



Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Workshop:
Challenges and Solutions for Researchers and Community Leaders
University of Houston
Friday, April 10, 2009
University Hilton

Conference Sessions:

9:00—10:00

Models of Community Engagement

“A Hybrid Model Focusing on Population Health and Community Development”

--Patricia Gail Bray, Ph.D.

Dr. Bray is the Executive Director of St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities (the Charities). Prior to this position, she was the founding Director of Research for the Charities. Dr. Bray received her Ph.D. in Management and Policy Sciences from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health. Her major field of study was in Management and Policy Sciences and her minor fields of study were Biostatistics and Health Economics. Professional experience includes working in the public and private sectors at various levels of government, corporate and philanthropic institutions. Dr. Bray's leadership experience draws on the multidisciplinary fields of computer science, political science, ethics, biostatistics, public policy and public health. Also, she is a trained mediator, lay chaplain and cellist. She lives in Houston, Texas with her husband, Dr. Stephen Linder, and has three children: Kaila, Zach and Alex, and one grandson, Wyatt.

10:15—11:15

Challenges to Community Engagement—Engaging the Clientele

“Engaging Vietnamese, Pakistani, Hispanic and African American Communities”

--Jane Peranteau, Ph.D.

11:15—12:40

Challenges to Community Engagement—Engaging the IRB

“An African-American Community Creates its own IRB”

--Jane Peranteau, Ph.D.

Dr. Peranteau is Associate Executive Director of the Charities. Prior to this position, she was Community Outreach Manager. Dr. Peranteau received her doctorate in Rhetorical Theory and Criticism from the University of Oregon. Her major field of study was the

theory and practice of oral and written communication, in individual, relationship, small group, organizational, and community settings. Professional experience includes teaching at the college and university levels (such courses as Gender and Communication, Social Movements, and Protest Rhetoric) and director of a nonprofit HIV/AIDS services and prevention organization. She has a background in community organizing and advocacy, and her experience includes building collaboration in support of community voice. She lives in Houston and has one son, Jake, and one daughter-in-law, Meghan, who live in Montana.

St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities—Grantmaking & Community-based Research

Introduction and Overview

St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities is a public, non-operating charity created in 1997 as a nonprofit component of the St. Luke's Episcopal Health System in Houston, Texas.¹ The Charities operates independently as a grantmaker and has distributed more than \$74 million to 39 counties in southeast Texas, becoming the area's largest grantmaker devoted exclusively to health.

Along with establishing itself as a grantmaker, however, the Charities also determined to build its expertise in addressing health upstream from hospitals and clinics, in order to focus on decreasing health disparities at the neighborhood level. To do that, the Charities, in partnership with The University of Texas School of Public Health-Houston, developed a web-based Community Health Information System, an interactive repository of more than two million bits of health-related data geocoded down to the census tract level for 57 counties. Through layering software, users can look at demographic information, needs and assets in a given area on one screen (www.slehc.org). We are able to create comprehensive data profiles of Houston's most underserved communities, providing information for planners, providers, researchers, and community members.

In addition, working with many area partners, we've created several web portals to aid in access to care and health promotion. Project Safety Net is a free interactive, web-based resource that contains detailed access information for 80 area clinics that offer services to the uninsured and underinsured. Users can search by location, specific need, language spoken, etc. Preschool for All is also a free, interactive web-based resource; parents, preschool providers, policy makers, and planners can use this portal to locate services, to evaluate existing services, to avoid service duplication, and to identify need. Finally, the Breast Health Portal, the latest portal, developed in collaboration with the Breast Health

¹ The St. Luke's Episcopal Health System, which was established in 1954, is a comprehensive health system that includes St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in the Texas Medical Center, St. Luke's Community Medical Center-The Woodlands, St. Luke's Sugar Land Hospital, a partnership with Kelsey-Seybold Clinic, and three St. Luke's Community Emergency Centers. The Charities is the largest charity in the area devoted exclusively to health, and the only one with grantmaking guided by research. The work of the Charities is sustained by a percentage of the interest earned on a \$150 million designated fund established to support the Charities.

Collaborative of Texas, maps breast health resources in the area specifically for the underserved and uninsured. This unique tool provides users with a single resource offering current and free health access information for breast health services and offers interactive mapping capabilities.

Research

In 2000, the Charities created a Healthy Neighborhood Initiative (HNI) model for assessment and intervention research at the neighborhood level. The model incorporates a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach in order to assure that efforts to improve community health and reduce health disparities remain community based, guided by the people most affected by these efforts. HNIs are built on community partnerships, with providers, academic institutions, and community members, and utilize CBPR methods such as participatory groups, photovoice, writers' workshops, and videography, to gain a greater depth of understanding of the local knowledge that can determine the success or failure of interventions. We train community members to facilitate these activities, and they recruit group members, lead groups, gather and analyze data, and compile, present, and disseminate final reports.

Our HNI model is currently active in ten Houston-area neighborhoods that are particularly underserved. It encompasses work with an array of diverse populations—Vietnamese, Chinese, Hispanic (Mexican, South and Central American, Cuban), African American, Sudanese, Pakistani, and Indian.² The HNI model is described and its implementation is detailed in the Community Health Reports available at our website (http://www.slehc.org/HNI/HNI_Summaries.cfm to view summaries and link to full reports).

Center for Community-Based Research

In addition, we have developed the Center for Community-Based Research to house our research initiatives and related educational programs. Specifically, the Center includes:

- the development and implementation of the HNI model (e.g., for special population studies, for disease-focused studies, and for externally funded projects);
- the components of the Academy for training community members as researchers and academic researchers as community partners;
- the oversight of external grants and contracts (e.g., with CDC, UT, TSU, UTMB, City of Houston, and others), and
- the education component, including the Internship Program, Academic Fellows, and Scholars in Residence.

² No racial or ethnic group constitutes a majority of the Houston region's population; in addition, Houston is currently considered by many to be the number one city for refugee resettlement in the country. More than 26% of the population is foreign born, which is double the percentage for the state; the percentage for the US is 11.1%, according to the 2000 Census.