



28TH Annual International Symposium
**Achieving Health Equity Through Community Partnerships
Innovations in Community-Based Participatory Research**

The Kaye Playhouse, Hunter College of the
City University of New York, 695 Park Avenue
(East 68th Street between Park and Lexington Avenues)

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS:

Hunter College of the City University of New York, Center for Translational and Basic Research (CTBR) & Clinical & Translational Science Center, Weill Cornell Medical College including its partners: Hunter College School of Nursing, Cornell University Cooperative Extension in NYC Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Hospital for Special Surgery

<http://ctbr.hunter.cuny.edu/HealthEquity2015>



Center for Translational and Basic Research

The RCMI Program at Hunter College of the City University of New York was established in 1985 through the vision of James Wyche, Harvey Ozer (former Program Coordinators for the Hunter RCMI Program) and Richard Mawe (former Program Director of the Hunter RCMI Program) with the support of the Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program.

In 2012, the RCMI Program was transferred to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) after the closing of the National Center for Research Resources.

The program funds the Center for Translational and Basic Research (CTBR) for Addressing Health Disparities and Improving Health Outcomes, formerly the Center for Study of Gene Structure and Function (Gene Center), a consortium of researchers from the Hunter College departments of biology, chemistry, psychology, physics, anthropology, and urban public health, as well as from the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing. Since the CTBR's inception, the growing number of papers published in peer-reviewed journals and the number and amount of grants obtained by the faculty have been the most visible hallmarks of its success. The CTBR provides a vibrant research environment marked by workshops on cutting-edge research techniques; frequent research colloquia and seminars by guest scientists; an annual international symposium, which is a major event on the New York scientific calendar; and a strong emphasis on collaborative translational research. In addition, the CTBR encourages bright undergraduates, especially minorities, to develop a career in biomedical, drug abuse/neuroscience research by hosting a Summer Program for Undergraduate Research and connects communities to science, health, and health disparities information through the socialgradient (socialgradient.org) website.

The CTBR is a key partner in the Clinical and Translational Science Center, an enterprise that also includes the Weill Cornell Medical College, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, the Hospital for Special Surgery and the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing. The Clinical Translational Science Center was established in 2007 with the aim of accelerating translational research. The overall goal is to facilitate the transition of laboratory work into state-of-the-art clinical research (T1 research), provide research that improves patient care (T2) and health outcomes in the general community (T3). The CTBR also participates in a national consortium, the Research Centers in Minority Institutions Translational Research Network (RTRN), which facilitates collaboration, large-scale projects, and sharing of facilities among Research Centers in Minority Institutions.

For more information about the CTSC, please visit <http://ctbr.hunter.cuny.edu/>



Clinical and Translational Science Center

The Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) is a unique collaboration between renowned biomedical and community organizations centered on Manhattan's east side. Weill Cornell Medical College and the Graduate School of Medical Sciences is home to the administrative core of the CTSC, led by CTSC Program Director Julianne Imperato-McGinley, MD, Associate Dean of Translational Research and Education at Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC).

In addition to WCMC, the CTSC partner institutions include:

- Hunter College, Center for Translational and Basic Research
- Hunter College, School of Nursing
- Hospital for Special Surgery
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
- Cornell University Co-operative Extension in New York City

Affiliated hospitals include New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Lincoln Medical Center, Methodist Hospital, New York Downtown Hospital, New York Queens Hospital, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, and Brooklyn Hospital.

The CTSC is designed to bring together the resources of all partner and affiliate institutions to facilitate novel translational research. Separately, these institutions include superb academic centers of excellence, a diverse patient base, and a unique community-engagement program designed to foster collaboration between community groups and translational research scientists. Each partner and affiliate has an unmistakable character that enhances multi-disciplinary interaction. Integration of these unique resources and intellectual assets will facilitate translation of research findings in the laboratory to clinical research at the bedside and ultimately to best practices within underserved communities.

This center is funded through the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs), a national consortium that is transforming how clinical and translational research is conducted.

For more information about the CTSC, please visit <http://www.med.cornell.edu/ctsc>.

28th Annual International Symposium

Achieving Health Equity Through Community Partnerships: Innovations in Community-Based Participatory Research

The 28th Annual International Symposium of the Center for Translational and Basic Research at Hunter College, with Weill Cornell Medical College Clinical and Translational Science Center, is supported by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health (Grant #8 G12 MD007599-27) and the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (Grant #2UL1TR000457-06)

The Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program was transferred to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) following the passing of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012, which dissolved the National Center for Research Resources, the former home of the RCMI program.

The RCMI Program of the National Institutes of Health develops and strengthens the research infrastructure of minority institutions by expanding human and physical resources for conducting basic, clinical, and translational research. It provides grants to institutions that award doctoral degrees in the health professions or health-related sciences and have a significant enrollment of students from racial and ethnic minority groups that are underrepresented in biomedical sciences. The program also serves the dual purpose of bringing more racial and ethnic minority scientists into mainstream research and promoting minority health research because many of the investigators at RCMI institutions study diseases that disproportionately affect minority populations.



The NIH, a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting medical research. Composed of 27 Institutes and Centers, the NIH provides leadership and financial support to researchers in every state and throughout the world. Its mission is science in pursuit of fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to extend healthy life and reduce the burdens of illness and disability. <http://www.nih.gov>

The mission of the **National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)** is to promote minority health and to lead, coordinate, support, and assess the NIH effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities. In this effort NIMHD will conduct and support basic, clinical, social, and behavioral research, promote research infrastructure and training, foster emerging programs, disseminate information, and reach out to minority and other health disparity communities. <http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/default.html>

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences is strategically positioned to facilitate interdisciplinary clinical and translational research. RTRN has established a solid technological foundation to support intellectual exchange, generate innovative inter- and multi-disciplinary research and facilitate the movement of scientific advances throughout the translational research spectrum. <http://www.ncats.nih.gov/>

Program Synopsis

NIH¹ defines community-based participatory research (CBPR) as scientific inquiry conducted in communities and in partnership with researchers. Thus, those affected by the health condition and/or key stakeholders in the community's health are full and active participants in each phase of the research (from conception-design-conduct-analysis-interpretation-conclusions-communication of results). The strength of CBPR is that scientists and communities by working together can then foster the application of knowledge and skills to directly benefit the community. The community input makes the project credible by aligning it with what the community perceives as social and health goals.² By collaboration, it can bridge cultural differences and lead to sustainable efforts at the community level that fosters the application of research findings that advances health and eliminates health disparities. This symposium features leading US CBPR researchers; each presentation includes both the academic and community partners.

The morning sessions begins with a keynote presentation by **Barbara A. Israel** (*Professor, University of Michigan & Director, Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center*) and **Angela G. Reyes** (*Executive Director, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation*) who will share their insights on how they built a CBPR partnership that has lasted over twenty years. Dr. Israel and Ms. Reyes will then join with two other colleagues from the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center, **Barbara L. Brush** (*Professor, University of Michigan School of Nursing*) and **Zachary Rowe** (*Executive Director of Friends of Parkside*) for a panel presentation to explain how they support new collaborative research partnerships.

In the afternoon there will be two panels representing New York City community advocates & academics. First, **Jennifer Tiffany** (*Professor & Director, Outreach & Community Engagement, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Cornell University*) and **Rebecca Gallagher** (*Director of Youth and Adolescent Services, Lutheran Family Health Centers' Project Reach*) will describe their Complementary Strengths Research Partnership that supports youth development program to reduce HIV risk. **Anita Nirenberg** (*Professor, Hunter College School of Nursing & Member, MSKCC Nursing Research Council*) and **Marilyn Saviola** (*Senior Vice President for Advocacy, Independence Care System*) will share their experiences to integrate the care of women with physical disabilities into health provider education.

The second panel includes **Daniel Gardner** (*Associate Professor, Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College*) and **Fay H. Rim** (*Chief, Dept. of Pain Medicine and Palliative Care at Metropolitan Hospital Center*) who will present their experience in conducting research to facilitate access to palliative care among older Harlem residents. Then **Cary Reid** (*Associate Professor in Geriatrics, Weill Cornell Medical College*) and **Evelyn Reyes Laureano** (*Executive Director, Neighborhood SHOPP*) will describe a novel approach to facilitate self-management of pain among older adults attending senior centers.

The symposium will conclude with a keynote presentation by **Aletha Maybank** (*Associate Commissioner, Center for Health Equity, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene*), who will describe the value of community expertise in improving health and addressing health disparities.

1) <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-12-006.html>

2) Israel, B.A. et al, Community campus partnerships for health. *Educ Health* 2001, 14:182-197

Agenda

- 9:00** **Jesus Angulo, PhD.,** Professor of Biological Sciences at Hunter College, CUNY and Principal Investigator/Program Director of the Center for Translational and Basic Research
Jennifer J. Raab, JD., President, Hunter College, City University of New York
Vita C. Rabinowitz, PhD., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Hunter College, City University of New York
Julianne Imperato-McGinley, MD., Associate Dean of Translational Research Weill Cornell Medical College
Joan Wasserman, DrPH, RN, Program Director, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health
- 9:45** **Opening Keynote Speakers**
Barbara A. Israel, DrPH, MPH, Director, Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center
Angela G. Reyes, MPH, Executive Director, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
A Community-Based Participatory Research Approach Aimed at Achieving Health Equity
- 10:45** **Coffee Break/Poster Session**
- 11:15** **Panel from Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center**
Barbara L. Brush, PhD, ANP-BC, FAAN, Carol J. and F. Edward Lake Term Clinical Professor, Division of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction, University of Michigan
Barbara A. Israel, DrPH, MPH, Director, Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center
Angela G. Reyes, MPH, Executive Director, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
Zachary Rowe, BBA, Executive Director of Friends of Parkside
- 12:30** Lunch for pre-registered participants and Poster Session
- 2:00** **Panel of New York City Community Advocates & Academics – Part I**
Jennifer Tiffany, PhD, Director, Outreach & Community Engagement, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Cornell University
Rebecca Gallagher, MSW, Director of Youth and Adolescent Services at Lutheran Family Health Centers' Project Reach Youth
Complementary Strengths Research Partnership
Anita Nirenberg, PhD, RN, PNP, FAAN, BC, AOCNP, William Randolph Hearst Professor of Clinical Nursing, Hunter College School of Nursing & Member, MSKCC Nursing Research Council
Marilyn Saviola, MS., Senior Vice President Advocacy and the Women's Health Access Program, Independence Care System
Access and Education around Healthcare for Women with Physical Disabilities
- 3:15** Coffee Break/Poster Session
- 3:45** **Panel of New York City Community Advocates & Academics – Part 2**
Daniel Gardner, PhD, MSW, Associate Professor, Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College, City University of New York
Fay H. Rim, MD, Chief, Dept. of Pain Medicine and Palliative Care at Metropolitan Hospital Center
Community Access to Palliative Care: Reducing Health Disparities among Chronically-Ill Older Adults in East and Central Harlem
Manney Cary Reid, MD, Irving Sherwood Wright Associate Professor in Geriatrics, Weill Cornell Medical College
Evelyn Reyes Laureano, PhD, LMSW, Executive Director, Neighborhood SHOPP
Addressing Pain Disparities at the Community Level
- 5:00** **Closing Keynote Speaker**
Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH, Associate Commissioner, Founding Director for the Center for Health Equity, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Achieving Health Equity through Community Partnership: Building the Capacity to Act
- 5:30** **Poster Awards Ceremony**
Concluding Remarks
Liz Capezuti, PhD, RN, FAAN, William Randolph Hearst Foundation Chair in Gerontology, Professor, Assistant Dean for Research, Director, Center for Nursing Research, Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing

Opening Keynote Address

Keynote Speakers: Barbara A. Israel & Angela G. Reyes

Title: A Community-Based Participatory Research Approach Aimed at Achieving Health Equity

Abstract: There have been increasing calls for more comprehensive and participatory approaches to health research and interventions which engage the participation of community members aimed at achieving health equity. Community-based participatory research (CBPR) is one such partnership approach. The purpose of this presentation is to discuss and analyze the rationale for, definition, and key principles of CBPR, and provide examples of how the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (Detroit URC) has put CBPR into practice over the past twenty years. The Detroit URC, established in 1995, is a CBPR partnership which builds upon the strengths of the communities involved, in order to conduct etiologic research, public health interventions, and policy advocacy aimed at understanding and addressing health inequities. The presentation will describe: the goals, structure and overall accomplishments of the Detroit URC; key components and findings from one of its CBPR affiliated partnerships, the Healthy Environments Partnership (that examines and addresses the social and environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease); strategies implemented to foster and support new collaborative research efforts; and the translation of research into policy. An analysis will be presented of the lessons learned and recommendations will be provided for conducting CBPR.

Barbara A. Israel is a Professor in the Department of Health Behavior at the School of Public Health – University of Michigan. She has published widely in the areas of: the social and physical environmental determinants of health and health inequities; the relationship among stress, social support, control and physical and mental health; and community-based participatory research (CBPR). Dr. Israel has extensive experience conducting CBPR in collaboration with partners in diverse communities. Since 1995, she has worked together with academic and community partners to establish and maintain the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center. The Center involves multiple NIH and Foundation-funded basic etiologic research and intervention research projects aimed at increasing knowledge and addressing factors associated with health inequities in Detroit. Dr. Israel is actively involved in several of these CBPR projects examining and addressing, for example, the environmental triggers of childhood asthma, the social and physical environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease, access to food and physical activity spaces, and capacity building for and translating research findings into policy change.



Angela G. Reyes is the founder and Executive Director of the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation (DHDC). Angie has been committed to working in and serving the Southwest Detroit Latino community for over 40 years, dedicating much of her life to working with “in-risk” and gang-involved youth. Angie founded DHDC in 1997 from her living room, “because I was tired of burying children”. In an attempt to reduce the violence, the GRACE Program formed after forging a truce with the leaders of several rival gangs, and encouraging them to “retire” in return for jobs in local Hispanic-owned manufacturing companies. Ms. Reyes has since successfully integrated various services into comprehensive programs for youth, young adults and families, and developed and managed several successful programs serving the Detroit Latino community. Ms. Reyes has a Master’s Degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan, and has been the recipient of several awards for her community work. Ms. Reyes is a founding board member of the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center, which was established in 1995 and involves multiple funded collaborative research and intervention projects aimed at increasing knowledge and addressing factors associated with health disparities of residents in Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Reyes is an international consultant and speaker about issues affecting the Latino community, including cultural awareness, youth gangs and violence, substance abuse, immigration, education reform, community-based participatory research, policy development and community organizing.



Panel Discussion: Detroit Community – Academic Urban Research Center

Panelists: Barbara Brush, Barbara Israel, Angela G. Reyes and Zachary Rowe

The panel will discuss how to develop partnerships that can be sustained overtime, the strategies used to help create and mentor new collaborative research partnerships, the capacity building and training activities that facilitate successful partnership development and the benefits/opportunities as well as costs/challenges of being involved in these CBPR partnerships - at the individual (personal), organizational and community levels.

Barbara L. Brush is an Associate Professor of Nursing and the Carol J. and F. Edward Lake Professor of Population Health at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Over the past two decades, her research has spanned a gamut of nurse workforce issues, including workforce diversity, nurse shortage, and nurse migration, as well as how nurses impact care provision to vulnerable community-based populations. A nurse researcher and historian, Dr. Brush has partnered with research teams at the New York Academy of Medicine, the International Council of Nurses, the Center for Health Workforce Studies at SUNY (Albany) School of Public Health, the University of Pennsylvania Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research, and New York University to examine key workforce issues and their policy implications. Her research with homeless families in Detroit, as part of the Family Health and Housing Collaborative of which she is a founding partner, uses a community-based participatory approach to engage its members in designing, implementing, and evaluating best practice models to provide needed preventive health and social services and inform health policy decisions in this emerging and underserved cohort. She is currently a Board member of the Detroit URC and is the immediate past Faculty Director for the Community Engagement arm of the University of Michigan's Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). Dr. Brush's research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the National Library of Medicine, as well as by private foundations, and has been widely disseminated.



Barbara A. Israel, Professor, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health, University of Michigan

Angela G. Reyes, Executive Director, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation

Zachary Rowe is Executive Director of Friends Of Parkside, a grassroots community-based organization on Detroit's eastside which provides programs for youth, a computer learning center, health and safety projects, and linkages for residents to employment and personal development opportunities. Mr. Rowe has been involved with various Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) projects for more than 18 years and is a founding member of the Detroit Urban Research Center (URC) Board. He serves on the Healthy Environment Partnership Steering Committee, Community Action Against Asthma Steering Committee, REACH Detroit Partnership Steering Committee, UofM's RWJF CSP Internal Advisory Committee (IAC) and the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICR) Community Engagement Coordinating Council. Currently, He is a Co-PI on a National Institute of Health (NIH) and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) funded projects.



Panel Discussion: New York City Community Advocates & Academics – Part 1

Rebecca Gallagher, Community Advocate
Jennifer Tiffany, Academic Partner

Title: Complementary Strengths Research Partnership

Abstract: The Complementary Strengths Research Partnership (CSRP) grew out of collaborative work by the NYS Department of Health (NYSDoH) and Cornell University (CU) to integrate positive youth development approaches into HIV/AIDS prevention programs for adolescents. The partnership formed in 2005 to better measure the quality of youth program participation and to investigate its relationship to HIV risk reduction. Project Reach Youth (PRY) of Lutheran Family Health Centers is one of nine community based NYC after school programs engaged in the partnership, along with the NYSDoH, CU, and the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (NYC DYCD). Representatives from each partner formed a project steering committee which met most intensively while the partnership had support from a National Institutes of Health research grant (2007-2010). Participant recruitment for that study exceeded objectives, with over 300 youth enrolling. 93% of youth returned for follow-up surveys. "Data dialogues" involved youth and staff from all partner organizations in assessing and utilizing findings, and focus groups generated qualitative data that informed quantitative analyses of survey responses. The project has so far generated two peer reviewed journal articles focused on validating a new measure of youth participation and assessing its relationship HIV risk reduction, numerous conference presentations, dissemination of our measure of youth program participation by national organizations, and sustained collaboration between CU and PRY to use CSRP measures of program participation and social connectedness to evaluate youth HIV prevention and youth development programs.

Marilyn Saviola, Community Advocate
Anita Nirenberg, Academic Partner

Title: Access and Education around Healthcare for Women with Physical Disabilities

Background: People with physical disabilities frequently are unable to receive appropriate, evidence based health care. Breast and gynecologic cancer screening and early detection are crucial for health promotion and disease prevention for women with physical disabilities. Screening in this population is often not performed due to lack of provider education, time constraints in this health care environment and physical barriers at the clinical site.

Community-Academic Partnership: Independent Care System (ICS) is an organization that serves people with physical disabilities in New York City. ICS is a Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) and a Fully Integrated Duals Advantage/ Medicaid/Medicare Plan (FIDA/MMP) that is recognized for its competency in coordinating care for people with physical disabilities. ICS's Access to Women's Healthcare Program is recognized as a model that should be replicated as a standard for accessible, competent healthcare for women with physical disabilities. Since 2010, ICS has partnered with the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing (HBSON) the flagship nursing program of the City University of New York. The School has over 1,000 nursing students in several programs. Health disparities are underlying themes in all coursework and clinical practice. Education for health care providers who deliver care for women with physical disabilities is sorely needed to provide equitable health care services.

Future Endeavors: A project to strengthen educational opportunities that prepare nursing students at all levels for inter-professional practice in team based learning to provide care for this vulnerable population is planned as a part of the community-academic partnership will be discussed.

Panelists Bios

Jennifer Tiffany serves as Director of Outreach and Community Engagement, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University; Executive Director of Cornell University Cooperative Extension's NYC Programs; and as Co-Director of the Community Engagement in Research Component of the Weill Cornell CTSC. Her scholarly work centers on research translation and community engagement, with a particular emphasis on research about youth participation and HIV/AIDS. She is the Principal Investigator of the Complementary Strengths Research Project, a community-based participatory research partnership that examines the relationships among social connectedness, youth voice and participation in community-based programs, and adolescent health with an emphasis on HIV risk reduction practices. Jennifer Tiffany holds a PhD in City and Regional Planning from Cornell University as well as a degree in nursing from Tompkins-Cortland Community College.



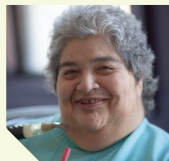
Rebecca Gallagher, Assistant Vice President, Youth and Adolescent Services, at Lutheran Family Health Centers has over fifteen years of experience in managing youth development programming in Brooklyn, New York. During this time she partnered with Jennifer Tiffany and her staff to evaluate how a youth development approach affects the outcomes of HIV prevention programming. Prior to her work at Lutheran Family Health Centers, Ms. Gallagher provided social work services to adolescents and supervised health educators and social workers in school based clinics in upper Manhattan. Ms Gallagher received her BA from Wesleyan University, her MSW from New York University, and completed coursework for a PhD in Social work from New York University.



Anita Nirenberg is an experienced clinician, educator and researcher. Her many years in nursing have resulted in significant contributions to the science of oncology clinical practice and patient outcomes. Since joining Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, Dr. Nirenberg has continued to engage in interdisciplinary collaborative research and teaching activities. She was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2013 and received the Oncology Nursing Society Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014. As the Associate Director for Nurse Practitioner Specialties, Dr. Nirenberg has been charged with improving the scholarship in the largest graduate program at Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing. The graduates of the programs have gone on to positions in world class academic health centers and in primary care settings across the greater New York metropolitan area. As an educator, Dr. Nirenberg has experience in developing curricula for health science students around significant health issues, particularly oncology, palliative and end of life care. Dr. Nirenberg's extensive network of colleagues at the major cancer centers among them Weill-Cornell Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center promotes and facilitates the partnerships essential in her current position. As an engaged and recognized expert clinical scholar, she brings a leadership background in service from multiple national and international nursing and health care organizations. She has influenced direction of these organizations to set policies aimed at enhancing scholarly nursing practice and improved patient care.



Marilyn Saviola is a nationally recognized disability rights advocate with a 40-year history of fighting to improve the lives of people with disabilities in New York City, particularly by advocating for the rights of people with physical disabilities to live at home, in the community, as independently as possible. Ms. Saviola began her career as a Rehabilitation Counselor at Goldwater Memorial Hospital. For 11 years, she helped people with severe physical disabilities to meet the challenges of leaving the hospital to move out into the community. A post-polio survivor who grew up in Goldwater Hospital herself, Ms. Saviola brought to that position not only her professional credentials—a Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from New York University—but also her own personal experience. From 1983 to 1998, Ms. Saviola took up the reins as Executive Director of the Center for Independence of the Disabled in NY. Under her leadership, CIDNY became a premier independent living center, recognized for its expertise in advocacy and services for people with disabilities. In 1998, Ms. Saviola brought her passion and deep knowledge of home- and community-based services to Independence Care System (ICS), a Medicaid managed long-term care program for people with physical disabilities. As Senior Vice President of Advocacy, Ms. Saviola intervenes, often in crisis situations, on behalf of ICS members with the many systems that impact their lives. Most recently, Ms. Saviola has overseen the creation of the Women's Health Program at ICS. Working in partnership with select health care institutions to address the numerous barriers that prevent access to care, the Program works to ensure that women with physical disabilities get the preventive, gender-specific health services they need. The Breast Cancer Screening Project for Women with Physical Disabilities was ICS's first women's health initiative. It has been funded since its inception by the Greater NYC Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, which chose the Project in 2010 as "Grantee of the Year." As a community advocate, Marilyn has brought her unique and powerful voice to the work of many advisory committees, organizations and professional associations. She has served as Past Chair of the Manhattan Borough Disability Advisory Group, Board Member or the Association of Independent Living Centers in New York, Member of the New York City Medicaid Managed Care Task Force and Board Member of Disabled in Action.



Panel Discussion: New York City Community Advocates & Academics – Part 2

Fay H. Rim, Community Advocate
Daniel Gardner, Academic Partner

Title: Community Access to Palliative Care: Reducing Health Disparities among Chronically-Ill Older Adults in East and Central Harlem

Abstract: Despite the documented benefits of palliative care for chronically ill individuals and families, considerable disparities exist in its utilization, related to differences in race/ethnicity, language, national origin, residence, and socioeconomic status. These inequities deprive minority elders of evidence-informed, humane care that could reduce their physical, emotional, and spiritual distress, and support the ability of seriously ill and disabled older adults to live independently in the community. This paper describes the development and progress of an academic-community research partnership designed to study the perceptions and supportive care needs of low income, Latino, and African American elders after discharge from an inpatient palliative care service. Specifically, we aim to assess the extent to which palliative care ameliorates pain and enhances quality of life in later life, and to identify the barriers minority elders face in accessing palliative care in the community.

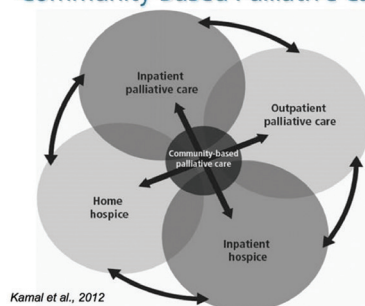
This study grew out of a larger community-based participatory research initiative, and represents a collaboration between researchers and clinicians at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, the Brookdale Center on Healthy Aging, and the Metropolitan Hospital Center (MHC), a public hospital in East Harlem, NY that serves a primarily local, low income, Latino and African American patient population. Study investigators will describe the project's rationale, design, and development, as well as the challenges of collaborating to conduct research and reduce health disparities for underserved older adults. Implications for conducting community-based research on inequities in palliative care in later life will be discussed.

Evelyn Laureano, Community Advocate
Manny Cary Reid, Academic Partner

Title: Addressing Pain Disparities at the Community Level

Abstract: Advancing age and belonging to a minority group increase risk for undertreatment of musculoskeletal pain. This community based participatory research (CBPR) project sought to address this disparity by developing an age and race/ethnicity appropriate self-management pain program for use in New York City senior centers. A steering committee (SC) composed of senior center directors, older adults with pain, experts in self-management, and researchers oversaw all aspects of the project to included adapting an evidence based self-management program (Arthritis Self-Help Program) for use by older Hispanic and older African American adults. Diverse groups of senior center clients participated in the original (unmodified) program and were interviewed weekly for suggestions about how best to adapt the program to maximize its value and reach for seniors like themselves. Over 90 suggested program modifications were generated and were reviewed carefully by the SC who made the final decisions about which modifications to accept. In the next phase, the adapted program was compared with the original program to assess potential benefits of program adaptation. Participants included individuals ages 60 or older with arthritis, were recruited from 8 New York City senior centers, and were assessed at baseline and at 6 and 24 weeks to ascertain study outcomes. The adapted program was found to have significantly better attendance and retention, while maintaining improvements in physical and psychosocial function and pain relief. This presentation will review the primary products to emerge from the work.

Community-Based Palliative Care

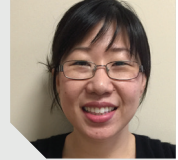


Panelists Bios

Daniel Gardner has over 25 years of clinical, administrative, and research experience in health and mental health, specializing in social work practice with individuals, families, and groups living with chronic and advanced illness. His areas of scholarship include aging, psychosocial oncology, palliative and end-of-life care, family decision-making, and health disparities among underserved, community-dwelling older adults. His current research focuses on exploring and developing interventions to address health disparities in pain management and palliative care among low-income, minority elders. Dr. Gardner has authored or co-authored over 30 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, or monographs. He is a Hartford Faculty Scholar in Geriatric Social Work, a founding board member of the Social Work in Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN), Research Director of the Hartford-Silberman Center of Excellence in Gerontological Social Work at Hunter College, and a Fellow of the Social Research, Practice & Policy Section of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA).



Fay H. Rim is currently the acting chief of the Department of Pain and Palliative Medicine at Metropolitan Hospital. She is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation, pain medicine, and hospice and palliative care. She also serves as the New York Medical College hospice and palliative medicine fellowship director and is a clinical instructor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at New York Medical College. Dr. Rim received her bachelor's degree in biology from MIT and her medical degree in 2002 from New York Medical College. She did her internship at Westchester Medical Center and residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center and completed her fellowship in pain and palliative care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2007. She had worked in private practice and the James J. Peters VA Medical Center prior to joining Metropolitan Hospital.



Manny Cary Reid directs Cornell's Center of Excellence in Geriatric Medicine and the Office of Geriatric Research housed in the Division of Geriatrics at Weill Cornell. Dr. Reid's work over the past decade has focused on the epidemiology and treatment of persistent pain disorders in older adults. This work has involved elucidating risk factors for poor outcomes (e.g., declines in physical performance), as well as the development and testing of non-pharmacologic interventions to improve outcomes, with a particular emphasis on behavioral treatment approaches for use by older adults with chronic pain. He currently serves as the Director of Cornell's Edward R. Roybal Center for Translational Research on Aging. The goals of this center include: (1) translating the findings of basic behavioral, medical, public health, and social science research into treatments, intervention programs, and policies that improve the health and well-being of older adults who suffer from or are at increased risk for pain; (2) promoting translation of evidence-based practices, treatments, and interventions across diverse venues to improve management of pain; and (3) developing and testing innovative methods, tools, and strategies that facilitate successful translation of evidence into practice.



Evelyn Reyes Laureano is the Executive Director of Neighborhood Self Help by Older Persons Project, (SHOPP) an organization dedicated to empowering elders of color through advocacy, leadership training and targeted services. Dr. Laureano has a distinguished 40 year career in gerontology, in such fields as health, mental health, social services and higher education. Her accomplishments include the development of strengths-based social work practice models with minority elders, the establishment of one of the first elder abuse programs in the Bronx and prevention and wellness initiatives to reduce health disparities among elders of color.



Closing Keynote Address

Keynote Speaker: Aletha Maybank

**Title: Achieving Health Equity through Community Partnership:
Building the Capacity to Act**

Abstract: As many of us know, though the United States leads the world in many areas, the health and well-being of this nation's people, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status, lags behind most of our peer industrialized nations. Our health is not simply a reflection of behaviors, but more so social and community conditions related to jobs, education, housing, violence, and stress that start from the time even before birth. This has a significant impact on an individual's and a community's health. These social and community conditions are a result of historical and ongoing policies and practices that have created all types of systems of unbalanced power and privilege. As public health and healthcare systems are tasked to figure out how do we best align and integrate our efforts, ways of being, and values, improving how we care for patients and protect our communities is paramount. Diversity of voice and perspective is essential for transformation. More importantly, diversity is essential to create relevancy to our plans and to the communities that we serve. That means we must recognize communities as their own experts and invite them to have 'a seat at the table.' The more we value community expertise on all levels, the more successful our processes developed to carry forth health equity, community planning, and community organizing will be.

Aletha Maybank is an Associate Commissioner at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and serves as the founding Director of the Center for Health Equity. The newly created Center for Health Equity aligns efforts in advancing health equity across the City and ensures the deployment of resources to reduce health and mental hygiene disparities across all neighborhoods in NYC. The Center focuses on these key areas: leveraging community assets to better integrate primary care and public health to serve the health needs of communities; building inter-agency collaboration to implement multi-sectorial approach to addressing the root causes of health disparities; and increasing organizational capacity that strengthens the agency's lens of addressing health equity. Previously she led the Brooklyn District Public as Assistant Commissioner. As the Assistant Commissioner of the Brooklyn District Public Health Office, Dr. Maybank oversaw a series of place based programs aimed at decreasing health disparities in North and Central Brooklyn including but not limited to: the Brooklyn Breastfeeding Empowerment Zone, Healthy Start Brooklyn, Healthy Schools Brooklyn, Active Transportation and Pedestrian Safety Initiatives, and Shop Healthy Brooklyn.



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