Pediatric News
An electronic newsletter from the Department of Pediatrics

February 2013

Spotlight - CityMatCH

CityMatCH, the National Organization of Urban MCH Leaders housed in the Department of Pediatrics, counts among its members over 160 city and county health departments’ maternal and child health (MCH) leaders representing urban communities in the United States. CityMatCH's mission is to strengthen public health leaders and organizations to promote equity and improve the health of urban women, families and communities.

Initiated in 1988 as a special project in the Boston Department of Health and Hospitals, CityMatCH began with the goal of improving both the organization and delivery of services to urban families and children. CityMatCH became a national organization in 1991, and initial project activities centered on developing an information base on what major health departments across the United States were doing to address shared urban MCH problems such as racial disparities in infant mortality, inadequate access to prenatal care, substance abuse in pregnancy, and interpersonal violence.

CityMatCH believes that local public health agencies are a critical component of the collaborative effort that is needed to improve the health of children and families in urban areas. In fact, the success and greatest impact of CityMatCH’s work relies upon collaborations with our members and partners, and validating the impact of these projects requires a thorough and scientific evaluation of their outcomes, as well the local efforts among our members, which we guide and support.

CityMatCH Staff

Executive Director

- Chad Abresch, M.Ed.

Director of Operations

- Mark Law, Ph.D., Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

In This Issue

CityMatCH Staff
CityMatCH Grants
CityMatCH Projects
Special Grand Rounds
Congratulations
Upcoming Events

Feb 7 | 5:00 PM
Clinical Service Chiefs Meeting

Feb 7 | 5:45 PM
Division Chiefs Meeting

Feb 18 | 12:00 PM
Writing Group, UT 7412

Feb 28 | 7:00 AM
General Faculty Meeting, Childrens Glow Aud.

Journal Club

Feb 13 | 12 PM CHMC Glow
Vitamin D Deficiency, Dr. S. Malone-Jenkins
Serum Procalcitonin, Dr. K. Storey

Patient Mgmt Conf.

Feb 5 | 8 AM CHMC Glow
M&M, Dr. M. Law
Director of Programs
- Denise Pecha, LCSW

CDC MCH Epidemiology Assignee
- Laurin Kasehagen Robinson, MA, Ph.D., Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Project Coordinators
- Maureen Fitzgerald, MPA, Project Coordinator
- Maureen Gatere, MPH, Project Coordinator
- Rebecca (Becky) Ramsey, MPH, Project Coordinator
- Molly Isacco, MPH, Project Coordinator
- Erin O. Schneider, MSW, Project Coordinator
- Carol Gilbert, MS, Health Data Analyst
- Anna Grignon, MA, MES, PH Communications Specialist

Administrative Staff
- Michelle Coe, Staff Secretary
- Diana Fisaga, BS, Staff Secretary
- Qinge Ouyang, MS, Web Designer
- Janet Rogers, Office Manager

CityMatCH Grants
Our work is grant-supported and includes the following grant initiatives:

- **Best Babies Zone.** Best Babies Zone, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, is a 3-year pilot initiative aimed at improving birth outcomes for infants in four U.S. cities.
- **Building Capacity Among Maternal and Child Health Leaders.** Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration's MCH Bureau, allows CityMatCH to lead CityLeaders, a continuing education project for urban MCH leaders.
- **Building Capacity in Major Urban Health Departments to Improve MCH Outcomes.** Funded by the CDC's Division of Reproductive Health, this grant allows CityMatCH to conduct MCH epidemiology, surveillance, and evaluation; translate data into evidence-based practice; and, increase collaboration and partnerships to promote the health and well-being of women, children and families.
- **Eliminating Health Disparities in Infant Mortality: Supporting an Action Learning Collaborative for State, Local and Community Maternal and Child Health Leaders.** The Partnership to Eliminate Disparities in Infant Mortality (PEDIM) project, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, gives CityMatCH, the opportunity to address the impacts of racism on birth outcomes and infant health.
- **Implementing a National Framework to Eliminate Mother-to-Child Transmission.** CityMatCH has been one of several national organizations funded by the CDC National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention to advance the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (EMCT). CityMatCH is the co-developer of and home to the FIMR/HIV Prevention Methodology National Resource Center.
- **Institute for Equity in Birth Outcomes.** The Institute, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, is a national initiative that brings a scientific
focus to the persistent gap in birth outcomes.

- **Mapping the Connections Between Race, Place and Health.** Mapping the Connections between Race, Place, and Health for Racial Healing and Health Equity, also known as the "Racial Healing Project," is funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and takes place in two selected urban communities in Memphis and Nashville.

- **Partnership for Urban MCH Leadership Community.** Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration's MCH Bureau, this grant allows CityMatCH to communicate the importance of urban MCH issues at the national, state, and local level; assist its members in improving urban MCH outcomes through activities; and disseminate new information about urban MCH policies and programs in the public and private sectors.

- **Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Systems (PRAMS).** Funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), CityMatCH provides statistical analysis of Nebraska PRAMS data.

- **Prevention of Substance-Exposed Pregnancies Collaborative (PSEP).** CityMatCH, with funding from the CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), initiated a Practice Collaborative aimed at reducing the number of pregnancies exposed to alcohol and other substances within U.S. urban areas.

## CityMatCH Special Projects

- **MCH Life Course Toolbox.** The MCH Life Course Toolbox is an online resource for those in the MCH field to share ideas and find new strategies to integrate the Life Course Perspective into their work. The Life Course Perspective offers a new way of looking at health, not as disconnected, unrelated stages, but as an integrated continuum. This perspective suggests that the many facets of life contribute to health outcomes across the course of one's life.

- **Community Adolescent Futures Initiative (CAFI).** The Community Adolescent Futures Initiative is a methodology developed by CityMatCH focusing on improving the health of adolescents by providing communities with evidence-based interventions targeting their most pressing health disparities. It supports the theory that public health investments aimed at improving the overall health (and, thus, the future reproductive health) of youth are important and hold the greatest potential for improving birth outcomes across a population.

- **Annual CityMatCH Urban Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference.** For over 20 years, the CityMatCH Annual Conference of Urban Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programs and leaders has been recognized for cutting-edge MCH content, in-depth skills-building sessions, and great professional camaraderie. In 2012, the Annual Conference was co-hosted with the 18th Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference. Dates for the 2013 conference will be announced in the spring of 2013 and both members and non-members are welcome to attend.

## Upcoming Grand Rounds

**February 8, 2013**

- **Basil J. Zitelli, MD,** Chief of The Paul C. Gaffney Diagnostic Referral Service and Professor of Pediatrics at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine will be a distinguished lecturer. Dr. Zitelli is well-known...
for his role as senior editor of the Atlas of Pediatric Physical Diagnosis. He will present on the value of the history and physical in the era of technology.

**Congratulations**

**Dr. Shelley Smith** will be named the first recipient of the Bruce Buehler endowed professorship.

**Dr. Arwa Nasir** has assumed the role of Division Chief for General Pediatrics.

On February 1st, **Dr. Gary Beck** will be assuming the position of Director, Curriculum and Education Research Office, for the the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. He will continue to work in the department, assisting with curriculum and evaluation/assessment issues with the medical student, residency and fellowship programs.