Center for Reducing Health Disparities

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Working with Communities to Improve Health through Collaborative Research, Education and Service
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Message from the Center Director

February 25, 2016

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to have this opportunity to share with you some of the major activities conducted by the Center for Reducing Health Disparities in the year of 2015. With our team effort and support from the College of Public Health, UNMC, Nebraska Medicine, and our community partners, the Center for Reducing Health Disparities (CRHD) has taken serious steps in strengthening our relationships with the community, developing new partnerships, and increasing our research capacity and performance.

With the support from Dean Khan, the Center has worked closely with community leaders and representatives in initiating two Collective Impact projects. In December 2014, Dean Khan met with community leaders serving the African American population in Douglas County, Nebraska. Based on feedback from community representatives, Dean Khan established the Community Conversations Committee under the leadership of Dr. Renaisa S. Anthony. The academic-community partnership committee convenes monthly and is currently working together on the African American Mental Health Collective Impact Project. The partnership focuses on mental health promotion in the African American community and aims to improve mental health knowledge, services and access in Douglas County. Over the past year, the committee partnered with UNO collaborators to conduct an environmental scan and community assessment specific to mental health services for African Americans in Douglas County.

Secondly, the Collective Impact Project also supported by Dean Khan is a proposal entitled "Vibrant Community: Healthy Garden". Athena Ramos, Community Health Manager at the CRHD, worked with community agencies and partners in South Omaha to develop this proposal. The purpose of this pilot project is to establish the needed partnerships to explore the feasibility of developing community gardening as a platform for health promotion and for building a more vibrant community through increased awareness and knowledge of nutrition, physical activity promotion, development of an urban garden workforce in South Omaha, and fostering a sense of community in the surrounding neighborhoods. Besides its immediate impact on nutritional wellbeing, we expect the preliminary data from the project will help us work with the community to identify ways and resources to develop impactful gardening projects in South Omaha.

The year of 2015 also witnessed our success in initiating new partnerships and sponsored research projects. Through a grant from the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center at UNMC (PIs: Dr. Dejun Su and Dr. Renaisa S. Anthony), the CRHD team managed to interview over 100 cancer patients to identify barriers and facilitators associated with minority patients' participation in cancer clinical trials, and to propose pragmatic steps the Cancer Center can take to increase enrollment of minority cancer patients in clinical trials.

With funding support from Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NE DHHS) (PI: Dr. Dejun Su), the CRHD conducted a statewide assessment of unmet needs in parenting education based on qualitative and quantitative data collected from parents, especially minority parents, parental education providers and stakeholder agencies in both urban and rural Nebraska. The CRHD team worked together to develop a comprehensive report on parenting education needs assessment, for which we received positive feedback from NE DHHS.
We are encouraged by our new partnership with African American churches in North Omaha. Wayne Houston, Community Health Manager at the CRHD, spent serious effort in engaging pastors and other community leaders to gain their trust and initiate this partnership. For the first time in the Center’s history, we worked closely with eight African American churches to put together a NIH proposal that seeks to address hypertension control and prevention among African American men and to assess how the use of mobile text messaging can help facilitate the effort through a randomized controlled trial (PIs: Dr. Dejun Su, Dr. Ralph Lassiter, and Dr. John Stone).

With funding support from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Dr. Dejun Su continues to lead the effort in data analysis and payment model development in the telemedicine project that aims to improve clinical outcomes for diabetic patients, especially low-income, underserved diabetic patients in Nebraska. Initial data collected from patients who went through the 90-day telemedicine intervention has revealed some promising impact of the intervention in diabetes control and management. The research team at the CRHD has developed two manuscripts in this area based on systematic review and meta-analysis of related studies, with one already published.

We are glad to welcome new members to the CRHD. In August 2015, Maria Teel joined the CRHD as our new Administrative Assistant. She has well-adapted to her new position and has greatly facilitated center administration and our outreach and engagement effort. The recruitment of Dr. Tzeyu Michaud as a Postdoctoral Research Associate to the Center has strengthened our capacity in health services research. We also appreciate the great work by our Graduate Assistants. Megan Kelley, our former GA who worked at the CRHD for three years, landed a faculty job at UNL before her graduation in 2015. The recruitment of new GAs and work-study students has increased our research capacity at the Center.

We hope this Annual Report will give you a glimpse of the CRHD endeavor in the past year and where we stand in terms of community engagement, education, research, and service to our Nebraska community. To fulfill CRHD’s mission of promoting equity and social justice in health and health care, we welcome any collaborative efforts to generate and disseminate evidence-based, policy-relevant solutions. This is a cause that requires our passion, skills, and most important of all, a willingness to work together to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities.

Thank you for your attention and support to the CRHD. We look forward to continuing to work with you to promote health and health equity in the years to come.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dejun Su
Director
Community Engagement, Service and Advocacy
CRHD Programs and Interventions

Health Fairs

Ask-A-Nurse
This program is a weekly 2-hour community outreach program where Ira Combs, RN meets with individuals at McDonalds, Burger King, the Charles Washington Library, churches and other community venues in North Omaha. He is available for community members to ask questions about specific health issues they may have concerns about, want more information about, or to answer questions about medication and medical procedures. Simple health screenings consisting of blood pressure and glucose checks are provided for those who would like to participate. Over 175 individuals have participated in the program, and 40 participants have been referred to physicians or agencies based on their specific needs.

Black Family Health and Wellness Association (BFHWA), North Omaha Health Fair
Wayne R. Houston, is the founder and president of Black Family Health & Wellness Association, (BFHWA), which is a non-profit organization that has been conducting, health fairs, health screenings, conferences and workshops since 1998. This annual North Omaha health fair for the community was held at Omaha North High School and 620 people participated.

Flu Vaccine Campaign
The annual flu campaign seeks to vaccinate the indigent and those who do not have access to primary care providers. This year over 970 flu shots were given, and the flu shots were donated by Methodist Health Foundation.

Health Fairs
People-centered programs suggest and encourage flexibility to meet various physical, social, and cultural needs and interest. The Center provides health screening and participates at many community health fairs including those at churches, supermarkets, beauty/barber shops, and other locations. This year over 620 people were screened for high blood pressure and diabetes. Some of the health fairs that the Center has participated in include: St. John’s AME, Urban League of Nebraska, Joy of Life Ministries, Open Door Mission, and the Charles B. Washington Library. CRHD also staffs a weekly clinic offering screening for hypertension, diabetes, cancer, STDs, and HIV.

Islamic Center of Omaha (ICO) Basic Health Screening
This year over 90 people at ICO participated in basic health care screening such as flu vaccine and blood pressure screening. The campaign was coordinated by Dr. Toure, Nurses Ira Combs and Dr. Katherine Bravo from the College of Nursing.

NOAH Free Clinic
During 2015, 1534 clients were served while being only open 20 hours a week. The clinic is staffed by volunteer registered nurses and UNMC College of Nursing, Methodist School of Nursing, and Kaplan School of Nursing. The following are some of the services offered through the clinic: flu shots, blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, STD screening, rapid HIV, Hep-C, and health education. The clinic is supported by private donors, Methodist Health Foundation, Black Family Health and Wellness Association, North Omaha Care Council, and the Omaha Community Foundation.

Healthy Living

Chronic Disease Management
Education is available for individuals living with diabetes, hypertension and breast cancer. Clinical breast exam and Mammograms can be provided through a grant of National Breast Cancer Foundation.

CPR en Español
The Center for Reducing Health Disparities offered a CPR course in Spanish to the Latino community on September 26, 2015 at St. Luke’s Church. The American Heart Association instructors taught the four hour course and at the end each participant received their CPR certification. A total of 25 community members attended the course.
Encuentro de La Mujer Sana
The "Encuentro" a one-day Spanish-language women’s health conference took place on May 14, 2015. It was specifically designed for immigrant Latinas and developed through a partnership between the Center and Maritza Andrade, a participant in the Great Plains Public Health Leadership Program (GPPHLI). The conference took place at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, Nebraska. Women learned in their native language and shared in a day of health education and screenings, empowerment, and sisterhood.

Mental Health First Aid
Antonia Correa has been trained in Mental Health First Aid USA curriculum. Mental Health First Aid is an international program which has proven to be effective in: (1) Growing knowledge of signs, symptoms and risk factors of mental illnesses and addictions; (2) Identifying multiple types of professional and self-help resources for individuals with a mental illness or addiction; (3) Increasing their confidence in and likelihood to help an individual in distress; and (4) Increasing mental wellness among participants. Studies also show that the program reduces the social distance created by negative attitudes and perceptions of individuals with mental illnesses. Mental Health First Aid USA is listed in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP). Mental Health First Aid Sessions were held on February 9, 2015, February 21, 2015, May 21, 2015, August 15, 2015, December 9 & 11, 2015, and December 19, 2015. Over the course of 2016, she will be conducting community presentations to train others within the Latino community about Mental Health First Aid through collaboration with Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare.

South Omaha Community Garden (A collective impact initiative)
Over the last, Athena Ramos has worked with neighborhood leaders and various South Omaha organizations to plan and develop a community garden and associated programming within the South Omaha community. The Center assisted in conducting a community survey to explore perceptions of benefits from the garden and amenities that the community would like to see in the garden. Although a small garden was planted in 2015, the group has received funding from the UNMC College of Public Health exponentially expand the garden in 2016 and use it as a platform for health and community building.

Pro-Social Youth Development

100 is Kept
This youth video program is podcast on YouTube and Vimeo. Its goal is to communicate information and services on sexually transmitted infections (STIs), gang violence, and other relevant health/public health topics. This program is collaboration between Ira Combs, NOAH Inc., Omaha Public Schools, and many area youth.

HPO - H²O
HPO - H²O is an acronym that stands for “Hip Hop Health-Omaha.” This Facebook page and YouTube program is aimed at utilizing the culture of hip hop to engage young people in the health professions, educate their peers about risky health behaviors, and give young people a voice in helping their peers to survive the dangers of everyday life. The young people write, create, produce, and star in the health and safety half hour informational video program. This educational approach has been effective because hip hop culture spans ethnicity, gender, race and other demographics factors. It is supported by the Vice-Chancellor for Research through the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Biomedical Research Development Fund (NTSBRDF).
Lead & Seed Program
The Lead & Seed program is a youth empowered, environmental approach to preventing and reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs in the community. It is a peer reviewed drug prevention program included in the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP). The overarching goal of the Lead & Seed is to prepare youth to serve as community leaders so they can help facilitate community-level change. It is also designed to provide an opportunity for growth in social, emotional, educational, and civic development areas. The strategies and skills learned can be used in all aspects of their lives since the Lead & Seed program will influence them to make a lasting impact on their community by taking an active role in community issues.

Groups of students from Bryan High School and Omaha South High School Latino Leaders have been trained on the Lead & Seed curriculum. Additionally, youth from the South Omaha Public Library’s Teen program and participants at South Omaha Girls Inc. have also been trained in the program. A total of about 18 youth were trained. Youth advocates participated in activities such as visit to the State Capitol and other youth-focused activities. The project was completed in September 2015 and was funded through the LiveWise Coalition through the Partnership for Success (PFS) grant.

Youth Expression of Health (YEOH)
This program is a training program for youth that was established by youth and adults in North Omaha for the specific purpose of informing youth about health issues and guiding young people towards the healthcare field. YEOH is conducted every summer for the last 16 years. In 2015, 65 youth participated in program over the course of 5 days.

Youth RESEARCH Summer Intern Program (SIP)
This program is a nine-week program for youth interested in health careers. This year there were 9 students who worked approximately 24 hours per week on various health-related projects. The purpose of the Summer Intern Program is to instill respect, understand of the importance of health related research, and develop relevant community health research skills. This year, the students did presentations from June 20th –July15th 2015 at Nothing but Net, Charles Washington Library, Educare Center, Nebraska Children’s Home Society Daycare, Adams Community Center, UNMC Clarkson Daycare, Claire Methodist United Church and Girls Inc. The Summer Intern Program was conducted with the support of the City Of Omaha Step-Up program, the Empowerment Network, UNMC, BNCH and the Deans Office of COPH.
Support Groups & Workshops

Celebration of Life & My Sister’s Keeper
The Celebration of Life is a program that focuses on community education, awareness and outreach for women who have survived or are currently living with breast cancer. This is the 15th year of this program that is supported by the CRHD. The speakers this year were Dr. Delia Garcia of St. Louis and Dr. Phyllis Nsiah-Kumi of Cleveland, Ohio. Discussion topics included reducing our risk for breast cancer as well as other chronic diseases. My Sister’s Keeper is a Breast cancer survivor’s support, education and advocacy group. They provide services to women and families affected by breast cancer. The mission of My Sister’s Keeper is to provide emotional support and other services to make the journey through breast cancer easier.

Domestic Violence Workshops
The purpose of these workshops is to provide education and awareness of domestic violence experienced in the Latino community and to assist individuals and families experiencing violence in their homes. The Center is able to be refer people to community-based resources.

Parenting Workshops
The Center presents workshops on positive parenting approaches based on the Boys Town Common Sense Parenting guidelines. These workshops include information about talking to children about tobacco, alcohol and drug prevention, personal development including self-esteem, anger management, stress management, healthy eating, and more. Workshops and panels have been presented at some of the following location Jackson Elementary, Mujeres y Valores Group, and other community groups by Antonia Correa.

Tobacco Prevention & Control – Grant Funded
The Tobacco Prevention Program at the Center has been funded by Tobacco Free Nebraska since 2002. The program continues to be a major component of the services provided to the Latino community by the Center. This program focuses on tobacco education and prevention in both youth and adults. This initiative has been successful due to the use of a culturally and linguistically sensitive approach. In addition to tobacco prevention, the program focuses on health issues related with tobacco use, like diseases and disparities in healthcare access affecting the Latino community. The Center works closely with community agencies, businesses, faith based organizations, anti-smoking groups and coalitions to educate, collaborate, and promote a tobacco-free society. The Center continues providing tobacco prevention outreach and engagement programs, serving on the front lines in addressing the health needs of the underserved associated with tobacco use with the ultimate goal of attaining and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Programs - Latino Outreach Initiatives

Cessation (Quitting) Program
Antonia Correa is available to provide an 8-week cessation program for Spanish-speaking smokers. The cessation program includes information on behavioral modification, peer support, and basic information on pharmacotherapy.
Latinas, Tabaco, y Cáncer
Antonia Correa, Athena Ramos, and Natalia Trinidad support the Latinas, Tabaco, y Cáncer project. Latinas, Tabaco, y Cáncer (LTC) is a group of Latina women, many from South Omaha, engaged in education and advocacy activities to develop community-based projects that build community capacity and influence the social norms around tobacco use, exposure to second hand smoke, and health promotion. The women gather together every other month to learn more on a topic related with tobacco and/or cancer. This year, the Center hosted a special training for LTC members to learn about communication and group facilitation. In addition, the women also learn about advocacy and how to be effective health advocates in their community by taking on various projects. Some of the activities that LTC has participated in during 2015 include: Cinco de Mayo Parade, El Grito Parade, Heartland Pride Parade, NAMIWalk, Susan G. Komen Walk, and many more.

Partnership with the Nebraska Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Antonia Correa, Athena Ramos, and Natalia Trinidad participate in the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as a way to reach out to Latino business owners and companies about tobacco related issues. In April 2015, they hosted the monthly Chamber meeting and provided a presentation on the importance of tobacco-free parks, MOTAC’s efforts within the Latino community, and solicited support from Latino businesses.

Television Show
Antonia Correa is the host of “Hablemos en Familia del Tabaco y Algo Más”, a quarterly half hour TV program that connects directly to the Spanish-speaking community in the Omaha metro and surrounding areas. This television show has aired on Cox 22 from 2004-2013 and now is being live streamed and archived on TV Latina Nebraska (http://www.livestream.com/tvlatinanebraska). This show has been a vital part of the information dissemination network developed to educate the Latino community on the harmful effects of tobacco use, secondhand smoke, and to improve lifestyles of the Latino community. Some of the topics that have been covered on the show include: Dangers of Tobacco Use, How to Quit Smoking, Smoke-Free Apartments, Smoking & Fires, and the Latinas, Tabaco, y Cáncer Group.

Tobacco Free Park Clean-ups
Over the last year, the Center has participated with MOTAC in leading a number of tobacco clean-ups in city parks – picking up tobacco trash such as cigarettes butts and other litter.
**Tobacco Talk Radio Show**
The Tobacco Talk radio show is a one-hour live call-in program aired on Radio Lobo (KBBX 97.7 FM) every quarter. It is currently funded by a grant from Tobacco Free Nebraska and is hosted by Antonia Correa with invited special guests. This program is used to educate Spanish-speaking listeners on the dangers of tobacco and the benefits of smoke-free environments. The show provides the opportunity to answer a wide variety of questions relating to tobacco use, exposure to second hand smoke, and behavioral problems related with tobacco. The target audience is estimated in 70,000-80,000 listeners per show.

**Women’s & Men’s Health**

**Ask a Vaginologist: Any and everything You Want to Know About Down There Program**
Dr. Anthony was not afraid to address controversial topics that impact women’s health. In 2015, she launched the Ask A Vaginologist series which engages community and academic audiences in an interactive manner to discuss women’s sexual and reproductive health. Common questions include pregnancy, infertility, menopause, contraception and other topics.

**HALO “Healing and Loving Ourselves” Project**
The HALO Project was launched thanks to the generous support and funding from NE Department of Health and Human Services in September 2014. The initiative was founded by Dr. Renaisa Anthony in collaboration with other community stakeholders to improve the overall health of women in Douglas County across the lifecourse through a holistic perspective addressing physical, mental and spiritual health. The group continues to meet quarterly and was featured in the 2016 Groundbreaker: [http://blog.unmc.edu/publichealth/category/the-groundbreaker/](http://blog.unmc.edu/publichealth/category/the-groundbreaker/)

**Men’s Day**
This is an annual health screening with focus on African American men that is coordinated by Ira Combs. This year 56 men participated in the event on October 31, 2015. Prostate cancer screening was offered along with free flu shots, blood pressure checks, blood sugar, cholesterol, and HIV screenings. Volunteers from various institutions helped make this project as success. This program is supported in part by the Vice-Chancellor for Research through the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Biomedical Research Development Fund (NTSBRDF).

**Metro African American Breast Cancer Taskforce**
This project was developed in coordination with other community agencies, as an effort to decrease the mortality rate in African American women in Douglas County. With volunteer community advocates, who are well trained, groups of women are given breast health information and encouraged to get their clinical breast exam or Mammograms.
Partnerships with Other Organizations and/or Campus Groups

Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN)
This year, the Latino Outreach Team had the opportunity to partner with the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) to host the first South Omaha High School Ambassador Conference on March 6, 2015. The Team worked to develop meaningful programming and recruit relevant speakers to teach the youth about behavioral health careers. This was a full-day conference and over 25 youth and 10 Latino behavioral health professionals participated. Youth participants noted that they learned more about the behavioral health career they are interested in and were motivated to continue to pursue that career.

Bridge to Care (BTC)
An inter-professional, community-engaged and student-led legacy project facilitated by the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) under the leadership of Dr. Toure and Dr. Su. BTC is the only UNMC Recognized Student Organization (RSO) with direct aims of providing opportunities for students to interact and provide health services and education to refugees in Omaha. BTC supports resettled refugees through biannual health fairs providing health education, screening, and services from community partners (i.e. clinical practices, Federally Qualified Health Centers, state and local public health) and UNMC students. Volunteers simultaneously develop cross-cultural competencies.

Bridge to Care's June and November 2015 health fairs served more than 800 Omaha refugees (from countries such as Somalia, Bhutan, Burma, and Sudan) with the help of over 375 student and community volunteers, about 200 of which were UNMC students from the College of Public Health, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, College of Allied Health, and College of Medicine. The Health Fair enables students across all disciplines at UNMC to work collaboratively to deliver health education and services to a disadvantaged, displaced population within the local community. Students develop clinical capabilities tailored to their profession while simultaneously gaining experience working with patients of a minority through an interpreter and usually with a culture distinct from their own.

Public health students facilitate the planning, discussion and dissemination of informational brochures (translated to appropriate refugee languages) at health education booths with topics ranging from tobacco cessation to child development, medical students perform hearing testing and vision screening, students from the College of Nursing screen for irregular body-mass indices (BMI) and blood pressures, pharmacy students teach refugees to navigate consumption of over-the-counter drugs in the U.S. and perform blood glucose screening. Most importantly, all UNMC students participate as "navigators" guiding groups/families of refugees through the various fair tables and services to areas of interest for each group. Navigators spend significant time, often an hour or two, with a small group of refugees and an interpreter. The fair was coordinated by Katelyn Jelden, Aurore Le, all BTC board members, and Dr. Toure.

In 2015, seven health education and five mentoring sessions took place serving over 100 resettled refugees. These two events were coordinated by Jamaal, Yashwee KC, and Corey Paz. Also, BTC held two cultural competency sessions for volunteers. The two sessions were facilitated by Pam Frank, RN, BSN (CEO and Founder - Embrace the Nations) and Alanna Schriever, MPH (Refugee Health Specialist - Omaha Public Schools).
Chancellor’s Office
Chancellor Gold values conversation with community members. Wayne Houston and Athena Ramos worked with community partners to plan community leaders’ luncheons where Dr. Gold was able to listen to community members’ needs, answer questions, and update community members on what UNMC has accomplished over the last year.

Central States Center for Agricultural Safety & Health (CS-CASH)
Athena Ramos has been working closely with CS-CASH over the last three years. She has had two pilot projects funded through CS-CASH and has worked with other members of the group on various projects providing advice on outreach to Latino agricultural workers and rural communities.

National Alliance on Mental Illness – Nebraska Chapter (NAMI)
NAMI is a nonprofit, grassroots organization dedicated to education, support and advocacy with anyone whose life has been touched by mental illness. The Center, led by Antonia Correa, participated in the Nebraska NAMIWalk which was held on June 13, 2015 at Elmwood Park in Omaha. Antonia also recruited community members to build a walking team to participate. This event helps to raise money for mental health programming and increase awareness of mental health concerns.

Toys for Tots
For the past seven years, the Center for Reducing Health Disparities has participated in the Toys for Tots drive. We have served as a location for families to enroll in the program, collect toys, and distribute toys to needy families. This is one way in which the Center can help serve the needs in the community during the holiday season. The project is coordinated by Maria Teel. Community volunteer, Annie Horton has also assisted with the program for many years. We successfully surpassed our goal by collecting over 250 gifts for 77 children from various Omaha communities. Donations were distributed to 34 families on December 22, 2015.

UNMC College of Public Health Initiatives

Athena Ramos, Antonia Correa, and Natalia Trinidad
Members of the College of Public Health’s Latino Public Health Advisory Committee (LPHAC). This year, the group hosted the 1st annual COPH Dia de los Muertos Ofrenda. All students, staff, and faculty were encouraged to participate by bringing a photo or item to share on the ofrenda.
Dejun Su
A member of the College of Public Health’s Leadership Council.

Renaisa Anthony
Serves on the College of Public Health’s Community Engagement Coordinating Council, Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP), Chairs the COPH Strategic Planning Community Based Health Transformation Workgroup and the Diversity Steering Committee

Additional Services

Advocacy Activities

Athena Ramos
Athena serves on the Advocacy Committee for the American Heart Association. This year, she was honored to participate with the Nebraska Delegation at the National Advocacy Days in May 2015. She also participated in an advocate training in November 2015.

Renaisa Anthony
Dr. Anthony has served as an American Medical Association (AMA) Delegate to the annual Congressional Health Disparities Brain Trust in Washington, DC since 2009. She was instrumental in bringing the AMA President and Minority Health Affairs Consortium to UNMC for Minority Health Month in 2014. This year Dr. Anthony was an active participant and was afforded the opportunity to discuss health disparities in Nebraska with Congressional leaders and the Surgeon General of the United States RADM Vivek Murthy.

Grant Reviews

Athena Ramos
Athena Ramos reviewed pilot grant applications for the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health.

Renaisa Anthony
Dr. Anthony served as a federal grant reviewer for the following funding mechanisms:
- Centers for Disease Control: CDC CHAIR
- National Institutes of Health: Health Disparities and Equity Promotion Study Section (HDEP)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Office on Women’s Health (OWH)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Office of Minority Health (OMH)
- U.S Department of Health and Human Services: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)
Professional Service

Athena Ramos
Athena Ramos was a speaker at TEDx UNO on February 28, 2015. Her presentation was entitled, “Speaking to Make A Difference.” It was about the power of words to create communities. The presentation is available online at: https://youtu.be/YoEdQ0qZam0

She also served on the Health committee for the Cambio de Colores Conference. She also facilitated a talk-back session with actors from Vang!, a play about immigrant farmworkers.

Renaisha Anthony
Dr. Anthony served on the board of directors for the Omaha Women’s Fund and Girl’s Inc. This year marked the 25th anniversary of the Women’s Fund who were instrumental in launching the Adolescent Health Project to address teen pregnancy and STDs in Douglas County. This year’s keynote speaker was Barbara Corcoran from the Shark Tank. Dr. Anthony continues to be a strong advocate for women across the lifecycle.
Community Engagement Presentations

**Anthony, R.** *Holistic Approaches to Positive Youth Development in Addressing Health Disparities,* Healthy Nebraska Youth Conference, Grand Island, NE, September 2015.

**Anthony, R.** *And Still I Rise: The Impact of Violence on Women’s Health,* North Omaha Learning Center, October 2015.

Anthony R. *Women’s Health Across the Lifecourse*, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Retreat, October 2015.


**Correa, A.** *Mujer, conócete y ámate, ¡pero sin disfraces!* Mujeres y Valores Group, Omaha, NE, February 10, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *Life Skills.* Women on a Mission For Change Conference, UNO Engagement Center, Omaha, NE, March 13, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *Tabaco y Alcohol: Una Mezcla Peligrosa.* Latinas, Tabaco y Cancer Group, Omaha, NE, April 15, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *Dejémonos de Secretos...Hablemos de las Infecciones de Transmisión Sexual.* Jackson Elementary School, Omaha, NE, April 17, 2015.

**Correa, A. & Trinidad, N.** *Tobacco Control Initiatives in Omaha.* Nebraska Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast, Omaha, NE, April 24, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *Amor, Comunicación y Sexualidad Humana.* Mujeres y Valores Group, Omaha, NE, April 27, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *Destrezas de Comunicación y Liderazgo.* Latinas, Tabaco y Cancer Group, Omaha, NE, April 30, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *El Poder Natural de la Mujer Latina.* Mujeres y Valores Group, Omaha, NE, May 11, 2015.

**Correa, A.** *Mujer Sana...Mujer de Poder.* Latino Women Summit, Schulyer, NE, May 14, 2015.


**Houston, W.** *How to better engage the African American Community,* American Heart Association “Power to End Stroke” Omaha, NE. February 10, 2015.

**Houston, W.** *Heart Healthy Happy Hour Project,* facilitator American Heart Association PTES program, Omaha, NE. February 27, 2015

**Houston, W.** *Dress for Success,* North Omaha Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands, Omaha, NE. March 18, 2015.

**Houston, W.** Presenter for *T.I.E.D. to Greatness Symposium,* Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, North Omaha Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands, Omaha, NE. March 21, 2015

**Houston, W.** *Keynote graduation speaker,* Omaha AHEC program, Northwest High School. Omaha, NE May 6, 2015

**Houston, W.** Presenter, *Creighton University Cultural Awareness Seminar for Dental Students,* Omaha, NE. May 21, 2015

**Houston, W.** Facilitation of the *Health Care Professionals Career Day,* UNMC CoPH, Omaha, NE. July 16, 2015.

**Houston, W.** *College to Career the value of a post-secondary education,* OPS, King Science Center, Omaha, NE. September 4, 2015

**Houston, W.** Talent for *Community Health Care Issues,* Public Access Television KPAO, Omaha, NE. September 11, 2015.

**Houston, W.** Presenter for *Striving for Success: Black Male Summit,* Urban League of Nebraska, Omaha, NE. September 15, 2015.

**Houston, W.** *Alzheimer’s State Plan Town Hall meeting,* Alzheimer’s Association, Omaha, NE. September 15, 2015.

**Houston, W.** Master of Ceremonies for the *MORE Project “Crumpets and Tea” Program,* Omaha, NE. Sept 30, 2015.
Houston, W. Facilitation of the *UNMC Chancellors North Omaha Leadership Meeting*, Omaha, NE. October 8, 2015.

Houston, W. *Conversation about Poverty workshop*, Omaha, NE. October 17, 2015


Ramos, A. Moderator for *Initiating Solutions and Broadening Communication*. Information Exchange Conference, Omaha, NE, September 25, 2015.

Ramos, A. *Immigrant Health in the United States*. Mary Our Queen Catholic School, Omaha, NE, November 16, 2015.

Ramos, A. *Tobacco – Do You Know What’s Up?*. Omaha Public Schools Youth Congress, Omaha, NE, November 20, 2015.

Trinidad, N. *Tobacco 101*. Omaha Public Schools Youth Congress, Omaha, NE, September 11, 2015.

Trinidad, N. *Tobacco Free Earth*. Omaha Public Schools Youth Congress, Omaha, NE, November 10, 2015.

Trinidad, N. *Resolución de Año… Una Vida Libre de Tabaco*. Mexican Consulate, Omaha, NE, December 14, 2015.
Participation in Community Events & Leadership
Capacity Building/Partnerships

The Center works with a number of community agencies in order to develop opportunities to reduce and eliminate health disparities. There are many touch-points and collaborators which staff work with to reach the community. Below is a listing of the organizations with which the Center collaborates:

- 75 North
- 100 Black Men of Omaha
- Abide Network
- Alzheimer's Association of the Midlands
- American Cancer Society
- American Heart Association
- American Psychological Association, Behavioral & Social Science Volunteer Program
- American Society for Public Administration
- Avenue Scholars
- Bellevue Public Schools
- Black Family Health & Wellness Association
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Omaha
- Building Healthy Futures
- Butler-Gast YMCA
- Carl T. Curtis Health Education Center
- Catholic Charities – Juan Diego Center
- Center for Holistic Development
- Charles Drew Health Center
- CHI Health
- City Sprouts
- College of Saint Mary
- Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim
- Connoisseur Media/Radio Lobo-97.7 FM
- Consulate of Mexico
- Creighton University
- Creighton University Latino Student Association (CULSA)
- Douglas County Health Department
- Eastern Nebraska Office of Aging (ENCAP)
- ElCentro de Las Americas – Lincoln
- El Museo Latino
- El Peru Newspaper
- Empowerment Network
- Essential Pregnancy Services
- Family Housing Advisory Services
- Fontenelle Nature Association
- Girls Inc.
- Goodwill of Omaha
- Heartland Pride
- Heartland Latino Leadership Conference (HLLC)
- Heartland Workers’ Center
- Hope Center
- Human Rights Campaign
- Indian Center: Youth Suicide Prevention
- Intercultural Senior Center
- Inter-Ministerial Alliance (IMA)
- Islamic Center of Omaha (ICO)
- Juan Diego Center
- Justice for Our Neighbors
- KETV
- Latino Center of the Midlands
- Latino Leaders High School Clubs
- Lighthouse Community and Wellness Center
- Lincoln Lancaster Department of Health
- LiveWise
- Love's Jazz & Art Museum
- March of Dimes
- Methodist Health Foundation
- Metro Community College
- Metro Omaha Tobacco Action Coalition (MOTAC)
- Midlands Latino Community Development Corporation
- Mujeres y Valores
- National Alliance for Hispanic Health
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Omaha Chapter
- National Latino Tobacco Control Network
- National Network for LGBT Health Equity
- Nebraska Cancer Coalition (NC2)
- Nebraska Families Collaborative
- Nebraska Children’s Home Society
- Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services, Maternal & Child Health Program
- Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity
- Nebraska Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Nebraska Kidney Foundation
- Nebraska Migrant Action Coalition
- Nebraska Migrant Education Program
- Nebraska Tobacco Disparities Network
- Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition
- New Era Baptist Ministers Convention
- North Omaha Area Health
- North Omaha Community Care Council
- Nothing But Net Inc.
- Office of Minority Health, Congressional District 2 Committee
- Office of Women’s Health
- Olson Center for Women’s Health
- Omaha 360
- Omaha City Planning Department
- Omaha Police Department – North & South
- Omaha Public Library
- Omaha Public Schools, African American Achievement Council & Latino Academic Achievement Council
- Omaha Sister Cities Association (OSCA)
- Omega Charitable Foundation of Omaha
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated
- One World Community Health Centers/Learning Community & Healthy Families
- Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)
- Phi’s Foodway
- Planned Parenthood of Nebraska & Iowa
- Prospect Village Community Stakeholders
- Public Health Association of Nebraska (PHAN)
- Redes En Acción
- Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare
- River City Gender Alliance
- Saludable Omaha
- Sherwood Foundation
- South Omaha Community Care Council
- South Omaha Soccer League
- Tobacco Free Nebraska
- UNO, Office of Latino Latin American Studies (OLLAS)
- United Way Medical Reserve Corps
- United Way of the Midlands
- Urban League of Nebraska
- Women’s Fund of Omaha
- Women’s Center for Advancement
- Zutan Home Health Care
Education & Scholarship
CRHD Resource Library
The CRHD Resource Library provides a list of recently published educational and research articles and books on major health disparities, with a focus on African American, Latino, and Asian American communities. It also includes information on interventions aiming to address these disparities such as with cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and tobacco smoke. All resource library materials have been catalogued through the McGoogan Library of Medicine and can be searched online. Currently, the CRHD has over 275 items in the resource library. Resources can be used by policymakers, healthcare providers, community leaders, and others. Most materials are freely available in hard copy through the Center. Over the next year, the Center will be working to make some materials available through our website or through various electronic formats.

Courses Offered Through The CRHD
Public Health Program Evaluation
This course is designed to provide an overview of methods for evaluating health promotion programs. It is taught by Dr. Dejun Su. Students will learn methods for choosing appropriate evaluation designs and procedures for data collection, choosing and developing survey items, and interpreting and describing evaluation results. The course is intended for graduate students and health professionals who will be actively involved in addressing public health issues through interventions and evaluations.

Women’s Health: A Lifecourse Perspective
The course is an interactive master's level public health course that enables students to critically evaluate and apply theory and skills to address and advocate for women’s health across the lifespan. It is taught by Dr. Renaisa Anthony. The course features 8 weeks of didactics followed by 8 week of women’s health practice. Students learn in and out of the classroom with field trips to places including but not limited to Planned Parenthood, Labor and Delivery, the Women’s Center for Advancement and others.

Service-Learning
The Center is working with the UNMC Service Learning Academy which facilitates inter-professional and interdisciplinary public health learning experiences in local, regional, national and international communities. The Center has worked with specific faculty and students to provide meaningful learning opportunities in underserved communities.
Educational Presentations & Guest Lectures

**Anthony, R.** *Helpful and Honest Answers to the top Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Questions*, UNMC Olson Center Brown Bag Lecture, September 2015

**Anthony, R.** *Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives: A Provider Perspective*, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee PASBT Catalyst Conference, Milwaukee, WI, June 2015

**Anthony, R.** *Ask A Vaginologist: Any and Everything You Want to Know About Down There*, Metro Community College Women's Health Release Conference*Omaha, NE, May 2015

**Anthony, R.** *The Social Determinant of Health*, UNMC RHOP/PHEAST Student Workshop, Omaha, NE, May 2015

**Anthony, R.** *A Differential Diagnosis for Health Equity*, Clarkson College Health Equity Conference, Nebraska, May 2015

**Anthony, R.** *Academic-Community Partnerships for Health Equity*, Creighton University 2015 Health Disparities Conference, April 2015


**Anthony, R.** *Wonder Nurse to the Rescue: Caring for the 21st Century College Woman*, University of Nebraska, Kearney, Clinical Nurse Conference, March 2015

**Correa, A.** *There is No Health Without Mental Health*, UNO HED 2310: Guest Lecture, Omaha, NE, February 2, 2015

**Correa, A.** *Latinos and Mental Health*, UNO LLS 3900, Omaha, NE, November 2, 2015


**Su, Dejun.** *Does Nutritional Counseling in Telemedicine Improve Treatment Outcomes for Diabetes? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Results from 72 Studies*. APHA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 3, 2015

**Su, Dejun.** *Health Disparities and Several Case Studies*. School of Public Health, Xi An Jiaotong University, China, March 2015

**Su, Dejun.** *Health Disparities in China: An Ecological Perspective*. Beijing University, Tsinghua University, and Peking Medical Union College, China. March 2015

**Su, Dejun.** *Health Disparities in China: An Ecological Perspective*. School of Public Health, Xi An Jiaotong University, China, March 2015


**Su, Dejun.** *Increase in Minimum Wage in Nebraska: Implications for Health Disparities*. College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center. April 30, 2015

**Su, Dejun.** *Misconception of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: How Does It Impact Public Opinion?* APHA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 2, 2015

**Su, Dejun.** *Public Health in the 21st Century: Opportunities and Challenges*. School of Public Health, Xi An Jiaotong University, China, March 2015

**Su, Dejun.** *Public Health Practices in the Community: Experience of the CHRD*. School of Public Health, Xi An Jiaotong University, China, March 2015

**Ramos, A.** *Health Disparities & Cultural Humility in Healthcare: Why It Matters*. Nurse Residency Module, Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, July 8, 2015
Ramos, A. Health Disparities & Cultural Humility in Healthcare: Why It Matters. Nurse Residency Module, Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, November 9, 2015

Trinidad, N. Smoking and Tobacco Use UNO HED 2310 Guest Lecture, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE, March 11, 2015

Additional Activities

Minority Health Month Grand Rounds
Dr. Anthony has convened the Minority Health Month Grand Rounds for the past five years exceeding capacity for each event. For 2015, Dr. Anthony invited Gary Mueller of Serve Marketing to present the impact of social marketing to improve minority health particularly related to sexual and reproductive health. Serve marketing is leading the marketing efforts for the STD campaign in Douglas County.

Media Appearances
Dr. Anthony has been featured on multiple television and radio shows on topics such as women’s health, health disparities, chronic diseases and cancer. In March 2015 Dr. Anthony and other UNMC physicians were features on “Living With Cancer in Nebraska” Television panel for NET, University of Nebraska, Lincoln March, 2015
http://netnebraska.org/node/966662

M4 Series
Dr. Renaisa Anthony teaches the Integrated Clinical Experience (ICE) sessions with 4th year

Student & Resident Advising

Under Dr. Touré’s supervision, Kandy Do performed literature reviews, learned and developed two full IRB applications, designed and administered surveys.

Dr. Toure served as an advisor for Clara Hageman who was an intern in the Center over the summer. His mentorship and collaboration led to a draft manuscript “Examining the Impact of Medicaid on Pregnancy Outcomes for Undocumented Pregnant Immigrants.”

Dr. Anthony is the academic and Capstone Project advisor of multiple students across UNMC particularly in the College of Public Health.

Clinical

Dr. Renaisa S. Anthony is a licensed physician practicing women’s health. She cares for women across the lifecourse at the Charles Drew Community Health Center in North Omaha. Dr. Anthony incorporates a prevention model to improve overall health, quality of life and longevity. She has been featured on television and was instrumental in the promotion of cervical and breast cancer screening. A social medial education tool was created featuring Dr. Anthony. It can be viewed at: “Cervical Cancer Screening Saves Lives” Charles Drew Community Health Center
Research
Faculty Assistance & Research Support to Develop and Implement Protocols and Proposals
The Center routinely works with faculty from across UNMC and other University of Nebraska campuses to develop research protocols that are community, cultural, and linguistically competent. The Center assists as a primary partner with faculty and departments in the development stage of research proposals. Furthermore, the Center provides an English-Spanish translation service for IRB-approved research documents. In 2015, the Center translated over 22,130 words, producing a $5,534 value to University investigators.

Research Projects

African American Mental Health in Douglas County Collective Impact Project
Dr. Anthony is the Principal Investigator for the Dean’s Collective Impact Project. Implementing an academic-community partnership model Dr. Anthony convenes a monthly community advisory council with representation from community leaders and stakeholders who serve the African American population. Through a community engaged process the council determined mental health as a public health priority in the African American community. The council will conduct a needs assessment and environmental scan on the availability of mental health services in Douglas County. An awareness campaign will be designed by and implemented in the community during the summer of 2016 to increase community awareness of mental health and services in Douglas County.

Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Among Native Americans in Thurston County, Nebraska
Dr. Dejun Su has been collaborating with the Carl T. Curtis Health Education Center in their implementation of a project on cardiovascular disease awareness in the Umo-ka tribe in Nebraska starting from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015. Through this contract, the CRHD conduct a program evaluation for the project during the two year period. The project is funded by the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity at Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services under the Minority Health Initiative grant.

Economic and Social Impact of Teen Pregnancy in Nebraska
Dr. Anthony and Dr. Hongmei Wang are the Principal Investigators on a report to examine the economic and social impact of teen pregnancy in Nebraska. The report will be published and used to influence policy at the State level to address family planning efforts across the lifecourse by demonstrating the cost savings to the State by preventing teen pregnancy and the impact of teen pregnancy on pregnant teens and their children.

HALO “Healing and Loving Ourselves” Project
Dr. Anthony continues to serve as the Principal Investigator of the HALO Project. The HALO Project is in its second year of convening and has addressed women’s health related topics. Dr. Anthony works with the HALO Project cohort to build capacity and seek funding to expand efforts to include adult self-sufficiency and efficacy.

Latino Swine CAFO Workers Study
The Health & Job Hazards of Latino CAFO Workers in Missouri study was developed to systematically understand and describe occupational risks; CAFO job processes among the phases of hog production including: sows, nursery pigs, and finishing; and explore opportunities for safety and health educational interventions through the identification of perceptions and acceptance of occupational risk, health effects, healthcare needs, and health beliefs among CAFO workers and their families. We are conducting a prospective panel study with immigrant Latino hog CAFO workers and their families in Missouri and track them over the course of one year. Project team members include: Athena Ramos (PI), Antonia Correa, and Axel Fuentes.

Migrant Farmworker Health Study
This research project was funded by the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety & Health to explore mental health and stress among Latino migrant farmworkers in Nebraska. Latino migrant farmworkers are one of most disadvantaged populations in the United States, and this study is the beginning of exploring how living and working conditions in Nebraska can be improved. A Migrant Health Task Force was formed by the research team from the Center for Reducing Health Disparities and various community partners to help guide the study’s implementation and create a “think tank” regarding migrant farmworker health in Nebraska. All data was collected in 2013, but 2015 was spent in developing presentations for community, academic, and industry partners as well manuscripts for publication. Project team members include: Athena Ramos (PI), Antonia Correa (Co-I), Ricardo Ariza, Roy Rivera, and Sue Henry.

Mixed Methods Assessment of Refugee Women’s Health in Nebraska
Dr. Anthony is the Co-Principal Investigator working with Dr. Shinobu Watanabe Galloway (PI) to explore the health of refugee women in Nebraska. Dr. Anthony will conduct mixed methods to better understand the cultural intricacies of women’s health among Sudanese refugees. Areas of interest include family planning, pregnancy, contraception, breast and cervical cancer screening and the prevention of chronic diseases.
Parenting Education Needs Assessment in Nebraska
In 2015, the Center conducted a parenting needs assessment among parents in Nebraska who had children between the ages of 0 to 17 years. The purpose of this study was (1) to assess the perception of and attitudes towards parenting education among parents, especially minority parents in Nebraska; (2) identify the current barriers in parenting education; and (3) to understand the preferences of parenting education programs and determine what types of support and services are needed. To meet the aims of this study, we surveyed 500 parents from North Omaha, South, Omaha, and rural areas of Nebraska (Columbus, David City, and Crete). Secondly, we convened two focus groups in North and South Omaha to collect information regarding parenting attitudes, needs, and preferences. Finally, we interviewed eight stakeholders involved in parenting education activities in Nebraska.

Funding for this Parenting Education Needs Assessment was provided by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Maternal Child Adolescent Health Unit as well as the UNMC-College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities. Research team: Dejun Su, PhD, Drissa M. Toure, MD, MPH, Molly McCarthy, MPH, Athena Ramos, MS, MBA, CPM, Antonia Correa, MA, Wayne Houston, MPA, Jackeline Hill, RN, Natalia Trinidad, BS, Kandy Do, BS.

Patient and Provider Perspectives to Determine Best Practice for Increasing Recruitment and Retention of Minority Cancer Patients into Clinical Trials
Dr. Anthony is the Co-PI on a cancer grant funded by the Cancer Center to the CRHD. Dr. Anthony will work closely with oncologists, their patients and the community to elucidate strategies to increase minority participation in cancer clinical trials.

UCSF/UNMC Collaboration on Family Planning Availability in the Midwest
Dr. Anthony served as the UNMC Principal Investigator for the UCSF/UNMC collaborative grant exploring family planning availability and referral patterns in Nebraska. Dr. Anthony worked closely with two COPH students, Chelsea Souder and Christine Geistkemper to conduct over 350 interviews with women utilizing abortion services at three abortion clinics in Nebraska. The project was funded by the UCSF Ryan Family Planning Foundation. The research team has presented results at over 5 national conferences and published multiple papers.

Youth Violence Must Stop in Omaha
Dr. Toure and Mr. Stephon McNeil were awarded for the third time funding by the City Omaha to prevent violence in South Omaha a project entitled “Collective Impact and Systems Thinking to prevent and reduce gang and street violence in Omaha”. For more information about the project, please contact Drissa M. Toure at drissa.toure@unmc.edu.

Linking violence to health equity reveals how preventing violence is an important factor of any effort to achieve health equity and create healthy communities. An educational and informational session was held on Friday August 21, 2015, from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm - South Omaha Library (2808 Q Street, Omaha, NE 68107). The presentation was focused on “How collectively can we think through the system to reduce violence in Omaha? Working together to understand and address a Socio-ecological model of violence”.
The Objectives:
1. Identify the human dimension of violence through discussion of the material presented
2. Describe the collective impact process
3. Describe systems thinking approach
4. Identify ways to enhance collaboration and partnership with other involve in violence prevention and reduction
5. Identify practical challenges of violence prevention and reduction by designing a causal loop of violence and its prevention/reduction process.

The grant was an opportunity to engage youth and community to prevent violence and its consequences. It allowed the Center to continue working with youth to be out of street and involved in sport. The Center sponsored basketball tournaments and a basketball team involving over 60 youths in Omaha. Finally, the Center organized two separate CPR and first Aid Certification trainings for community (English and Spanish). Over 90 people participated in the training. The two training were excellent and great outreach programs. Participants were very engaged and enthusiastic. They learned a lot from just simple first aid at home, at work and street to how to provide a comprehensive first aid/CPR before the arrival of emergency team.

Project team members include: Drissa Toure (PI), Stephon McNeil/Maria Teel, Natalia Trinidad, and Amando Martinez.
Original Peer-Reviewed Publications

**Anthony, R.** The HALO “Healing and Loving Ourselves” Project: An Academic-Community Partnership to Eradicate Racial/Ethnic and Gender Disparities” (accepted for Groundbreaker International)

**French, V. Anthony, R, et.al** “We usually Just Push for Adoption: Differences In Referral for Abortion, IVF, Ovarian Cancer, and High Risk Prenatal Care Among Nebraska Clinicians” Contraception, October 2015; 92(4):399

**French, V, Anthony, R, et.al** “Influence of clinician referral on Nebraska women’s decision-to-abortion time” Contraception, October 2015; 92(4):370-371


Manuscripts Under Review


Reports


Research & Conference Presentations


**Anthony, R.** *Health Disparities and Solutions for Equity*, Tennessee Public Health Association Conference, Nashville, TN, September 2015

**Anthony, R.** *A Clinician’s Differential Diagnosis for Health Equity*, UNMC Clinical Research Symposium, Omaha, NE, August 2015


**French, V, Anthony, R.** Society for Family Planning “Referral of women requesting abortion in Nebraska” poster presentation, Chicago, IL, November 2015
French, V, Anthony, R. American Public Health Association "A Sense of Obligation: Opinions on abortion referral among clinicians in Nebraska" oral presentation, Chicago, IL, October 2015

Ramos, A. The Impact of "Neighboring" Behaviors During Adolescence on Adult Community Participation. Poster presentation at the Spring 2015 Clemson HEHD/SoE Research Forum, Clemson, SC, April 23, 2015. Available at: http://tigerprints.clemson.edu/hehd_awards/19/


Journal Reviewers
Athena Ramos
Served as a reviewer for New Horizons and the American Journal of Orthopsychiatry.

External Funding
The Center has received external funding this year to support a number of programs including the tobacco outreach program, healthy lifestyles, and expand research capacity in new directions.

The Center has participated in and/or submitted the following grants/contracts during 2015:

**Agrisafe – Building an Agricultural Health Network in Nebraska.** PI: Risto Rautiainen; Partners: Athena Ramos and John Martin-Lowe. (FUNDED)

**Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska – BHECN South Omaha High School Ambassador Conference. Collaborators:** Athena Ramos, Antonia Correa, and Natalia Trinidad (FUNDED)

**Central States Center for Agricultural Safety & Health (CS-CASH) – Health & Safety Hazards Among Immigrant Swine CAFO Workers in Missouri.** PI: Athena Ramos; Partners: Axel Fuentes and Antonia Correa (FUNDED)

**Collective Impact and Systems Thinking to Prevent and Reduce Gang and Street Violence in Omaha – Drissa Toure, Stephon McNeil (FUNDED)**

**Cowan Cancer Center – Patient and Provider Perspectives to Determine Best Practice for Increasing Recruitment and Retention of Minority Cancer Patients into Clinical Trials, Co PI Dr. Anthony**

**Dean Khan’s Collective Impact – Funding African American Mental Health in Douglas County Collective Impact Project, PI: Dr. Anthony**

**Establishing Accountable Care Community as a Model for Reducing Oral Health Disparities among Underserved Children – PI: Dejun Su. (SCORED, UNFUNDED).**

**Holland Children’s Institute – Economic and Social Impact of Teen Pregnancy in Nebraska Report, (*)FUNDED PI: Dr. Anthony**

**Limitations and Opportunities to Increase the Participation of Underrepresented Minority Patients in Cancer Clinical Trials at Nebraska Medicine – PI: Dejun Su. (2016-2016 FUNDED).**
LiveWise Coalition/Heartland Family Service – Alcohol Prevention Among Latino High School Students Using Lead & Seed. PI: Athena Ramos; Partner: Natalia Trinidad (FUNDED)

Metabolic Syndrome Prevention and Education Project (Ms. Prep). – Submitted and awaiting response. PI: Dr. Anthony

National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health - Health and Safety Risks Among Immigrant Cattle Feedlot Workers in Nebraska & Kansas. PI: Athena Ramos; Partners: Gustavo Carlo and Kathleen Grant. (UNDER REVIEW)


NE Department of Health & Human Services – State-wide survey on parenting and education. PI: Dejun Su. (FUNDED).

Promoting Cardiovascular Disease Awareness and Services on the Umonhon Reservation – Program Evaluator: Dejun, Su. (2013-2015, FUNDED)

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare – MOTAC Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control. PI: Athena Ramos; Partners: Antonia Correa and Natalia Trinidad. (FUNDED)

Remote Interventions Improving Specialty Complex Care (RIISCC) – Co-Investigator: Dejun, Su. (2014-2017,FUNDED)

The Healthy Heart, Healthy Life – Program among African American Adults in Omaha, Nebraska. PI: Dejun Su. (UNFUNDED).


UNMC Innovation Fund – Mixed Methods Assessment of Refugee Women’s Health in Nebraska, (Funded) Co-PI: Dr. Anthony
The CHRD Vision
Strategic Plan 2012 - 2017

Vision of the Center
To become a nationally-recognized Center of Excellence for promoting health equity through quality research, education, and community engagement.

Mission of the Center
To promote equity and social justice in health and health care by leading collaborative efforts to generate and disseminate evidence-based, policy-relevant solutions.

Opportunities and Challenges
The Center has a number of advantages including strong internal support from UNMC, solid infrastructure, extensive community partnerships, and a team of staff who have the experience and expertise in engaging minority and underserved populations in community-based health promotion activities. Currently, a pressing task for the Center is to leverage the resources at disposal to ensure a strong and balanced portfolio of research, education and service with a focus on health disparities. The Center needs to steadily build up its research capacity to make the necessary transitions and preparations for the Center to become a NIMHD Center of Excellence in minority health and health disparities in the near future.

Goals
Goal #1: Enhance the role of UNMC in addressing disparities in health outcomes among Nebraskans through consistent community engagement, partnerships, and advocacy.

A. Significance
   (1) Community engagement and service is an integral part of the mission of UNMC.
   (2) The Center has already established extensive partnerships with a significant number of community leaders and stakeholders.
   (3) A strong community engagement component will place the Center at an advantageous position when it applies for a NIMHD grant on Center of Excellence in minority health and health disparities in the near future.

B. Major Outcome Measures
   (1) Number of new community partnerships the Center has established each year
   (2) Number of Nebraskans who have benefited from the Center’s community-based health promotion programs each year
   (3) Effectiveness of the Center’s community-based health promotion programs as indicated by the program evaluation data collected by the Center
   (4) Satisfaction by the Center’s partners and collaborators in the communities based on feedback from the Center’s Community Advisory Board
   (5) Number of interviews and media reports regarding the Center’s community-based health promotion programs each year

C. Strategic plan and Milestones to Success
   (1) Review the current community-based health promotion programs at the Center and prioritize those that have proven cost effective in reducing health disparities as well as those that would contribute the most to the Center’s research agenda.
   (2) Establish a CRHD Community Advisory Board and host regular meetings to improve the quality of the Center’s community outreach programs.
   (3) Engage stakeholders including government agencies in the Center’s community outreach programs and create synergies that would benefit both sides.
   (4) Explore the options for the Center’s health promotion programs to reach and benefit rural residents in Nebraska.
   (5) Pitch stories to the media to increase awareness of health disparities and promote health literacy.
Goal #2: Promote translational research that would help reduce disparities in health status and health care at the local, state, national, and global levels.

A. Significance
(1) The reputation as well as the influence of an academic center is usually determined by its research capacity and performance.
(2) Improved research capacity at the Center will increase the chance of securing external funding support for the Center and eventually pave the way for the Center to submit a solid proposal for a NIMHD grant on Center of Excellence (P20 or P60).

B. Major Outcome Measures
(1) Number of peer-reviewed publications by Center faculty and staff each year
(2) Number of conference presentations by Center faculty and staff each year
(3) Number of surveys and program evaluations conducted by the Center each year
(4) Number of new partnerships established for research purposes each year

C. Strategic Plan and Milestones to Success
(1) Identify at least three focus areas in health disparities research based on the strength of the Center as well as the significance of these areas to public health in Nebraska. Potential focus areas could include but are not limited to: obesity, diabetes, cancer-related disparities, rural health, maternal and child health, mental health and so forth.
(2) Integrate and streamline the Center’s resources to focus on the identified research areas and steadily build up the Center’s research capacity in these areas as indicated by peer-reviewed publications and grant applications.
(3) Provide cost-effective training in research methodology, qualitative and quantitative data analysis, and grant writing skills to faculty and staff at the Center.
(4) Engage interested staff members in writing academic papers and familiarize them with the whole process.
(5) Be more aggressive in exploring potential opportunities of collaboration with faculty in the College, in particular with those who are currently affiliated with the Center.
(6) Cultivate a culture that appreciates and values research at the Center. The current incentive structure as well as the criteria used in annual evaluation will be revisited and revised if needed to make sure that quality research is rewarded at the Center.
(7) Add a module to the Center’s website highlighting its publications and important research findings.
(8) Compile a report on the status quo of health disparities in Nebraska based on most recent statistics available.
(9) (1)-(8) will be implemented during Year 1. By the end of Year 2, Center faculty and staff should at least generate 10 peer-reviewed publications and 15-20 conference presentations. These numbers are expected to further increase as research is becoming more established and prioritized at the Center over time.

Goal #3: Diversify the sources of funding support for the Center and gradually reduce its dependence on internal support from UNMC.

A. Significance
(1) Currently most of the funding support received by the Center comes from UNMC.
(2) More sources of funding support will strengthen the Center’s financial security and enable it to further improve its research capacity and performance.

B. Major Outcome Measures
(1) Number of grant applications submitted each year
(2) Types and sizes of grants that have been applied for
(3) Results of submitted grant applications (scored, funded, size of grant, and so forth)
(4) The proportion of the Center budget that comes from UNMC
(5) Number of new partnerships established each year for grant application purposes

C. Strategic Plan and Milestones to Success
(1) Have regular brainstorming meetings at the Center to develop grant ideas based on the significance of the topics and strengths of the Center.
(2) Transform the current “service oriented” model of community engagement at the Center into “service-and-data oriented” model of community engagement so that unmet health needs as well as the effectiveness of the implemented health promotion programs can be more adequately assessed based on the data collected. Findings from these assessments are expected to contribute to scholarly publications and grant applications at the Center.
(3) Review the current incentive structure at the Center and make sure that there are incentives to motivate Center staff to actively participate in grant applications.
(4) Engage scholars both within and outside of UNMC to explore potential niches and synergies that would lead to collaborations in grant applications.
(5) Strengthen and continue to expand the Center’s ties and working relationships with community leaders and stakeholders and prioritize those ties that could help diversify the funding support for the Center.

(6) Collect updated information about emerging grant opportunities for the Center.

(7) Submit at least five major grant applications per year to obtain funding support from local, state, and federal sources.

(8) Establish the needed publication and grant records as an integral part of the preparations for the submission of a NIMHD Center of Excellence grant by 2016.

(9) Secure at least 30% of the Center’s 2010 budget from external sources including but not limited to research grants, contracts, and partnership agreements by 2016.

Goal #4: Support UNMC’s education initiatives in health disparities

A. Significance
   (1) The magnitude as well as the persistence of health disparities poses a serious challenge to public health today.
   (2) The Center’s research and community engagement activities can provide unique learning and training opportunities for UNMC students, faculty, and staff who are interested in health disparities.

B. Major Outcome Measures
   (1) Number of courses on health disparities offered by Center faculty and staff each year
   (2) Number of seminars/guest lectures on health disparities hosted by the Center each year
   (3) Number of internship positions the Center and its partners provide to UNMC students each year
   (4) Number of UNMC students who work as research assistants at the Center each year

C. Strategic plan and Milestones to Success
   (1) Host regularly a Guest Lecture Series on Health Disparities by inviting renowned scholars in the field to come to UNMC to lecture on health disparities.
   (2) Contribute to the curriculum at College of Public Health by offering courses on health disparities on a regular basis.
   (3) Provide UNMC students with internship opportunities based on the needs of the Center’s community partners and UNMC degree programs.
   (4) Recruit UNMC students to work as research assistants at the Center and actively involve them in the Center’s research projects.

Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness
Successful implementation of the proposed strategic plan and accomplishment of the aforementioned goals requires skillful and dedicated leadership that would inspire and motivate each member at the Center to do their part of the job to fulfill the mission of the Center. Internally, the Center needs to have a clear and efficient division of labor among its members to make sure that each member fully understands their responsibility and is doing what he or she is good at. The leadership team at the Center needs to have regular meetings with staff members to review progress and resolve emerging problems in a timely fashion. It is important for the Center to cultivate a culture of mutual respect, appreciation, and support. Externally, the Center needs to work closely with the College of Public Health and other stakeholders both on and off campus to ensure and improve access to needed resources and support for the Center.
The CHRD Team
Faculty Bios

Dejun Su, PhD  
DIRECTOR
Center for Reducing Health Disparities  
Associate Professor  
Department of Health Promotion, Social and Behavioral Health  
College of Public Health  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Dejun.su@unmc.edu

Professional Summary

- 2012- Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Social and Behavioral Health, College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE
- 2010-2012 Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA), Edinburg, TX
- 2009-2012 Director of the CDC-Sponsored South Texas Border Health Disparities Center, UTPA, Edinburg, TX
- 2006-2010 Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology, UTPA, Edinburg, TX
- 2007-2009 Graduate Advisor in the Sociology Master Program at the Department of Sociology, UTPA, Edinburg, TX

Education

- Ph.D. Sociology University of Chicago 2006
- M.A. Demography Peking University, China 1999
- B.A. Sociology Peking University, China 1996

Research Interests

Social Demography, Medical Sociology, Health Research and Policy
Dejun Su, PhD
DIRECTOR (CONT’D)

Selected Publications


Professional Affiliations

- Building Healthy Futures
- New Era Baptist Church Convention
- Nebraska Family Collaborative
- Abide Network
- Omaha City Planning Department
- Carl T. Curtis Health Education Center at Macy, NE
- Maternal and Child Health Program at the NE DHHS
- Empowerment Network
Renaisa S. Anthony, MD, MPH  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
Center for Reducing Health Disparities  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Health Promotion and Social and Behavioral Health  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
College of Public Health  
Renaisa.anthony@unmc.edu

Professional Summary
- 2010- Current Deputy Director, UNMC Center for Reducing Health Disparities  
- 2010-Current Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion and Social and Behavioral Health  
- 2012 Scholar, M. Alfred Haynes Institute for Social Equity, Meharry/Vanderbilt  
- 2011 Fellow, Health Equity Leadership Institute, University of WI-Madison  
- 2008-2010 Assistant Research Professor, George Washington University, Washington, DC  
- 2007-2008 Fellow, National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (NIH)  
- 2006-2007 House Officer Vanderbilt Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Education
- MPH Harvard School of Public Health  
- MD University of Chicago Medical School with Honors  
- BS University of Minnesota Cum Laude

Clinical
- Dr. Anthony is a licensed physician and practices integrative women’s health care.

Research Interests
Women’s health across the life-course, Maternal and reproductive health (pregnancy outcomes), Community based participatory research, Community engagement and outreach, Health disparities & equity, Cultural competence and health policy

Selected Publications
- Anthony, R. "Physician’s Testimony" personal account of health care experiences selected and published online by Doctors for Obama and Doctors for America. 2008  
- Anthony, R. "2008 NIH Biennial Report on Women’s Health" drafted section of report for the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Report collated by all institutes and submitted on behalf of the Office of Research on Women’s Health to Congress. 2008\  
Renaisa S. Anthony, MD, MPH
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (CONT’D)

Selected Publications


▪ Anthony, R "Physician’s Testimony" personal account of health care experiences selected and published online by Doctors for Obama and Doctors for America. 2008


▪ Anthony, R, "2008 NIH Biennial Report on Women’s Health" drafted section of report for the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Report collated by all institutes and submitted on behalf of the Office of Research on Women’s Health to Congress. 2008\n


Professional Affiliations

▪ American Association for the Advancement of Science
▪ American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Junior Fellow
▪ American Public Health Association
▪ American Medical Association
▪ Centers for Disease Control Preconception Surveillance (PRESURV) Committee
▪ Girls Inc., Board Member
▪ Harvard Alumni Association
▪ Leadership Omaha Class 33
▪ National Medical Association
▪ Nebraska Health and Human Services COIIN (Infant Mortality) Council
▪ Nebraska Health and Human Services Minority Health Council
▪ Physicians for Reproductive Health, Board Member
▪ Urban League of Nebraska, Board Member
▪ Women’s Fund of Omaha, Board Member

Dr. Anthony also delivers competent and compassionate medical care for underserved patients at the Charles Drew Community Health Center.
Ira Combs, RN, MS
COMMUNITY LIAISON NURSE COORDINATOR

Center for Reducing Health Disparities
College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nebraska Medical Center
icombs@unmc.edu

Professional Summary
- 2001-present University Nebraska Medical Center, Community Liaison Nurse Coordinator- North
- 1998-present Omahahealth Inc., Volunteer Director/Founder
- 1999-2002 Nebraska Health System, Lied Transplant Center, Oncology-Staff Nurse RN
- 1997-1999 Metropolitan Community College, Instructor (part-time)
- 1995-1997 Dependable Home Healthcare, Director of Nursing
- 1995-1997 Douglas County Correctional Facility, Staff Nurse RN (part-time)
- 1994-1997 Northview Villa Nursing Home, Director of Nursing
- 1991-1993 Joseph Hospital, Staff Nurse RN
- 1974-1976 Boys Town, Chaplain/Teacher

Education
- 1974 Child Development Assoc. Degree, Iowa Western Community College, Graduate Cum Laude
- 1988 Certificate EMT-Paramedic, Creighton University
- 1991 Associates Degree Science, Registered Nurse, Metropolitan Community College
- 2001 Bachelors in Healthcare Management, Trinity University

Research Interests
- Men’s Health
- STD Prevention
- Child and Teen Health Issues
- Health Disparities in the African American Community within the North Omaha Area

Professional Affiliations
- American Public Health Association
- Public Health Association of Nebraska
- Omaha Black Nurses Association
- Mid-America Council Boy Scouts of America

Awards & Accolades
- White House Champion of Change, 2013
- Jim Dill Award Public Health Association of Nebraska, 2014
- NAACP Community Service Award, 2014
- Nebraska Action Coalition, Outstanding Nursing Service and Leadership in the Omaha Community Award, 2014
- Urban League of Nebraska African American Leadership Award, 2014
Antonia Correa, BA, MA  
OUTREACH PROJECT SPECIALIST  
Center for Reducing Health Disparities  
College of Public Health  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
acorrea@unmc.edu

Professional Summary
- 2002- Present - University of Nebraska Medical Center; Omaha, NE, Outreach Program Specialist. Provide outreach, community engagement, and research support services to reduce health disparities.
- 1999 - 2002 - Girls and Boys Town National Hotline; Omaha, NE, Bilingual Crisis Counselor
- 1996 - 1999 - Inter-American University of Puerto Rico; Puerto Rico, Professional Counselor

Education
- 1990-1993 – MA, Guidance and Counseling - Inter-American University, Puerto Rico - May 1993- Summa Cum Laude
- 1966-1970 – BA, Sociology with a Minor in Humanities - University of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico

Professional Affiliations
- Douglas County Health Department Board of Health
- Douglas County Health Department STD's Prevention Education Committee Member and Case Reviewer for the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Member
- Omaha Public Schools, Member of the Latino Academic Achievement Council
- Public Health Association of Nebraska (PHAN), Member
- Community Alliance, Board Member and Member of IRB Committee
- American Public Health Association
Jackie Hill, MSN, APRN NP-C  
**COMMUNITY NURSE COORDINATOR**  
Center for Reducing Health Disparities  
College of Public Health  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
jahill@unmc.edu

**Professional Summary**  
- 2006-Present Community Health Nurse Practitioner/ Research Coordinator  
- 2003-2006 Methodist Health Systems, Nurse Practitioner, Ambulatory Care  
- 2004-Present Charles Drew Health Center Nurse Practitioner Outpatient Clinic for the Homeless  
- 1992-2003 Omaha Public Schools Registered Nurse Pediatrics

**Education**  
- 1995 MSN APRN, Clarkson College  
- 1981 BSN, University of Nebraska College of Nursing  
- 1971 RN, Methodist College

**Research Interests**  
- Breast Cancer  
- Chronic Disease  
- Diabetes  
- Health Disparities  
- Healthy Lifestyles & Wellness

**Professional Affiliations**  
- American Public Health Association  
- Metro African American Breast Cancer Task Force, Co-Director  
- Nebraska Nurse Practitioners
Wayne Houston, MPA
COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM MANAGER
Center for Reducing Health Disparities
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University of Nebraska Medical Center
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Professional Summary
- 2014-Present, Community Health Program Manager, Center for Reducing Health Disparities
- 1996-2014, Community Liaison Coordinator, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, UNMC
- 1991-1996, Instructor, Black Studies Department, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Education
- Master in Public Administration, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Bachelor of Arts, California State University Long Beach

Research Interests
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Cardiovascular Disease Prevention
- Community Engagement and Development
- Men’s Health
- Obesity and Nutrition
- Racial and Underrepresented Health Disparities

Professional Affiliations
- American Heart Association, Board of Directors
- Alzheimer’s Association, Board of Directors/Leadership Council
- Black Family Health & Wellness Association (BFHWA), President
- Douglas County Board of Health, Secretary
- NAACP
- North Omaha Community Care Council (NOCCC), Board Member
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., President/Nebraska State Representative
- Public Health Association of Nebraska (PHAN)

Awards & Accolades
- 2011, Power Award “Midwest Volunteer of the Year” American Heart Association
- 2011, NAACP Community Service Award
- 2010, Metro Omaha Tobacco Action Coalition (MOTAC) Medical Professional/Organization for the Cause Award
- 2002, Black Male Empowerment Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Chancellors Commendation, UNMC Partnership Award
Professional Summary

- 2014-Present, Community Health Program Manager, University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, Omaha, NE
- 2014-2015, Instructor, University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health, Department of Health Promotion, Social & Behavioral Health, Omaha, NE
- 2007-2014, Program Coordinator, University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, Omaha, NE
- 2005-2007, Health Educator, The Cardiac Center of Creighton University, Research Department, Omaha, NE
- 2001-2005, Tobacco Control Outreach Specialist, Latino Center of the Midlands, Omaha, NE
- 2000, Nebraska Coordinator, Latino Vote 2000, United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, Chicago, IL

Education

- 2015, Appreciative Inquiry Certificate in Positive Business and Society Change, Case Western Reserve University
- 2014, LGBT Health C3 Certificate: Basic & Advanced Skills, University of Nebraska Medical Center
- 2009, Master’s in Business Administration (MBA), University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2008, Certified Public Manager (CPM), University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2004, Master’s in Urban Studies (MS), University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2004, Certificate in Working with Youth, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2002, Bachelor’s in Public Administration (BS), University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 1999, Certificate in Fundraising Management, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Research Interests

- Tobacco control and prevention
- Racial and ethnic health disparities
- Healthy public spaces, recreation areas, and parks
- Latino and LGBT health initiatives
- Intercultural communication and cultural competency
- Occupational safety, health, and wellness among migrant farmworkers and immigrants
- Community development
- Coalition-building
- Policy advocacy
Athena Ramos, MS, MBA, CPM
COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM MANAGER/INSTRUCTOR (CONT’D)

Selected Publications

- Ramos, A.K., Rajaram, S., Gouveia, L., Duko, Y., Toure, D., Zhang, A., & Manske, S. Health Profile of Nebraska’s Latino Population. (2013). A collaborative effort of the College of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the Office of Latino and Latin American Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity at the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services. UNMC Digital Commons

Professional Affiliations

- Public Health Association of Nebraska
- National Recreation and Park Association
- National Alliance for Hispanic Health
- Metro Omaha Tobacco Action Coalition (MOTAC)
- Board Member, Justice for Our Neighbors Nebraska
- Board Member, Fontenelle Nature Association

Awards & Accolades

- UNMC Gold “U” Award, July 2014
- Nebraska Latino American Commission, Inspiration Award, October 2013
- Metro Omaha Tobacco Action Coalition (MOTAC), Member of the Year, May 2013
Drissa Toure, MD, MPH  
COMMUNITY CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR  
Center for Reducing Health Disparities  
College of Public Health  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
drissa.toure@unmc.edu

Professional Summary
- 2010 – Present, Community Clinical Research Coordinator, University of Nebraska Medical Center – College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, Omaha, NE
- 2005 - 2010, Senior Research Associate /Outreach Coordinator, The George Washington University (GWU), Prevention & Research Center, NIH-DC Initiative to Reduce Infant Mortality in Minority Populations, Washington, DC
- 2005, Intern, White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood (WRA/SM), Washington, DC
- 1998 - 2001, Medical Doctor, Founding Board Member, Medical Clinic ‘DEFI SANTE’, Bamako, Mali
- 1996 - 1998, Resident, University Hospital of Gabriel Touré, Trauma Intensive Care Unit, Bamako, Mali
- 1997 - 1998, Medical Program Co-Coordinator, International Committee of the Red Cross of Geneva (ICRC), Bamako, Mali

Education
- Master of Public Health /Specialization in Maternal and Child Health, The George Washington University (GWU), School of Public Health and Health Services
- Doctorate of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry of Mali.

Research Interests
- Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology
- Racial and ethnic disparities in maternal and child health
- Prevention of poor pregnancy outcomes and neonatal mortality
- Identification and prevention of maternal and infant mortality in developing countries
- Epigenetics and pregnancy outcomes
Drissa Toure, MD, MPH
COMMUNITY CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR (CONT’D)

Selected Publications
- Ramos, A., Rajaram, S., Gouveia, L., Duko, Y., Toure, D., Zhang, A., & Manske, S. Health Profile of Nebraska’s’ Latino Population. (2013). A collaborative effort of the College of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the Office of Latino and Latin American Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity at the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services.

Professional Affiliations
- American Association of Public Health
- Public Health Association of Nebraska
- Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
- Association of Teacher of Maternal and Child Health
- Global Voices for Maternal Health Survey
Natalia Trinidad, BS
**OUTREACH PROJECT ASSOCIATE**
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College of Public Health
University of Nebraska Medical Center
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Professional Summary
- 2013- Present, Outreach Project Associate, University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, Omaha, NE
- 2013- Present, Manufacturing Technologist I, American Red Cross, Omaha, NE
- 2012-2013, QC Analyst I, Novartis Consumer Health, Inc., Lincoln, NE
- 2011-2013, Chemistry Technician, Novartis Consumer Health, Inc., Lincoln, NE

Education
- 2011, BS in Biology with a Minor in Business Administration, Creighton University, Omaha, NE

Research Interests
- Prevention of underage drinking
- Tobacco control and prevention
- Community engagement and outreach
- Racial and ethnic health disparities
- Healthy public spaces, recreations areas, and parks
Administrative Support Bio

Maria Teel
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE II
Center for Reducing Health Disparities
University of Nebraska Medical Center
College of Public Health
maria.teel@unmc.edu

Professional Summary
Although a Baltimore, Maryland native, Maria has called Omaha, Nebraska home for over 25 years. Her background is inclusive of many roles in human services, customer service and marketing. Helping others is at the core of everything Maria strives to do, making her a great addition to the Center for Reducing Health Disparities team and an advocate for reducing disparities in our community. She currently serves on the CEPH Diversity and the Community Based Health Transformation Workgroups, while also assisting the Office of Community Engagement.
Contact Us

The Center is always happy to discuss the efforts that we are making in the community and how to develop and create effective partnerships, programs, and initiatives to meet community needs. We would love to work with you and/or answer any questions that you may have. Please feel free to contact us.

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NORTH OMAHA SATELLITE OFFICE Outreach Project Specialist
BAKER PLACE CLINIC
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Omaha, NE 68104

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http://blog.unmc.edu/cfrhd/

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