Division Spotlight:  Child Health Policy

CityMatCH, the National Organization of Urban Maternal and Child Health Leaders, has been a member of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Nebraska Medical Center for a quarter century. Our role is to help local health departments protect and promote the health of all women, children, and families living within their jurisdictions.

One strength, of our location within the Department of Pediatrics, is the ability to tap into the breadth of knowledge at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. This influences the way in which we impact our member health departments. We also value opportunities to collaborate with other faculty on translational research efforts. One recent example (highlighted below) is a collaborative application being submitted as a product of the Gary A. Perkins Pediatric Research Institute. Dr. Ann Anderson Berry, Associate Professor, Pediatrics, is Principle Investigator of the application; one which brings together multiple partners from across the University System.

Child Health Policy Staff

Chad Abresch, MEd; Executive Director, CityMatCH

Mark Law, MS, PhD; Director of Operations

Denise Pecha, LCSW; Director of Programs

Erin Schneider, MSW; Director of Development

Monica Beltran, MPH; Senior PH Project Coordinator

Maureen Fitzgerald, MPA; Senior Logistics Coordinator

Carol Gilbert, MS; Senior Health Data Analyst

Rebecca Ramsey, MPH; Senior PH Project Coordinator

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Upcoming Events

Jan 18 | 12 PM
Writing Group
UNMC UT 5151

Jan 28 | 7 AM
Pediatric Faculty Meeting
UNMC PDR A/B

Jan 13 | 12 PM
Dr. Gregory Johnson
UNMC UT 7412

Jan 5 | 8 AM
Dr. Kortany McCauley
UNMC UT 7412

Jan 12 | 8 AM
Dr. Whitney Bossert
UNMC UT 7412

Jan 19 | 8 AM
Dr. Amanda Jepson
UNMC UT 7412

Jan 26 | 8 AM
Dr. Cody Heston
UNMC UT 7412

Grand Rounds
A complete schedule for the month is located at www.unmc.edu/Pediatrics

Contact Us
CityMatCH Programs

CityMatCH provides training and technical assistance to a national network of MCH leaders as well as to communities with specific needs. These training opportunities provide a venue for urban MCH leaders to learn about best practices, emerging issues, and make connections with other MCH leaders from across the country. CityMatCH is primarily grant and contract-funded, with grant funding coming from HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and from contracts with various state and local agencies across the country. Below are examples of CityMatCH projects:

- **Collaborative Grant Application-Food Deserts, Maternal Malnutrition, and Neonatal Outcomes in Nebraska.** CityMatCH is collaborating with UNMC faculty in the Department of Pediatrics, College of Allied Health Professions - Medical Nutrition Education, College of Public Health, College of Medicine, and a faculty member from UNO to submit a planning grant application on vitamin A deficiency in pregnant women in Nebraska. This collaborative research effort will bring together academic researchers and public health practitioners with expertise in newborn medicine, nutrition, food deserts, health disparities, community geocoding, and epidemiology to study the impacts of vitamin A deficiency on birth and neonatal outcomes.

- **Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.** CityMatCH collaborated with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the CDC to develop a community based approach to the surveillance and prevention of vertical HIV transmission. CityMatCH led pilot testing of the methodology in three U.S. communities (Baton Rouge, LA, Jacksonville, FL, and Detroit, MI). After a successful pilot phase, the methodology is
now included as a required activity on all CDC HIV community-based prevention funding.

- **Collective Impact for public health improvement.** CityMatCH secured $1.8 million in funding from MCHB to provide training and evaluate outcomes of collective impact initiatives in 30 U.S. communities. The project is set to launch in January with the first cohort of 10 community teams. Public health improvement initiatives will include adverse perinatal outcomes, chronic disease prevention including preventing overweight and obese children, maternal morbidity and mortality, fatherhood involvement, and adolescent health.

- **Perinatal Periods of Risk (PPOR).** CityMatCH collaborated with CDC, MCHB, and the March of Dimes to develop PPOR, a comprehensive approach to help communities use data to reduce infant mortality. PPOR provides an analytic framework and steps for investigating and addressing the specific local causes of high fetal and infant mortality rates and disparities. Initial analyses are based only on vital records data (births, deaths, and fetal deaths); later steps utilize all available sources of data and information. Urban communities across the U.S. have used PPOR as a way to monitor progress (surveillance), to guide public health planning, and to help prioritize prevention activities.

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**Resident Faculty Awards**

The Pediatric Residency Program would like to honor select faculty members for their dedication to the residency program and taking the additional time to teach residents. On a monthly basis residents vote for one community and one academic faculty member who they felt went above and beyond expectations to improve their education.

November 2015 recipients are:

- **Murty Adabala, M.D.** Academic Faculty Award
- **Kari Krenzer, M.D.** Community Faculty Award

Congratulations and thank you for your commitment to our program and bettering the future physicians of our community.