D-CHIPP Newsletter
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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

It is that time of year when students to return to the classroom. Normally, faculty, students and staff would fill DUSON’s classrooms and hallways. Parents would be sending their children off to school, and we would all be looking forward to the next holiday break. But, “school” is very different this year. Classrooms are kitchen tables, couches, and bedrooms.

The pandemic has revealed additional disparities related to the digital divide. In the community, new partnerships have emerged to ensure continuity of and access to educational opportunities. From donations of laptops and notebooks to enhancing wifi access, community members are working to limit disparities. However, we must continue to vigilantly monitor the increased burden, specifically related to the new educational environment, that COVID presents for our most marginalized community members.

We commend all who are juggling work, home school, and family life. Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and productive academic year!

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: El Futuro

When Luke Smith, Psychiatrist and Executive Director of El Futuro, moved from Arkansas to North Carolina to complete his residency in the late 90’s, the North State was experiencing a significant wave of immigration from Latin America. Dr. Smith hastily brushed up on his Spanish as he was being called to treat patients from this new demographic. Some patients had mental health issues manifesting as physical conditions. From his experience and working in different clinics, he saw a population needing care and no workforce to care for them.

El Futuro started as volunteer organization in 2001 and became a nonprofit in 2004. They have offices in Durham and Siler City. The organization serves as a safety net for those who cannot find care elsewhere. Their clients are primarily 1st and 2nd generation Latino families who are uninsured or underinsured. In 2019, the organization served about 1,780 individuals, 50 percent were children, and almost 60 percent were women. About 70 percent of them have been victims of crime in their home country, during (cont’d page 2)
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migration, or here in the United States. El Futuro’s clients too often have had hard, challenging experiences and trauma. The goal of El Futuro is to create a safe space for their clients as they help them create a future and ability for them to live out their dreams.

El Futuro provides comprehensive mental health services including therapy, psychiatry, substance use treatment, and case management. They take the approach to treat the entire family, recognizing the impact of childhood trauma and the long-term benefits of having caring adults whose own needs are met so that they can nurture children. In early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic required the organization to transition their full suite of services to telehealth. Since the transition, El Futuro has been actively evaluating the effectiveness of telehealth. They have found that the majority of clients say it is just as effective, but acknowledge face-to-face interaction will be welcome when it is again safe to do so.

Members of the community who want to learn more or access El Futuro’s services can call the main office number, which is forwarded to staff working from home. They can also contact El Futuro through their website, Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. A referral for services if not necessary.

El Futuro partners with DUSON on the SER Hispano Project. A new DUSON research training program, RESPECT, will use the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Toolkit for Behavioral Health Organizations Serving Latinos, a training created by El Futuro.

El Futuro creates broad community impact providing access to equitable mental health services. The organization recently received grants to add a therapeutic garden and a mural on the side of their building. A Mexican-American community muralist was commissioned to create the mural. Cornelio Campos engaged people in the Lakewood to help make the mural reflective of the community. One of the big themes they have found by going door-to-door asking for input on the mural was capturing happy memories from childhood. One of those often spoken memories is wading in streams. They are planning to build a recycled stream through the mural and hope it creates a space and environment where their clients and the community feel welcome.

Kerry Brock, Director of Advancement and Strategy at El Futuro, (cont’d, page 3)

(El Futuro mural, credit: Cornelio Campos)

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

Publications: Faculty, Staff Publish Article About DEFT Center (Hendrix, McConnell); Randolph Highlighted in New York Times Article; Alum, Faculty Publish Article in Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing (Scott, Gonzalez-Guarda); Silva Contributes to Lancet Psychiatry Article; McGee, Randolph, Relf Coauthor Article on Inequalities In Relation to HIV, COVID

Grant awards: McConnell Awarded Grant For Dementia Inclusive Durham; Randolph Accepted to Inaugural Cohort of New Fellowship Program; Randolph Receives Award For HIV Prevention Project; Fellow Bulgin Receives Award for Telehealth Project (Tanabe mentor)

Conference presentations: Alum Scott Participates in Virtual Diversity Day Panel; Padilla Participates in Community Panel

Leadership Promotions: Silva Becomes Statistics Core Interim Director as Chow Exits

Service on local/national committees: Faculty, Staff, Student Participate in Latinx COVID-Related Outreach Group (Gonzalez-Guarda, Solorzano, Felsman, Padilla, Stafford, Emerson); Biederman, Mountz Accept Co-Chair Roles

Professional Awards: Faculty, Alum, Student Included on Great 100 Nurses List (Granger)
NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR NURSING RESEARCH

The launch of RESPECT is coming early September! D-CHIPP is partnering with the Center for Nursing Research (CNR) on the Research Equity and Sustainable Partnerships Encouraging Community Trust (RESPECT) program. The goal of RESPECT is to engage and train community partner organizations who want to expand their capacity to partner on academic research. Community partners and researchers: please watch your inbox for details.

The CNR is also launching Beyond the Shelf: Disseminating Findings with Research Partners. This purpose of this program is to create better and more transparent methods of community-based participatory research (CBPR) dissemination. The program has three components: 1) Determine best practices of research dissemination through researcher and community participant interviews; 2) Conduct a literature review on models of dissemination findings of CBPR; and 3) Conduct a workshop using the design thinking approach to problem solving to create a model of CBPR dissemination.

D-CHIPP AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT:
Alison H. Edie, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Hometown: Newberry, SC
Favorite food: black eyed peas, collards with cornbread
Favorite thing: weaving, knitting, crochet, embroidery making with fiber
Favorite vacation spot: Camping in any national park out west
Current research or other projects: gender and women’s health, perinatal care for APN, FNP synthesis
Courses teaching this or next semester / our taught recently: resiliency in families experiencing homelessness
Community partner: Families Moving Forward
What Dr. Edie likes best about working in community health: Hearing people’s stories and the dreams parents have for themselves and their children
Dr. Edie adds: It is a privilege to serve in the community. I learn ways to live my life more fully by hearing the stories of people in my community

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd Annual Community Health Lecture

Date: Monday, September 14th
Time: 12-1:30 p.m.
Location: Zoom
Keynote Speaker: Sarah Szanton, PhD, ANP, FAAN
Title: Generating Public Health Evidence to Change Policy: Lessons Learned from CAPABLE

Dr. Szanton started a program called CAPABLE that pairs handyman services with nursing and occupational health services that allow older adults to age in place.

RSVP: https://bit.ly/communitylecture

DUSON State of the School Address

Date: Thursday, September 10th
Time: 2:00—3:30 p.m.
Location: Zoom https://duke.zoom.us/j/91533746885

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was interviewed for this D-CHIPP Community Partner Spotlight. Ms. Brock says about working at El Futuro, “I feel so lucky to work with this team of people. We are a diverse crew with all but three or four countries represented from Latin America and the Caribbean. Prior to COVID driving us to remote work, we celebrated together with meals, music, and laughter. This team brings their whole heart, and they are critical to the success of the work. They acknowledge the need for cultural humility and are always learning. We want our clients to know they are talking with someone who understands their situation. It allows for creating effective mental health treatment for the community we serve.”