mentors, and effective stage-based clinic and in-home interventions to improve the health and safety outcomes of women and their children. CUPH is involved in the evaluation and data management for the project.

In 2007, Safe Mom, Safe Baby received an additional grant from the Wisconsin Partnership Fund to expand the program across sites and to continue planning for sustainability of the project.
Café Partnerships

Café: Translation and Dissemination: Interpreting Results, Getting the Message Out

Title: **B.R.A.N.C.H. Out Partnership** (Building a Rejoiceful Alliance of Neighbors for Change and Healing)

**Academic Partners:** MCW Center for Healthy Communities

**Community Partners:**
- City of Milwaukee Health Department
- Holy Cathedral Church of God in Christ
- Word of Hope Ministries, Inc.
- Greater Bethlehem Temple World Ministries
- New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
- Mason Temple Church of God in Christ
- Christ Temple Church of God in Christ
- Ebenezer Church of God in Christ
- Parklawn Assembly of God
- Christ Tabernacle Church of God in Christ
- Christ Tabernacle Ministries
- Cross Lutheran Church
- Holy Temple Firstborn
- New Covenant
- Liberty and Truth Ministries

**Presenters:**
- **Yvonne Greer**, Milwaukee Health Department
- **Julia Means**, Columbia St. Mary’s Parish Nurse
- **Staci Young**, MCW Center for Healthy Communities

**Purpose:** The purpose of the BRANCH Out partnership is to reduce health risk factors related to cancer, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes in African-American church-based communities in Milwaukee. BRANCH Out builds on the existing relationship between health ministry workers and congregation members to address the social determinants of health. BRANCH Out has the following objectives: 1) develop and train Church Health Action Teams (CHATs) at participating churches; 2) develop, implement and disseminate cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes risk reduction education and prevention materials and resources; 3) develop and implement cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes risk reduction best practices at churches; and 4) sustain, evaluate, and expand the program.

The Partnership has also expanded to include the Nurturing Healthy Youth Leaders Project, which aims to increase leadership capacity and address health needs of Milwaukee youth through peer mentoring programs with lay health advisors. It has identified 2-3 Church Health Action Team (CHAT) members from each of six new partner churches and conducted a successful training session for 20 CHAT members. To date, 44 Youth Health Council members have been recruited. Health resource centers have been developed at all churches that include a computer with internet for health information access. A Graduate Assistant from Mount Mary College Dietetic Internship Program has developed monthly nutrition and health “Tips of the Month” for distribution to all partner churches and the project webpage has been updated to include partners’ programs, health information and upcoming programs. A program evaluation tool, monthly report forms and a youth health appraisal tool have been developed to be used by all participating churches for uniform data collection.
Café: Sustaining the Work: Planning for What Will Happen When Grant Money Goes Away

Title: House of Peace Community Center: Cervical Cancer Screening Practices and Beliefs of Hmong Women

Academic Partners: Collaborative Center for Health Equity, UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research

Community Partners: American Cancer Society
House of Peace Community Center
Hmong American Women’s Association
Lee Medical Clinic
Milwaukee Health Department
NCI Cancer Information Service
Next Door Foundation
St. Michael’s Church
WI Well Women Program
WI Department of Health and Family Services

Presenters: Sarah Esmond, UW ICTR Collaborative Center for Health Equity
Beth Peterman, House of Peace Community Center
Pang Vang, House of Peace Community Center

Purpose:

A 1-year planning grant sponsored by the Wisconsin Partnership Program facilitated the development of a Consortium of stakeholders within and outside of the Milwaukee community who share interests in addressing cancer health disparities among Hmong women. The key partners include the House of Peace Nursing Center and the Collaborative Center for Health Equity, in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. The ultimate goal of the Consortium is to develop a community-based plan to increase cancer screening rates and follow-up care services for Hmong women in the Milwaukee area. Please join us to learn more about how we established this community-academic partnership, steps taken to sustain our work without grant funding and our plans for the future.
Sheri Johnson earned her undergraduate degree in psychology at Brown University; Master’s and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Boston University and completed a clinical fellowship in psychology at Harvard Medical School. She has dedicated her career to providing clinical and administrative leadership to improve the health status of poor and minority children and families and to promoting improved health for all of the people of Wisconsin. She served as the Administrator and State Health Officer for the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS), Division of Public Health (DPH) immediately prior to her appointment to MCW in July, 2008. Prior to serving at DHFS, Dr. Johnson was Director of Behavioral Health Services at Milwaukee Health Services, Inc. (MHSI) a federally qualified health center in north central Milwaukee.

Sharon Adams believes in the intrinsic value of good neighbors. After a long career in non-profit administration, including directing the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York and Northside Center for Child Development, she returned to her family’s homestead in Milwaukee. Since 1997, she has worked as a community organizer in Milwaukee’s African American neighborhoods. With her husband, Larry Adams, neighbors and friends, she founded the Walnut Way Conservation Corp to restore a central city community of approximately thirty blocks. During the course of her community revitalization efforts, she was appointed Director of the UWM Institute for Service Learning in January 2004. During the 2006-07 academic year, over 1,400 students participated in academic service learning with over 100 community partners. She has also facilitated community development initiatives for Annie E. Casey Foundation, Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, and Metro Denver Black Church Initiative. Her work calls for restoration of sustainable systems for healthy living.

Steve Adams has served in numerous capacities within the community and economic development arenas, including the private and government sectors. In 2000, he became the Executive Director of a community development corporation serving the area around Sherman Boulevard and North Avenue. In 2003, he started a consulting business, Community Development Management Partnerships, working on community economic development and organizational development issues. He also worked on the planning phase of the Harambee Great Neighborhoods Initiative while working as the Economic Development Manager at Riverworks Development Corporation. Presently, Steve is the Public Involvement and Outreach Manager for the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. He serves on LHNHA’s Steering Committee as a resident of the Johnsons Park neighborhood.

Bevan Baker was sworn in as the 16th Commissioner of Health of the City of Milwaukee on August 6, 2004. He was nominated by Mayor Tom Barrett in 2004 and re-confirmed for a second term by the City’s Common Council on June 10, 2008. As Commissioner, he
serves as the city’s chief advisor on health and is responsible for providing leadership and oversight of the agency’s collective efforts to promote the health and well-being of Milwaukee residents. Mr. Baker is the Milwaukee County Emergency Public Health Preparedness Director and serves on both the Governor’s eHealth Care Quality and Patient Safety Board and the Public Health Council Board. Mr. Baker received his Masters degree in Health Administration from the Medical College of Virginia and his Bachelor’s degree in Medical Technology from Winston-Salem State University. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

**Maria Barker** is the Multicultural Programs Manager for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, Inc. (PPWI). A bilingual (Spanish/English) community educator, Maria is of Mexican origin. She has facilitated reproductive health education programming, including hundreds of home health parties, for the Latino community since 2003. Maria is keenly aware of the need to provide education to the underserved in the Latino community - 85% of her programs are facilitated in Spanish to meet the needs of the communities she serves in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Dane, Racine and Kenosha counties. In prior roles, Maria worked for 18 years at PPWI in the clinical setting, most notably as the Regional Director of several family planning health centers. Maria is a graduate of the Latino Nonprofit Leadership Program through the UWM and Cardinal Stritch University. She is a certified Sexuality Educator by Planned Parenthood.

**Barbra Beck** is a Research Scientist at the Center for Urban Population Health and the Public Health Education and Training Coordinator for the University of Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program. She has a B.A. in Social Work from College of St. Benedict, a M.S. in Sociology from Colorado State University and a Ph.D. in Urban Studies from UW-Milwaukee. Barbra has over ten years experience planning, implementing and evaluating long-term community-based programs and community-academic partnerships. Her research interests include youth violence prevention, community capacity building, and community engagement.

**Jessica Bergstrom** has an MPH from the University of Illinois-Chicago School of Public Health in Community Health Sciences. She works for the Center for Urban Population Health managing the Design, Analysis and Evaluation Team and is the Center’s main resource for program evaluation. She enjoys translating statistical analysis results into documents easily understood by lay audiences and using qualitative data collection methods and analysis techniques. She works closely with Center partners to determine their research/evaluation needs and coordinate the appropriate support.

**Deborah Blanks** is the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Development Commission, Milwaukee, WI. She has been in that capacity for 12 years. She is a Certified Community Action Professional. She is 3rd Vice President of the National Community Action Association and President of the Board of the Wisconsin Nonprofit Association. She serves on numerous committees and boards locally, including the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management, the Planning Council, the Center for Urban Population Health and the Partnership Council for the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare. She is an accomplished writer, having authored the book Weaving Diversity Into
the Fabric of America and Sankofa Story: An African American History Game. She holds a Master’s Degree in Educational Psychology, a Master’s Degree in Public Administration and is currently enrolled in the UWM Urban Studies Doctoral Program.

Marcia Caton Campbell is the Milwaukee Program Director of the Center for Resilient Cities, where she oversees the Johnsons Park Initiative. From 2006 to 2008, Marcia coordinated the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Health Alliance (formerly the Johnsons Park Health Alliance). Prior to joining the Center for Resilient Cities, Marcia was an Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning and an affiliate faculty member of the Gaylord E. Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. There, her research and teaching focused on consensus building and community-based planning with diverse publics and on increasing inner-city residents’ access to healthy, nutritious, affordable, and culturally appropriate food through community food systems planning.

Angélica Delgado Rendón is the Community Research Supervisor for the United Community Center. She manages the UCC Health & Research Department; the mission is to provide programs that promote the physical and mental well-being of UCC participants and their families with a focus on disease prevention, health research, and management of chronic conditions. During her time working at UCC, she has had the pleasure of working on several health and research projects such as: the Healthy Latino Families & Schools Study (UWM & MCW), the Latino Geriatric Center Memory Clinic (Froedtert Hospital), the Latino Seniors Depression Study (UWM), the Spanish Chronic Disease Self Management Program (Stanford University), Un Nuevo Amanecer Program (SAMHSA), Salud de la Mujer Study (MCW), and the Milwaukee Urban Food and Fitness Initiative with Dr. David Nelson (MCW.) Ms. Delgado holds a BS degree in Natural Science with an emphasis in Biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Master in Science with emphasis in Epidemiology.

Ella Dunbar is the Program Services Manager at the Social Development Commission, Milwaukee, WI where she has been employed for nine years. She is responsible for SDC’s modernization initiative, which involves cultivating community partnerships and collaborations to complement SDC’s service delivery system. She has eight years of extensive experience working with various communities in Milwaukee in regard to community relations, outreach, training, interviewing of community members, and conducting community needs assessments. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Community Education and a Master’s Degree in Cultural Foundations of Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dorothy Farrar Edwards is a Professor of Kinesiology-Occupational Therapy with affiliated appointments in the Departments of Medicine and Neurology at the University of Wisconsin Madison. She received her PhD in Psychology from Washington University in St. Louis in 1980. Her research is focused on the effects of cognitive impairment on performance of complex life tasks. These studies of normal aging and persons with Alzheimer’s disease and stroke have focused on helping older adults and their families
maintain independence and quality of life in home and community settings. Her research has also addressed health disparities and the impact of Alzheimer’s disease and stroke on African Americans. She is currently funded by three NIH grants and is the PI of the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute MAPP (Milwaukee Alzheimer’s Prevention Program) program.

Sarah Esmond is the Administrative Director for the Collaborative Center for Health Equity located at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health in Madison, WI. She provides administrative oversight and project management to the Center’s community-academic partnerships, research collaborations and other initiatives. Ms. Esmond serves as an academic partner to several Milwaukee-based partnerships, including the Milwaukee Birthing Project, which addressed infant mortality in Milwaukee; the House of Peace-based Consortium for Hmong Health, which addresses cervical cancer screening rates among Hmong women; and the Urban Indian Wellness Consortium, which supports the establishment of high quality research and service projects engaging urban and off-reservation Indians of Wisconsin.

René Farías, Associate Director - Special Projects for the United Community Center (UCC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is responsible for management of the agency’s Elderly Services, Human Services Department, as well as health services. He has expertise in the development and operations management of a wide range of community service programs, from education and treatment for troubled youth and adults, to behavioral health, services for elderly, home buying and home rehabilitation programs for low-income families and child development. Under his direction, the UCC New Beginning Clinic has developed mental health services, child welfare, treatment for youth, family counseling, family advocacy, in-home counseling, wraparound services to mentally disturbed children, and has expanded the substance abuse treatment services. Mr. Farías holds a BA degree in Administration from the National Autonomous University of México (UNAM) and a diploma in Public Administration from Victoria University of Manchester, England.

John J Frey is currently the Director of Community Engagement at the University of Wisconsin Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, and Professor of Family Medicine, and practices at Wingra Clinic in Madison. Prior to his current position, he taught at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and worked at Family Health and Social Service Center, a neighborhood health center in Worcester, as well as serving as Residency director at the University of Massachusetts. John has served as an assistant in General Practice in Glyncorrwg, South Wales, U.K., and has taught at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of Family Medicine. John returned to his home state of Wisconsin in 1993, where he served as Chair of the UW Department of Family Medicine until 2006. He is also currently Editor, Wisconsin Medical Journal; and Associate Editor, Annals of Family Medicine. John’s current interests include community health programs, community-based research, medical humanities and medical journalism.
Jo Ann Gray-Murray is an Assistant Professor in Community Pediatrics at the Center for the Advancement of Underserved Children at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Gray-Murray’s research and teaching focuses on developing useful ways to better understand and improve research partnership practices. She has been involved in creating, managing and sustaining participatory practices in urban settings, programs and initiatives for more than 35 years.

Yvonne D. Greer is the Nutritionist Coordinator for the City of Milwaukee Health Department Adolescent Community Health Program. She coordinates city-wide nutrition initiatives targeting at-risk youth and families providing coordination and support for school, community, and church-based nutrition and wellness programming. Yvonne is an appointee to the Governor’s Council for Physical Fitness and Health and sits on the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Strategic Leadership Team for development of the new State Health Plan and serves as the Wisconsin Dietetic Association Liaison in this effort. Ms. Greer sits on the Executive Board of the Milwaukee County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition (MCNPAC) and assisted the development of the new online MCNPAC Role Modeling Action Guide: Promoting Nutrition and Physical Activity.

Gina Green-Harris is a Senior Outreach Specialist for the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute (WAI), University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Through a partnership between the Center and WAI, Ms. Green-Harris collaborates with multiple entities to increase awareness and provide education about the impact of Alzheimer’s disease in the African American community. She provides leadership and governance to guide and build the capacity of a newly developed WAI Milwaukee office, and coordinates a solid outreach and research program designed to provide resources and recruit minorities into research that is culturally specific to African-Americans in the Milwaukee area. Ms. Green-Harris is very active in the community and serves on several boards and committees for organizations serving the aging community. She has worked in minority health for over 15 years in the areas of HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes, SLE Lupus, substance abuse, and domestic violence.

Alice Kramer received her Masters of Science in Nursing from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. She has been a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Emergency Services and Intimate Partner Violence for over 20 years within the Aurora Health Care System in Wisconsin. Ms. Kramer has contributed significantly to the education and professional development of nurses, physicians and other health care providers as it relates to domestic violence and sexual abuse. She provides direct service to abused women and creates linkages with community partners in order to break down barriers and enhance safety for survivors of abuse. She is the project manager for a UW Medical School – Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Future grant entitled, “Safe Mom Safe Baby – A Collaborative Model of Care for Pregnant Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence”.

Susan Lloyd leads Lloyd Consulting, Inc., a firm that seeks to stimulate and strengthen the capacity to solve social problems, especially problems resulting from persistent poverty and inequity. Lloyd Consulting helps organizations design initiatives and
measure impact. Susan also directs the Zilber Family Foundation, bringing to the position 25 years of experience, as both funder and practitioner, in arts and culture, youth development, workforce development, human rights advocacy, violence reduction, housing and community development, and urban research and policy. Appointed by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Susan serves as co-chair of the newly-formed Illinois Charitable Trust Stabilization Committee responsible for allocating state resources to strengthen Illinois nonprofits. Previously Susan served as a program director for the MacArthur Foundation for 13 years, where she was responsible for developing large-scale initiatives in public housing transformation and neighborhood revitalization.

**Julia Means** is Parish Nurse for Columbia/St. Mary’s Hospital. She has thirty years experience in nursing and has spent the last twelve years in the community. Julia is the founder of Blanket of Love, a prenatal and parenting program for teen mothers. She has been married for thirty seven years, is the mother of two children, and the grandmother to one grandson.

**Linda Meurer** is an Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine and Director of the Academic Fellowship in Primary Care Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She directs pre-doctoral and postdoctoral research fellowships related to primary care, aging and injury, and serves as Director of the Foundations of Evidence Based Medicine Course and the new Urban and Community Health Pathway at MCW. Her research interests include community-based health promotion, elder abuse and neglect, and integration of population health into medical education.

**Mallory O’Brien** has led the development, implementation, and evaluation of the Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission since July 2004. Dr. O’Brien is trained as an epidemiologist and has worked in the field of violent injury prevention for the past 15 years. In 1994 she began her work developing, implementing and evaluating a regional tracking system for firearm deaths, the Firearm Injury Reporting System at the Medical College of Wisconsin. From 2001 through 2007 she continued her work, expanding to the national level as the Associate Director of the National Violent Injury Statistics System at the Harvard Injury Control Research Center, at Harvard University. Dr. O’Brien has served as a consultant to the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Violent Death Reporting System. She is currently a member of the Project Safe Neighborhoods Taskforce for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, the Advisory Committee of the Safe Streets Initiative and the WI Attorney General’s Crime Victim Council.

**Beth Peterman** is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Nursing, as well as the Nursing Center Director for its community nursing center at the House of Peace. She is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner and provides primary health care services for uninsured and/or underinsured, vulnerable populations residing in the City or County of Milwaukee WI. Ms. Peterman serves as an academic liaison (to UWM) for the Consortium for Hmong Health. She is
the principal investigator for the Milwaukee Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure project which provides breast health awareness outreach and clinic breast exam screenings for all low income women in the City of Milwaukee, and the American Cancer Society/Wisconsin Well Woman Program’s joint project that is aimed at increasing the number of women receiving PAP and pelvic examinations, especially women of Asian Pacific descent.

**Samantha Rosemond-Garland** has been a Community Outreach Specialist for the CHIMC project for about a year. Prior to joining the CHIMC project, Samantha volunteered for AmeriCorps for a year where she served as outreach worker for Parklawn YMCA. Samantha is currently working on obtaining her BA in human service management at Cardinal Stritch University.

**Mark Sager** is Director of the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute and a Professor of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. He is the founder of the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention (WRAP) which is a longitudinal study of adult children of persons with Alzheimer's disease. The primary goal of WRAP is to conduct genetic, epidemiological and clinical research that could lead to the prevention of Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Sager also developed the WAI affiliated network of dementia diagnostic clinics consisting of Wisconsin physicians and health care providers dedicated to improving the care provided to persons with Alzheimer's disease and their families. He is a fellowship trained geriatrician and received his MD from the University of Michigan. Dr. Sager joined the UW faculty in 1992.

**Patricia Stevens** is a Professor in the College of Nursing at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Center Scientist at the Center for Urban Population Health, a partnership between University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Aurora Health Care. She is also an Affiliated Investigator at the Center for AIDS Intervention Research, Medical College of Wisconsin, a National Institute of Mental Health-funded Center of Excellence. Dr. Stevens is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. She has done extensive research in the area of HIV/AIDS and is expert in qualitative research methods and community based participatory research. She has over 80 publications in scientific journals.

**Pang Vang** is a nurse clinician and a certified health education specialist with the UW-Milwaukee House of Peace Community Nursing Center. The Nursing Center provides limited, low-cost health care services, including woman's health and hypertension management, and health education programs. The targeted populations are low-income, uninsured, and under-served African American and Hmong. Ms. Vang also coordinates two initiatives: 1) the Centers for Disease Control-funded "Milwaukee Healthier Teen Initiative", which has a goal to promote health and prevent diseases related to the Healthy People 2010 focus area of Maternal, Infant, and Child Health, and 2) the Wisconsin Well Woman Program, focused on eliminating barriers to woman's health by providing breast and cervical cancer education, screening, and treatment. This work is in addition to the Consortium for Hmong Health, established to address cervical cancer screening rates among Milwaukee Hmong women.
Earnestine Willis is the Kellner Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Director, Center for the Advancement of Underserved Children. She is a general pediatrician, who led in structuring the development and implementation of the Community Health Improvement for Milwaukee’s Children (CHIMC), along with other community and academic partners. CHIMC is a project that uses the community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach within some of Milwaukee’s most underserved neighborhoods. This project has been funded by the NIH-National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities. She has almost three decades of experience in addressing health disparities through community-focused initiatives with national recognition in research, education, services and child advocacy. Dr. Willis has worked with community partners to foster preventive measures in communities by designing demonstration and intervention projects, analyzing the effectiveness of existing health care and social service systems to promote health among low-income children and families.

Carla Wright is originally from Detroit, Michigan and has resided in Milwaukee for the past 20 years. Dr. Wright attended the University of Michigan School of Medicine and completed an internship at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. She completed her residency at Northwestern University School of Medicine-RIC Chicago, Illinois. She has worked at Milwaukee Health Services, Inc. since 1990 and is currently practicing in Rehabilitation Medicine and Geriatrics at Martin Luther King Heritage Health Center.

Fue Xiong currently works as a community outreach specialist for CHIMC at the Neighborhood House of Milwaukee. His previous experiences include working with the Hmong community in Green Bay and their assimilation to America. In 2005, Fue graduated from the University of Wisconsin Green Bay with a Bachelor of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning.

Staci Young is an Assistant Professor in the Center for Healthy Communities in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She has over twelve years of experience forming and sustaining community-academic partnerships to improve health. Her work includes community-based participatory research projects and teaching community medicine for undergraduate medical students. Her interests include health advocacy for vulnerable populations and perceived roles within interdisciplinary care teams.

Virginia Zerpa-Uriona is responsible for coordinating and implementing community-based research projects, community-based interventions, evaluations and dissemination of findings with primary focus on Latino health in Milwaukee for the Center for Urban Population Health. Virginia is also the Service Learning Coordinator. She received her Master of Public Health from Indiana University School of Public Health. Her focus of study and work includes the prevention of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections as well as childhood lead poisoning and childhood obesity. She is a native of Venezuela and has resided in the United States since 1981.
Your presence today was a gift, and we are thankful for your commitment to inspired research and community development. The forum was crafted to support an interactive, lively approach to help community, academic and government-affiliated stakeholders share strategies that support and enhance the success of local community health improvement and research efforts. The planning process for the Forum brought together a diverse group of partners, making connections across institutions and communities.

From here, our goal is to identify and establish effective and sustainable ways to advance and support community-engaged health research in Milwaukee. We invite you to join our efforts.

To learn more about our plans to establish a community-engaged health research network in Milwaukee, please contact JoAnne Pearsall at jpearsall@milahec.org or any one of our team.

“Inspiration through experience, Creation by collaboration.” -Leila Amirsadeghi

Thank you,

**Milwaukee Community Health Research Forum Planning Committee**

Sharon Adams, Walnut Way Conservation Corp.
Terry Cohn, UW ICTR, Community Health Connections
Nancy Cross Dunham, UW ICTR, Community Health Connections
Sarah Esmond, UW ICTR, Collaborative Center for Health Equity
David Frazer, Center for Urban Population Health
Eric Gass, City of Milwaukee Health Department
Patricia Najera, UW-Milwaukee, Center for Urban Initiatives and Research
David Pate, UW-Milwaukee, Helen Bader School of Social Work
JoAnne Pearsall, UW ICTR, Community Health Connections, and Milwaukee Area Health Education Center
Jessie Tobin, Medical College of Wisconsin