Mar 9th, 8:00 AM

The UMMS Community Engagement Committee

Kolawole A. Akindele
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Suzanne B. Cashman
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Amy Borg
University of Massachusetts Medical School

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/chr_symposium

Part of the Civic and Community Engagement Commons, Community-Based Research Commons, Community Health and Preventive Medicine Commons, and the Translational Medical Research Commons

Repository Citation
Akindele, Kolawole A.; Cashman, Suzanne B.; Borg, Amy; Cragin, Linda J.; Erskine, Nathaniel A. K.; Estabrook, Barbara B.; Faustina, Misha; Foley, Sage; Gray, Sandra; Groowský, Tina; Hale, Janet Fraser; Haley, Heather-Lyn; Layne, Robert; Leary, James; Lovato, Rebeka; Lowell, Monica; McRell, Gladys; Nazarian, Beverly L.; Pivovarova, Ekaterina; Reckert, Kimberly; and Raja, Sumrine, "The UMMS Community Engagement Committee" (2018). Community Engagement and Research Symposia. 12. https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/chr_symposium/2018/posters/12 https://doi.org/10.13028/46h6-x280.

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Community Engagement and Research Symposia by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.
Presenter Information

Keywords
community engagement, UMass Medical School, teaching, service

Creative Commons License
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License.

Rights and Permissions
Copyright the Author(s)

3.0 License

This poster is available at eScholarship@UMMS: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/chr_symposium/2018/posters/12
Community Engagement Committee (CEC)

- Mission: to promote inter-professional community engagement focused on teaching and service. In teaching, we advance service learning; in service, we advance action that responds to community-identified need.
- Diverse membership: faculty, staff and students from across the School of Medicine, Graduate Nursing School and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.
- Guidance and support for community engaged service, learning and research to the medical school and greater Worcester communities.

2017 online survey of UMMS community engagement* (N=326)

Survey Respondents
- Clinical staff
- Faculty
- Research staff
- Students
- Other
- Non-clinical/Non-faculty staff

What barriers have you encountered in engaging with community organizations in the area?
1. No time
2. Unaware of opportunities
3. Not sure how to get started or what the needs of organizations are
4. Lack of institutional support
5. Distance
6. No contact at or relationship with organization
7. Unfamiliar with community

What have you found to be helpful as you've interacted with community organizations in the area?
1. Understanding priorities & needs of organizations
2. Institutional support and coordination
3. Personal connection with organization or someone from the organization
4. Promotion/awareness of opportunities
5. Community interest in engaging

In your professional role, how have you interacted with the local community?
- Provide clinical services
- Conduct research with local participants
- Volunteer at schools or colleges
- Be involved with community organizations
- Participate in community projects

How would you like to interact with organizations in the area?
- CHIP or Community Health Assessment
- Conduct research with local participants
- Volunteer at schools or colleges
- Be involved with community organizations
- Participate in community projects

*All survey questions allowed multiple responses.

How do we take action to address needs in our region? The Worcester Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

Created by multiple community agencies and stakeholders, the 2016 Greater Worcester CHIP is a roadmap to make Worcester the healthiest region in New England by 2020. The Coalition for a Greater Healthy Worcester oversees its implementation, and invites you to join - CHIP IN! http://www.healthygreaterworcester.org

Conveners
- The Worcester Division of Public Health (WDPH), lead agency of the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance (CMRPHA)
- Fallon Health
- UMass Memorial Medical Center

9 Priority Areas
- Racism & Discrimination
- Mental Health
- Access to Healthy Food
- Substance Use
- Economic Opportunity
- Cultural Responsiveness
- Access to Care
- Physical Activity
- Safety

Martin Luther King Semester of Service Student Awards

- 3 to 5 innovative community service projects each year, developed by UMMS students with local community partners.
- Student proposals are judged by a panel of academic and community members involved in community service and service-learning. Selected projects receive $500.
- Projects are funded by the UMMS Diversity and Inclusion Office, continuing a 2010 Corporation for National and Community Service grant.
- Photo at left: MLK Semester of Service Award 2018 winners with program director Heather-Lyn Haley, PhD, (far left) and School of Medicine Dean Terence Flotte, MD, (far right).

Connect!

- Be part of the Worcester CHIP! http://www.healthygreaterworcester.org
- UMMS Community members: send information on your community engaged activity to the committee for our data bank! Send your ideas! Join the committee! Gladys.mcrell@umassmed.edu
- Community groups, organizations and individuals: explore collaboration and partnership opportunities with us! Gladys.mcrell@umassmed.edu

A (true!) story of building engagement

Tina, a CEC member, is the project coordinator for the Central MA Tobacco-Free Community Partnership, a program of the UMMS Department of Psychiatry, Suzanne and Heather, CEC members and UMMS faculty in Family Medicine and Community Health, oversee the Population Health Clerkship program for graduate nursing and second year medical students.

The Joint Coalition on Health (JCOH) is a group of organizations and individuals working collaboratively as catalysts for change and advocates for the underserved to improve the health of everyone in North Central Massachusetts.

Community response:
- JCOH was “unsure if individuals would want to talk with us”
- More people signed up to be interviewed than could be accommodated.
- Many “told the students how much it meant to them to be asked for their input. For many, if not most, it was the first time anyone had ever asked them for their insights about anything.”

Benefits for the students as told to the JCOH:
- “…learned so much from speaking with these individuals.”
- “This experience significantly altered their previously held beliefs and perspective on the disease of addiction and that it changed who they would become as physicians.”

The Opioid Project: Changing Perceptions through Art and Storytelling
- Art exhibit and event with speakers and music, in February 2018 at the Fitchburg Art Museum
- Building on a connection of one of the UMMS students.
- Attended by nearly 150 people including community leaders
- “As a result of the event, we have been inundated with requests from people who want to further explore and build on the healing power of art, storytelling and music.” (Susan Buchholz, JCOH coordinator and co-chair)