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# D-CHIPP Newsletter

May 2020 / Volume 2 / Issue 2

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## DUSON Community Health Improvement Partnership Program

*Partnering with the community to advance health.*



### D-CHIPP DIRECTOR'S

#### NOTE

Donna J. Biederman, DrPH, MN,  
RN, CPH, FAAN

COVID-19 has changed our daily lives in nearly every way: from how we interact, how we shop, how we work, how we teach, conduct research, and the list goes on. Despite the drastic changes we have witnessed in such a short time, D-CHIPP affiliate faculty and staff have responded in a mighty way.

This month we highlight our D-CHIPP affiliates who are working tirelessly with community partners, to optimize the health and safety of local residents and neighboring communities. In addition, we highlight Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda as our affiliate spotlight.

We hope all of you are staying healthy and safe.  
We miss you!

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## D-CHIPP Affiliates in Action: Our Community Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

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*DUSON ABSN clinical placement experiences.* When in-person ABSN community health clinical placements were temporarily halted, DUSON faculty, clinical instructors (CIs), and support staff quickly pivoted to develop virtual and telephonic clinical experiences to benefit both students and community members alike. A telephone outreach program was created to connect ABSN students with Latinx clients of Curamericas Global. In the initial round of outreach, DUSON ABSN students and CIs connected with nearly 300 clients from around North Carolina and southeast United States. COVID-19 educational and community resources in languages other than English are sorely needed. This partnership and work with Curamericas is helping to bridge that gap. DUSON faculty have worked to develop innovative ways for students to connect with clients at local organizations to provide health coaching, assessments, (cont'd...)

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and health education resources on COVID-19. Faculty and CIs involved include: Irene Felsman, Amie Koch, Rosa Solorzano, Jean Hanson, Malissa Sampson, Bradi Granger, and Donna Biederman. Organizations where students are engaged include Durham Housing Authority, Families Moving Forward and Healing with CAARE.

*COVID-19 Research.* Several faculty have submitted proposals that will study the impact of the novel coronavirus on specific populations. Involved faculty include: Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda (impact of COVID-19 on stress in the Latinx community), Devon Noonan with collaboration from Susan Silva (including additional questions in R01 study of rural tobacco users that examine the higher risk of COVID-19 respiratory complications due to tobacco use), Bradi Granger (disparities in COVID post-acute care transitions and optimizing community resource access with community health workers), Nancy Crego (use of telehealth/telephone visits by care providers with individuals with Sickle Cell Disease in North Carolina during COVID-19).

*Specific vulnerable populations.* As COVID-19 converged on Durham, the homeless population became a major concern due to the fact that many homeless individuals live in congregate settings and have nowhere to isolate should they become infected. From the onset of the pandemic, Donna Biederman was (and remains) involved in discussions with Durham city and county officials along with community-based organizations serving homeless individuals. She successfully advocated in the best interest of the guests at Families Moving Forward to stay in place at the shelter instead of being moved to a hotel and presented on a national webinar about best practices for caring for homeless individuals during a pandemic.

A coalition was established of Duke Latinx stakeholders including Duke, Durham County Public Health, public schools, and El Centro Hispano. This group shares updates on what the community organizations are doing, what resources are available, where testing sites are located, and is creating documents including public service announcements. Involved faculty include Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda, Rosa Solorzano, and Irene Felsman.

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**D-CHIPP affiliates are scholars, leaders, researchers, & educators. See the publications & more by D-CHIPP affiliates during April.**

Publications: (2) PhD Students, Faculty (**Hendrix, McConnell**) and Alumni Publish Article in Asia-Pacific Journal of Oncology Nursing; **Padilla** and Kreider Publish Article in Journal for Nurse Practitioners

National Presentations: (1) **Biederman** Participates in Webinar on Current Medical Care of Homeless Population

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### D-CHIPP CHATs

(Community Health Academic Talks)

Date: Monday, June 11th

Presenter: Donna Biederman, DrPh

Topic: Health & Housing Research

Zoom link: <https://duke.zoom.us/j/97771939672>

Date: Monday, July 6th

Presenters: Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda, PhD and

Alison Stafford, PhD

Topic: Latino Health & Health Equity Research

Zoom link: <https://duke.zoom.us/j/98107512632>



## NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR NURSING RESEARCH

On May 22nd, the Duke Clinical and Translation Science Institute, REACH Equity, and Social Science Research Institute, and the Samuel Dubois Cook Center on Social Equity co-sponsored an online symposium, "A call to action: Identifying next steps to address biomedical, health care, and social drivers of COVID-19 disparities." Over 1100 faculty, staff, and students tuned in for the symposium. A second symposium is planned for August.

DUSON faculty have responded to the need for more COVID-19 related research projects. Ryan Shaw is leading the [CovIdentify research project on commercial wearable devices to detect COVID-19](#). This project looks at ways smartphones and wearable devices may tell us if we have the coronavirus.

Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda has submitted an administrative supplement to study the impact of COVID-19 on the Latinx Community. This is an additional study piece to the SER Hispano Study.

There are more proposals in the pipeline that we will bring to you next month. We are very excited about all the COVID-19 research that is currently underway and proposed for funding.

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Durham's Partnership for Seniors has convened organizations and volunteers to provide additional social support, COVID health education, and community resources. This is a coordinated response with a variety of participating local organizations and Duke departments. Involved D-CHIPP affiliates include Ellie McConnell and Heather Mountz.

*A grassroots approach.* The following are just a few examples of how D-CHIPP affiliates are helping neighbors in their own communities. Devon Noonan volunteers time at the health department, working as an RN with uninsured populations. Nancy Crego has been posting best practices for staying safe such as wearing a mask correctly, washing hands, and links to resources on the Next Door App that goes out to the Durham Community. And Mary Barzee grocery shops for a family in her neighborhood with immune-compromised family members. She has also helped distribute masks and food in her neighborhood.

*Thanks to ALL our affiliates and community partners working to improve lives during the pandemic.*

## ***D-CHIPP AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT:*** ***Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda, PhD, MPH,*** ***RN, CPH, FAAN***

**Hometown:** Miami, FL

**Favorite food:** Raw oysters

**Favorite thing:** Love-I love love

**Favorite vacation spot:** I prefer to try something new than to go to my favorite place. Somewhere warm, with warm people, places to explore, and quality food is ideal. Some of my favorite places include: San Sebastian in Spain, Bali, and Grenada.



**Current research or other projects:** SER Hispano: Salud/Health, Estrés/Stress, y/and Resiliencia/ Resilience among young Adult Hispanic Immigrants in the U.S

**Courses teaching this or next semester / our taught recently:** N969 Disparities in Health and Healthcare in the U.S. (this summer)

**Community partners:** El Centro Hispano, El Futuro, and AME Zion HEAL Partnership and other partners of the Community Engaged Research Initiative of the CTSI

**What Dr. Gonzalez-Guarda likes best about working in community health:** My favorite thing about community health is the people. I am humbled, energized, and enriched by the people that allow me in their sacred spaces, teach me about what's important when addressing health, and partner with me to advance health equity. Being with people in the communities I work is what grounds me in my academic research work.

**Dr. Gonzalez-Guarda adds:** I am a proud mom of three boys- Sebastian (10), Marco (8), and Nicolas (6). My favorite thing to do with them is taking them to the beach and snuggling of course.

Need to contact D-CHIPP?

Email [dchippcoord@duke.edu](mailto:dchippcoord@duke.edu) for suggestions or comments.