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# D-CHIPP Affiliate Newsletter

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## DUSON Community Health Improvement Partnership Program

*Partnering with the community to advance health.*



*From D-CHIPP Director,  
Dr. Donna J. Biederman*

Duke University School of Nursing provides quality nursing education and demonstrates excellence through continuous improvement in ways that challenge students to perform at high levels. At DUSON we offer rich educational experiences to our students that helps prepare them for a career in community, public health, and population health nursing.

Our diverse course offerings span our ABSN, MSN, DNP, and PhD programs. DUSON currently has eleven (11) courses (both required and elective) that include community, public, and population health content. We are constantly scanning the environment to ensure our students are receiving relevant state of the art instruction and frequently update our courses, or create new ones such as N977, Planning and Evaluating Care of Populations, taught by Dr. Shari Ruston and myself this semester for the first time. Beyond didactic instruction, our students enjoy participating in community and population health research. The Durham community, and beyond, also provides a variety of community health clinical experiences. This month, Cherie Conley, DUSON PhD candidate and D-CHIPP Advisory Board member is in our D-CHIPP affiliate spotlight. Cherie describes her research in the community with African-American church members working to achieve a healthy weight. This month's Community Partner Spotlight, PADC, is a clinical and a strong DUSON collaborator. Lastly, a recent addition to the community experience afforded to students is D-CHIPP student affiliation launched this month. We hope you enjoy this newsletter.



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## Community Partner Spotlight: Project Access of Durham County

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Solving the problems affecting access to care has been a contested political debate, a puzzle for national health organizations and a struggle for health systems and communities. As a social determinant of health, having access to care contributes to overall health and wellness of an individual and reduces unnecessary emergency department and other health care costs.

In 2002, the Durham Health Summit launched a conversation to solve this complex problem. Then Durham community organizations: [Partnership for a Healthy Durham](#), [Latino Community Credit Union](#), [Durham Congregations Associations and Neighborhoods](#), and Durham Health Partners continued to strategize ways to provide an additional layer of care for uninsured Durham residents. . Lincoln Community Health Center, the federally qualified health center in Durham, struggled to get consultations for patients who needed specialty care; and in many cases, patients went without care. The Durham community organizations began exploring options. When the group observed the success of the Project Access model that started in Buncombe County, NC in 1995; they knew they wanted to implement a similar program, and Project Access of Durham County (PADC) formed in 2008.

PADC covers all specialties—with the exception of dentistry, oral surgery and psychiatry—for patients who are uninsured and cannot afford health care. PADC has developed a network of physician specialists, clinics, labs and hospitals that provide care to patients who are below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The specialty care delivered by the health care providers is provided at no cost to the patient.

(cont'd)

PADC partners with DUSON through research and also through the development of the Durham Homeless Care Transitions and Durham Transitions Care Clinic. These programs help homeless patients establish needed services following hospitalization. Referred patients receive assistance applying for eligible benefits such as disability, Medicaid and SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program), receive referrals to mental health and/or substance abuse treatment, a place for respite (short term housing) after a hospital stay and application for permanent housing. Sally Wilson, executive director of Project Access of Durham County; along with Donna Biederman, DrPH, MN, RN, associate professor at Duke University School of Nursing; and Julia Gamble, MPH, NP, consulting associate at Duke University School of Nursing; form the team leading this programmatic research effort.

If you are interested in the work of PADC, please visit their website at [www.projectaccessdurham.org](http://www.projectaccessdurham.org). As a 501 (C)3 non-profit organization, they accept monetary donations and they have availability for volunteers in their Health Equipment Loan Program.

*Below: A client of Durham Homeless Care Transitions, a partnership program between DUSON, Duke Outpatient Clinic, and PADC, receives the keys to her first apartment.*



## What are D-CHIPP affiliates up to?

D-CHIPP affiliates are writing papers, grants, presenting at conferences and involved in many other scholarship activities. Check out the recent scholarship news from the month of May.

**Publications:** Two papers were published in May including: *Granger* and Colleagues Publish Article in The American Journal of Managed Care; *Randolph* Featured in Working@Duke Article

**Grant submissions:** In May, two grants were submitted: PhD Student Cao and *Gonzalez-Guarda* Submit STTI Global Nursing Research Grant Program Health Services Proposal; *Padilla* and Colleague Submit Proposal to The New York Regional Center for Diabetes Translation Research

**Local / national presentations:** Five conference presentations took place in May. *Randolph* to Present at Black Communities: A Conference for Collaboration; *Crego* to Present at Sickle Cell Disease Champion Series; *Hendrix* Presents Poster at 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society; *Trotter* Presents Poster at American Society of Breast Surgeons Annual Meeting; *Padilla* Participates in Panel Discussion

**Professional awards:** *Tanabe* Named Lauren Chadwick Professor of Nursing; *Biederman* Graduates from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Interdisciplinary Research Leaders Program

**Leadership promotion:** *Stevenson* Appointed Chair of the Women, Children and Families Division

**Other research dissemination:** *Biederman* Discusses Research on WNCU Radio

Need to contact D-CHIPP?

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

News from the Center for Nursing Research*Nicholas School partnership*

Coming soon is a new initiative that will bring together faculty from DUSON and the Nicholas School of the Environment to foster research partnerships to optimize population health. Plans are underway to hold a lunch and learn event that at DUSON that will host faculty from the Nicholas School, and offer an in-depth look at the Durham Neighborhood Compass, an online interactive map of Durham County that displays health and social determinants data. Additional networking events will follow that will allow faculty from both schools to meet each other and discover similar research interests. Stay tuned for more information.

*D-CHIPP Affiliate Spotlight: Cherie Conley, BSN, RN, MHS, PhD Candidate, Jonas Scholar***Who:** Cherie Conley**Hometown:** Dayton, Ohio**Favorite food:** I can't choose one...how about favorite region? Middle Eastern!**Favorite thing:** Hanging with my sisters...(my big sister who lives in Atlanta and my little sisters [Big Brothers Big Sisters] here in Raleigh)**Favorite vacation spot:** D.C. - the energy!**Current research or other projects:** 1) My dissertation project - A dyadic peer support intervention to promote healthy weight in three African American churches in North Carolina; 2) A community-campus-health system partnership to promote physical activity in Durham, NC**Community partners:** Sankofa Farms, Fertile Ground Food Co-op, Partnership for a Healthy Durham**What she likes best about working in community health:** Wow! First, working with partners and seeing their passion inspires me. Second, some of the most insightful, creative, and innovative ideas I've heard come from community members and organizations. Finally, bringing together so many different sectors to improve community health is a challenge; and that's also what makes it exciting.***FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES***

Have you heard about a grant opportunity and want to get out the word? You can share it here by emailing the D-CHIPP Coordinator, [dchippcoord@duke.edu](mailto:dchippcoord@duke.edu).

Upcoming Events

July 8th: Executive Committee meeting

July 11th: "Searching for a Fix" documentary

September 9th: D-CHIPP Advisory Board

Submit an upcoming event for inclusion in the newsletter by the 25th of each month to [dchipp-coord@duke.edu](mailto:dchipp-coord@duke.edu)

"It's no coincidence that four of the six letters in health are "heal."

~ Ed Northstrum