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, FAAN, CPH

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! We at D-CHIPP hope you all had a joyous holiday season. As we begin 2020, we have a new lecture series in which we want to invite you all to participate.

D-CHIPP CHATs (Community Health Academic Talks) provide an opportunity for D-CHIPP faculty affiliates to share their research and community health expertise for student affiliates. All affiliates and community partners are welcome to attend. We will live stream and record the lectures so anyone can view the presentations. And, of course, you can always participate in person! This month’s topic was human trafficking, presented by Dr. Amie Koch. A recording is available on our website.

In this month’s newsletter, we spotlight the Partnership for Healthy Durham and faculty affiliate Iris Padilla.

Community Partner Spotlight: Partnership for Healthy Durham

The Partnership for a Healthy Durham officially launched in 2004, but work to make Durham a healthier place to live began at least a decade prior. In 1994, the Healthy Carolinians coalition in Durham began work on health initiatives directed by the state. Later, Durham City Council members and County Commissioners began the Result-Based Accountability initiative and included “Healthy Everybody” goals. In 2004, the efforts of the Healthy Carolinians coalition in Durham and the Healthy Everybody workgroups were combined to form the Partnership for a Healthy Durham (PHD). Durham County funded a coordinator position housed at the Durham County Department of Public Health (DPH). This is unique, as most counties in North Carolina do not have dedicated staff to ensure that the goals of county health initiatives are achieved.

Today, PHD is a coalition of community members and representatives from community organizations,
including non-profits, government, schools, Duke Health, and other sectors. The PHD Steering Committee provides leadership to the five subcommittees, whose focus areas are determined by the Community Health Assessment results. The Community Health Assessment is conducted every three years by the DPH and Duke Health, and randomly surveys Durham County residents to determine the top health priorities in the community. The subcommittees are: Health and Housing; Access to Care; Obesity, Diabetes, and Food Access; Mental Health; and Communications. These subcommittees each have action plans and focus on long-term impact and sustainable change by looking at ways to make systems and environmental change.

Marissa Mortiboy, the Partnership for a Healthy Durham Coordinator, has been a strong partner and connector for DUSON to the organization. She is a past member of the D-CHIPP Advisory Board. Donna Biederman, DrPH, is a co-chair of the Health and Housing subcommittee, and many DUSON faculty and staff are members of the PHD. Dr. Biederman has been an asset to the Health and Housing subcommittee by sharing her research on the physical and mental health correlates of eviction and by providing a bridge to national health and housing organizations.

Mortiboy says that she would “love for more people to be a part [of the PHD] so Durham can be the healthiest place it can be.” Community members are welcome to join PHD. There are many ways to engage, such as joining a subcommittee and attending meetings, giving feedback on what PHD is doing, or joining listening sessions this spring. For other ways to be involved, see their website at www.healthydurham.org.
D-CHIPP Affiliate Spotlight: Iris Padilla, PhD, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Hometown: New York City
Favorite food: Octopus Salad
Favorite thing: Sports
Favorite vacation spot: Puerto Rico
Current research or other projects: Transition of Care from Hospital to Community for Latino Patients with Diabetes

Courses teaching this or next semester / our taught recently: Advanced Pharmacology, next semester Endocrinology Specialty I (Diabetes)

Community partners: Lincoln Community Health Center

What Dr. Padilla likes best about working in community health: I think the most rewarding part of working in community health center is knowing that I am connecting to the patients and making a difference in their lives. When patients come in and their diabetes are better controlled or have lost weight, I see the joy on their faces and how proud they are of their accomplishments. I cannot begin to describe how happy I get to see them happy. I also learn from my patients. I talk to them and we work together as a team.

“I feel that I have a calling for this work and I am happy that I am able to do it. It comes with challenges, but well worth it.”

Need to contact D-CHIPP?
Email dchippcoord@duke.edu for suggestions or comments.