Community Engagement and Research Symposia

Speaker Biographies: 2017 Community Engagement and Research Symposium

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6th Annual Community Engagement and Research Symposium
Friday, March 3, 2017; 8:00am - 3:00pm
Albert Sherman Center
University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

Presenter Biographies

Keynote

“Removing Barriers to Provider Communication with Multicultural Patients”

Margarita Alegría, Ph.D., is the Chief of the Disparities Research Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital, and a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Alegría is currently the Principal Investigator (PI) of four National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research studies: International Latino Research Partnership; Effects of Social Context, Culture and Minority Status on Depression and Anxiety; Building Community Capacity for Disability Prevention for Minority Elders; and Mechanisms Underlying Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Mental Disorders. She is also the PI of a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) project: Effectiveness of DECIDE in Patient-Provider Communication, Therapeutic Alliance & Care Continuation. Dr. Alegria has published over 200 papers, editorials, intervention training manuals, and several book chapters, on topics such as improvement of health care services delivery for diverse racial and ethnic populations, conceptual and methodological issues with multicultural populations, and ways to bring the community’s perspective into the design and implementation of health services.

As an acknowledgement of her contributions to her field, Dr. Alegría has been widely recognized and cited. Among the many awards: the Mental Health Section Award of American Public Health Association, 2003; the Health Disparities Innovation Award from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, 2008; and the Award of Excellence from the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse in 2011. In October 2011, she was elected as a member of the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Alegría was selected as El Planeta’s (Massachusetts’s largest circulating Spanish-language newspaper) 2013’s Powermeter 100 most influential people for the Hispanic community in Massachusetts. Most recently, Dr. Alegria received the 2016 Cynthia Lucero Latino Mental Health Award by William James College.
Andy Lowe. B.S., is the Director of Program Management Resources at Outer Cape Health Services, a Federally Qualified Health Center serving the Lower and Outer Cape Cod region, where he oversees federal and state grants management and compliance. Before coming to OCHS, Mr. Lowe was Associate Principal Investigator for community-based research projects in the University of Vermont Center for Clinical and Translational Science, where he oversaw community peer navigator programs serving justice-involved and homeless veterans. Mr. Lowe previously worked in the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Vermont State Hospital, and Vermont Department of Mental Health in roles including Project Manager, Information Technology Manager, and Associate Chief Information Officer, where he worked on information systems supporting a variety of programs for Vermonters with mental health, substance use, and related conditions. He has also been an adjunct faculty instructor of technical communications at Champlain College.

Marta “Dikke” Hansen, LICSW is the Director of Behavioral Health at Outer Cape Health Services (OCHS). She is a licensed clinical social worker who has practiced in the field for 35 years as a clinician and as an administrator. After graduating from college in 1975 with a Bachelor of Social Work from Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Ms. Hansen received a Master of Social Work degree from Michigan State University in 1981 and a Master’s Certificate in Global Mental Health, Trauma and Recovery from Harvard University, Boston MA in 2008. Ms. Hansen was the Clinic Director of the Family Counseling Center of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC) in Hyannis from 2011-2014 until joining OCHS in 2014. She has maintained a private counseling practice since 1992.

Dr. Andrew Jorgensen, MD, FACP, FAAP is Associate Medical Director at Outer Cape Health Services (OCHS), and is board certified in both pediatrics and internal medicine. Dr. Jorgensen obtained his undergraduate degree with Honors from the University of California, Davis with a B.S. in Biochemistry in 1995, and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1999 with a Distinction in Research. His Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Internship and Residency was completed in 2003 at the University of Texas, Houston. After his residency, Dr. Jorgensen practiced primary care in Texas, including as the founding partner of Houston Adult and Pediatric Medical Associates from 2003-2007, and was appointed Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Texas, Houston, from 2003-2007. Dr. Jorgensen was nominated for Physician of the Year in 2006 at the Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital in Texas. Prior to joining OCHS in 2015, Dr. Jorgensen was a practicing physician and Regional Medical Director at Cambridge Health Alliance. Besides his focus on his patients, Dr. Jorgensen clinical interests include patient centered medical home, behavioral health integration, provider wellness, and community health.

The Ethics and Practice of Digital Storytelling as a Methodology for Community-Based Participatory Research in Public Health

Alice Fiddian-Green, MPH, is a doctoral student and teaching associate in the Department of Health Promotion and Policy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, School of Public Health and Health Sciences. Fiddian-Green’s research focuses broadly on reproductive health among marginalized populations, using narrative, digital and visual research methods. Her dissertation research will use digital storytelling both as a tool to explore perinatal and postpartum opioid use dependence (OUD), and to enhance medication-assisted treatment program retention. Fiddian-Green also works with local public health organizations that work to promote equity in birth outcomes. She most recently completed a project entitled 100 Acts of Kindness Towards Pregnant
Women, which engaged community residents from multiple sectors to share ideas on ways to promote healthy pregnancies, healthy families, and community resiliency. The project culminated with a quilt made from those community messages, and which is currently part of a traveling exhibit that will be displayed at local clinics, hospitals, health centers, political offices and community organizations in Springfield, MA throughout 2016 and 2017.

**Louis F. Graham.** Using community-based participatory approaches, Dr. Graham's scholarship aims to understand and address structural and psychosocial determinants of mental and sexual health among ethnically minoritized and sexually marginalized groups – including stress, depression, and HIV prevention with black and Latino communities, gay and bisexual men and transgender women. Though he employs mix-methods, he is most interested in narrative and visual methods. He leads a five-year, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) funded randomized control trial of a narrative and storytelling based stress reduction (cortisol measure) intervention for African-American men. He holds a joint appointment with the Commonwealth Honors College, is a Center for Research on Families Scholar, and a Visiting Professor at the University of California San Francisco.

**Aline Gubrium** brings extensive experience in innovative research methodologies such as narrative, participatory, visual, and community engagement. Gubrium’s research lies at the intersection of ethnography and narrative analysis, combining them in innovative ways to deal with the problem of linking observational data with transcripts of stories, speech, and other narrative and multi-sensory materials. She has extensive research experience in diverse communities, nationally and internationally, including an NIH-funded Photovoice project with Latino/a youth in Springfield, MA focused on parent-child communication about sexuality; a Ford Foundation-funded digital storytelling, sensory ethnography and strategic communications project focused on sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice with young parenting Latinas; and an NICHD-funded project on using a culture-centered narrative approach for health promotion with nulliparous, pregnant, and/or parenting young Latinas. She currently serves as Co-Investigator, as digital storytelling/narrative expert, on a U01 funded by the NIMHD, which uses a CBPR approach to evaluate the effectiveness of a narratively enhanced intervention in lowering stress and risk of chronic diseases among men of color. Gubrium’s 2013 and 2015 books explain participatory visual and digital methodologies for social research, health promotion and practice, and advocacy.

**Sarah E. Lowe, MPW,** is a PhD student in Community Health Education in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She earned her master’s degree from the University of Southern California. Prior to her doctoral studies, she worked in strategic communication roles for Fortune 500 corporations, nonprofit organizations, and media outlets. Her work explores the intersection of digital media, social justice, and the health of refugee and immigrant families.

**Dr. Mary Paterno** is a certified nurse-midwife with extensive clinical experience caring for pregnant women with substance use disorder, and she is trained and experienced in leading digital storytelling workshops in a variety of settings. She holds a PhD in Nursing from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland and completed her nurse-midwifery training at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. Dr. Paterno is an assistant professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and practices full-scope nurse-midwifery at Pioneer Women’s Health and the Birthplace at Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield, Massachusetts.
From the Community to the Classroom: Complementary Pathways to Service Learning and Community Engaged Research

R. Thomas Boone, PhD, Dr. Boone received his PhD in Social and Developmental Psychology from Brandeis University, in May 1996. Dr. Boone received his Joint Masters in Psychology and Women's Studies, in January 1995. Dr. Boone received his Bachelor of Science in Brain and Cognitive Sciences, June 1987 with a Concentration in Literature from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Boone served as a US Naval Officer from June 1987 to July 1981. Dr. Boone has held a full-time faculty appointment at St. John's University and Assumption College.

Christina Cipriano, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Dr. Cipriano’s research examines the relationship between educational contexts, micro classroom processes and psychosocial and academic outcomes across development. Dr. Cipriano received her Ph.D. in Applied Developmental and Educational Psychology from Boston College, and most recently completed her Post-Doctoral Training at Yale University.

Aminda O’Hare, PhD, received her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Wyoming in 2004. From there, she went to the University of Kansas for graduate school in cognitive psychology. Dr. O’Hare completed her masters at KU under the advisement of Dr. Joseph Dien in 2007, and went on to complete her PhD there in 2010 under Dr. Ruth Ann Atchley. Following graduate school, Dr. O’Hare completed two years of postdoctoral training on the Cognitive Psychophysiology Training Grant at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, working with Dr. Wendy Heller.

Joshua Masse, PhD is an assistant professor of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and the director of young child services at the Boston Child Study Center. Dr. Masse's clinical and research interests lie broadly in the areas of examining evidence-based treatments with specialized populations (e.g., autism spectrum disorder) and settings (e.g., home-based). In addition, his work focuses on dissemination and implementation of evidence-based practices to community mental health centers. At UMass, Dr. Masse teaches service-learning based undergraduate counseling courses as well as the internship course for master's-level students in the clinical psychology program.

Meredith Dove, PhD, is an assistant professor of Psychology at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and a clinical psychologist. Dr. Dove is the instructor of several service-learning courses in mental health counseling for undergraduates and masters-level students and directs a student mentorship program for individuals with mental illness in community-based settings. Her clinical and research interests include the psychological aspects of illness and the promotion of health behaviors among children, primarily among underserved populations. Current funded research includes an investigation of the translation of obesity prevention policies into early childcare settings within low-income communities of southeastern Massachusetts.

Putting Health Equity Front and Center in Community Health Improvement by Empowering, Listening to, And Respecting Community Voices

Kristin Bafaro is Director of the Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester, a local partnership of individuals and organizations across sectors working together to promote health equity and improve quality of life for residents of the region. Previously, she was Executive Director of the Matthew 19:26 Fund after working in the nonprofit
sector in the Worcester area for over a decade at Community Harvest Project, CultureLEAP, Worcester Center for Crafts, and the Worcester Area Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Kristin has served on various boards and in numerous volunteer capacities in Worcester, where she lives with her husband and two boys. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Michigan State University and a Master of Public Administration degree from Clark University.

**Dr. Alexis Travis** is the Chief of Community Health at the Worcester Division of Public Health and Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance. She specializes in program planning, design, implementation and evaluation for health promotion. With the goal of promoting health equity, she works closely with community stakeholders to improve health outcomes. Dr. Travis has also worked as Payer and Healthcare Outreach Manager at athenaHealth and Director of Program Services at the March of Dimes, where she helped lead many of the state’s Maternal and Child Health Initiatives. Dr. Travis was previously the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Perinatal Quality Collaborative and a member of the Birth Defects advisory committee for Massachusetts Department of Public Health. She is currently a member of the Massachusetts Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Advisory Committee.

Born and raised in the United Kingdom, she attained a Master of Pharmacy with Honors from the University of Bradford in 2006 and subsequently moved the United States. Her experience in pharmaceutical research and development brings a unique insight on quality, safety and efficacy of consumer services and products. Dr. Travis completed a PhD in Public Health with Walden University, specializing in community health education and promotion. Since then she obtained certification as a Health Education Specialist. She is passionate about eliminating health disparities and works on research in this area.

**Judi Kirk** was born and raised in Wilmington, DE where she graduated from the University of Delaware with a BSPE, Physical Education in 1976 and a MSPE, Measurement and Evaluation, 1982.

Judi has held professional positions with Girls Incorporated of Delaware: Physical Education Instructor, Teen Program Coordinator and Director of Special Programs where she developed and administered programs at four branch sites including: Pregnancy prevention, Intramural sports, Careers and life planning, Resident and day camp programs; the Chesapeake Bay Girl Scout Council as Manager of Outdoor Programs planning and directing the Council’s year-round Outdoor Program serving over 12,000 girl and adult members including the operation of one ACA accredited resident camp, ten day camps, troop camping and outdoor education programs as well as a 400-bed conference center; Manager of Outdoor Program for the Montachusett Girl Scout Council providing year-round council outdoor site-use opportunities to serve a membership of 9405 girls and 2443 adults including the operation of one ACA accredited resident camp, fourteen day camps, two nature centers, and three outdoor sites for troop camping and outdoor education programs; Girls Incorporated of Worcester as Associate Director administering the affiliate’s program operations for youth at risk including two year-round facilities, one seasonal day camp, and outreach and school-based programs to serve over 5500 participants; Director of Health Promotion Services with YWCA Central Massachusetts where she administered Health Promotion Services and Youth Development programs at year round facilities in Worcester and Westborough, a four season camp facility in Leicester and various outreach sites to serve over 9000 participants annually.

Judi is currently the Director of Community Impact for YouthConnect Worcester and Boys & Girls Clubs of Worcester. She facilitates a consortium of 8 Executive Partners from BGCW, Girls Inc., Friendly House, United Way of Central MA, Worcester Youth Center, YMCA, YWCA, and YOU, Inc. along with 40 additional Supporting Partners to provide high quality neighborhood-based recreational, educational and cultural activities to isolated
and underserved Worcester youth aged 5 – 24 with focus on the middle school years. The goal of the consortium is to establish a seamless, inclusive youth serving system; a consortium modeled on best practices and built on a framework that delivers positive outcomes for health, education, and family stability to youth in Worcester’s highest need neighborhoods.

Other community engagement includes: co-founding Safe Homes a program providing mentoring, resource development, clinical support, advocacy, and drop-in and recreation programs for LGBTQ youth; Thomas Jefferson Award for Grafton Street School; recognition as a Research Fellow at Tufts Medical School for Building Capacity for Community Engagement, Community Based Participatory Research; and held many leadership roles with Worcester Women’s History Project, the Camp Marshall 4-H Center, the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester (CHNA 8 – Formerly Common Pathways) and currently serves as the Chair of the City Managers Commission on Youth for the City of Worcester and Chair of the Board of Trustees at the Bridge of Central MA.

Ashley Stockwell, MPH is a Public Health Prevention Specialist at the Worcester Division of Public Health/Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance. In her role, she is responsible for coordinating the Academic Health Collaborative, a partnership between WDPH and the city’s colleges and universities that aims to bridge academia and practice to improve public health. Ashley’s career has centered on community health in the Greater Boston area, focusing on topics such as tobacco cessation, substance abuse prevention, physical activity promotion, and access to healthy foods. Prior to her role at Worcester DPH, she had been a Community Outreach Specialist at Bay State Community Services, a Health Promotion Advocate at Boston Medical Center, and a Childhood Obesity and Wellness Project Intern at the South End Community Health Center. Ashley received a B.A. in both Community Health and Anthropology from Brown University, and a Master’s in Public Health from Boston University’s School of Public Health. She is also currently participating in the Community Fellows Program through the Institution for Nonprofit Practice, in affiliation with Tufts University.

Empowering Women in Underserved Communities: Using CBPR Approaches to Improve Health Literacy and Community Capacity

Dr. Elena Carbone is a social science researcher with over 20 years of experience in health education/nutrition communications. Her qualitative and mixed methods work with multiethnic communities with low health literacy skills integrates behavioral interventions to promote health and prevent complications related to maternal health, obesity, diabetes, and cancer. She is Associate Professor/Graduate Program Director of Nutrition, and Founding Director of the Community-Engaged Research Program in Commonwealth Honors College at University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is also a Registered Dietitian. Her most recent project is examining issues related to maternal health literacy with colleagues in Ghana, Australia and England.

Jennifer Manganello PhD, MPH, Associate Professor is a health communication scholar whose work is designed to make health information more accessible and easier to understand. Her research involves the study of health literacy, assessing the effects of media on health, and examining the dissemination of health information using mass media, including social media. Much of her work focuses on the health of children, adolescents, young adults and parents.
Janine Jurkowski, PhD, MPH, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy, Management, and Behavior at the University at Albany School of Public Health. She has 15 years of experience conducting Community-Based Participatory Research to understand and address social determinants among women and families of color and living in poverty. Dr. Jurkowski is conducting federally funded intervention research using CBPR and Empowerment Theory. Her publications and research focuses on CBPR and social and cultural determinants of chronic disease prevention among women and families, most recently childhood obesity prevention among low income families. Dr. Jurkowski has conducted several research workshops on CBPR in the US and Caribbean. She has received the Dr. Thomas A. Bruch Award of Honor for being a local and national leader in Community-Based Participatory Research from the Community-Based Public Health Caucus in 2012.

Massachusetts Population Health Information Tool – a Tool for Community Health Needs Assessment and Planning

Robert S. Knorr, PhD, MPH is Director of the Environmental Epidemiology Program in the Bureau of Environmental Health at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). Dr. Knorr directs epidemiologic surveillance and studies on childhood and adult cancers, asthma, diabetes, lupus, Lou Gehrig’s disease, childhood lead poisoning, and other health outcomes and regularly works with community organizations and residents, as well as Boards of Health. He is currently leading a special project funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide community-level health and environmental data on a public website called Environmental Public Health Tracking. Dr. Knorr also manages the collection and analysis of childhood blood lead levels reported to the MDPH and is working with other Department staff on the development of a new data tool, Population Health Information Tool, for the identification and evaluation of community health needs. Dr. Knorr received his Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Frances Medaglia, PhD, APRN, BC is Public Health Nurse Advisor to the Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH) within the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). Her responsibilities include coordination of the statewide asthma surveillance program for the CDC’s Environmental Public Health Tracking initiative, directing the Environmental Health Clinical Outreach & Education program within BEH and advising the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. She is a longstanding member of the MDPH Institutional Review Board/ Health Utilization Review Committee and holds active membership with the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the Massachusetts Nurses Association, the Massachusetts Coalition of Nurse Practitioners and Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nurses. Dr. Medaglia is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts/Amherst and holds an MS in Gerontological Nursing from the University of Massachusetts/ Lowell and a PhD in Health Policy from Brandeis University.

Erin Collins, MS is an Epidemiologist in the Community Assessment Program in the Bureau of Environmental Health at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). She responds to concerns from the public and performs preliminary analyses of environmental health concerns, including reports of suspected elevations.
in disease occurrence and potential relationships to the environment. Through the Environmental Health Tracking Program, she works to integrate, analyze, and interpret data about environmental hazards, exposure to environmental hazards and the health effects potentially related to exposure. Erin received her MS in Environmental Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Building Collaborative Health Research Drawing on New Lessons from Citizen Science

Linda Silka, PhD, is the retired director of UMass Lowell’s Center for Family, Work, and Community and University of Maine’s Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. At UML she was also a faculty member in the Department of Regional Economic and Social Development and Special Assistant to the Provost for Community Outreach and Partnerships. At UMaine she was a professor in the School of Economics. She is now Senior Fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and Executive Editor of the Maine Policy Review. Her collaborative research partnerships have been funded by HUD, NIEHS, NSF, the Department of Education, and various foundations.