

# CENTER FOR HEALTH, INTERVENTION, AND PREVENTION

## ANNUAL REPORT

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## A. Executive Summary

During FY15, the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) made significant progress towards its mission of creating and disseminating new scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks in the areas of health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention, and prevention at multiple levels of analysis. The Center focused this year on catalyzing new multidisciplinary research and collaboration in the areas of mental health, pediatric health, obesity prevention, cancer control and prevention, electronic and mobile health (eHealth/mHealth), and policy-relevant research in order to strengthen these areas, while continuing to perform strongly in other areas (e.g., HIV/AIDS, exercise science, global health, and treatment adherence and retention in care). CHIP also continued to provide extremely high quality resources and support to its affiliated researchers and to expand its reach to provide resources to other investigators throughout the University via the organization of innovative university-wide events. These included a CHIP/School of Engineering networking event, a cross-campus dual-PI seed grant program with the Department of Psychiatry at the UConn School of Medicine, a dual-PI seed grant program with Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and accompanying networking events for both dual-PI seed grant programs. Overall, this was a year of expansion and growth for CHIP in a number of critical domains and programmatic offerings.

### *Expanded Research Enterprise*

- For FY15, CHIP had **\$54.5 million in active grants across all years**, including 41.0 million in direct costs and \$13.5 million in indirect costs.<sup>1</sup> This represents a 12% increase from FY14, when total CHIP active grants across all years comprised \$48.6 million in total costs, \$36.5 million in direct costs, and \$12.1 million in indirect costs. Of the \$54.5 million in active grants across all years, \$12.3 million in total costs were budgeted for expenditure in FY15, including \$9.4 million in direct costs and \$2.9 million in indirect costs.
- As of May 15, 2015, CHIP had received **36 new external grants** and initiated 36 new externally-funded research projects in a number of critical and diverse domains of health behavior. The new grants received totaled \$17.3 million in total costs, \$13.4 million in direct costs, and \$3.9 million in indirect costs.
- **FY15 represented a significant increase in external grant applications for CHIP over FY14** and all previous years. In FY15, CHIP PIs applied for 89 new external grants, which involved \$57.1 million in total costs, \$39.5 million in direct costs, and \$17.6 million in indirect costs. In comparison, CHIP PIs applied for 55 new grants in FY14, which involved \$48.5 million in total costs, \$32.0 million in direct costs, and \$16.5 million in indirect costs.
- CHIP's **estimated expended research dollars** for FY15 were the highest ever, at \$10.0 million in total costs (vs. \$8.8 million in FY14), \$7.4 million in direct costs (vs. \$6.4 million in FY 14), and \$2.6 million in indirect costs (vs. \$2.4 million in FY14).
- In the area of **HIV/AIDS research**, CHIP continued to be a worldwide leader and fostered new multidisciplinary work in this core problem area. Newly-funded initiatives include external grants to (1) expand a multi-level program that addresses both HIV and gender-based violence prevention among soldiers in Mozambique, and (2) conduct a randomized clinical trial to test a cell phone-delivered, theory-based medication adherence counseling intervention in urban and rural areas.
- In **other critical health domains**, newly-funded initiatives included, among others, external grants to (1) investigate how variation in chemosensation influences the response to lower nicotine and/or no menthol cigarettes in female menthol cigarette smokers, (2) evaluate the efficacy of an exercise-based contingency management intervention in substance abusing patients, and (3) create an Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality-funded Evidence-Based Practice Center called the Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evidence Synthesis (HOPES) Group, a second center-within-a-center at CHIP, that completes projects such as evidence reviews for Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, working with major medical organizations, and helping craft practice guidelines for a variety of diseases and disorders.
- CHIP research continued to be **international in scope** in FY15, with active grants or submitted grant proposals for research projects in Albania, China, Ethiopia, Mozambique, South Africa, and Thailand. Nearly 16 percent

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<sup>1</sup> Indirect costs (IDCs) are synonymous with "Facilities and Administrative" costs or F&As.

(\$8.8 million) of active CHIP grant funds budgeted in FY15 involved health behavior change interventions designed or adapted for populations in other countries.

### ***Advancements and New Capacity in Public Policy Research***

- The **arrival of Yale's Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at UConn** in January 2015 has added remarkable strength to CHIP's portfolio of research with direct policy implications. Last fiscal year, CHIP successfully initiated and led a major UConn initiative to move the Rudd Center to UConn as a new center-within-a-center at CHIP. The Rudd Center has approximately 20 employees (four of whom have become UConn faculty members and CHIP PIs) and is one of the world's premier obesity research centers, with a mission to change the way the world eats, in part, through changes in food policy.
- Several CHIP projects in FY15 involved **research with important policy implications**, including: (1) a new marketing initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that will encourage industry and government action to reduce marketing of unhealthy foods to children, (2) the development and evaluation of a Lifestyle Initiative to decrease consumption of empty calories and promote adoption of new public health policies that will reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity in Howard County, Maryland, (3) a new grant to investigate unhealthy food marketing targeted to children, utilizing research to evaluate potentially misleading practices and support advocacy to encourage industry change, and (4) a continued collaboration on the Easy Breathing program, which trains pediatric providers in asthma diagnosis and medical management.

### ***Catalyzing Multidisciplinary Research Initiatives***

- In FY15, CHIP's **multidisciplinary affiliates collaborative network** of health behavior change researchers experienced significant growth, bringing its total membership to 487 faculty/researcher affiliates representing nearly all schools and colleges within the UConn system and nearly 50 other institutions. The resulting community of multidisciplinary expertise enables CHIP to assemble teams of investigators who are able to respond within short timeframes to large-scale funding opportunities.
- CHIP also saw significant growth and activity this year in its three **multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs)** focused on cancer, electronic/mobile health (eHealth/mHealth), and obesity, which had 109, 119, and 141 members, respectively, as of June 2015. The membership of each group consisted of researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, and nearby institutions. Each RIG hosted engaging networking and educational events throughout the year to cultivate new collaborations among members which will lead to innovative research projects and increased external funding.
- The addition of the Rudd Center as a center-within-a-center in CHIP not only allowed CHIP to increase its impact on obesity-related public policy, but it also significantly strengthened **CHIP's multidisciplinary research capacity in obesity overall**, with four new faculty members in three departments as well as several new research staff. Combined with CHIP's FY15 hiring of an additional senior and a junior obesity researcher from Brown University, UConn is poised to become a national leader in obesity research.
- To further encourage research at the intersection of biology and behavior, and in sync with the establishment of the Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine (JAX-GM) in Farmington, CHIP continued a new subseries within its regular lecture series focused on **Genomics and Health Behavior**. Co-sponsored by JAX-GM and UConn's Institute for Systems Genomics, the new series was piloted in spring of 2014 with two lectures and a panel discussion moderated by Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology). This year, CHIP hosted (1) Gene Brody, PhD, from University of Georgia/Emory University who presented on "Gene-Environment Interplay, Health, and Some Thoughts about the Future," (2) Mark Sarzynski, PhD, from the LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center who gave a lecture on "Exercise Genomics and the Quest for Personalized Medicine: Lessons Learned from the HERITAGE Family Study," and (3) Molly Bray, PhD, from University of Texas at Austin whose presentation was entitled, "Genetic and Non-Genetic Underpinnings of Energy Balance."
- In order to **explore and expand collaborative opportunities** among CHIP's network of affiliates, CHIP's Director, Associate Director, and/or Boundary Spanner met with leaders from numerous units at UConn to explore partnerships, including the Departments of Medicine and Psychiatry; School of Business; School of Dental Medicine; School of Education; Center for Behavioral Education & Research (CBER), Center for the Promotion of



Health in the New England Workplace; Digital Media Center; Division of Student Affairs; Global Training & Development Institute; Office for Global Affairs, and UConn Foundation, among others.

### ***Training the Next Generation of Health Behavior Researchers***

- External grants received by CHIP PIs fund a substantial number of **graduate students** each year. This year, CHIP external grants funded 78 graduate students across multiple departments. Total yearlong graduate student funding from CHIP grants was \$582,438. In addition, CHIP awarded competitive seed grants after rigorous review to three graduate student affiliates, providing them with both funding to enhance their research training and experience in the grant writing process.

In summary, FY15 at CHIP has been notable for the launch of several new initiatives designed to stimulate multidisciplinary research and collaboration in several domains targeted for strengthening, while continuing to excel in several traditional domains in which CHIP has been strong. CHIP also continued to provide exemplary research support services. As we enter FY16, CHIP is well poised to serve as the nexus for UConn investigators researching the latest advances in health and wellness for the benefit of Connecticut and beyond.

## **B. Introduction**

In November 2001, the Chancellor and Provost and the Vice Provost for Research of the University of Connecticut identified the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) as a center of excellence at the University. At that time, the University invested startup funds in the Center to begin to position it as a national and international leader in health behavior research. Since then, with continued University support, CHIP has achieved impressive growth and structural change as a multidisciplinary research center. In November 2007, the University Board of Trustees designated CHIP as one of very few Major University Research Centers at the University of Connecticut.

This report summarizes CHIP's actions and accomplishments for the past year, highlighting the Center's continued scholarly excellence, growth, and international recognition.

## **C. Mission Statement**

University of Connecticut's Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) creates new scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks in the areas of health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention, and prevention at multiple levels of analysis (e.g., individual, family, community, societal). Health is broadly defined and may include physical and mental health, and outcomes with critical implications for health (e.g., decreasing stress). Work at the intersection of behavior and biology (e.g., increasing medication adherence) is encouraged. This includes genomics, which has strong psychological, physiological, and behavioral health-related components (e.g., personalized medicine approaches to risk reduction strategies, acceptance and access to genetic testing, and ethical decision-making considerations of the outcomes of such testing). CHIP disseminates its research and cutting-edge interventions through capacity-building, structural change, teaching, mentoring, and collaboration at the University, local, state, national, and international levels.

## **D. Long-term Goals**

**Goal 1:** CHIP will *provide an interdisciplinary nexus* for investigators across the University of Connecticut to stimulate multidisciplinary collaborations and major new funded research initiatives in health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention, prevention, and other areas involving health behavior change theory and methods.

**Goal 2:** CHIP will *undertake research* to create new scientific knowledge, theoretical frameworks, and methodological advances in the areas of health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention, and prevention. This work will focus on understanding the dynamics of health behavior and related systems, the science of health behavior change, and the science and practice of developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating effective interventions.

**Goal 3:** CHIP will *share its expertise* in health behavior and health behavior change, capacity building, and technology with relevant local, state, national, and international organizations.

**Goal 4:** CHIP researchers will *educate and mentor* undergraduate students, graduate students, researchers, faculty, community members, and others in the science of health behavior change, and the science and practice of developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating effective interventions.

**Goal 5:** CHIP will *take a leadership role in fostering a team science approach* among University of Connecticut research scientists and clinicians in the development of personalized medicine risk reduction strategies for chronic diseases and health conditions using clinical and genomic information that attempt to match an individual with the most effective therapeutic option.

## **E. Progress on CHIP Objectives for FY 2015**

### ***E1. Progress on CHIP Research Objectives for FY15***

**Research Objective 1:** Through the CHIP internal grants programs, mentoring, technical support to PIs, and other activities, the Center will continue to support the development of new, high quality, innovative, and timely proposals for externally-funded research through CHIP by individual researchers and research teams.

CHIP supports new, high quality, and innovative research and external grant proposals in several ways. It provides an excellent internal grants program, which supports the pilot research often necessary for its principal investigators (PIs) to obtain large external grants. CHIP internal seed grant proposals receive mentoring reviews, which improve the research that was proposed, and the strongest proposals are funded. The CHIP internal grants program has often been a critical part of CHIP PIs' success in winning external grants. According to many CHIP PIs who have received substantial external grants, these grants would not have been possible without seed grant support awarded competitively through CHIP. Since the inception of the CHIP seed grant program through June 2015, for each dollar invested by CHIP in its seed grant program, approximately \$34 dollars in total costs have been awarded to CHIP investigators for successful large external grant proposals directly linked to seed grant-funded pilot work. Clearly, these external grants have also been associated with substantial indirect costs returned to the University. See [Section K on pages 37-45](#) for more details on this year's CHIP seed grants program, including the investigators and project descriptions for the awarded seed grants.

Another service that CHIP provides to help PIs be successful in winning external grants is in-depth reviews of external grant proposals by experts in the field before the grants are submitted, so that the proposals can be improved and have an increased chance of getting funded. CHIP also offers a competitive summer stipend to junior faculty who are writing grants, to free them from responsibilities other than grant writing during the summer, and, in this way, help them succeed in obtaining external funding. Another CHIP service available to affiliates to help them develop successful CHIP grant proposals is access to a library of previously submitted, funded CHIP external grants to use as models for new grant proposals. Electronic access to these model grants is provided upon request.

In FY15 for the first time, CHIP sponsored mentoring in the grant writing process by seasoned CHIP PIs for CHIP affiliates who had attended a CHIP workshop during FY14 to improve their grant writing skills. Following the workshop, a limited number of attendees were selected to be mentored extensively in grant writing for a full year by CHIP PIs; each mentorship has or will soon culminate in the joint submission of an external grant.

CHIP also provides extensive services to CHIP affiliates who are in various stages of the grant writing process. For those looking for funding opportunities, the CHIP Programs and Research Development team scans external funding announcements from the NIH and a diversity of other funders, including foundations; selects those announcements that are most relevant to CHIP's mission and its affiliates' interests; compiles them into a weekly email delivered to affiliates; and posts them on a searchable webpage (<http://www.chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/external-funding-opportunities/>). For highly relevant large grant funding opportunities which involve team science, CHIP's Boundary Spanner (Megan Zhou) circulates the opportunity to appropriate CHIP affiliates and organizes a virtual teleconference among them in which the funding opportunity is discussed in detail, and interest in proceeding with a CHIP team science grant proposal is determined.

If a CHIP PI is writing a grant proposal and needs additional members on his/her research team with specific skill sets, CHIP's Boundary Spanner searches through the interests and skills of the nearly 500 CHIP affiliates to identify individuals with that skill set. In addition, time permitting, the Boundary Spanner can assist the PI with a customized literature search.

During the process of preparing a grant, CHIP's grants manager will sit down with the PI, discuss her/his budgetary needs with her/him and create a budget for the grant. In addition, CHIP's HR manager will work with the PI to understand the personnel needs of the proposed research and identify the correct position titles and salaries to include in the budget. Lastly, CHIP's statistical and methodological consultant will interview the PI about the design of the study, provide feedback, and write the statistical and power analysis sections of the grant upon request. Due to these and other activities and services, CHIP PIs were again very successful in FY15, developing, submitting, and receiving external grant awards for a substantial number of new proposals in diverse areas of health behavior. In each case, the grant application and grant award processes were facilitated by high quality pre-award and post-award grants management services provided by CHIP. These services were augmented, when needed, by help in searching for possible sources of grant funding; assistance with creating research teams to write and submit grants; sending proposals to statistical and methodological experts for input as needed; and, as noted above, sending prospective grant applications out for review to major experts in the field for pre-submission feedback. Together, CHIP's highly skilled PIs, with the support of CHIP's innovative services, resulted in 89 external grants submissions during FY15, totaling \$57.1 million. Of the grants submitted in FY15, 27 have been funded thus far, for \$6.0 million in total costs. (For the purpose of this report, FY15 covers the period between May 16, 2014 and May 15, 2015.)

**Research Objective 2: CHIP will continue to expand its focus on health behavior change and to foster new multidisciplinary work in a broad array of critical health domains.**

In the past year, CHIP expanded its research in a number of its health domains outside of HIV/AIDS. *(For a full list of CHIP health research domains and examples of CHIP research within each domain, please see [Section J on pages 34-37.](#))*

**Tatiana Andreyeva** (PhD, Agricultural & Resource Economics) received a grant from University of Wisconsin/U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) entitled, "The Effects of the Women, Infants and Children's Food Package Revisions on the Healthfulness of Food Purchases among WIC Households: Analysis of Scanner Data (RIDGE)." This study evaluates how the WIC food package revisions influenced the overall healthfulness of food purchases among WIC participating households. Using unique data from a large grocery chain in New England, Dr. Andreyeva is identifying changes in the composition of grocery purchases and sales of healthy and less healthy foods to WIC customers.

Dr. Andreyeva received a second grant from Columbia University/National Institutes of Health (NIH) entitled "Estimating State-Specific Annual Healthcare Cost Savings from Reducing Obesity." The project models downstream healthcare cost savings from reducing the prevalence of overweight and obesity at the state level. In particular, Dr. Andreyeva and her team use taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB) as a case study to establish the analytic framework for evaluating cost offsets from tax-based interventions to reduce caloric consumption and obesity.

Dr. Andreyeva received a third grant from USDA/National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) entitled, "Nutritional Quality of Foods in Non Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Child Care Centers." This study examines the food environment and nutritional quality of meals served and consumed in non-CACFP child care centers. It will collect baseline data for comparison with USDA's CACFP Child Care centers and prepare for a larger study of the effects of the forthcoming updated CACFP regulations on the food environment in non-CACFP participating centers.

**Thomas Buckley** (PhD, Pharmacy Practice) received a grant from the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH) entitled "State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (Supplement)." The supplemental funds of this grant will be utilized to expand the reach of the School of Pharmacy's current grant project to train and certify community pharmacists to provide medication therapy management services to underserved patients with diabetes or high blood pressure. Six urban community pharmacy sites in Connecticut will be added to the project, which will result in 11 community pharmacies and over 700 pharmacist/patient visits completed by the end of year two of this five-year grant project.

**Valerie Duffy** (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) received a grant from NIH/UConn Health entitled, "Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers." Dr. Duffy is a subcontractor to UConn Health, with CHIP Affiliate Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH, Medicine) serving as PI on this NIH-funded grant. The aim of this study is to assess how reductions in nicotine and menthol levels in cigarettes impacts cigarette-related behaviors and ability to quit



smoking in female menthol smokers. An additional study aim, which utilizes Dr. Duffy's expertise, is to understand how genetic variation in taste and flavor perception influences acceptance of these low-menthol/low-nicotine cigarettes for smoking cessation.

**Deborah Fein** (PhD, Psychology) received a grant from NIH/Drexel University entitled, "Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorders." This project will continue to validate the most widely-used autism screener in the world, co-authored by Dr. Fein. It will also test a pediatrician training program to see if this improves pediatrician's detection of autism in toddlers, and it will test whether screening for autism can be done at an earlier age (12 or 15 months) than the currently validated age (18 months). These procedures will help improve screening for autism in toddlers, which should allow them to get earlier intervention and consequently optimize their outcomes.

**Kim Gans** (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) received a grant from NIH/University of California, San Diego, entitled, "Promoting Physical Activity in Latinas via Interactive Web-based Technology." This is a randomized controlled study to test the efficacy of a web-based physical activity intervention that is individually tailored, and culturally and linguistically modified for the Latina population. The goal of this trial is to increase the amount of physical activity and thereby improve the health conditions of this underserved population.

Dr. Gans received a second grant from NIH/Brown University entitled, "Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity Environments in Home-Based Child Care." Her team will create an innovative intervention in both English and Spanish to improve food and physical activity environments of Family Child Care Homes (FCCH) and evaluate its efficacy in changing FCCH environments and children's dietary and physical activity behaviors in a cluster-randomized trial with 132 FCCHs. The intervention will integrate: (a) support from peer counselors, (b) tailored print and video materials, and (c) a set of portable active toys.

Dr. Gans received a third grant from NIH/National Cancer Institute (NCI) entitled, "Fresh to You: Multilevel Approaches in Low-Income Housing to Increase Food and Vegetable (F&V) Intake (Live Well Viva Bien)." The purpose of the research is to conduct a group-randomized study with 16 affordable housing projects to evaluate the effectiveness of educational interventions and a delivery system offering F&V at discount prices for purchase at housing projects on increasing residents' F&V consumption.

Dr. Gans received a fourth grant from NIH/NCI entitled, "Innovative Approaches to Increase F&V Intake through Worksites: The Fresh Initiative." The purpose of this research is to study whether educational interventions and a delivery system to offer fresh fruits and vegetables (F&V) at discount prices for purchase at worksites will increase employees' F&V consumption.

**Meg Gerrard** (PhD, Psychology/CHIP) received a grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) entitled, "The Relationship of AHRR Methylation to Risky Adolescent Behaviors." The implementation and effectiveness of interventions designed to stop the escalation of adolescent smoking from experimentation to regular smoking and addiction has been hindered by an inability to detect the experimental, i.e., nascent, use of cigarettes. The recent discovery of an epigenetic change that is a sensitive marker of initial experimental smoking (DNA demethylation at the aryl hydrocarbon receptor repressor [AHRR] locus) has the potential to identify adolescents who are in the experimental stage of smoking before they become regular smokers. This study will describe the smoking dose response curve, the effect of other environmental influences such as secondhand smoke on DNA demethylation, and the relation of DNA demethylation to existing indicators of smoking status.

**Debarchana Ghosh** (PhD, Geography) received a grant from NIH/NIDA entitled, "Connecting People, Places, and Barriers: The Effect of These Connections on Adherence and Retention in Care for HIV-Infected Drug Users." The multi-year study has two main objectives. The first objective is to use a multidimensional (individual, social relationships, activity space, and neighborhoods) model to identify barriers to antiretroviral therapy (ART) adherence, retention in care, and HIV treatment outcomes among drug users with HIV infection. The second objective is to use correlates from the above model (specifically, interaction with social network members within an activity space) to develop a spatial-network driven intervention to improve adherence to ART and HIV treatment outcomes. These objectives will address the critical retention component of the HIV care continuum in hopes to reduce the proportion of people living with HIV (PLWH) dropping out of care and treatment.

**Frederick Gibbons** (PhD, Psychology) received a grant from NIH/NIDA entitled, "Health Behaviors among Young Black Adults: Risk and Resilience." This new grant from NIDA will extend the Family and Community Health Study (FACHS) for another five years, as the participants (N ~ 640) approach the age of 30. Dr. Gibbons will continue to

examine psychosocial factors related to health status and health behavior, but with more emphasis on predicting resilience in the face of stress. One goal is to compare the short- and long-term effects on health of perceived racial discrimination with other types of stress, including financial, environmental, and interpersonal (relationship) stress.

**Amy Gorin** (PhD, Psychology) received a grant from Weight Watchers entitled, “Ripple Effects in Weight Watchers: Are Weight Watchers’ Members a Catalyst for Change in Untreated Family Members?” This study is examining whether a commercial weight loss program impacts the weight and energy balance behaviors of untreated spouses and children using social relations modeling. If, as hypothesized, Weight Watchers’ members serve as catalysts for change in untreated family members, it may provide an additional incentive for individuals to enroll in treatment and for employers and insurance companies to encourage and reimburse participation.

Dr. Gorin received a second grant from NIH/National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) entitled, “Test of a Theory-based Weight Loss Program for Couples: Project TEAMS.” This randomized controlled trial compares two couples-based approaches to weight loss: one in which spouses attend treatment together and work on the same weight-loss goals and the other in which spouses attend treatment together and receive specific training on how to support each other’s weight loss progress. This project will provide important information about how to maximize dyadic support for weight loss.

**Jennifer Harris** (PhD, The Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity) received a grant from the Dell Foundation entitled, “Unhealthy Food Marketing Targeted to Children: Research to Evaluate Potentially Misleading Practices and Support Advocacy to Encourage Industry Change.” This grant funds research to evaluate the effects of two recent developments in food marketing to children that may negatively impact children’s diets: (1) nutrition standards for sales of competitive foods in schools that allow companies to sell reformulated versions of unhealthy brands (e.g., reduced-fat Doritos, low-sugar Trix cereal), and (2) utilizing nutrition and physical activity messages in child-directed advertising for primarily unhealthy food products. The research will also assess opportunities to modify current industry practices to support children’s diets and health. Dr. Harris will communicate her findings through traditional communications channels and work with advocacy partners and policymakers to create a campaign to encourage the food industry and policymakers to improve child-directed marketing practices.

Dr. Harris received a second grant from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) entitled, “Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children.” Phase III of The Rudd Center’s food marketing initiative to encourage industry and government to reduce the marketing of unhealthy foods and beverages to children builds upon The Rudd Center’s Phase II efforts and supports the RWJF’s vision to build a culture of health. Specifically, the research team will: (1) measure and report youth exposure to traditional, digital and other forms of food marketing, (2) identify disparities in food marketing to black and Hispanic youth, including targeted marketing and disproportionate exposure, (3) assess the impact of targeted marketing on black and Hispanic youth’s diets and health, (4) work closely with RWJF programs, national advocacy groups, and other key change agents (i.e., local public health departments, policymakers, courts/attorney generals, parents/child advocates) to provide information and other support for their actions to improve unhealthy food marketing to youth, and (5) monitor outcomes of the team’s work in previous years and that of others addressing this issue, including changes in public opinion, new regulation and legislation, legal action, community initiatives, and industry voluntary improvements.

**Tricia Leahey** (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) received a grant from NIH/National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) entitled, “A Randomized Trial Testing Lay Health Coaches for Obesity Treatment.” The purpose of this study is to test the efficacy of two different types of lay e-coaches for weight loss: mentors (successful weight loser – someone who lost 10% of their body weight and kept it off) and peers (two individuals currently trying to lose weight). The primary outcome is weight loss at month twelve.

Dr. Leahey received a second grant from NIH/Miriam Hospital entitled “A State-wide Initiative to Spread Effective Behavioral Weight-Loss Strategies.” The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of an Internet-based behavioral weight loss intervention and financial incentives in a Web-based community weight loss program.

Dr. Leahey received a third grant from NIH/Virginia Commonwealth University entitled “Low-Intensity Weight Loss for Young Adults: Autonomous vs. Extrinsic Motivation.” The purpose of this grant is to examine whether financial incentives or motivational interviewing enhance weight loss outcomes in young adults enrolled in a Web-based weight loss program.

**Meghan O'Connell** (MPH, The Rudd Center) received a grant from University of Mississippi/USDA/National Food Service Management Institute (NFSMI) entitled, "Assessing the Current Status of Nutrition and Wellness Components in Child Care Centers Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)." The aim of the study is to document the status of nutrition and wellness-related practices in child care centers participating in USDA's CACFP, employing methods developed and pilot tested by the NFSMI. After receiving training, O'Connell will visit three child care centers recruited by the sponsor (located in two states TBD by sponsor). The specific methods have not been shared, but they will include some or all of the following: interviews and/or focus groups with child care administrators and staff, survey administration, and record review (CACFP administrative records).

**Crystal Park** (PhD, Psychology) received a grant from NIH/National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health entitled, "Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy Supplement." This supplement allows Dr. Park to add to her project a substantial focus on military service members, including both veterans and those in active duty. The larger project involves developing a tool to assess the essential properties of yoga. Ultimately, this assessment tool will allow researchers to characterize their interventions, making yoga interventions for different groups and conditions more effective.

Dr. Park received a second grant from CT Breast Health Initiative entitled "Predicting and Enhancing Connecticut Breast Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors." Breast cancer survivors have a heightened need to engage in healthy diet and exercise behaviors, but they often struggle to lead a healthy lifestyle. This project is designed to understand what inhibits or facilitates breast cancer survivors to achieve or maintain a healthy lifestyle pre- to post-treatment.

Dr. Park received a third grant from NIH/National Institute of General Medical Sciences entitled, "Self-Regulation Skills as Predictors of Underrepresented Minority Students (URM) Student Success in Biomedical Research." This project will track an incoming class of UConn students and track them over their undergraduate career to determine how self-regulation skills predict the academic success of underrepresented minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) disciplines and compare their trajectories of success.

**Linda Pescatello** (PhD, Kinesiology) received a grant from Hartford Hospital/CT Space Grant entitled, "Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women at Flight." This study seeks to examine the influence of estrogen-based oral contraceptives on blood clot risk in active women at flight. The study will examine markers of clot formation and clot breakdown in 30 women on estrogen-based oral contraceptives in three sub-groups: (1) women traveling by flight >4 hours (n=10), (2) a non-travelling control group (n=10), and (3) endurance athlete women traveling by flight >4 hours (n=10). Subject testing for subgroup #3 will be performed in endurance athlete women traveling to and running in the 2015 Boston Marathon. Following completion of all subject testing (n=30), biomarkers will be analyzed at the University of Connecticut Human Performance Laboratory, and data analysis will begin.

**Elizabeth Schifano** (PhD, Statistics) received a grant from Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC)/CTDPH entitled, "Continued Collaboration on Easy Breathing program." Easy Breathing is a disease management program for primary care clinicians in Connecticut. The program began in Hartford in 1998 and started receiving state funds in 2002. In 2007 and each year thereafter, the program has been funded by the State of Connecticut and is administered through the Department of Public Health. Easy Breathing supports clinicians in diagnosing asthma and in prescribing appropriate therapy using the national evidence-based guidelines. Outcome measures include the number of individuals surveyed, the number of individuals with asthma, and the number of participating practices and clinicians. Quality measures include the number of individuals with asthma with a written treatment plan that adheres to the national evidence-based guidelines. Asthma severity and environmental exposures including tobacco exposure are monitored for Medicaid and privately-insured children. To date, more than 111,000 have been enrolled. It has been demonstrated that the program is cost effective and resulted in a 30% reduction in services utilization for Medicaid-insured children.

**Marlene Schwartz** (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) received a grant from RWJF/American Heart Association entitled, "Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub." The aim of this project is to serve as a national clearinghouse for research on beverages and children's health. Specifically, Dr. Schwartz provides information about the harmful effects of sugary drinks on children's health to advocates who are considering a variety of policy options. The Rudd Center has a sugar-sweetened beverage tax calculator on their website that provides States with data estimates of how much revenue they would generate with a tax.

Dr. Schwartz received a second grant from the Horizon Foundation entitled, “Improving Nutrition in Howard County: A Strategic Science and Policy Initiative.” The aim of this project is to evaluate a comprehensive community-based public health initiative to reduce childhood obesity in Howard County, Maryland. Dr. Schwartz conducts an annual survey of school children about nutrition, physical activity, and related health behaviors. She measures beverage sales and promotional activities of the beverage industry in grocery stores in Howard County and a control market. She analyzes Fitnessgram data from school children throughout the county, and provides expert advice on the initiative based on the most current research.

Dr. Schwartz received a third grant from NIH/Yale entitled, “School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes.” This project examines the relationship between school-based wellness policies and student behavior, health, and academic achievement. A cohort of 12 schools were followed for four years with annual assessments of student Body Mass Index; survey questions about nutrition, physical activity, smoking, mental health, and other health behaviors; interviews with administrators and teachers; and an assessment of consumption and plate waste in the school cafeterias.

Dr. Schwartz received a fourth grant from Partnership for a Healthier America entitled, “Evaluation of Commitments Made by Child Care Centers with Partnership for a Healthier America.” The Partnership for a Healthier America works with companies to make commitments to improve their policies relevant to childhood obesity. Several large child care chains have made commitments to remove sugary drinks, limit screen time, increase fruits and vegetables, increase time playing outside and support breastfeeding within their centers. The Rudd Center serves as an external evaluator of these commitments at 18 months and three years.

Dr. Schwartz received a fifth grant from State Education Resource Center (SERC)/USDA entitled, “Connecticut Smarter Lunchroom Pilot.” The State Department of Education in Connecticut is working with a few districts around the state to use behavioral economics strategies to improve participation and consumption of the school lunch. Her role is to conduct consumption and plate waste assessments at three time points throughout the study to evaluate the effect of the changes.

Dr. Schwartz received a sixth grant from Claneil Foundation entitled, “Improving Nutrition in Food Banks.” The aim of this project is to evaluate and improve the availability and accessibility of tools to help food banks improve the nutritional quality of the foods distributed. She is working with Feeding America and a national advisory panel to create a toolkit for food banks around the country.

Dr. Schwartz received a seventh grant from University of Illinois/USDA entitled, “National Wellness Policy Study.” The aim of this USDA cooperative agreement is to work with a team led by the University of Illinois at Chicago to conduct a national study of the implementation of school wellness policies, including a qualitative assessment of the challenges and successes in adopting new policies.

**C. Michael White** (PhD, Pharmacy Practice) received a grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) entitled, “Evidence-Based Practice Center (EPC) V.” This grant is an EPC for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Dr. White and Dr. Coleman (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), who previously directed an EPC at UConn for five years that ended in 2012, reapplied and secured new funding. EPCs are eligible for contracts to complete projects related to comparative effectiveness or to develop new methods for comparative effectiveness, meta-analysis, and systematic review. Each project will have its own PI and its own budget from the task order contract. This may include the performance of evidence reviews for the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, working with major medical organizations, and helping craft practice guidelines for a variety of diseases and disorders.

The newly-funded CHIP grants described above, as well as other newly-submitted CHIP grants, demonstrate how CHIP’s research focus has broadened to include a wide array of health domains outside of HIV. Of the 89 CHIP grants proposals that were submitted in FY15 (total costs of \$57.1 million), 83 of them (total costs of \$51.3 million) proposed conducting research in domains outside of HIV. Of the 36 newly awarded grants during FY15 (total costs of \$17.3 million), 34 of them (\$13 million) focused on health domains other than HIV. (For the purpose of this report, grant proposals submitted between May 16, 2014 and May 15, 2015 are considered “new” submissions in FY15.)

(See [Appendix 1 on pages 58-61](#) for each new CHIP grant’s funding agency, total costs, direct costs, and indirect costs.)

**Research Objective 3: CHIP will continue to be a worldwide leader and to foster new multidisciplinary work in the core problem area of HIV/AIDS.**

Since its inception as a University center in 2002, CHIP-affiliated researchers have been awarded a remarkable **\$77.4 million in total grant funding focused on HIV/AIDS**. In FY15 alone, the following 12 CHIP researchers had **29 active HIV-related grants totaling \$6.2 million in external grant funding** across all years.

- K. Rivet Amico, PhD, CHIP
- John Christensen, PhD, Communication
- Michael Copenhaver, PhD, Allied Health Sciences
- Deborah Cornman, PhD, CHIP
- Dean Cruess, PhD, Psychology
- Lisa Eaton, PhD, Human Development and Family Studies
- Debarchana Ghosh, PhD, Geography
- Rick Gibbons, PhD, Psychology
- Ofer Harel, PhD, Statistics
- Blair Johnson, PhD, Psychology
- Seth Kalichman, PhD, Psychology
- Michael White, PhD, Pharmacy Practice

Five new HIV-related grants were awarded in FY15 for \$8.1 million in total costs across all years to Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP), Debarchana Ghosh (PhD Geography), Rick Gibbons (PhD, Psychology), Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychology), and C. Michael White (PhD, Pharmacy Practice). The grant-funded studies that Drs. Ghosh, Gibbons, and White will be conducting are described above under [Research Objective 2 on pages 8-12](#). Dr. Cornman's and Dr. Kalichman's new projects are described below:

CHIP Associate Director **Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP)** received a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DoD/DHAPP) entitled, "PHDP and GBV Prevention Programs for Soldiers in the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces." The goal of this project is to work collaboratively with Mozambique Armed Defense Forces (FADM), Mozambique Ministry of Defense (MOD), Mozambique Ministry of Health (MOH), U.S. Embassy, DoD/DHAPP, and other partners on the continued development, implementation, evaluation, and wider dissemination of an evidence-based, multi-level project that effectively (1) supports healthy behavior among soldiers living with HIV so that they remain as healthy as possible and do not transmit HIV to others, and (2) reduces the incidence of gender-based violence (GBV) among soldiers in FADM. In 2006, Dr. Cornman began developing and implementing a PHDP (Positive Health, Dignity, and Prevention) program to reduce risky sexual behavior and increase ART adherence among soldiers with HIV who receive their care at FADM hospitals in three provinces in Mozambique. The program, which currently comprises HIV+ Peer Educator-led one-on-one counseling sessions, daily group health education classes in the hospital waiting areas, and four-hour health literacy classes for newly diagnosed patients, will be expanded to include (1) training of healthcare providers to counsel patients' regarding their PHDP needs and work in close collaboration with Peer Educators to ensure that patients' needs are met, (2) educational modules on computer tablets that providers can prescribe for patients who need additional health education and support, (3) home visits by Peer Educators for patients who have been lost to follow-up, and (4) couples counseling and testing to identify spouses of HIV+ patients who have not been recently tested for HIV and to get them into treatment if they test positive for HIV. The awarded grant also continues and expands upon the GBV prevention work that was started by Dr. Cornman in 2011 and is presently being implemented in three provinces. The GBV prevention program, which currently comprises military Peer Educator-led GBV prevention classes in FADM training academies, presentations and multi-session group workshops in the barracks, and a FADM-wide social marketing campaign, will be expanded to six additional provinces in Mozambique. As part of this program, Dr. Cornman will produce an educational GBV prevention video using FADM soldiers that will be widely distributed throughout FADM. The impact of the PHDP and GBV programs are being evaluated for their effectiveness at



changing relevant information, motivation, behavioral skills, and behavior among soldiers who participate in these programs.

**Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychology)** received a grant from NIH/National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) entitled, “Comparative Effectiveness Trial for Retention-Adherence-Health.” This grant-funded study involves conducting comparative effectiveness research (CER) on two delivery formats (clinic-based vs. cell phone-delivered) of an effective, individually-tailored, brief behavioral self-regulation counseling intervention to improve treatment retention and adherence in people living with HIV who are using alcohol or other drugs in resource-limited small cities and rural areas. Engagement, retention, and adherence to care are necessary to achieve HIV suppression and the long-term clinical management of HIV infection. Unfortunately, only about half of the people with known HIV infection in the United States are retained in care, and only one in five achieve successful viral control. Behavioral self-regulation counseling is an individualized patient care approach to adherence monitoring, provider support, and guided corrective feedback that is designed to increase engagement and retention in care, maximize adherence, and improve health outcomes. This form of counseling has been demonstrated to be effective in both clinic-based and phone-delivered formats, but the comparative costs and effectiveness of these alternative delivery formats for behavioral self-regulation interventions in clinical care have not been tested. The aim of this project is therefore to evaluate these two delivery formats of self-regulation counseling in order to guide health policy and clinical resource decision-making. Participants are 200 men and 200 women living in high HIV prevalence remote communities who actively use alcohol or other drugs and are receiving HIV treatment. They will be randomized to receive either (a) behavioral self-regulation counseling integrated into their office-based care, or (b) behavioral self-regulation counseling delivered at home by cell-phone, and they will be followed for 12 months following implementation. The primary endpoints include alcohol use, retention in care, medication adherence assessed by unannounced pill counts, and HIV RNA (viral load). The study includes implementation research that will determine facilitators and barriers to clinic and cell phone implementation, and cost accounting of resources expended to achieve optimal outcomes. A team of internationally recognized experts will form a working group to guide the operational evaluation at minimal added cost. This study will inform evidence-based care retention and adherence interventions for people living with HIV who are using alcohol or other drugs in resource-limited settings.

#### **Research Objective 4: CHIP will continue to increase its research with direct policy implications.**

A new CHIP goal for the past few years has involved conducting more health-related research with implications for public policy. In this respect, the January 2015 move of the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity from Yale to UConn as a new center-within-a-center in CHIP adds remarkable strength to CHIP’s portfolio of research with direct policy implications. The Rudd Center’s goal is to change the way the world eats, in part through changes in food policy. The Rudd Center is one of the premier centers in the world working in this critical domain. (See the Rudd Center’s website at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/uconn-rudd-center-for-food-policy-obesity/>.)

This past year, several newly funded CHIP projects involved research with important policy implications. For example, research projects by Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity faculty Tania Andreyeva, Jennifer Harris, and Marlene Schwartz, all described in detail under [Research Objective 2 on pages 8-12](#), has critical implications for U.S. food policy. And new research by Michael White, also described under Research Objective 2, has critical implications for future policy. There are additional CHIP projects currently underway with policy implications, such as Rebecca Puhl’s research on society’s treatment of obese individuals, which is being considered with respect to its implications for the Americans with Disability Act. It is expected that CHIP’s focus on public policy will expand greatly in future years.

#### **Research Objective 5: CHIP will take a leadership role in fostering a team science approach among University of Connecticut research scientists and clinicians in the development of personalized medicine risk reduction strategies for chronic diseases and health conditions using clinical and genomic information that attempts to match an individual with the most effective therapeutic option.**

To help develop multidisciplinary collaborations in personalized medicine risk reduction research, CHIP continued to sponsor a subseries within its regular lecture series that was focused on **Genomics and Health Behavior**. This subseries, which was co-sponsored by Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine (JAX-GM) and UConn’s Institute for Systems Genomics, consisted of three speakers: (1) Gene Brody, PhD, from University of Georgia/Emory University who presented on “Gene-Environment Interplay, Health, and Some Thoughts about the Future,” and then

conducted a workshop entitled, “Marrying Genetics and Prevention Research,” (2) Mark Sarzynski, PhD, from the LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center who gave a lecture on “Exercise Genomics and the Quest for Personalized Medicine: Lessons Learned from the HERITAGE Family Study,” and (3) Molly Bray, PhD, from University of Texas at Austin whose presentation was entitled, “Genetic and Non-Genetic Underpinnings of Energy Balance.”

Examples of newly funded research projects this past year that involved genomics/genetic biomarkers include a grant awarded to **Meg Gerrard** (PhD, Psychology/CHIP) from the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) entitled, “The Relationship of AHRR Methylation to Risky Adolescent Behaviors.” This project is exploring ways to prevent adolescents from becoming regular, addicted smokers. Dr. Gerrard and her research team will be examining the potential of an epigenetic change that is a sensitive marker of initial experimental smoking (DNA demethylation at the aryl hydrocarbon receptor repressor [AHRR] locus), to identify adolescents who are in the experimental stage of smoking before they become regular smokers.

In addition, **Linda Pescatello** (PhD, Kinesiology) received a new grant from Hartford Hospital/CT Space Grant entitled, “Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women at Flight,” which is studying the influence of estrogen-based oral contraceptives on blood clot risk in active women at flight. Dr. Pescatello will be examining the biomarkers of clot formation and clot breakdown in women on estrogen-based oral contraceptives as a function of their hours in flight. Dr. Pescatello is also working with researchers at Hartford Hospital on research that is examining the DNA and RNA biomarkers of sudden cardiac death in firefighters. She and her collaborator are interested in understanding how cardiorespiratory fitness impacts firefighters’ cardiovascular health when they engage in physical exertion.

**Angela Starkweather** (PhD, Nursing), who recently joined UConn from Virginia Commonwealth University, is the Director of the Center for Advancement in Managing Pain (CAMP). The primary focus of her research is on biobehavioral symptom science among adolescents and adults who have chronic or life-threatening conditions, with the goal of advancing personalized strategies to ameliorate symptoms, improve function, and enhance quality of life. She studies the contributions of perceived stress and environmental exposures on health outcomes as well as the influence of genetic variants and epigenetic mechanisms on the development and persistence of distressing symptoms. Her research expands across the areas of symptom clusters, symptom management, palliative care, self-management and patient-provider health technologies.

**Research Objective 6:** CHIP will continue to bring local, national, and international researchers together on an ongoing basis from a wide range of health (including biomedical) and social science disciplines for lectures, events, and meetings at CHIP to promote cutting edge, multidisciplinary exchange and research.

**CHIP Lecture Series:** Since 2002, CHIP has organized a highly successful lecture series for the purpose of identifying and bringing together local, national, and international researchers from diverse academic fields with interests in health behavior and health behavior change intervention research. The *CHIP Lecture Series* provides a forum for CHIP investigators, research staff, graduate students, and other CHIP affiliates to hear presentations about new work in development by leading figures in health behavior research, and to become familiar with work conducted and published by others within the CHIP network. The series is well attended and is an invaluable forum for sharing late-breaking findings and trends in health behavior research.

CHIP continued to sponsor the CHIP Lecture Series in FY15, with co-sponsorships from the Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion (CEHHP); Center for Public Health and Health Policy; Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development; Health Disparities Institute; Human Rights Institute; Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity; and School of Social Work. The Departments of Agricultural Resource Economics; Allied Health Services; Asian and Asian American Studies Institute; Educational Psychology; Human Development and Family Studies; Kinesiology; Molecular and Cell Biology; Nutritional Sciences; Psychology; Statistics; and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies also cosponsored the series. Together, CHIP and its cosponsors brought 22 nationally- and internationally-recognized leaders in health behavior research from nine different institutions to UConn for presentations. These speakers presented on a diverse range of research areas, including human rights and public health, multilevel approaches to HIV prevention, the role of mobile apps and social media in health behavior change, the intersection of race and cancer, and obesity treatment and prevention, among many others. All presentations were streamed live from CHIP over the Internet and then archived for future on-demand viewing on CHIP’s website.

This virtual inclusion of additional colleagues at each presentation greatly enhanced the value and profile of the Lecture Series for the University, as well as the potential of the Series to disseminate cutting-edge science.

During FY15, CHIP had an average onsite lecture participation rate of 22 people per lecture. Additional viewers saw each presentation through live streaming or through archived versions of the presentations; there were a total of 894 online viewings of presentations during FY15, with an average of 47 viewers per lecture. In addition to attending and viewing the presentations online, PIs, graduate students, other affiliates, and community members were given the opportunity to meet with each presenter one-on-one, as a group, or by telephone, to discuss research interests and possible collaborations. A total of 72 such meetings and events took place at CHIP.

The CHIP Lecture Series is planned and publicized by CHIP administrative staff. Publicity for the events includes posting the series on the CHIP website and events calendar; sending out announcements through various listservs such as UConn Daily Digest and, beginning in January 2015, the UConn Health Broadcast Messages; posting flyers and signage at CHIP; and publishing the information on the University Events website and through other venues. To cast as wide a net as possible for persons interested in CHIP's lectures, e-mail announcements are sent to current affiliates, prospective affiliates, and members of other research institutions, hospitals, health clinics, and community-based organizations in Connecticut through the CHIP public access listserv. For those who respond by phone or e-mail to the announcements and/or who attend the lectures in person, CHIP follows up with additional communications, including invitations to future events and meetings, so that CHIP members can connect with interested individuals to explore the potential for research collaboration. A significant number of new affiliates and contacts have been identified through this process.

A listing of the dates, speakers, and talk titles for the FY15 *CHIP Lecture Series* can be found in [Appendix 2 on pages 62-65](#).

**CHIP Lecture Series on Genomics and Health Behavior:** In addition to the regular *CHIP Lecture Series*, CHIP launched a new subseries in FY14 entitled, the *CHIP Lecture Series on Genomics and Health Behavior*, in an effort to increase scholarly dialogue, research collaboration, and ultimately, funded research between investigators at Storrs, UConn Health, and the Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine. To support this multidisciplinary series, CHIP initiated co-sponsor partnerships with the Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine (JAX-GM, led by Charles Lee, PhD) and UConn's Institute for Systems Genomics (ISG, led by Marc Lalande, PhD). In FY15, Gene Brody (PhD, University of Georgia/Emory University), Mark Sarzynski (PhD, LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center), and Molly Bray (PhD, University of Texas at Austin) were the invited speakers for this series. Their lectures were entitled "Gene-Environment Interplay, Health, and Some Thoughts about the Future," "Exercise Genomics and the Quest for Personalized Medicine: Lessons Learned from the HERITAGE Family Study," and "Genetic and Non-Genetic Underpinnings of Energy Balance," respectively. Both partner organizations provided financial and promotional support for these events, and they will continue to partner with CHIP on selecting speakers, funding speaker costs, and promoting the events in the next academic year.

**Special Events:** Below are brief descriptions of several additional special events that CHIP organized this year toward the fulfillment of this objective:

- **Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG) Events:**
  - **Obesity Retreat:** Twenty-one ORIG researchers participated in this all-day event in October 2014 in the Ground Portico Room at the Lewis B. Rome Commons. They identified common areas of interest and opportunities for collaboration, discussed funding for team science research/training, and identified strategies to foster collaborative work in the future.
  - **"Low Hanging Fruit" Breakfast:** In March 2015, ORIG held an event at CHIP to facilitate new partnerships and collaborations among ORIG members, with 18 in attendance. Researchers briefly presented on unfinished projects and datasets available for collaboration. Attendees also participated in informal networking and discussion of next steps after the presentations.
- **Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition Networking Events:** This fall, two events were organized in support of the FY15 Dual-PI Seed Grant Competitions. Researchers had the opportunity to present a slide to facilitate a discussion of their research interests, as well as the expertise they were looking for in a dual-PI. These events also included time for informal networking.

- **CHIP-CT Children Networking Event:** A total of 34 researchers from UConn and CT Children's Medical Center attended this evening gathering at Wood-N-Tap in Hartford, which was organized to support this past year's CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition in Child Health and Health Behavior.
- **CHIP-UCHC Psychiatry Networking Luncheon:** Attended by 26 researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health Department of Psychiatry, and regional campuses, this event provided researchers with the opportunity to meet potential collaborators for the FY15 CHIP-UConn Health Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition in Mental Health and Health Behavior.
- **School of Engineering Networking Event:** This networking event was held in the lobby of the Information Technologies Engineering Building in March 2015, with 40 researchers from a wide range of disciplines in attendance, including the School of Engineering, School of Social Work, Department of Statistics, Department of Psychology, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and many others. The goal of this event was to develop new research collaborations and expand health behavior research at UConn into new areas, such as biosensors, biomedical informatics, medical and cyber security, and machine learning and big data.

**Research Objective 7: CHIP will foster innovative research that uses emerging and cutting-edge technologies (e.g., social media platforms, mobile phone applications, websites, sensors) to assess and modify health behavior.**

Over the past year, CHIP and its eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG) worked to encourage and support the use of cutting-edge technology in health behavior research. Efforts included expanding the reach of the eHealth/mHealth research interest group to UConn Health, where it is now sponsored by the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science, in addition to CHIP. Other EMRIG activities included sponsoring two CHIP Lecture Series presentations on digital health and a workshop on social media; co-hosting with CICATS a digital health networking event in March 2015 in Hartford; and providing regular updates via their website and listserv about relevant funding opportunities, conferences, trainings, publications, and developments in digital health. Additionally, CHIP partnered with Psychiatry to co-fund a dual-PI pilot project in which a mobile phone app is being developed that supports anti-depression treatment for those with diagnosed depression.

All of these efforts were highly successful with the EMRIG membership growing to 119 researchers across the UConn campuses and at other institutions by the end of June 2015. And over the course of one year, CHIP-affiliated researchers submitted a total of 19 external grant applications, requesting \$23.1 million in total costs, which utilized technology in the assessment or modification of health behavior. Examples of proposed research projects included the use of web-based surveys to assess health behavior, an Internet-based weight loss game, a website to support weight loss, an intervention using e-coaches for obesity treatment, a text messaging intervention to increase treatment adherence among women with breast cancer, a virtual reality intervention for smoking cessation, an antismoking videogame, and a tablet-based intervention that supports healthy behavior among people with HIV in Africa. Thus far, seven external grant applications have been funded, for a combined total of nearly \$4 million in total costs.

**Research Objective 8: CHIP will continue to expand its work to improve translation and dissemination of behavior change research into clinical and community practice in the U.S. and internationally.**

CHIP has a long history of dissemination and implementation (D&I) of its health behavior change interventions. Over the years, several externally-funded interventions developed at CHIP have been widely disseminated in the U.S. and internationally.

At the core, every intervention that is developed, implemented, evaluated, and found to be effective at changing health behavior by a CHIP research team has the potential for being widely disseminated.

In the past year, two new CHIP grants—those awarded to Tricia Leahey (described in [CHIP Research Objective 2 on page 10](#)) and Seth Kalichman (described in [CHIP Research Objective 3 on page 14](#)) have implications for Dissemination and Implementation science. The former grant involves an attempt to spread effective weight loss strategies widely throughout the State of Rhode Island; the latter involves a trial to ascertain the best way to ensure participant retention and adherence in intervention trials.

**Research Objective 9: CHIP will expand its efforts to publicize and share its knowledge, expertise, and research findings about health behavior and health behavior change with the University, with other academic institutions and scholarly audiences, and with various community-based groups and organizations.**

During FY15, in accordance with the University's emphasis on public engagement, CHIP continued to promote the considerable wealth of research expertise represented by its network of over 487 principal investigators (PIs) and research affiliates. CHIP publicized its activities and research to external community audiences through outside media outlets and the CHIP website; to the greater University community through *UConn Today*, *CHIP Weekly Digest*, and *CHIP Research News* emails, among other communication vehicles; and directly to public health audiences through events open to the community, including the *CHIP Lecture Series* and *CHIP Research Interest Groups* events and activities. Beginning in April 2015, CHIP reinstated its Facebook and Twitter pages to announce the *Lecture Series* and other CHIP events, tweet live from the *Lecture Series* presentations, and share health behavior-related news.

## ***E2. Progress on CHIP Administrative Objectives for FY15***

***Administrative Objective 1: The Administrative Team will update and revise existing guidelines and procedures annually and as needed. In addition, new guidelines and procedures will continue to be developed to address operational needs and to improve and streamline existing administrative processes.***

The Administrative Team continued to work collectively on updating and revising existing guidelines and procedures as well as internal and online forms in the areas of travel, purchasing, grants management (both pre- and post-award processing), employment, and payroll. No new guidelines and procedures were needed during FY15, but new guidelines and procedures will continue to be developed as dictated by operational and business needs as well as to ensure CHIP meets University, state, and federal requirements. In addition to the website postings of guidelines and procedures, CHIP continues to distribute relevant new and updated guidelines and procedures via its listservs.

***Administrative Objective 2: CHIP will publicize and disseminate information about its available business and other services to CHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other CHIP affiliates, through various means, including website updates, listserv announcements, emails, promotional slides at Lecture Series events, the CHIP Business Services Survey, and announcements at the CHIP Annual Meeting and other business meetings.***

CHIP held its Annual Meeting at the start of the fall semester on September 11, 2014. In addition to Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology), a UConn Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor, giving the keynote address about her current research, Rudd Center Director Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) presented an overview of the Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity, including collaborative opportunities for CHIP affiliates. Similarly, Dr. Juan Salazar (MD, MPH, Connecticut Children's Medical Center) spoke about possible collaborative opportunities between CT Children's Medical Center and CHIP. Lastly, the unique CHIP services provided by each of the administrative team members was highlighted at the meeting.

During the spring semester, CHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP) conducted the annual CHIP Business Services Survey, which provided a summary of all CHIP's available services. The results of the survey are summarized in [\*Section I on pages 29-34\*](#).

Throughout FY15, CHIP continued to utilize its website to communicate with CHIP affiliates and potential affiliates about available CHIP business services. Descriptions and charts of the types of services offered, charts outlining the staff who support each service, and required forms for accessing various services were updated regularly and posted on the website. CHIP also used its website to announce CHIP's annual seed grant competitions, publicize deadlines for the competitions, and announce the winners of the competitions. In addition, CHIP regularly used its listservs and its website to announce upcoming Lecture Series speakers. CHIP also continued to create informational slides, highlighting available CHIP business services and/or upcoming events, and displayed the slides in a continuous loop at the start of each Lecture Series event until the speaker was ready to begin his/her presentation. Lastly, CHIP recently started using its Facebook and Twitter pages to publicize the dates of the Lecture Series.

***Administrative Objective 3: CHIP will conduct an annual Business Services Survey in order to evaluate the services that CHIP offers. The survey will be sent to CHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other***



**CHIP affiliates at UConn. Once data is collected and analyzed, a summary report will be created for distribution. The results of this survey will be used to improve upon the business operations at CHIP.**

CHIP offers a range of services to its principal investigators (PIs), research staff, graduate students, and other affiliates, including assistance with identifying possible collaborators, finding relevant funding opportunities, networking events, CHIP internal seed grant competitions, pre-submission grant reviews, statistical consultation, CHIP Lecture Series, assistance with grant preparation, pre- and post-award grant support, IT services, and more. To ensure that the services CHIP provides are meeting the needs of its consumers, each year CHIP asks its PIs, research staff, graduate students, and other affiliates at UConn to evaluate the quality of its services through an anonymous online survey.

In April of 2015, the annual CHIP Business Services Survey was sent to CHIP affiliates who work and/or study at the University of Connecticut. A total of 68 individuals completed the survey, and the results were very favorable in all categories. Suggestions for improvements to CHIP services have been reviewed, and modifications to its services are being made, as appropriate. (See [Section I on pages 29-34](#) for additional information on the CHIP Business Services Survey results.)

**Administrative Objective 4: The CHIP Budget Oversight and Cost Savings Committee meets as needed to review the status of the CHIP operating budget, and to identify and recommend cost-saving measures that can benefit CHIP and the University financially. Relevant procedures and guidelines will be created based on the Committee's recommendations.**

During FY15, the CHIP Budget Oversight and Cost Savings Committee comprised CHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, Associate Director Deborah Cornman, Executive Assistant Susan Hoge, and Financial Assistant II Melissa Stone, who manages the operating budget. They met at least monthly review the budget and all actual and anticipated expenditures, and to discuss possible cost saving measures. As part of their role, the Committee continued to implement and educate CHIP faculty, staff, and students about a variety of cost saving measures that have produced significant savings. Examples of these measures are the following:

- Use Skype for free or at a substantially reduced cost for long-distance phone calls, particularly for international calls.
- Use free online conference calling services for group phone calls.
- Use office supplies exclusively for CHIP-related projects.
- Record on a sign-out sheet, each time office supplies are removed from the CHIP supply cabinet as a way to more efficiently and accurately monitor supply use.
- Restrict printer use to CHIP-related projects only.
- Print two-sided copies whenever possible.
- Set up printers to default to back-and-white printing rather than color.
- Seek external funding and sponsors for the *CHIP Lecture Series*.

CHIP Administrative Team staff offered assistance with installing Skype and provided instructions for duplex printing and resetting default printers, as needed.

In the next fiscal year, CHIP will continue to maintain these and other cost-saving measures, including seeking additional external funding for the *CHIP Lecture Series*, which could again produce sizeable cost savings, pending successful outreach efforts.

CHIP will continue to be sensitive and attentive to the current fiscal environment at the University and will be appropriately mindful in making responsible business decisions.

**Administrative Objective 5: The CHIP Security and Facilities Committee will meet semi-annually and as needed to review the status of the physical facility and its ability to meet the needs of its occupants, including the security of the facility, its occupants, and its data. Needed modifications will be made to the physical facility and to relevant procedures and guidelines to improve the usefulness of the facility and the security that it provides.**

In order to increase the efficient use of meetings, the CHIP Security and Facilities Committee members discussed all physical and technical security issues related to CHIP operations at the monthly CHIP Administrative Team meetings. This decreased the number of overall meetings needed and allowed for the participation of all administrative staff.

During FY15, CHIP continued to experience no known security threats, disruptions to activity in the building, or breaches to data server service. CHIP reviewed its meeting room and key sign-out procedures, and the policies and procedures of reporting a loss of or damage to CHIP/State-owned property.

New CHIP signage was added to the outside of the building to direct visitors to the Center, and signage was also added to notify the public that video surveillance is in use in the building.

Other measures were continued during the year to maintain security, including the use of “routing forms” when employees end work at CHIP, so that they are immediately removed from the DSX card access system; close monitoring and follow-up with the key sign-in and sign-out system; internal video surveillance; and improved interior signage for the building, specifically for the non-CHIP entities.

### ***E3. Progress on CHIP Technology Objectives for FY15***

#### **IT Objective 1: Complete offsite replication of CHIP’s sensitive research data.**

All research data is currently being replicated from the CHIP server room to our locked cabinet in the University’s data center in the Math Science Building. This replication occurs on a schedule several times a day to prevent any impact on network resources while researchers are performing their daily duties. CHIP IT acquired and implemented a new server platform from Cisco. The Cisco UCS platform will provide additional resources and scalability to support future research endeavors. At this time, CHIP IT is waiting for electrical upgrades to be completed in the University’s data center before moving additional servers and storage equipment. Once UITS completes the electrical upgrades, CHIP will be able to launch VMware replication for other resources beyond just the research data.

#### **IT Objective 2: Provide hosted cloud services for files.**

In the early part of FY15, CHIP IT launched a local implementation of ownCloud. The ownCloud product provides features and functionality comparable to Dropbox or Google Drive. After substantial testing, CHIP IT rolled out this service to Dr. Seth Kalichman’s research team who uses it to share files between the Storrs office and their site in South Africa. The data is securely transmitted over a secure, encrypted connection. This service is now available to all research staff through CHIP Advanced Storage Solutions.

#### **IT Objective 3: Create a detailed service catalog for CHIP IT and CHIP Advanced Storage Solutions.**

CHIP Advanced Storage Solutions has launched its website and product catalog of services. The product catalog and services can be found at the following URL (<http://chipit.uconn.edu/>). The scope of this project was expanded to include additional IT resources:

- IT Policies: A central repository outlining CHIP’s IT policies and support requirements.
- IT Support: A self-help section for staff, researchers, and students covering a variety of topics such as connecting to the VPN, Service Level Agreements, Desktop Support and Mapping Drives.
- IT Forms: A central repository for all service and support request forms. There are forms available to request an IT user account, research storage, video conferencing, scheduling a WebEx meeting, and others.

## **F. CHIP Objectives for FY 2016**

### ***F1. CHIP Research Objectives for FY16***

1. Through the CHIP internal grants programs, mentoring, technical support to Principal Investigators (PIs), and other activities, the Center will continue to support the development of new, high-quality, innovative, and timely proposals for externally-funded research through CHIP by individual researchers and research teams.
2. CHIP will continue to expand its focus on health behavior and foster new multidisciplinary work in a broad array of critical health domains.

3. CHIP will facilitate continued progress of CHIP obesity researchers, as well as the formation of new obesity collaborations through team science initiatives that strategically build our capacity to conduct multilevel studies that tackle the complex issues of obesity prevention and treatment.
4. CHIP will continue to be a worldwide leader and foster new multidisciplinary work in the core problem area of HIV/AIDS.
5. CHIP will continue to increase its research with direct policy implications.
6. CHIP will take a leadership role in fostering a team science approach among University of Connecticut research scientists and clinicians in the development of personalized medicine risk reduction strategies for chronic diseases and health conditions using clinical and genomic information that attempts to match an individual with the most effective therapeutic option.
7. CHIP will continue to bring local, national, and international researchers together on an ongoing basis from a wide range of health (including biomedical) and social science disciplines for lectures, events, and meetings at CHIP to promote cutting-edge, multidisciplinary exchange and research.
8. CHIP will foster innovative research that uses emerging and cutting-edge technologies (e.g., social media platforms, mobile phone applications, websites, sensors) to assess and modify health behavior.
9. CHIP will continue to expand its work to improve translation and dissemination of behavior change research into clinical and community practice in the U.S. and internationally.
10. CHIP will expand its efforts to publicize and share its knowledge, expertise, and research findings about health behavior and health behavior change with the University and other academic institutions and scholarly audiences, as well as with relevant community-based groups and organizations.

## ***F2. CHIP Administrative Objectives for FY16***

1. The Administrative Team will update and revise existing guidelines and procedures annually (by the end of the calendar year) and on an as-needed basis. New guidelines and procedures will be developed to address operational needs and to improve and streamline existing administrative and programmatic processes.
2. CHIP will publicize and disseminate information about its available business services to CHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other CHIP affiliates, through various means, including website updates, listserv announcements, welcome letters to new affiliates and new CHIP PIs, promotional slides at Lecture Series events, CHIP Business Services Survey, Boundary Spanner activities, and announcements at the CHIP Annual Meeting and other business meetings.
3. CHIP will conduct an annual Business Services Survey to evaluate the services that CHIP offers and the delivery of those services. The survey will be sent to CHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other CHIP affiliates who are based at UConn. Once data is collected and analyzed, a summary report will be created for distribution. The results of this survey will be used to improve upon the business operations at CHIP.
4. The CHIP Budget Oversight Committee, consisting of the Director, Associate Director, Executive Assistant, and Financial Assistant II, will meet monthly to review operational budget expenditures, discuss anticipated expenses and needs, and identify and recommend cost-saving measures that can benefit CHIP and the University financially. Modifications will be made to the budget as well as to relevant procedures and guidelines based on the Committee's recommendations.
5. CHIP security and facilities issues will be discussed and addressed in the monthly Administrative Team meetings, and as needed, to ensure that the physical facility meets the needs of its occupants, including the security of the facility, its occupants, and its research and personnel data. Needed modifications will be made to the physical facility and to relevant procedures and guidelines to improve the usefulness of the facility and the security that it provides.

## ***F3. CHIP Technology Objectives for FY16***

1. **Migrate CHIP from its own Exchange Server to Office 365:** Office 365 is a hosted suite of software, services, and capabilities, available as part of CHIP's existing enterprise relationship with Microsoft. It provides

communication and collaboration services, such as email, calendar, file sharing, online conferencing, and instant messaging, via a contemporary cloud-based platform. It also provides access to Microsoft Office Online applications (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint) that can be accessed from almost any device with a browser and Internet connection. Other benefits of Office 365 include:

- a. Unlimited online storage on OneDrive
- b. Enhanced mobile connectivity
- c. Advanced document sharing with simultaneous writing and editing capabilities
- d. Mailbox with 50GB capacity

University Information Technology Services (UITS) has completed the process of migration for the core of the University. CHIP IT, in collaboration with UITS, has begun the process of testing and establishing a process for migrating CHIP users off of Exchange 2010 and onto Office 365.

2. **Revise CHIP's Website to be Section 508 compliant:** As of October 2014, the University instituted a policy that all websites be Section 508 compliant. Section 508 standards address website access for people with physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities. To meet these requirements, CHIP IT will begin the process of restructuring CHIP's website. This initiative is consistent with CHIP's mission to serve as a nexus for a diversity of researchers at the University of Connecticut and other institutions to form collaborative partnerships and develop major research initiatives in health behavior.

## G. CHIP Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is comprised of CHIP affiliates who serve in an advisory capacity to CHIP's Director and Associate Director. They assist in defining CHIP's goals, help monitor progress toward those goals, and provide feedback on different aspects of CHIP operations. For FY15, the CHIP Executive Committee consisted of the following individuals:

- Jeffrey Fisher, PhD, CHIP Director, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychology
- Deborah Cornman, PhD, CHIP Associate Director
- Meg Gerrard, PhD, Research Professor of CHIP and Psychology
- Debarchana Ghosh, PhD, Assistant Professor of Geography
- Amy Gorin, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology
- Tania Huedo-Medina, PhD, Assistant Professor of Allied Health Sciences
- Blair T. Johnson, PhD, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychology
- Crystal Park, PhD, Professor of Psychology
- Linda Pescatello, PhD, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Kinesiology
- Marlene Schwartz, PhD, Director of Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, Professor of Human Development and Family Studies

The Executive Committee held four meetings in FY15, one of which was a three hour-long retreat. At the meetings, the Committee was provided with updates on CHIP's efforts to support multidisciplinary research collaborations as well as on CHIP's seed grant competitions, grant submissions, newly-funded grant proposals, grants management services, IT services, statistical support services, physical facility issues, and operating budget. Any operational problems were discussed and suggestions for improvements were agreed upon. At the retreat, which focused on how to more effectively foster multidisciplinary research collaborations at UConn, Executive Committee members evaluated CHIP's efforts to develop and support these collaborations, and made suggestions for improvements, many of which will be instituted over the next year.

In addition to attending the Executive Committee meetings, the members initiated and/or participated in a variety of CHIP events and activities. Some highlights of their involvement are the following:

- Meg Gerrard, Amy Gorin, Blair Johnson, and Linda Pescatello volunteered their time (along with Jeffrey Fisher and Deborah Cornman) to help train junior research faculty at the CHIP Grantsmanship Training Workshop that was conducted on June 19-20, 2014. A total of 35 junior faculty attended the two-day workshop. This training workshop was organized by Meg Gerrard and Deborah Cornman.
- Meg Gerrard worked collaboratively with Deborah Cornman on the development and implementation of the Grantsmanship Mentoring Program in which junior research faculty applied for one-year mentorships with senior research faculty. A total of seven junior faculty were chosen based on their strong research proposals and then paired with appropriate mentors.
- Amy Gorin continued to chair the Obesity Research Interest Group, which had 141 members from UConn and other institutions (as of June 30, 2015). As Chair of that group, she worked collaboratively with HDFS Professor Kim Gans on organizing and hosting an Obesity Retreat on October 28, 2014 that was attended by 20 UConn faculty members who conduct obesity research; they discussed research priorities, formed collaborative research teams, and developed a list of action items. She then organized a “Low Hanging Fruit Breakfast” on March 19, 2015, which was attended by approximately 20 faculty members and graduate students, who discussed datasets, manuscripts, and projects that were available for collaboration.
- Meg Gerrard continued to chair the Cancer Prevention and Control Research Interest Group (CRIG), which had 109 members from UConn and the community who are interested in cancer research (as of June 30, 2015). She took the lead on developing an informative website, hosted cancer speakers who presented at the CHIP Lectures Series, and sent out updates and announcements to the CRIG members. Additionally, she and Deborah Cornman worked with Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH), Lori Bastian (MD, MPH), and Alicia Dugan (PhD) from UConn Health on identifying research priorities, and they organized a CICATS Science Café on Cancer Survivorship that will be held on September 24, 2015.
- With funding from CICATS, Marlene Schwartz organized and hosted a Community Café on June 17, 2015 at the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity. This event was attended by Hartford community leaders, advocates, researchers, and health professionals, and it consisted of a panel discussion about the challenges of food security and obesity in the Hartford community. The discussion was followed by the opportunity to network and form partnerships and collaborations to help address these challenges.
- Along with Jeffrey Fisher and Deborah Cornman, Meg Gerrard, Blair Johnson, Debarchana Ghosh, Tania Huedo-Medina, Crystal Park, and Marlene Schwartz served as some of the reviewers of the CHIP seed grant proposals.

## **H. CHIP Multidisciplinary Affiliates Collaborative Network**

In the past year, CHIP added new research affiliates to its multidisciplinary affiliates collaborative network of researchers with interests in health behavior and health behavior change, bringing its total membership (as of June 30, 2015) to 487 Faculty/Researcher Affiliates and 72 Graduate Student Affiliates.

In addition to expanding its affiliate network, CHIP worked diligently to develop new multidisciplinary collaborations with relevant researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, and other institutions. These efforts were fruitful, leading to new grant applications and funded grants.

During FY15, CHIP also continued its efforts to forge new and expand existing collaborations with schools, departments, centers, and other units at UConn. These efforts included meetings with the following individuals to discuss partnerships and opportunities with their respective units at UConn:

- John Elliott (PhD, MBA), Dean and Auran J. Fox Chair; and Sulin Ba (PhD, MLIS), Professor and Associate Dean of Academic and Research Support, both from the UConn School of Business
- Amy Chesmer, Senior Director of Development, Health Sciences; Chris Petkovich, Senior Director of Foundation Relations; Jennifer Grey, Associate Vice President for Development, Central Programs; Frank Gifford, Associate Vice President for Development, Constituent Programs; and Heather McDonald, Senior Director of Development, University Programs, all from the UConn Foundation
- Ali Andalibi (PhD), Associate Vice President for Research at UConn



- Roy Pietro, Director of the UConn Global Training & Development Institute
- Sandra Chaafouleas (PhD), Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Neag School of Education
- George Sugai (PhD), Carole J. Neag Endowed Chair, Professor and Director of Center for Behavioral Education & Research (CBER)
- Tim Hunter (MFA), Professor and Chair, Digital Media & Design and Director of Digital Media Center
- Kathleen Holgerson, Director of Women's Center

CHIP also met with the following individuals about their respective units at UConn Health:

- Martin Chorniack (MD, MPH), Co-Director of the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace; R. L. MacNeil (DDS, MDentSc), Dean and Professor of Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences; Robert Aseltine (PhD), Interim Chair, Division of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health; and Rajesh Lalla (DDS, PhD, CCRP, DABOM), Interim Associate Dean for Research, all from the UConn School of Dental Medicine
- Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH), Professor and Director of Cancer Prevention and Control, Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center; and Lori Bastian (MD, MPH), Professor, Chief of Division of General Internal Medicine, and Associate Dean for Career Development
- Juan Salazar (MD, MPH, FAAP), Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, UConn Health and Physician-in-Chief, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
- Paul Skolnik (MD, FACP, FIDSA), Professor and Chair, Department of Medicine
- David Steffens (MD), Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry

CHIP has also expanded its collaborations outside of the university, meeting with the following individuals and their respective units:

- Jeri Hepworth (PhD), Co-Director; Gregory Makoul (PhD), Founding Director; Thomas Agresta (MD, MBI), Informatics Leader; Rachel Ingersol (MA), Special Projects Coordinator, Program Supervisor; Adam Silverman (MD, FACP), Outreach Leader; Rebecca Andrews (MD, FACP), Co-Leader for Education; and Thom Walsh (PhD), Visiting Senior Research Fellow, all from the Connecticut Institute for Primary Care Innovation (CIPCI)
- Linda Niccolai (PhD), Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Director of HPV Working Group; and Anna North (MPH), Project Coordinator of HPV Working Work, both from Yale School of Public Health
- Melissa Riddle (PhD), Chief of Behavioral and Social Science Research Branch, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
- William Zempsky (MD) – Head of Division of Pain Medicine, Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) and Professor of Pediatrics, UConn Health
- Pavlos Papasavas, (MD, FACS) Bariatric Surgeon at Centers for Surgical Weight Loss and Director of Surgical Research, Hartford Hospital and Associate Professor of Surgery, UConn Health; Darren Tishler (MD, FACS), Bariatric Surgeon at Centers for Surgical Weight Loss, Hartford Hospital; Godfrey Pearlson (MA, MBBS), Professor of Psychiatry, Yale School of Medicine and Director of Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center; and Janet Ng (PhD), Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center

Discussions with each of these individuals/groups are ongoing.

### ***CHIP Affiliation and Associated Benefits***

As indicated above, a variety of different strategies are used to identify potential CHIP affiliates, including direct communication between CHIP and other UConn departments, schools, and centers; referrals from UConn Deans and Department Heads about appropriate faculty; outreach to researchers who are in new or existing research collaborations; and invitations to attendees of the CHIP Lecture Series and other CHIP functions. Faculty with health-related research interests who express interest in CHIP are sent a formal invitation to become an affiliate. Those who want to become affiliates must complete an application form which is reviewed by the Director and Associated Director to ensure that the applicant's research interests are consistent with CHIP's mission.

The benefits of being a CHIP affiliate are many, and as the Center continues to grow, CHIP reviews its services regularly and modifies them as needed, to ensure that affiliates get the support and assistance they need to scale up and be successful in health behavior research. Services of note include assistance with searching for external grant opportunities; identifying potential research collaborators; pre-submission statistical, methodological, and content reviews of external grant proposals; extensive pre- and post-award support; competitive seed grant funding for pilot projects that increase the likelihood of securing external grant funds in the future; and the CHIP Lecture Series which showcases and provides the opportunity to meet with leading scholars from diverse fields of health behavior research.

*(See [Appendix 4 on pages 93-94](#) for a list of services provided by CHIP and the administrative staff members responsible for each service.)*

During FY15, a key aim of the CHIP Programs and Research Development Team was to expand CHIP's existing multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs) in the areas of Obesity, eHealth/mHealth, and Cancer Prevention and Control. RIGs provide a forum for researchers from a variety of disciplines, campuses, and the community to work collaboratively and seek funding opportunities to conduct innovative research on specific health topics.

### **Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG)**

The Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG) headed by CHIP PI Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychology) is a joint interest group between CHIP and the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS). The mission of this CHIP/CICATS group is to bring together researchers and stakeholders from the greater Connecticut community who share a common interest in understanding, preventing, and treating obesity and related co-morbidities, and to encourage and enable these researchers to develop new research collaborations and apply for external funding through CHIP. The group continued to grow its membership in FY14 to over 140 members who are faculty and graduate students from multiple campuses and over 20 departments at UConn as well as community partners and researchers from other institutions in the region. The group generally meets twice a year, co-sponsors obesity-related talks as part of the CHIP lecture series, and hosts an information/discussion listserv to share research ideas and funding opportunities.

In FY15, the ORIG sponsored the following activities towards the fulfillment of its mission:

- **Obesity Retreat:** In October 2014, ORIG researchers participated in this all-day event to discuss current and next steps for the interest group. They identified common areas of interest and opportunities for collaboration, discussed funding for team science research/training, and identified strategies to foster collaborative work in the future. One specific action item that came out of this meeting was to make a proposal to the *Childhood Obesity* journal to publish a special issue on obesity prevention in childcare settings. Spearheaded by Dr. Marlene Schwartz, the proposal was accepted, and up to 6 manuscripts from UConn investigators will be published in the journal in 2015-16.
- **“Low Hanging Fruit” Breakfast:** In March 2015, ORIG held an event at CHIP, organized by Dr. Amy Gorin, to facilitate new partnerships and collaborations among ORIG members. Researchers briefly presented on unfinished projects and datasets available for collaboration. Attendees (19 in total) also participated in informal networking and discussion of next steps after the presentations.
- **Primary Care- and Adult Weight Management-Targeted Networking Events:** Two networking events were organized by Dr. Kim Gans and held immediately following obesity-related CHIP lectures.
  - The first event, which occurred in March 2015 following Dr. Michelle Cloutier's presentation, focused on opportunities for obesity research in various primary care settings. This event was well attended by faculty from various departments.
  - The second event, which occurred in April 2015 following Dr. Tricia Leahey's presentation, focused on adult weight management interventions. In addition to UConn attendees, this event was well attended by visitors from Dartmouth Medical School.
- **Community Science Café:** In June 2015, the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity held a Community Science Café attended by over 50 community leaders, researchers, and health professionals. The Café focused on the issues of food security and obesity in the Hartford community, with a panel discussion featuring Marlene

Schwartz (Rudd Center), Yvette Bello (Hartford Foundation for Public Giving), Grace Damio (Hispanic Health Council), Tevonne Ellis (YMCA of Greater Hartford), Katie Martin (University of St. Joseph), and Martha Page (Hartford Food System).

- The ORIG sponsored and promoted several *CHIP Lecture Series* speakers on obesity topics: CHIP PI Rebecca Puhl (PhD, Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity) gave a presentation entitled, “Obesity Stigma: Public Attitudes and Potential Policy Remedies;” CHIP affiliate Michelle Cloutier (MD, UConn Health Department of Pediatrics) gave a talk entitled, “Engaging Primary Care Clinicians in Translational Research: Why is it so Difficult?;” CHIP affiliate Amy Mobley (PhD, RD, Nutritional Sciences) presented a CHIP Mentee Lecture entitled, “Don’t Forget about Dad: Novel Approaches to Childhood Obesity Prevention;” CHIP affiliate Kelley Newlin Lew (DNSc, APRN, CDEm, School of Nursing) gave the CHIP Mentee Lecture, “Translation of Evidence-Based Diabetes Self-Management and Prevention Programs to Community Sites;” CHIP PI Tricia Leahey (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) spoke on, “Harnessing Financial Incentives and Social Influence to Address Current Challenges In Obesity Treatment Research;” Cara Ebbeling (PhD, Boston Children’s Hospital) gave a presentation entitled, “Dietary Interventions for Obesity: Considering Internal and External Validity in RCTs;” Brian Wansink (PhD, Cornell University) presented the lecture, “Slim by Design: Engineering a Built Environment;” Molly Bray (PhD, University of Texas at Austin) spoke about “Genetic and Non-Genetic Underpinnings of Energy Balance;” and Gary Bennett (PhD, Duke University) gave a talk on “Using Digital Health to Improve Comprehensive Obesity Treatment Among the Medically Vulnerable.”

(Go to <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/orig/> for more information about the Obesity Research Interest Group.)

#### **eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG)**

The eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG) was formed in the spring of 2013, is headed by CHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP), and is comprised of researchers at UConn and other institutions who are interested in electronic health/mobile health research and the use of mobile technologies, social media, web-based interventions, sensors, and other new technologies to assess and modify health behavior. Members are informed through the group’s listserv and website about relevant funding opportunities, presentations, conferences, webinars, trainings, publications, and new developments in eHealth/mHealth. The group sponsors events and activities in eHealth/mHealth, assists members in identifying potential research collaborators and technology experts, holds periodic meetings, and keeps members abreast of what is happening in the field. The primary goal of these various activities is to foster new multidisciplinary projects and obtain external grant funding.

In August 2014, the EMRIG expanded to also become a CICATS Core Interest Group (CIG), which means that the eHealth/mHealth research interest group is now co-sponsored by both CHIP on the Storrs campus and CICATS at UConn Health.

In FY15, the EMRIG significantly grew its membership to 119 members and sponsored the following events and activities towards the fulfillment of its mission:

- The group promoted two *CHIP Lecture Series* speakers on digital health:
  - Sherry Pagoto, PhD from University of Massachusetts Medical School - Lecture on “How Mobile Apps and Social Media May Revolutionize Health Change” followed by a workshop on “Using Social Media in Health Behavior Research.”
  - Gary Bennett, PhD from Duke University – Lecture on “Using Digital Health to Improve Comprehensive Obesity Treatment Among the Medically Vulnerable.” (Dr. Bennett’s lecture was co-sponsored by the Obesity Research Interest Group.)
- The group hosted a networking event on March 31, 2015 at Costa Del Sol restaurant in Hartford, CT, which was attended by 33 researchers who introduced themselves, their research interests, and what they are looking for in collaborators. Bios and contact information of the attendees were shared among the group.
- The EMRIG website (<http://www.chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/EMRIG/>), which was launched in the spring of 2014, was updated monthly during FY15 with information on relevant CHIP-sponsored

events/activities, external funding opportunities, conferences, webinars, trainings, publications, journals, external websites, and eNewsletters.

Goals for the next fiscal year include hosting an annual strategic planning event and the development of new multidisciplinary research teams who engage in innovative research in the area of digital health.

### **Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG)**

The CHIP Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG) was formed in the fall of 2012 by Meg Gerrard (PhD, Psychology/CHIP) to help build UConn Storrs/UConn Health research collaborations in the area of cancer control and prevention. Over a period of 2½ years, the membership grew to 109 researchers including 51 from Storrs UConn, 41 from UConn Health, eight from Connecticut Children's Medical Center, six from other universities, and three from Hartford Hospital.

The formation of the CRIG and the support provided by them to researchers across the UConn campuses has resulted in a substantial increase in external funding in the area of cancer prevention and control. In FY15, there were 12 active cancer grants (Valerie Duffy [2 grants], Kim Gans [2 grants], Meg Gerrard, Rick Gibbons [2 grants], Crystal Park [2 grants], Merrill Singer, Leslie Snyder, and Michael White) for total direct costs of \$3.9 million (see [Appendix 9 on pages 121-130](#) for a list of Active and Awarded Grants). This represents approximately a 3.9 fold increase in external funding compared to FY13 when there were four active cancer grants (Rick Gibbons, Leslie Snyder, and Crystal Park [2 grants]) for total direct costs of \$1.0 million.

In terms of grant submissions in FY15, there were four cancer proposals submitted (Astur, Blanton, Park [2 grants]), for total requested direct costs of \$2.4 million. One was not funded, one was resubmitted in June, and two others are still under review (see [Appendix 8 on pages 112-120](#) for a list of Submitted Grants).

The following is a summary of some of the CRIG activities supporting cancer prevention and control research over the past year:

- Networking with Other Organizations about HPV Vaccination Research
  - On January 23, 2015, Meg Gerrard, Rick Gibbons (PhD, Psychology), and Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP), met with Weitzman Institute staff to discuss collaborative opportunities for conducting HPV vaccination research with Community Health Centers, Inc. Weitzman staff included Institute Director Daren Anderson, MD; Director of Research and Evaluation Ianita Zlateva, MPH; Research Associate Lauren Bifulco, MPH; and Research Associate Khushbu Khatri. Since that time, there have been multiple meetings and a review of the HPV vaccination rates at the Community Health Centers. The group is in the process of developing an initial research study to increase vaccination rates.
  - Two researchers from the Yale School of Public Health and Smilow Comprehensive Cancer Center were invited to CHIP to discuss mutual interests and potential collaborations on HPV vaccination research. The first meeting was held at CHIP in late April 2015 and included three CHIP PIs (Meg Gerrard, Rick Gibbons, and Deborah Cornman) and the Yale investigators. This very productive meeting resulted in an agreement to collaborate on the expansion of a pilot project being conducted by Yale in the New Haven area. Hopefully, this project will lead to future collaborative external grant proposals that will extend and broaden Yale and CHIP's study of HPV vaccination across the state.
- Developing Multidisciplinary Research Collaborations Focused on Cancer Survivorship Research
  - Inspired by a CHIP Lecture Series presentation by Office of Cancer Survivorship Director Julia Rowland (PhD, National Cancer Institute), CHIP PIs Keith Bellizzi (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies), Meg Gerrard, and Deborah Cornman identified and contacted a small group (~10) of cancer survivorship researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, and Hartford Hospital to meet to explore possible research studies around cancer survivorship. The primary goal of this research team is to develop one to two cross-disciplinary grant proposals related to Dr. Rowland's discussion of critical issues in survivorship research.
  - Professor and Director of Cancer Prevention and Control Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH, Medicine), Professor and Chief of General Internal Medicine Lori Bastian (MD, MPH, Medicine), Associate Professor Jayesh Kamath (MD, PhD, Psychiatry and Immunology), and Assistant Professor Alicia Dugan (PhD, Occupational &

Environmental Medicine) from UConn Health have been working collaboratively with Drs. Gerrard and Cornman to organize a CICATS Science Café for September 24, 2015. The goal of this event is to expand UConn's network of survivorship researchers and to prioritize future cancer survivorship research projects and grant proposals.

- Fostering Cancer Prevention Control Research through Funding for Pilot Projects
  - In the fall of 2013, the CRIG announced the availability of three \$35,000 Cancer Prevention and Control Seed Grants to be funded by Dr. Frank Torti, Dean of the School of Medicine, and Dr. Jeff Seeman, UConn Vice Provost for Research. The goal of this program was to foster collaborative research that is consistent with the School of Medicine's mission to expand their research on cancer control and prevention, and CHIP's mission to create new scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks in the areas of health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention and prevention related to cancer. In an effort to foster greater collaboration across the campuses, the pilot projects required dual PI applications, with one PI from UConn Health and one from UConn Storrs. In the summer of 2014, three pilot grants were awarded to the following dual-PI teams:
    1. Keith Bellizzi (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) and Pam Taxel (MD, Medicine) – “Exercise, Bone and Cardiovascular Health in Breast Cancer Survivors”
    2. Lisa Holle (PharmD, BCOP, Pharmacy Practice) and Joel Levine (MD, Medicine) – “Pharmacist Intervention in Colorectal Cancer Screening Initiative (PICCSI)”
    3. Crystal Park (PhD, Psychology) and Andrea Orsey (MD, MSCE, Pediatrics) – “Improving Quality of Life for Pediatric Cancer Patients and Parents through Yoga”

Two of the UConn Health/UConn Storrs teams are anticipating submitting external grant proposals in the fall of 2015, and the third team plans to submit a proposal by September 2016.

- Hosting CHIP Lecture Series Presentations on Cancer Prevention and Control
  - Terrance Albrecht, PhD from Karmanos Cancer Institute at Wayne State University School of Medicine – Lecture on “Reducing Cancer Health Disparities Using Community Engaged Research” followed by a discussion group on “Tips for Establishing a Community-Engaged Research Program”
  - William Klein, PhD from Behavioral Research Program at NIH's National Cancer Institute – Lecture on “Self-Affirmation: From Theory to Process to Health Impact”
  - Rick Gibbons, PhD from Psychology Department at University of Connecticut – Lecture on “Racism as a Carcinogen: Risk, Resilience, and Genetic Sensitivity”
  - Julia Rowland, PhD from Office of Cancer Survivorship at NIH's National Cancer Institute – “Addressing Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities”
- Providing Updates to CRIG Members about Cancer Prevention and Control
  - The CRIG website (<http://www.chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/crig/>) was launched in the past year, and it provides information about relevant CHIP-sponsored events/activities, external funding opportunities, conferences, journals, external websites, and other resources.
  - The CRIG listserv is used to contact CRIG members and provide them with updates about upcoming events, funding opportunities, and other news relevant to cancer prevention and control.

The Cancer Research Interest Group will continue to serve as a networking resource for cancer control and prevention researchers at UConn and UConn Health, creating multidisciplinary teams, linking those teams to one another, and identifying potential funding mechanisms to support cancer research. In addition, the CRIG intends to build focused collaborations designed to enhance UConn's strength in the areas of tobacco and survivorship research.



## I. Results of 2015 CHIP Business Services Survey

CHIP offers a range of services to its principal investigators (PIs), research staff, graduate students, and other affiliates, including assistance with identifying possible collaborators, finding relevant funding opportunities, networking events, CHIP internal grant competitions, pre-submission grant reviews, statistical consultation, CHIP Lecture Series, assistance with grant preparation, pre- and post-award grant support, IT services, and more. To ensure that the services CHIP provides are meeting the needs of its consumers, each year CHIP asks its PIs, research staff, graduate students, and other affiliates at UConn to evaluate the quality of its services through an anonymous online survey.

The survey was sent to CHIP affiliates who work and/or study at the University of Connecticut. A total of 68 individuals (34 Faculty, three Research Scientists, six Research Assistants/Associates, one Adjunct Lecturer, 19 Graduate Students, and 11 who did not indicate their role) completed the *2015 CHIP Business Services Survey* in March of this year, and the results were very favorable in virtually all categories. Examples of the overall comments made by the respondents are the following:

- “CHIP has done a marvelous job thus far. The meetings for collaboration are very helpful.”
- “CHIP is doing a great job!”
- “CHIP is terrific in my opinion.”

### **CHIP Research Interest Groups**

Over the past year, CHIP sponsored three multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs): Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG), eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG), and Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG). These RIGs have provided a forum for researchers from across disciplines, campuses, and the community to work collaboratively and seek funding opportunities for the purposes of conducting innovative research on specific health topics. The RIG members come from many departments across UConn as well as from community-based organizations in Connecticut. (See [Section H on pages 23-28](#) for more information about CHIP’s Research Interest Groups.)

The *2015 CHIP Business Services Survey* asked about each of the three RIGs. Of the survey respondents, 22 indicated that they are members of the ORIG, 18 reported being members of the EMRIG, and 10 belong to the CRIG.

When asked how being a member of the RIG helped them identify potential research collaborators, these are some of the responses they provided:

- ORIG Member: “Obesity workshop was helpful in identifying potential collaborators and securing a seed grant through CICATS.”
- ORIG Member: “It has helped me identify new collaborators and research ideas.”
- ORIG Member: “It has helped me find other researchers who are interested in obesity at UCONN.”
- ORIG Member: It introduced me to other researchers who are working on the issue and potential further collaborators.”
- EMRIG Member: “Great speakers - stimulated research ideas. Fostered collaborations.”
- EMRIG Member: “Resources available and information about trainings are helpful.”
- EMRIG Member: “It has been wonderful to network with others at UConn doing mHealth. Very stimulating to hear what they are doing. I learned about additional CHIP and CICATS resources.”
- EMRIG Member: “It has helped me to find collaborators throughout the University who are interested in the same topics as me. Because I research technology use, I can serve as a collaborator for someone interested in technology for health use.”
- CRIG Member: “It has helped me identify collaborators. Having NCI [National Cancer Institute] people present was very useful. The cancer talks were excellent.”

- CRIG Member: “I have just become a member, so I am just learning about the opportunities. However, it has helped me to identify others working in related areas, who may become potential collaborators.”
- CRIG Member: “I identified a collaborator, and we were awarded a seed grant.”

When asked for suggestions about how to make the RIGs more useful to them as researchers, they provided some interesting ideas, such as:

- ORIG Member: “Do a yearly strategic planning meeting. Continue ‘Low Hanging Fruit’ breakfasts. Create grant discussion sessions to kick around grant ideas.”
- ORIG Member: “Perhaps semi-annual events or conferences to have a variety of speakers come on one day.”
- ORIG Member: “More information on the CHIP website about it.”
- ORIG Member: “Obesity-related training opportunities.”
- EMRIG Member: “Strategic planning retreat/meeting yearly. More speakers. List of members to know who we could collaborate with for technical side of things (to develop technology interventions).”
- EMRIG Member: “Quarterly conference calls.”
- CRIG Member: “Have meetings of the group or a strategic planning retreat/meeting. A grant meeting was planned, but date was chosen in advance and many people couldn't make it. Do a Doodle Poll to find out when people can meet. Bring in more cancer speakers.”

### ***CHIP Internal Grants for PIs and Affiliates***

Over the past several years, CHIP has offered a variety of internal grant opportunities to UConn-affiliated faculty and graduate students (i.e., seed grants in HIV, cancer prevention and control, child health behavior, mental health, eHealth/mHealth, and obesity; seed grants for new health behavior investigators, seed grants for experienced PIs in health behavior, pilot project grants for graduate students, summer stipends for junior faculty for grant development, and grants for conference development) as a way to foster research in health behavior and, ultimately, successful external grant applications. Each internal grant application is rigorously evaluated by a panel of CHIP reviewers using procedures similar to a National Institutes of Health (NIH) review panel, and applicants are provided with detailed written feedback from the reviewers.

The *2015 CHIP Business Services Survey* asked respondents to indicate whether they had ever applied for a CHIP internal grant and, if so, how it impacted their research. Of the 68 respondents, 29 reported that they had previously applied for at least one CHIP internal grant, and 15 of those 29 had been awarded at least one internal grant. When those who had been awarded CHIP grants were asked the impact of the internal grants on their research, the answers were quite varied but consistently positive:

- 80% indicated that “it provided them with pilot data that allowed them to apply for an external grant.”
- 73% indicated that “it resulted in one or more publications.”
- 53% reported that “it allowed them to explore a new area of research.”
- 40% said that “the feedback they received on the seed grant proposal helped them write a better grant proposal.”
- 20% reported that “it led to external grant funding.”
- 7% said that “it helped to fund a conference that resulted in the development of important research collaborations.”

Feedback from the 14 respondents who applied but did not get funded for a CHIP internal grant was also very positive as exemplified by the following comments:

- “It helped me form new collaborations and new ideas for future funding submissions.”
- “It helped me discuss my research ideas with a CHIP-affiliated professor who would not be involved in my research otherwise.”

- “It helped establish a cross-disciplinary research relationship that led to an internal Neag Dean's Research Incentive grant.”
- “Developed new collaboration. Created the major parts of a NIH funding application.”

(See [Section K on pages 37-45](#) and [Appendices 5, 6, and 7](#) beginning on pages, 95, 103, and 107, respectively, for more information about CHIP's internal seed grant competitions.)

### **CHIP Research Support Services: Pre-Submission Grant Reviews and Statistical Support**

CHIP services to researchers include pre-submission reviews of external grant proposals by expert researchers as well as statistical support with research design, power analysis, and data analyses. Of the individuals who completed the survey, six indicated that they had received a pre-submission review of their grant proposal during this past year, and three of them rated it as “very useful” and three as “somewhat useful.”

Professor Haim Barr and an advanced graduate student from the UConn Department of Statistics have an office at CHIP, and they are available during the academic year to provide statistical advice and assistance for CHIP-related research and external grant proposals (NOTE: Dr. Barr replaced Dr. Elizabeth Schifano at the beginning of second semester). Eight of 65 respondents indicated that they had received statistical support from Dr. Barr, Dr. Schifano, and/or the Statistics graduate student during the past year. When asked to rate the helpfulness of the statistical support, six respondents said the services were “very useful,” and two respondents reported that the statistical support “was somewhat useful.”

(See [Appendix 10 on pages 131-135](#) for information about these and other CHIP services.)

### **CHIP Lecture Series**

The CHIP Lecture Series brings world-renowned researchers to UConn to make presentations on a range of topics related to health behavior, and it also provides opportunities for researchers and graduate students to meet individually with the presenters to discuss research ideas and possible collaborations. Thirty-eight of the 68 respondents indicated that they had attended at least one CHIP Lecture Series presentation in the past year, and 30 reported that they had watched one or more presentations online (web streamed or archived) on the CHIP website, for a total of 49 unique respondents who attended or watched at least one presentation. Twenty-three (47%) of those respondents indicated that the presentations were “very useful” to their research, 23 (47%) responded that the presentations were “somewhat useful” to their research, and three (6%) indicated that the presentations were “not at all useful.” The comments about the Lecture Series were generally very positive and included the following:

- “I think they are excellent.”
- “It’s an outstanding series, well supported, and increasingly diverse. Whereas 5 years ago, most of the talks were HIV, now many more fields are represented.”
- “I think the CHIP Lecture Series is a great resource. The day and time works well, and the lunch is much appreciated.”
- “I really like that they are online. It made it easier because I couldn’t attend due to my teaching schedule.”
- “Although the researchers were not in my area of expertise, they seemed like great role models, and the lectures were a great way to learn about other up and coming areas of research.”
- “Sherry Pagoto’s talk was very helpful. I was able to meet with her and discuss social media research.”

Suggestions for change included offering presentations on a variety of days instead of just Thursdays, and having some of the presentations at UConn Health.

(See [Appendix 2](#) for a list of CHIP Lecture Series presentations.)

### **CHIP's Pre-Award and Post-Award Grant Services**

Services that are critical to obtaining grants and managing them once awarded are pre-award and post-award grant services. A total of 20 (29%) out of 68 survey respondents indicated that they had utilized CHIP **pre-award** services one or more times during the past year. Of the 20 respondents who used these services, 18 (90%) respondents

indicated that the services were “very useful,” one (5%) responded that the services were “somewhat useful,” and one of the respondents (5%) reported that the services were “not at all useful.”

Fifteen (22%) out of 68 respondents indicated that they had used **post-award** grant services in the past year. Of the 15 respondents who used these services and rated their usefulness, every one of them (100%) reported that the services were “very useful.” The comments provided by respondents about pre- and post-award grant services were predominantly very positive, as can be seen from the following examples:

- PRE-AWARD: “AnnMarie was fantastic, and I’m grateful for her help on creating budgets for my proposals. She was reliable, responsive, and very thorough. Just wonderful!”
- PRE-AWARD: “The entire staff seems quite efficient and friendly.”
- PRE-AWARD: “All are extremely helpful, and the assistants are always on top of every detail to make the process very smooth to us.”
- PRE-AWARD: “Very satisfied with pre-award services.”
- POST-AWARD: “Keep up the great work.”
- POST-AWARD: “Ann and Melissa are always awesome!”
- POST-AWARD: “I couldn’t do it without these folks.”

### ***Other CHIP Administrative Services***

Other CHIP administrative services include assistance with hiring staff, payroll, human resources/labor relations, travel, and purchasing. All of these services are critical to PIs being able to conduct their research projects as cost- and time-efficiently as possible. Sixteen (24%) of 68 respondents indicated that they had sought assistance from the CHIP administrative team one or more times in the past year for the hiring of students and/or research staff, processing payroll, and/or human resources issues. Fifteen (94%) of these 16 respondents rated these services as “very useful,” and one (6%) rated them as “somewhat useful.” Examples of comments made about these services are the following:

- “Susan is very helpful – ‘can do’ attitude.”
- “Very great service.”
- “Great support.”

Eleven respondents (16%) reported utilizing CHIP’s travel services on at least one occasion in the past year. Of these 11 respondents, seven (64%) rated the travel services as “very useful,” four (36%) rated them as “somewhat useful,” and no one indicated that they were “not at all useful.” There were only a few comments made about travel services, and they were predominantly positive, as exemplified by one faculty PI who commented that CHIP provides “Excellent service!”

A total of 16 respondents indicated receiving assistance with purchasing on at least one occasion in the past year. Fifteen (94%) of these respondents rated CHIP’s purchasing services as “very useful,” one (6%) as “somewhat useful,” and no one rated them as “not at all useful.” Examples of the types of comments made on the survey about purchasing services are the following:

- “Very supportive, made the job easier.”
- “Very prompt.”
- “Keep up the great work.”

### ***CHIP IT Services***

CHIP IT provides a variety of services, including assistance with IT purchases, project management, hardware and software issues, network issues, file server management, and data/file backup. As CHIP research and grants have become progressively more technologically sophisticated, the availability of quality IT support articulated to the health behavior research needs of CHIP PIs has become an absolute necessity.

Of 68 survey respondents, 17 (25%) indicated they were assisted with IT issues one or more times in the past year. Of these respondents, 10 (59%) indicated that the IT services they received were “very useful,” six (35%) reported that the services were “somewhat useful,” and one person indicated that they were “not at all useful.” Some examples of the comments provided on the survey are the following:

- “Chris and Josh have both been very helpful, responsive, and professional in providing IT assistance.”
- “IT is consistently top notch at CHIP. It blows away the support found in the academic departments.”
- “So far the advice has been valuable.”

*(For a description of CHIP’s progress on their FY15 technology objectives, [see page 20](#). For CHIP’s FY16 technology objectives, [see page 21](#). For a complete list of CHIP services and who is eligible for them, see [Appendix 10 on pages 131-135](#).)*

### **CHIP Website**

Questions were included in the survey to assess how frequently people visited the CHIP website in the past year, the areas of the website they most frequently visited and found to be most useful, and how navigable they regarded the website. Fifty-three (88%) of 60 respondents indicated visiting the website at least “a couple of times during the past year,” with 31 (52%) respondents visiting the website between two and six times, and 22 (37%) respondents going to the website at least once per month. Those who visited the website during the past year reported visiting many different sections of the website, but the sections visited by the largest numbers of respondents were the following: CHIP Lecture Series (65%), CHIP Directory (62%), CHIP Event Calendar (59%), CHIP Seed Grants and Awards (37%), External Funding Opportunities (35%), CHIP Research Areas (25%), and CHIP Research Resources (25%). The five sections of the website that respondents regarded as the most useful were the CHIP Lecture Series (48%), CHIP Directory (39%), CHIP Event Calendar (28%), CHIP Seed Grants and Awards (28%), and CHIP Research Resources (20%).

When asked to rate how “easy or difficult” it was to navigate the CHIP website and find what they needed, 18 (35%) of 52 respondents said that it was “very easy” to navigate the website, 28 (54%) reported that it was “somewhat easy,” 5 (10%) rated it as “neither easy nor difficult,” and one (2%) individual indicated that it was “somewhat difficult” to navigate.

### **Newly Developed Research Collaborations**

One of CHIP’s main roles is to foster new multidisciplinary research collaborations at UConn in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change. CHIP engages in multiple activities to encourage and support the development of collaborations, such as seed grants, Research Interest Groups, CHIP Lecture Series, and networking meetings, among others. On the survey, CHIP affiliates were asked to indicate whether any new research collaborations developed over the past year as a function of CHIP activities. A total of 15 respondents answered the question. Examples of their responses are provided below:

- “Collaboration with CCMC researchers after the networking event; we put a seed grant in together. Collaboration with several obesity researchers after the retreat. Met new people for possible future collaborations. Met students that are now involved in my work.”
- “I had a new extramural submission this year that resulted from 2013-14 CHIP events, though it was not funded, unfortunately. We’re deciding what to do with it.”
- “Collaboration has developed as a result of CRIG [Cancer Research Interest Group].”
- “Due to CHIP’s multi-institutional seed grant, I was able to foster collaborations outside UConn and bring together an interdisciplinary group of clinicians, several widely defined HIV researchers, and a geographer.”
- “Collaboration between UConn Storrs and UConn Health researchers was established during the 2013-14 Cancer Research Interest Group. This led to a successful Neag Dean's Research Incentive Grant application.”
- “Two collaborations still in the developmental phase.”
- “Connections regarding possible obesity research.”



- “I have had the opportunity to discuss ideas for an intervention project with senior researchers at CHIP. This has been helpful to me.”
- “I am a graduate student working on a research project from the CHIP-CCMC seed grant that was awarded in 2014. The new research collaborations are with Dr. Crystal Park, PhD – clinical psychologist, and Dr. Andrea Orsey, MD (CT Children’s) – Hematologist/Oncologist. No publications on this project yet but very soon.”

## J. CHIP Health Domains

CHIP principal investigators (PIs) conduct research related to health behavior, health risk behavior, and health behavior change across a range of academic disciplines and health domains. Since the formation of CHIP in FY02, CHIP PIs have successfully secured research grants totaling **\$116.8 million** (in total costs) to study the dynamics of health behavior and health risk behavior within specific populations and to develop interventions to reduce risk behaviors and support healthy behaviors.

At present, CHIP has **\$54.5 million** in active grants across all years in the following health domains: alcohol and substance use, autism, cancer, complementary and alternative approaches to medicine, diabetes, dissemination and implementation science, exercise science, global health, health disparities, HIV/AIDS, obesity, sexual risk behavior/reproductive health, and treatment adherence and retention in care.

*(A list of the active CHIP grants for FY15 is provided in [Appendix 9 on pages 121-130](#)).*

A brief description of each health domain follows.

### ***Alcohol and Substance Use***

Alcohol and substance use research conducted by CHIP researchers includes risk reduction interventions for injection drug users, interventions addressing alcohol-related HIV risk behaviors and alcohol-related obstacles to antiretroviral medication adherence in various target populations, and identifying psychosocial factors related to the physical and mental health – including substance use outcomes – of African American families. Other lines of CHIP alcohol and substance use research have involved interventions to reduce excess drinking in college students, interventions using exercise to reduce hazardous drinking behavior and drug use, a study exploring gender differences in addictive behaviors among returning veterans, a laboratory-based study examining the effects of discrimination and social exclusion on the willingness of young Black and White adults to engage in risky sex and drug use, and a study using meta-analysis to assess alcohol consumption and HIV risk behavior.

Much of CHIP’s past and present research in this domain has been internationally based, including research performed in Albania, China, Malaysia, Mozambique, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, Ukraine, and Vietnam.

### ***Autism***

CHIP’s autism research addresses several critical topics in the field, from early detection to novel interventions to parental training. Examples include a study of the impact of robots on the gross motor, fine motor, and social communication skills of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs); the development and evaluation of novel tools for identification of motor, social, and cognitive deficits associated with ASDs within the first six months of life; the creation and evaluation of theory-based training videos for parents of children with ASDs to help them support and supplement their children’s therapy at home; and a novel music- and movement-based intervention to improve the motor, social, and communication skills of children with autism, with the goal of providing an evidence base for such interventions.

### ***Cancer***

CHIP’s cancer research has grown to include a broad spectrum of topics in cancer prevention and control. Previously, CHIP had focused predominantly on quality-of-life issues for cancer survivors and on interventions to address survivors’ heightened risk for cancer reoccurrence, second primary cancers, and many other diseases. An example of such work is a nutrition and physical activity intervention currently being developed for breast cancer survivors targeting the “teachable moment” following diagnosis and treatment. More recently, cancer research has broadened into other areas: a study evaluating the effectiveness of graphic cigarette warning labels on cigarette packages that are intended to discourage tobacco use; a study that uses both experimental and survey methods to

examine the effects of media portrayals of smoking on adolescents' smoking behavior; a study on the effect of e-cigarettes on nicotine addiction; an examination of cancer susceptibility profiles in young African American adults and the development of a theoretical model of psychological and physiological stress response pathways to markers of cancer; a study that focuses on predicting and preventing youth alcohol and substance use, assessing smoking risk behavior, and the effectiveness of smoking cessation interventions; and an examination on the psychological and behavioral predictors of HPV vaccination in African American women and in Native American communities in the southern New England region.

### ***Complementary and Alternative Approaches to Medicine***

CHIP's work on complementary and alternative approaches to medicine includes the development of a translational tool that will allow researchers to explicitly describe and compare their yoga interventions as well as to implement appropriate control groups in clinical trials. Although evidence suggests that yoga benefits both physical and mental health, researchers have yet to compare various styles of yoga and assess specific components — such as breathing, poses, or a teacher's approach — to identify what works most effectively. CHIP researchers are also conducting a preliminary clinical trial to examine the dose-dependent effects of yoga on stress reduction and improved diet and exercise.

### ***Diabetes***

Examples of diabetes research conducted by CHIP researchers includes the translation of a proven, intensive lifestyle intervention for overweight adults with Type 2 Diabetes into a virtual clinician intervention tool to make it more practical for time-pressured healthcare providers to integrate the intervention into routine patient care. Another line of CHIP diabetes research has involved the development, implementation, and evaluation of a theory-driven diabetes self-care intervention. Currently, CHIP researchers are working with urban community pharmacies in Connecticut to train and certify pharmacists to provide comprehensive medication therapy management to targeted underserved patient populations with diabetes and hypertension.

### ***Dissemination and Implementation Science***

Dissemination and Implementation research recognizes the increasing and unacceptable gap between research and practice, and is designed to advance the dissemination and implementation (D&I) of evidence-based health promotion interventions and disease prevention innovations. In addition to sponsoring lectures by internationally known speakers on the topic of D&I, CHIP hosts a website with a variety of D&I resources (see <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/research/dissemination-and-implementation-resources/>). These resources include fact sheets about UConn-developed dissemination-ready health innovations; measurement instruments; archived lecture materials; and the "D&I Measurement Compendium," a white paper written by CHIP researchers that provides investigators with a synthesis of validated measurement tools designed to assess D&I-related constructs. CHIP also provides services to support grants and research studies that have dissemination and implementation components, including consultations with researchers who can provide information about relevant D&I frameworks and feedback during the writing process.

A currently funded study in D&I intends to provide a more complete picture of the true reach of lifestyle based weight loss programs, investigating the "ripple effect" impact of Weight Watchers on the weights and energy balance behaviors of untreated spouses and children using social relations modeling. Another project evaluates an innovative, cost-effective approach to disseminating weight loss interventions.

Dissemination and Implementation researchers at CHIP not only have the opportunity to collaborate with faculty at UConn Health and with the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CICATS), they also have the opportunity to network and collaborate with faculty and staff working at the Ethel Donaghue Center for Translating Research into Practice and Policy, the Center for Public Health and Health Policy, the Department of Community Medicine & Health Care, the Community Health Center Association of Connecticut, the Institute for Community Research, and the Hispanic Health Council.

### ***Exercise Science***

CHIP investigators from UConn's top-ranked Kinesiology Department have grants focusing on a range of exercise science topics, including a grant-funded study that is examining the effects of statins, a class of cholesterol-lowering drugs, on muscle function; and a study evaluating exercise as a contingency management intervention for cocaine users. CHIP researchers are also studying how to adapt components of existing evidence-based interventions to create a new innovative intervention in both English and Spanish that improves food and physical activity environments of family child care homes; the effect of beetroot supplementation on skeletal muscle efficiency during resistance exercise; the adaptability of the modern soldier to a multitude of different demands and environments, and the implications for physical performance and resilience; the effectiveness of exercise-based injury prevention programs for middle-school children; and how apparel plays a role in sports performance and travel stress.

### **Global Health**

Researchers at CHIP design, implement, evaluate, and disseminate theory-based, but highly practical, health behavior change interventions for at-risk populations around the world. Nearly 16 percent (\$8.8 million) of active CHIP grant funds budgeted in FY15 involved health behavior change interventions designed or adapted for populations in other countries, with sustainability in mind and with the potential to save countless lives. Over the past year, CHIP PIs conducted research in, or submitted grants to do so, in Albania, China, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Mozambique, Pakistan, and Thailand. In prior years, they also engaged in research in India, Russia, South Africa, Uganda, Ukraine, and Vietnam. CHIP's research portfolio in Africa is especially large, comprising approximately \$24.7 million in active grants across all years since FY02.

Much of CHIP's international work is in the core problem area of HIV/AIDS, a research arena in which CHIP continues to be a worldwide leader. CHIP's international HIV/AIDS work includes the development and evaluation of interventions that support the healthy behavior of people living with HIV (PLWH). This involves interventions that address PLWH's barriers to safer sexual behavior, such as alcohol use, drug use, and gender-based violence, as well as interventions that promote optimal adherence to life-saving antiretroviral medications. A CHIP research team also recently studied how geospatial factors, such as environment, culture, and politics, can affect the efficacy of HIV prevention interventions, with the ultimate goal of assembling a geospatial landscape of HIV prevention interventions around the world and publishing an interactive map on the Internet, so that it can become an international resource for researchers, public health workers, and policy makers.

Select examples of CHIP international research in other health areas include a recent line of autism research in Albania focused on screening, diagnosis, and parent training for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs), and a completed health communication study evaluating the effectiveness of communication campaigns focused on reproductive health and family planning in developing countries.

### **Health Disparities**

Examples of health disparities research conducted by CHIP researchers includes a study comparing underrepresented minority and non-underrepresented minority students' success in biomedical research careers as they proceed through their first three years at university; research addressing childhood obesity in African American and Latino preschoolers in Hartford; a project studying disparities in HPV vaccine completion; and a longitudinal study of psychosocial factors related to the physical and mental health of African American families which includes examining the impact of stressors, such as racial discrimination, environmental risk, and low socioeconomic status (SES), as well as buffers, such as racial socialization and racial identity, on outcomes including substance use, obesity, and disease, as well as safer sex, nutrition, and exercise habits.

### **HIV/AIDS**

CHIP's roots are in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment research, although its mission and its work have become much broader over the years. Much CHIP research to date has been conducted in the area of HIV risk behavior, including understanding the dynamics of risky behavior; creating HIV prevention interventions for at-risk HIV uninfected and HIV-positive populations; designing and evaluating multi-level interventions to reduce risky sexual behavior, improve antiretroviral medication adherence, and decrease the prevalence of gender-based violence among the military in Ethiopia and Mozambique; performing meta-analyses of existing HIV interventions to

determine which ones are most effective; enhancing STI/HIV partner notification in South Africa; developing a mobile phone app to help prevent HIV/STIs; and designing and field testing a theory-based intervention to address food insecurity and improve antiretroviral therapy (ART) adherence among men and women living with HIV.

Of particular note, three CHIP interventions are included in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) *Compendium of Evidence-Based HIV Behavioral Interventions*, which lists the premier interventions developed, implemented, and evaluated in the U.S. to date. In addition to the three interventions listed in CDC's Compendium, the Peer-Driven Intervention (PDI), which was developed by a CHIP PI to reduce HIV transmission among injection drug users (IDUs) by using active IDUs to educate their IDU-peers in HIV prevention and to recruit their peers to attend enhanced HIV prevention services, was demonstrated to be effective and has been disseminated globally, including in China, Ukraine, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam, and the U.S.

### **Obesity**

CHIP obesity research seeks to understand and change the individual, social, and environmental factors contributing to our nation's obesity epidemic. Examples of ongoing CHIP obesity research projects include: a study involving working with parents and pediatricians in Hartford to address childhood obesity in children as young as two years of age; a study examining the cultural contexts of health disparities among adolescent girls, with a specific focus on weight/obesity and reproductive health in Latina and African American girls known to be at greatest risk with regard to these two health outcomes; a project involving spouses or partners in weight loss efforts; an analysis of the impact of food advertisements and public service announcements (PSAs) on child and teen eating habits and weight; a longitudinal study on the effects of stressors, buffers, and the media on outcomes including obesity among African Americans; a CHIP-funded pilot study to develop a virtual health coach app to promote weight loss and maintenance of weight loss; and a CHIP-funded pilot study to develop a mobile phone app to address recurrent binge eating among college students.

### **Sexual Risk Behavior/Reproductive Health**

CHIP research on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and sexual risk behaviors includes the development and evaluation of interventions for pregnancy prevention; use of virtual reality (VR) technology to study participants' rapid, emotion-based reactions to condoms; development and evaluation of an intervention to support the reproductive health of people living with HIV (PLWH) in India; design and evaluation of a peer-led intervention to support healthy sexual behavior among people living with HIV in Mozambique; identification of the barriers and predictors of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine use in at-risk populations; enhancing partner notification around potential HIV/STI exposure in South Africa; the development of a mobile phone app for preventing HIV and other STIs; and examining the effects of discrimination and social exclusion on the willingness of young black and white adults to engage in risky sex and drug use.

### **Treatment Adherence and Retention in Care**

In the realm of treatment adherence and retention in care, CHIP's work includes a novel computer-based program to increase HIV-positive patients' adherence to antiretroviral medications; a theory-based, cell phone-delivered HIV medication adherence counseling intervention; an intervention to promote retention in care and medication adherence during the first year of HIV treatment; the development of a seven-to-ten minute video clip to promote consistent use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among current and potential PrEP users; a health maintenance program that increases the ARV adherence behavior and reduces the risky sexual behavior of soldiers and spouses with HIV who attend military healthcare facilities in Ethiopia; a peer-led intervention designed to support medication adherence and other healthy behaviors among patients with HIV who receive their care at military hospitals in Mozambique; and a CHIP-funded pilot study to develop a mobile phone app to support treatment adherence among patients prescribed anti-depressant medications. CHIP research on medication adherence has targeted a variety of at-risk populations including men who have sex with men (MSM), people living with HIV, individuals with poor literacy skills, and recently released prisoners transitioning back into the community.

## **K. CHIP Seed Grant Competitions**

In FY15, CHIP continued its internal seed grant competition program, which provides pilot and seed grant resources to investigators to stimulate new research in health behavior and health behavior change at UConn of the type and

quality that is likely to lead to external funding. Historically, some of CHIP's largest and most successful external grants were made possible because their funding proposals were strengthened by critical pilot data collected with the support of these annual seed grant competitions. When last calculated in June 2015, every \$1 of pilot seed grant money invested by CHIP has produced approximately \$60 in external grant dollars applied for by CHIP PIs and about \$34 of external funding awarded to them and UConn.

This year's faculty seed grant competitions were reserved for two types of applicants: (1) applicants who had never received more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding, and (2) applicants who had received more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding during their career. The competitions offered awards of \$15,000 each and were open to CHIP Affiliates appointed at the Storrs or regional campuses. Additionally, the Junior Faculty Summer Stipend offered two awards of \$2,500 each for faculty members who had never received more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding; these awards are designed to help support faculty members during the summer to write an external grant proposal. The Graduate Student seed grant competition was open to CHIP Graduate Student Affiliates who study at UConn Storrs or a regional campus and provided awards of \$1,500 each.

CHIP also hosted two new dual-PI seed grants competition in FY15. The CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior required that two PIs – one from the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health and one from UConn Storrs or a regional campus – collaborate on the development of an internal grant application for an award of up to \$50,000. The CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Child Health Behavior offered two awards of up to \$30,000 to dual-PI teams comprised of one PI from CT Children's Medical Center (CCMC) and one from UConn Storrs or a regional campus. Each of the faculty seed grant competitions was co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; the CHIP-Psychiatry competition received additional co-sponsor funding from the Psychiatry Department, and the CHIP-CT Children's competition received co-sponsor funding from CCMC.

A description of each of these seed grant competitions appears below.

- **CHIP Seed Grants for Faculty:** These grants provided funds to support new research initiatives and pilot work that will lead to future external grant applications submitted through CHIP in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change.
- **CHIP Summer Stipends for Junior Faculty:** This funding opportunity offered stipends to UConn junior faculty who are CHIP affiliates, to assist them during the summer with writing successful external grant applications in health behavior and health behavior change. CHIP is committed to supporting the growth of junior researchers so that they may become leaders in their field.
- **CHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Research:** These grants provided funds to support new research initiatives and pilot work by graduate students in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change.
- **CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior:** This competition fostered research collaborations across campuses and disciplines by providing funding for seed grants to be awarded to dual PI teams of researchers from the Storrs/regional campuses and the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health. The goal of this initiative was to fund pilot work at the intersection of mental health and health behavior that will lead to future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through CHIP and UConn Health.
- **CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Child Health Behavior:** This competition fostered research collaborations across disciplines by providing funding for seed grants to be awarded to dual PI teams of researchers from the Storrs/regional campuses and CT Children's Medical Center (CCMC). The goal of this initiative was to fund pilot work at the intersection of children's health and health behavior that would lead to future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through CHIP and CCMC.

The call for proposals for each of these seed grant competitions was advertised widely during the fall and winter through the CHIP listserv, through the appropriate CHIP Research Interest Groups, and on other listservs across the appropriate campuses. Each competition received a strong response. Reviews were conducted during the spring, and funds were awarded before the end of the fiscal year.



### ***Grant Review Process for CHIP Internal Seed Grant Competitions***

An important component of the CHIP seed grant competitions is mentorship. All qualifying proposals – whether they were funded or not – received mentoring reviews from a review committee that adhered to a rigorous NIH-style review process. Each seed grant application was assigned one primary and one secondary reviewer who evaluated the proposal on its overall potential impact as well as on the following criteria: significance, investigators, innovation, approach, environment, and human subjects considerations. For the graduate student seed grant proposals, in addition to the faculty reviewers, one or two qualified graduate students were invited to participate on the review committee as reviewers; this mentoring opportunity allowed them to learn about the grant review process and how to write fundable grants.

For the faculty, summer stipend, and graduate student competitions, a review meeting was held in which the primary and secondary reviewers, in turn, gave their initial scores and reviews, followed by group discussion and final scoring. The review committees were charged with making funding recommendations, taking into account the review discussions as well as the project's likelihood of obtaining future external funding, its responsiveness to the call for proposals, and its relevance to CHIP's mission. CHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher reviewed the committees' recommendations and made final funding decisions, consistent with CHIP's budget. The resulting reviews provided to applicants contained summaries of the proposals' strengths and weaknesses, as well as guidance on how to improve the proposal for when applying for subsequent external grant funding.

### ***Grant Review Process for Dual-PI Seed Grant Competitions***

A review committee of four faculty with extensive research experience from UConn Storrs and the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health were selected to review the CHIP-Psychiatry seed grant proposals. A review committee of six faculty with extensive research experience from UConn and CCMC reviewed the CHIP-CT Children's seed grant proposals. The reviewers rated the proposals on relevance as well as on overall impact, significance, investigators, innovation, approach, environment, and human subjects. Each proposal was reviewed by a primary reviewer and one or two secondary reviewers.

### ***Seed Grant Review Committees***

In FY15, the review committees for each of the seed grant competitions consisted of the following individuals:

<b>Seed Grant Competition</b>	<b>Review Committee Chair(s)</b>	<b>Review Committee Members</b>
CHIP Faculty Seed Grants, Junior Faculty Summer Stipends	CHIP PI Blair Johnson (PhD, Psychology)	UConn Faculty Reviewers: CHIP PI John Christensen (PhD, Communication); CHIP PI Meg Gerrard (PhD, Psychology); CHIP PI Jennifer Harris (PhD, MBA, Rudd Center/Psychology)
CHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Research	CHIP PI Michael Copenhaver (PhD, Allied Health Sciences)  CHIP PI Crystal Park (PhD, Psychology)	UConn Faculty Reviewers: CHIP PI Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP); CHIP PI Debarchana Ghosh (PhD, Geography); CHIP PI Tania Huedo-Medina (PhD, Allied Health Sciences)  Graduate Student Reviewers: CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate J. Luke Pryor (MS, Kinesiology); CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate Roman Shrestha (MPH, Community Medicine and Health Care)
CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior	CHIP Affiliate Victor Hesselbrock (PhD, Psychiatry)	UConn Faculty Reviewers: Margaret Briggs-Gowan (PhD, Psychiatry); CHIP PI Kim Gans (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies); CHIP PI Rick Gibbons (PhD, Psychology)
CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Child Health Behavior	Georgine Burke (PhD, CT Children's)  CHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher (PhD, CHIP/Psychology)	Lisa Honigfeld (PhD, Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut/CCMC); CHIP PI Tricia Leahey (PhD, Allied Health Sciences); Trudy Lerer (MS, CCMC); Adam Matson (MD, UConn Health Pediatrics); CHIP PI Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies)

## ***Results of CHIP Internal and Dual-PI Seed Grant Competitions***

In the spring of 2015, CHIP made two awards of \$15,000 each in the faculty seed grant competition, two awards of \$2,500 each in the faculty summer stipend competition, three awards of \$1,500 each in the graduate student competition, one award of \$50,000 in the CHIP-Psychiatry competition, and two awards of \$30,000 each in the CHIP-CT Children's competition:

### **CHIP Seed Grants for Faculty/Researcher Affiliates (\$15,000)**

- CHIP Affiliate S. Megan Berthold, School of Social Work  
"Promoting Health in Cambodian and Latino/a Trauma Survivors Using mHealth: A Feasibility Study"
- CHIP Affiliate Yuping Zhang, Statistics  
"Leveraging Diverse Biomedical Data to Elucidate Schizophrenia Disease"

### **CHIP Grant Development Summer Stipends for Junior Faculty (\$2,500)**

- CHIP Affiliate Yuping Zhang, Statistics  
"Statistical Methods for Massive Biomedical Data in Health Behavior, Intervention and Prevention"

### **CHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Affiliates (\$1,500)**

- Jennifer Pellowski, Department of Psychology  
"Food Insecurity and Medication Adherence Among People Living with HIV: An Exploration of Mediating and Moderating Factors"  
Advisor: CHIP PI Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychology)
- Yin Wu, Department of Kinesiology  
"Evaluating Tai Chi Studies Aimed at Improving Balance for Older Adults"  
Advisor: CHIP PI Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology)
- Amanda Zaleski, Department of Kinesiology  
"The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion (FIT and FIRED UP)"  
Advisor: CHIP PI Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology)

### **CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grants in Mental Health and Health Behavior (\$50,000)**

- Jayesh Kamath, Department of Psychiatry & CHIP PI Deborah Cornman, CHIP  
"A Mobile Health Approach to Improving Patient Adherence to Depression Treatment"

### **CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grants in Child Health and Health Behavior (\$30,000)**

- CHIP Affiliate Melissa Santos, Department of Endocrinology/Pediatric Obesity & CHIP PI Amy Gorin, Department of Psychology  
"Creating PAW (Pain and Weight) Treatment"
- CHIP Affiliate Jessica Guite, Department of Pediatrics & CHIP Affiliate Beth Russell, Department of Human Development and Family Studies  
"Parents as Coping Coaches"

The abstract for each of these new seed grant projects is provided below.

## ***CHIP Faculty Seed Grants***

### **CHIP Affiliate S. Megan Berthold (PhD, School of Social Work) – "Promoting Health in Cambodian and Latino/a Trauma Survivors Using mHealth: A Feasibility Study"**

Cambodian survivors of the Khmer Rouge genocide have significant trauma histories, complex comorbid health and mental health statuses, and face significant health disparities and barriers to care. Models of care that utilize mHealth technologies are emerging. Cambodians who survived the genocide have little or no formal education, high rates of illiteracy, and low-level numeracy skills and exposure to technology, attributes that may impede their use of

mHealth tools. What is not known is whether interventions that employ mHealth technologies within a cross-cultural interdisciplinary medical home model can be used and are effective at reducing or eliminating key barriers to care, and promoting healthy behaviors and quality of life for these patients. The proposed project is designed to determine the feasibility of employing mHealth tools (spoken Khmer format assessments on mobile tablets and videoconferencing with health providers) in a culturally responsive “whole person” centered behavioral health home and to assess the barriers and challenges to implementation. Participants (n=32) will be recruited from Cambodian genocide survivors served by Khmer Health Advocates in CT. Employing a single group repeated measures design, data will be collected from each participant at three points in time (baseline and at two and seven months). Participants will be trained to complete four daily behavioral health items on a touch-screen tablet and initiate videoconference sessions with a community health worker. The main outcomes are: participant ability to record data and communicate with a health provider using a tablet; participant perceived ease of use, usefulness, and attitude toward use of mobile tablets; and barriers and challenges to implementation. Both qualitative and quantitative data will be collected. Descriptive statistics, chi-square tests, Pearson and point biserial correlations, repeated measures ANOVA, and multiple regressions will be conducted as well as coding and thematic analysis of qualitative data. Our project will lay the groundwork for conducting an adequately powered RCT to test the efficacy of mHealth interventions in a medical home versus standard care for Cambodian genocide survivors with complex health profiles. This study will lead to the development of an external grant (FOA # PA-14-180, mHealth Tools for Individuals with Chronic Conditions to Promote Effective Patient-Provider Communication, Adherence to Treatment and Self-Management (R01)) addressing health behavior change in culturally-specific traumatized communities. The positive impact of a successful RCT is expected to lead to improvements in quality of life and medical outcomes (control of chronic conditions) and reduction in the cost of medical care for underserved complex patients.

**CHIP Affiliate Yuping Zhang (PhD, Statistics) – “Leveraging diverse biomedical data to elucidate schizophrenia disease”**

Schizophrenia is one of the most common and debilitating psychiatric disorders, affecting over 21 million people worldwide. Increasingly, it is recognized that schizophrenia is a collection of syndromes as opposed to a singular disease entity and environment, genetics, neurotransmitter systems and brain circuitry all play a role in its etiology. Recent advances in high-throughput biotechnologies have generated unprecedented types and amounts of data, allowing us to pursue complex research questions never before feasible in the area of schizophrenia research. While genomic, transcriptomic and brain imaging approaches have been used to characterize schizophrenia, these approaches are most often applied in analytic “silos” yielding a series of one-dimensional views of the disorder. It is now possible to integrate these diverse approaches to obtain a more unified and global view of schizophrenia, one that elucidates its mechanisms, identifies its potential subtypes, advances diagnostic and treatment approaches and improves public health on an international scale. We will develop new and powerful statistical approaches to integrate a diverse array of biological data, allowing us to investigate whether different subtypes of schizophrenia can be reliably categorized, to identify the brain networks associated with each subtype, to determine whether associations between genes and network alterations can be identified and to evaluate how treatment may influence these networks. Using large datasets derived from medicated and un-medicated schizophrenic patients, we will develop and apply novel statistical learning algorithms to identify specific disease subtypes and we will evaluate the accuracy of these predictive models. Better identification of the subtypes of schizophrenia will enable the development of improved treatments targeting these different patient groups, to the tremendous benefit of public health in the US and worldwide.

***CHIP Summer Stipend Grant Development for Junior Faculty***

**CHIP Affiliate Yuping Zhang (PhD, Statistics) – “Statistical methods for massive biomedical data in health behavior, intervention and prevention”**

Increasing large, complex, multidimensional, and diverse datasets are being generated and used, which means? biomedical research is rapidly becoming data-intensive. Biological data generated by modern biotechnologies, such as next-generation sequencing, have huge sizes (in TBs), complex structures, and are contaminated by noise. Thus, it is very challenging to interpret these data and obtain useful and accurate biological findings. The lack of solid statistical methods that can efficiently address the challenges in biomedical research prevents us to obtain reasonable data-driven hypothesis and conclusions. In this proposal, we will produce conceptual foundations for

understanding the biological basis of mental processes through development of new theoretical and data analysis tools. Specifically, we will focus on schizophrenia. Schizophrenia is a common, debilitating psychiatric disorder, with a 1% population prevalence, affecting over 21 million people worldwide. Increasingly, it is recognized that schizophrenia is a collection of syndromes as opposed to a singular disease entity with environment, genetics, neurotransmitter systems and brain circuitry all playing a role in its etiology. Recent advances in high-throughput biotechnologies have generated unprecedented types and amounts of data, allowing us to pursue complex research questions never before feasible in the area of schizophrenia research. While genomic and brain imaging approaches have been used to characterize schizophrenia, these approaches are most often applied in analytic “silos” yielding a series of detailed but one-dimensional views of the disorder. It is now possible to integrate these diverse approaches to obtain a more unified and global view of schizophrenia, one that potentially elucidates its mechanisms, identifies its potential subtypes, advances diagnostic and treatment approaches and may ultimately improve public health on an international scale. We will develop new powerful statistical approaches to integrate a diverse array of biological data, allowing us to investigate whether different subtypes of schizophrenia can be reliably categorized, to identify the brain networks associated with each subtype, to determine whether associations between genes and network alterations can be identified and to evaluate how treatment may influence these networks. Using large datasets derived from diverse schizophrenia patients, we will develop and apply novel statistical learning algorithms to identify specific disease subtypes and we will evaluate the accuracy of these predictive models. Better identification of the subtypes of schizophrenia will enable the development of improved treatments targeting these different patient groups, to the tremendous benefit of public health in the US and worldwide.

### ***CHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Affiliates***

#### **Jennifer Pellowski (MA, Psychology) – “Food Insecurity and Medication Adherence Among People Living with HIV: An Exploration of Mediating and Moderating Factors”**

The goal of the proposed study is to conduct an observational study to investigate the daily relationship between food insecurity and medication adherence for people living with HIV and the factors that may exacerbate or minimize this relationship. One-hundred and twenty-five men and women living with HIV in Atlanta will be followed for 45 days. Participants will complete daily text message surveys assessing daily occurrences of food insecurity and alcohol use. In addition, participants will use the Wisepill electronic pillbox to assess their daily medication adherence. When a participant opens the Wisepill device to take their medication, a date and time stamp is created and then sent to a central server via general packet radio service (GPRS), which can be accessed in real time. The observational data will be analyzed using multilevel structural equation modeling to test potential mediators/moderators of the daily relationship between food insecurity and medication adherence. This study will test three subsets of mediators/moderators of the daily relationship including alcohol use, availability of resources and geospatial distance from resources.

#### **Yin Wu (MA, Kinesiology) – “Evaluating the Exercise Prescription and Instructional Methods of Tai Chi Studies Aimed at Improving Balance among Older Adults: A Systematic Review”**

Approximately 30% of healthy older adults experience a fall annually largely due to age-related decrements in balance. Tai Chi is one of the most popular types of exercise that is recommended by the American College of Sports Medicine, American Geriatric Society, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to improve balance for fall prevention among older adults. Yet, practitioners and researchers are generally not aware of the fact that from its time of conception to now, the practice of Tai Chi did not target any specific health outcomes including balance. Therefore, it is possible that many of the Tai Chi interventions purported to be designed specifically to target balance improvement among older adults may not incorporate the necessary levels of challenge to achieve their primary intended health outcome of improved balance. Thus, Tai Chi interventions that seek to improve balance may not meet the best-practice exercise recommendations for doing so, and may not truly reflect the efficacy of Tai Chi as a balance intervention for fall prevention. Therefore, we propose our Primary Aim: to systematically review and evaluate Tai Chi randomized controlled trials (RCTs) aimed at improving balance among healthy, older adults. We hypothesize that Tai Chi RCTs aimed at improving balance among healthy, older adults do not meet the current best-practice exercise recommendations for balance improvement. Electronic databases that will be searched include PubMed, Scopus, and CINAHL. There are no standards or guidelines for the design and implementation of Tai Chi interventions, nor are there specific tools to evaluate the quality of Tai Chi studies. Therefore, we will develop an

instrument to evaluate the exercise prescription (Ex Rx) and instructional methods of the included RCTs that meet our inclusion criteria. This study will be the first to comprehensively review the Ex Rx and instructional methods of Tai Chi studies aimed at balance improvement, and evaluate whether existing studies meet the best-practice exercise recommendations for balance improvement. If our hypothesis proves correct, we can use our findings to identify future steps for how to tailor Tai Chi practice to maximize its effectiveness as an intervention for balance improvement.

**Amanda Zaleski (MS, Kinesiology) – “The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health Under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion (FIT and FIRED UP)”**

The leading cause of on-duty firefighter fatality is sudden cardiac death (SCD), accounting for nearly half of all firefighter deaths. Nearly all firefighter SCD fatalities are due to cardiovascular disease (CVD), and for every SCD, 17 non-fatal cardiovascular events occur. As of 2008, CVD related compensation claims for CT firefighters totaled ~\$98 million in accrued liability. For these reasons, the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate has issued an urgent call to action for “active engagement of qualified fitness trainers, professional organizations, and formation of collaborations with fire service groups to effect fitness and risk reduction programs.” SCD is most likely to occur in adults who are not physically fit that suddenly exert themselves vigorously as firefighters do. Cardiorespiratory fitness (i.e., peak exercise capacity [CRF]) is a major CVD risk factor. We propose to examine the influence of CRF on SCD and other CVD biomarkers before and after a maximal physical effort. We hypothesize aerobically fit firefighters will impose less stress on their cardiovascular system as measured by SCD and CVD biomarkers in response to a maximal physical effort than unfit firefighters. We will also examine the influence of CRF on lifestyle habits including physical activity, nutrition, stress, and sleep. Methods: Firefighters (n=50) from Middletown, CT, will perform four visits: 1) Health Education Orientation in Middletown to learn about the study, sign an informed consent, and complete lifestyle questionnaires; 2) Heart Health Testing at Hartford Hospital to obtain: body mass index, waist circumference, measures of vascular health (i.e., carotid intimal medial thickness and arterial stiffness), peak graded exercise stress test (GEST), blood draws pre- and post-GEST for SCD and CVD biomarkers; firefighters will exit the hospital wearing an ambulatory blood pressure (BP) monitor to measure BP and heart rate for 24 hours and an accelerometer to measure physical activity for four days; 3) Health-Fitness Assessment in Middletown to obtain measures of health-fitness and ambulatory BP and heart rate for 24 hours. We will divide the firefighters into two groups based upon their CRF level from the GEST (i.e., fit [n=25] and unfit [n=25]) to examine the influence of CRF on SCD and CVD biomarkers and lifestyle habits at rest and in response to the peak GEST. The findings will be used to design a tailored exercise intervention for firefighters who are at high risk for SCD and CVD and provide preliminary data for extramural grant applications.

***CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant in Mental Health and Health Behavior***

**Jayesh Kamath (MD, PhD, Psychiatry) & CHIP PI Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP) – “A Mobile Health Approach to Improving Patient Adherence to Depression Treatment”**

The primary objective of this mHealth study is to develop an innovative theory-based smartphone application that is cost-effective, user-friendly, and efficacious at helping patients with depression to adhere to their medications and manage their disease, and that can ultimately become part of standard psychiatric care. The app, which will be designed with patient and provider input, will have a variety of features and will be capable of being customized by the patient to address his/her specific medication adherence needs. The app will provide automated daily reminders to patients to take their medications as well as timely reminders to refill their prescriptions and attend their clinic appointments. The app will also gather data about patients’ medication-taking behavior in real time, as well as their mood and stress levels. This data will be collected and provided in summary form on a web dashboard which will be accessible to the both the patients and their providers. This novel approach will allow patients and providers to obtain a clear picture of the patient’s medication-taking behavior, eliminate the need to rely on patients’ recall of their medication adherence over time, facilitate patient-provider communication about treatment, increase patients’ engagement and retention in care, and potentially lead to improved treatment of the patient’s depression that is both data-driven and patient-centered. This app will be evaluated for its usability, feasibility, acceptability, and potential efficacy in a small randomized controlled trial (n=120) conducted in university-based and community health center outpatient clinics. This enhanced app will be compared to a more basic version of the app that has fewer features and minimal interactive capacity to determine if they have differential impact. Our central hypothesis



is that, in comparison to the basic app, the enhanced app that is customizable and permits for bidirectional communication between the patient and the provider will result in greater medication and appointment adherence, a stronger “therapeutic alliance,” and fewer depressive symptoms.

### ***CHIP-CT Children’s Dual-PI Seed Grant in Child Health and Health Behavior***

#### **CHIP Affiliate Melissa Santos (PhD, Endocrinology) & CHIP PI Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychology) – “Creating PAW (Pain and Weight) Treatment”**

Although chronic pain affects 25 to 46% of all children, the prevalence among youth who are obese is upwards of 70%. This makes pain one of the most common comorbidities seen in obesity clinics. Despite this high prevalence, a review of the research shows that chronic pain in youth with obesity is not well studied, nor is it routinely assessed and treated. This is surprising given that pain likely interferes with weight loss in several ways. It is likely that those in pain will limit their physical activity. In addition, pain may alter eating habits such as causing individuals to eat out of boredom or to make themselves feel better. The result is a substantial segment of the US pediatric population that is, and will continue to be, obese, but with limited means to correct their condition. Interventions that target pain as a key comorbidity in obesity are needed and the focus of this project. Currently no such interventions have been studied. Within our obesity center at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center (CCMC), 78% of youth report pain upon initial evaluation, with areas of endorsed pain including headaches, back pain and knee pain. Significantly, it appears that families endorsing pain upon entry are more likely to drop out of treatment than those who did not endorse pain. It is clear that the relationship between pain and obesity needs to be better understood, and that assessment and treatment strategies need to be developed to target this understudied and underserved population. As such, the goals of this pilot project are as follows:

- 1) To identify the relationship between pain and depressed mood, weight regulating behaviors, and treatment outcomes among youth between the ages of 10 and 18 presenting for weight management services.
- 2) To identify the relationship between pain, eating, physical activity, and daily stressors among adolescents ages 14 to 18 via a prospective longitudinal assessment conducted using an existing mobile phone application.
- 3) To conduct focus groups with adolescents and family members who participate in the prospective assessment (Aim 2) to (a) understand the feasibility and usefulness of monitoring pain and obesity-related parameters via mobile technology, (b) understand what features are preferred in mobile technology and (c) understand what technology would help support them in healthy behaviors while dealing with comorbid pain and obesity.

#### **CHIP Affiliate Jessica Guite (PhD, Pediatrics) & CHIP Affiliate Beth Russell (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) – “Parents as Coping Coaches”**

Chronic pediatric pain is recognized as a significant public health problem that can have debilitating medical, emotional, social, and functional consequences for youth and their families. Recent research suggests that intervening to increase parents’ distress tolerance can improve both caregiver and youth functioning. We aim to refine and pilot a group intervention for parents of adolescents with chronic pain designed to decrease parents’ caregiver burden, stress, protective parenting behaviors, and improve distress tolerance. A secondary aim will be to explore whether parent outcomes are associated with adolescent pain burden and catastrophizing, readiness to engage in treatment, or functional outcomes. Project data will be used to refine and assess feasibility of a newly developed intervention, Parents as Coping Coaches, and will provide preliminary data to establish a foundation for a federal grant application in 2015-2016 (i.e., PA-13-119 Mechanisms, Models, Measurement, & Management in Pain Research; R21). Parent participants (n=32) will be primary caregivers of newly referred patients (n=32; between 12-18 years of age), beginning standard of care treatment for chronic pain from CCMC’s outpatient clinic. Participation will include a series of three, one-hour-long group sessions for parents only, including pre- and post-group measurements; adolescents will also be asked to complete pre- and post- surveys. A control group is built into this design via a delayed enrollment process: after giving consent and completing the enrollment/ Time 1 surveys, participants are randomly assigned to either a “direct workshop start” group (workshop sessions to begin immediately along with clinic standard of care) or a “delayed workshop start” group (workshops to begin four weeks later; clinic standard of care to begin immediately per usual). The delayed group will complete a round of surveys at the start of the workshop series to update their baseline data as a group since enrollment, and which will serve as a standard of care-only comparison for the direct groups. Measures include existing standardized evaluation data plus

study-specific measures for project aims (i.e., parenting stress, distress tolerance, protective parenting behavior, and readiness to change/engage in treatment). Four waves of three weekly, parent group intervention sessions (~8 parents/wave) will occur at CCMC and include education on pain, adolescent development, parent stress management and distress tolerance, and problem solving skills. Parents will keep skill-practice diaries; groups will be led by our research team and will include at least one licensed clinician. Participants will receive incentives (gift cards) for completion of study questionnaires and for participation in each intervention session.

## L. New CHIP Initiatives

- **FY15 represented a significant increase in external grant applications for CHIP over FY14** and all previous years. In FY15, CHIP PIs applied for **89 new external grants requesting funding of \$57.1 million in total costs**, \$39.5 million in direct costs, and \$17.6 million in indirect costs. In contrast, CHIP PIs applied for 55 new grants in FY14, which involved \$48.5 million in total costs, \$32 million in direct costs, and \$16.5 million in indirect costs.
- This past fiscal year (through May 15, 2015), CHIP PIs were awarded **36 new external grants** (this includes grants applied for in FY14 but awarded in FY15), which they used to initiate novel and innovative research projects in a number of critical and diverse domains of health behavior and health behavior change. The **new grant awards amounted to \$17.3 million in total costs**, \$13.4 million in direct costs, and \$3.9 million in indirect costs.
- The addition of the Rudd Center as a center-within-a-center at CHIP has allowed CHIP to increase its impact on obesity-related public policy and significantly strengthened **CHIP's multidisciplinary research capacity in obesity overall**. Bringing Rudd to UConn resulted in the addition of four faculty members in three departments and several research staff, all of whom are making significant and substantial contributions to CHIP and UConn's obesity research efforts. Combined with the hiring of a CHIP-affiliated senior and junior obesity researcher from Brown University, UConn is poised to become a national leader in obesity research.
- As a result of the provost's academic plan funding initiative, CHIP and affiliated researchers formed the **Biosensor Center for Health Intervention and Prevention (Bio-CHIP)**, which will house the development and application of biosensor-based e-health technologies. This is being funded by the Office of the Vice President of Research.
- In keeping with CHIP's interdisciplinary mission, a third center-within-a-center has been established: the **Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evidence Synthesis (HOPES) Group**. HOPES is one of 13 Evidence-Based Practice Centers funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality. The group conducts projects such as providing evidence reviews for Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, working with major medical organizations, and helping craft practice guidelines for a variety of diseases and disorders.
- The university-wide **CHIP Grantsmanship Training and Mentoring Program for Health Behavior Researchers** has been extremely successful since its inception in June of 2014. As a result of this program, 35 junior researchers from a variety of departments and schools attended a two-day workshop where they were trained by nine highly successful CHIP researchers and three NIH representatives in how to write and submit successful grant applications. Of those 35 researchers, seven were selected based on their applications to be mentored for a year in grant writing by a senior health behavior researcher. These mentoring partnerships have resulted in five submitted external grant proposals thus far and one CICATS proposal that has already been funded.
- In addition to the research partnerships that developed out of the CHIP mentoring program, **22 research partnerships between junior and senior CHIP affiliates** occurred over the past year. Collectively, they submitted grants requesting \$32 million in total costs. Of these proposals, four have already been awarded, for \$6.3 million in total costs.
- In FY15, CHIP's **multidisciplinary affiliates collaborative network** of health behavior change researchers experienced significant growth, bringing its total membership to over 487 faculty/researcher affiliates representing nearly all schools and colleges within the UConn system and nearly 50 other institutions. The resulting community of multidisciplinary expertise enables CHIP to assemble teams of investigators who are able to respond within short timeframes to large-scale funding opportunities.
- CHIP also saw significant growth and activity this year in its **multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs)** focused on cancer, eHealth/mHealth, and obesity; these RIGs now have 109, 119, and 141 members,

respectively, with researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, other institutions, and the community. Each RIG hosted engaging networking and educational events throughout the year to cultivate new collaborations among members, which will lead to innovative research and increased external funding. (See [Section H on pages 23-28](#) for more information about the RIGs.)

- In order to **explore and expand collaborative opportunities** among CHIP's network of affiliates, the CHIP Director, Associate Director, and Boundary Spanner met with leaders from numerous departments and centers at UConn to explore partnerships, including the Department of Psychiatry, UConn Foundation, Global Training and Development Institute, Digital Media Center, School of Business, School of Engineering, Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW), School of Dental Medicine, Women's Center, Center for Behavioral Education and Research in the Neag School of Education, and Collaboratory on Coordinated School and Child Health (CCSCH). Organizations external to UConn included the Connecticut Institute for Primary Care Innovation (CIPCI), Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR).
- To foster the development of new multidisciplinary research collaborations, CHIP worked with researchers from the UConn Psychiatry Department and Connecticut Children's Medical Center to offer three new dual-PI seed grant opportunities in FY15: one \$50,000 award for a dual-PI pilot project in mental health and health behavior, and two \$30,000 awards for dual-PI pilot projects in child health behavior. Thus far, four dual-PI seed grant opportunities will be offered in FY16: (1) CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior, (2) CHIP-Business Dual-PI Seed Grant for Collaborative Research in Business and Health Behavior, (3) CHIP-Dental Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Dental Health and Health Behavior, and (4) CHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grant for Collaborative Research in Child Health and Health Behavior.
- CHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher agreed to serve as chair of a committee of 11 faculty members from a variety of health-related departments and Centers at UConn who will explore the possibility of creating a new **UConn College of Health and Health Professions**. If there is a decision to go forward with the College, it will bring together several UConn schools, departments, and centers into a cohesive unit that will support research and education in health and wellness.

## M. Submitted CHIP Grant Applications (as of May 15, 2015)

During FY15, CHIP principal investigators submitted **89 external grant applications**, comprising **\$57.1 million in total costs, \$39.5 million in direct costs, and \$17.6 million in indirect costs**. This represents a substantial increase in grant submissions from FY14 when CHIP PIs applied for 55 new grants that requested \$48.5 million in total costs, \$32.0 million in direct costs, and \$16.5 million in indirect costs (for details about these submitted grants, see [Appendix 8 on pages 112-120](#)). Of the grants submitted in FY15, 27 had been funded as of May 15, 2015, for \$6.0 million in total costs.

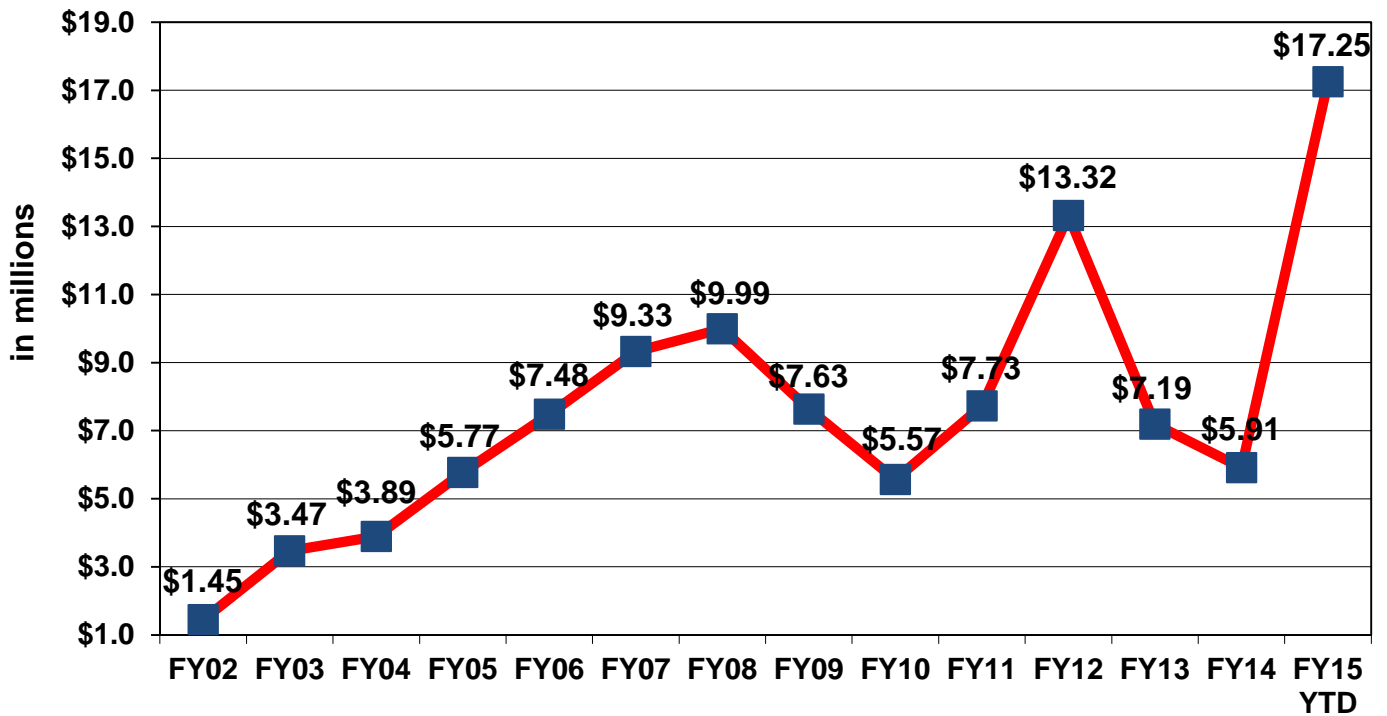
*(Those grants that were submitted in FY15 that have already been funded are listed both in [Appendix 1 on pages 58-61](#) and in [Appendix 9 on pages 121-130](#).)*

## N. Externally-Funded Research Initiatives by CHIP Principal Investigators (as of May 15, 2015)

For FY15, CHIP had \$54.5 million in active grants across all years, including 41.0 million in direct costs and \$13.5 in indirect costs. In FY15 alone, CHIP Principal Investigators were awarded \$17.3 million of new external funding (in total costs) to direct multidisciplinary research activities in the health domains of alcohol and substance use, autism, cancer, complementary and alternative approaches to medicine, diabetes, dissemination and implementation science, exercise science, global health, health disparities, HIV/AIDS, obesity, sexual risk behavior/reproductive health, and treatment adherence and retention in care. This represents a substantial increase in annual external funding since FY02 (see [Figure 1](#)).

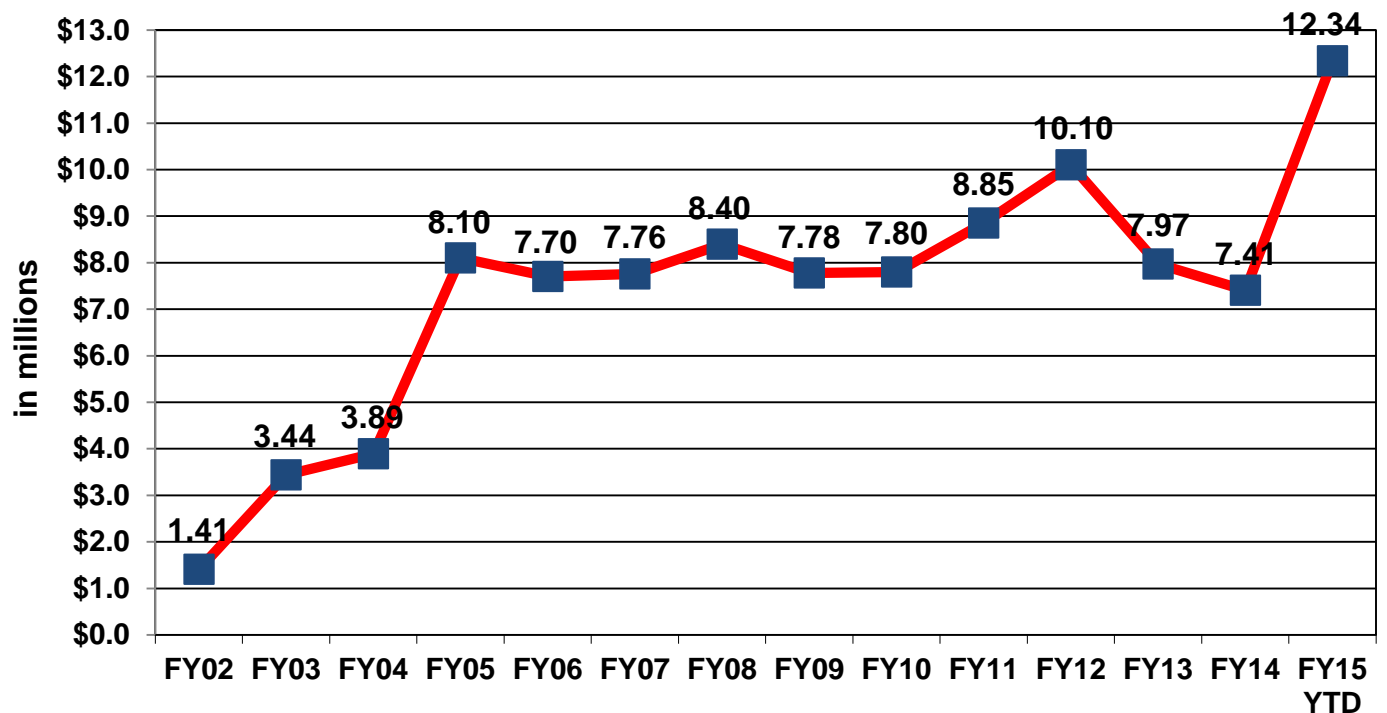
*(A list of these grants, their funding agencies, and the total costs, direct costs, and indirect costs associated with each is contained in [Appendix 9 on pages 121-130](#).)*

**Figure 1: Total Costs of New Grants Awarded to CHIP Each Year**

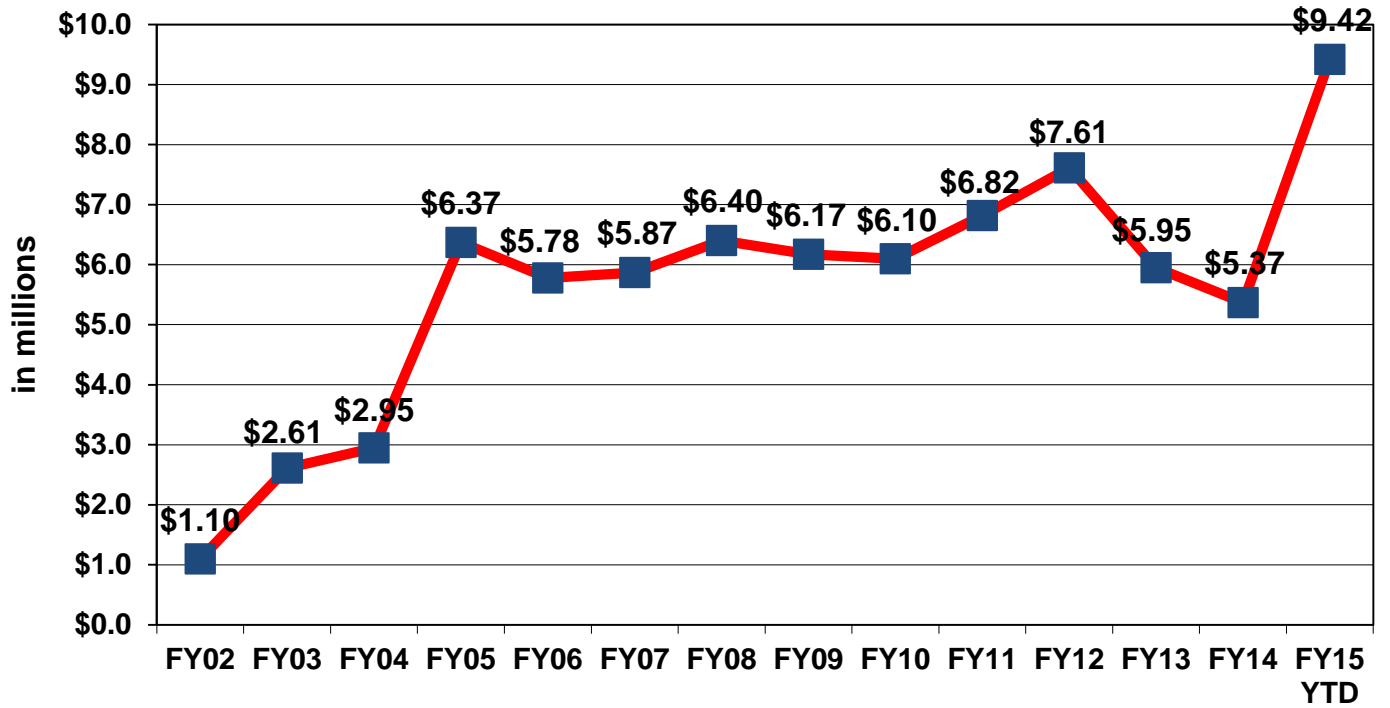


Of the \$54.5 million in active grants across all years, **\$12.3 million in total costs were budgeted for expenditure** in FY15 alone (see Figure 2), including **\$9.4 million in direct costs** (see Figure 3) and **\$2.9 million in indirect costs** (see Figure 4).

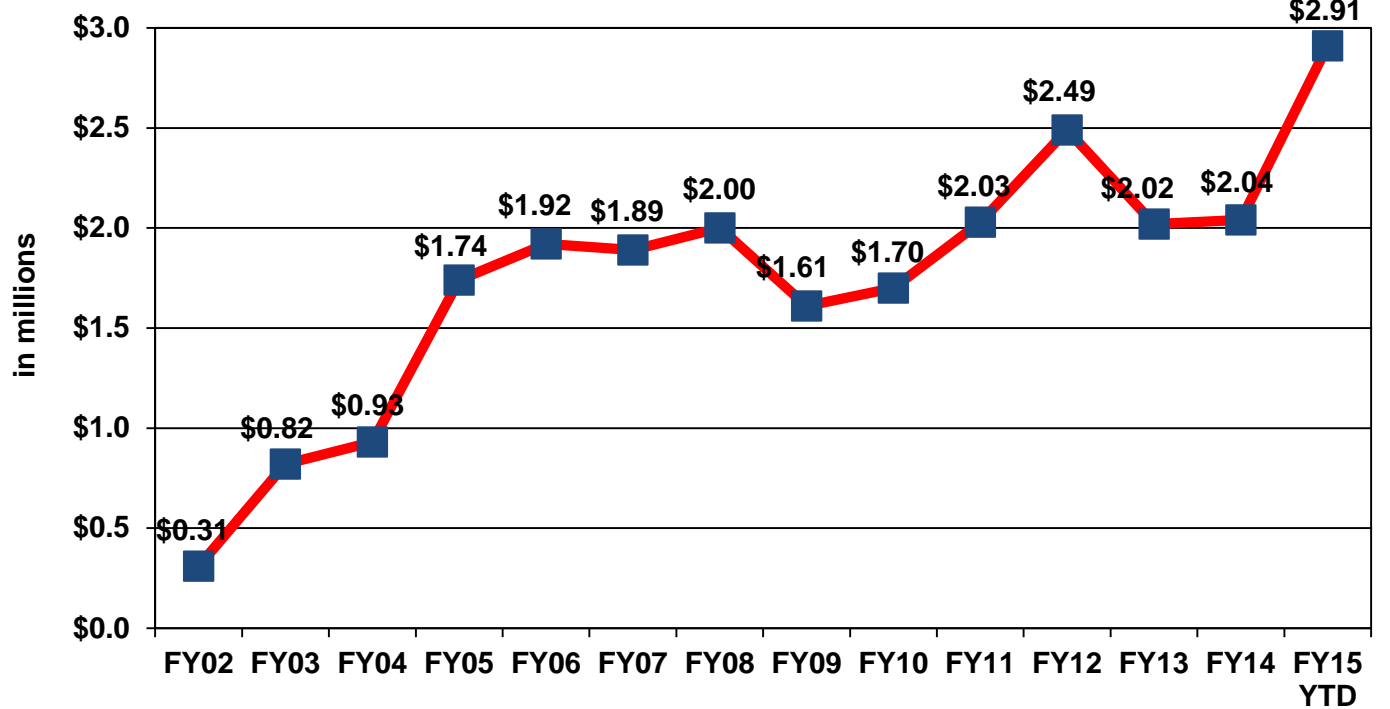
**Figure 2: Total Costs Budgeted Per Year on CHIP External Grants**



**Figure 3: Direct Costs Budgeted Per Year on CHIP External Grants**



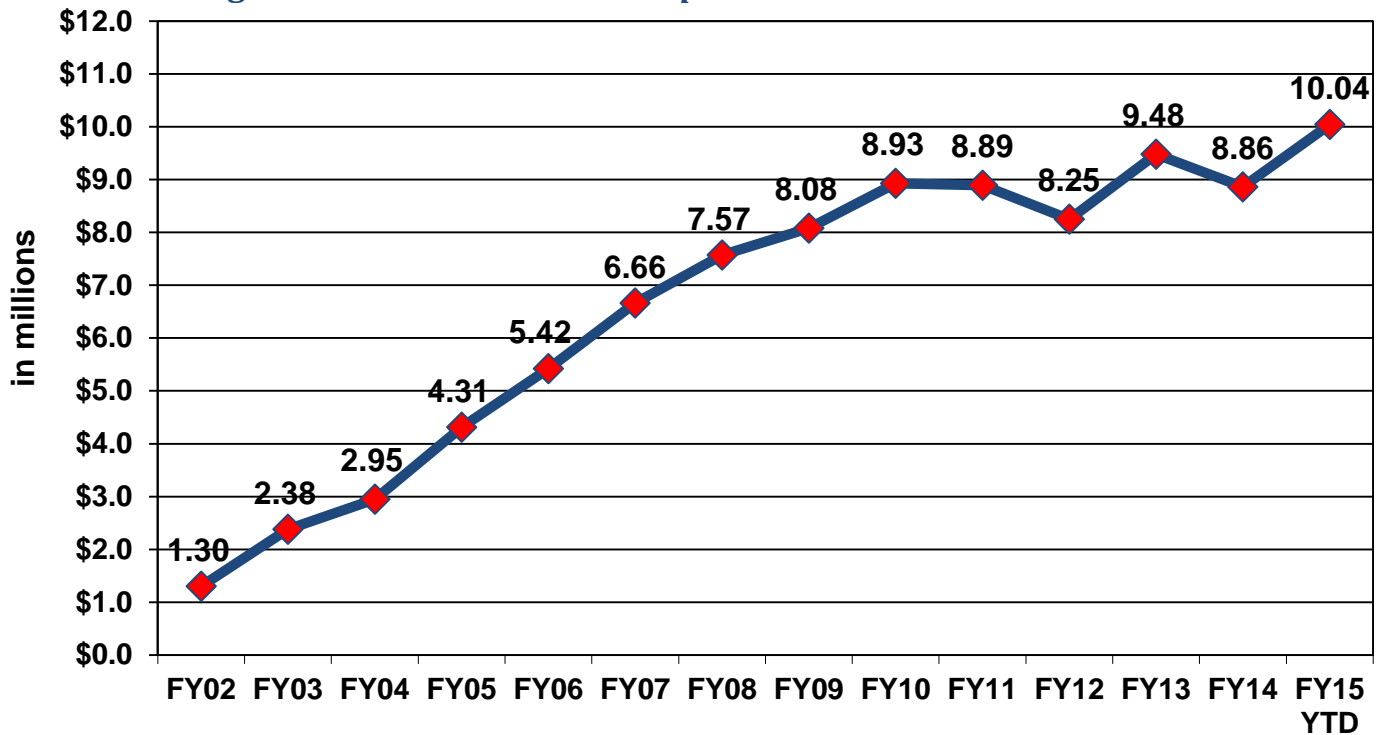
**Figure 4: Indirect Costs Budgeted Per Year on CHIP External Grants**



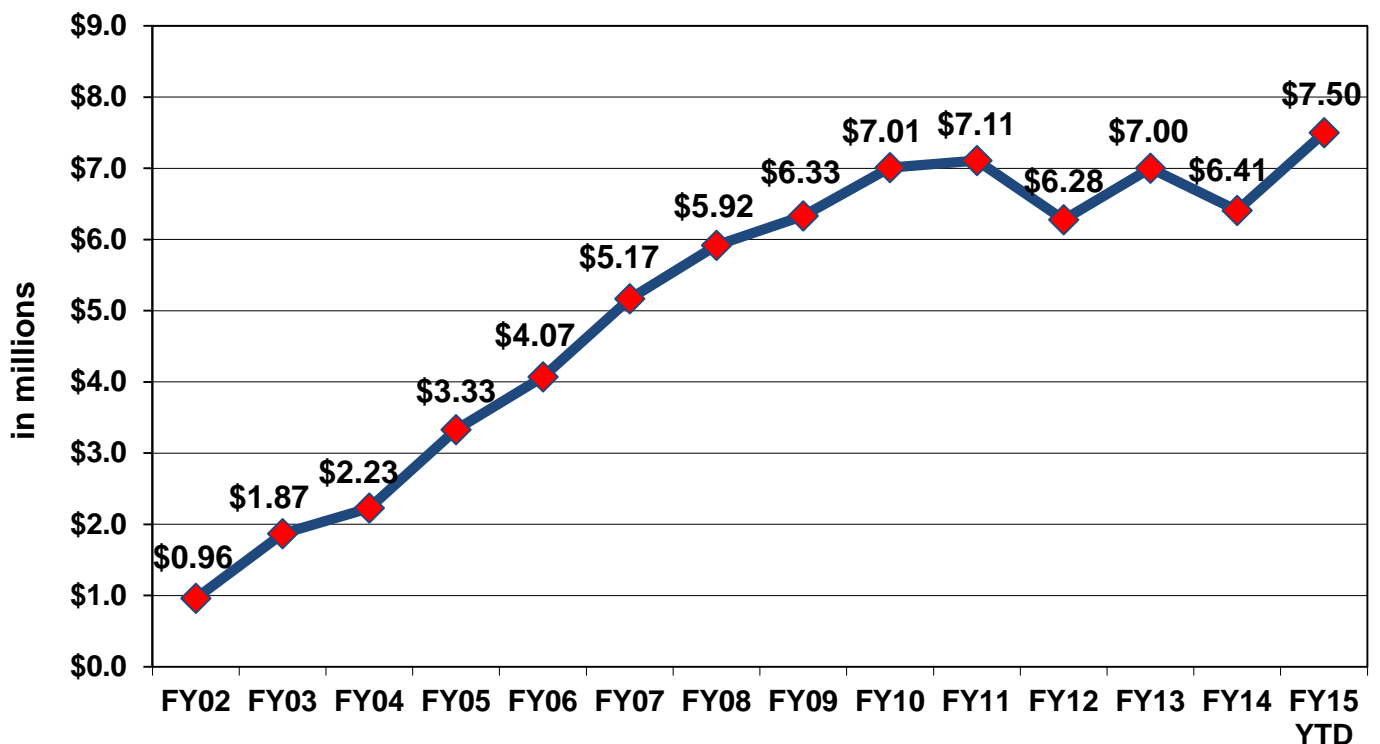


For actual research expenditures in FY15 alone, there were **\$10.0 million in total costs expended** on CHIP external grants (see Figure 5), **\$7.4 million in direct costs** (see Figure 6), and **\$2.6 million in indirect costs** (see Figure 7). In the past 13 years since CHIP's inception in FY02, total costs have increased substantially from \$1.3 million to \$10.0 million.

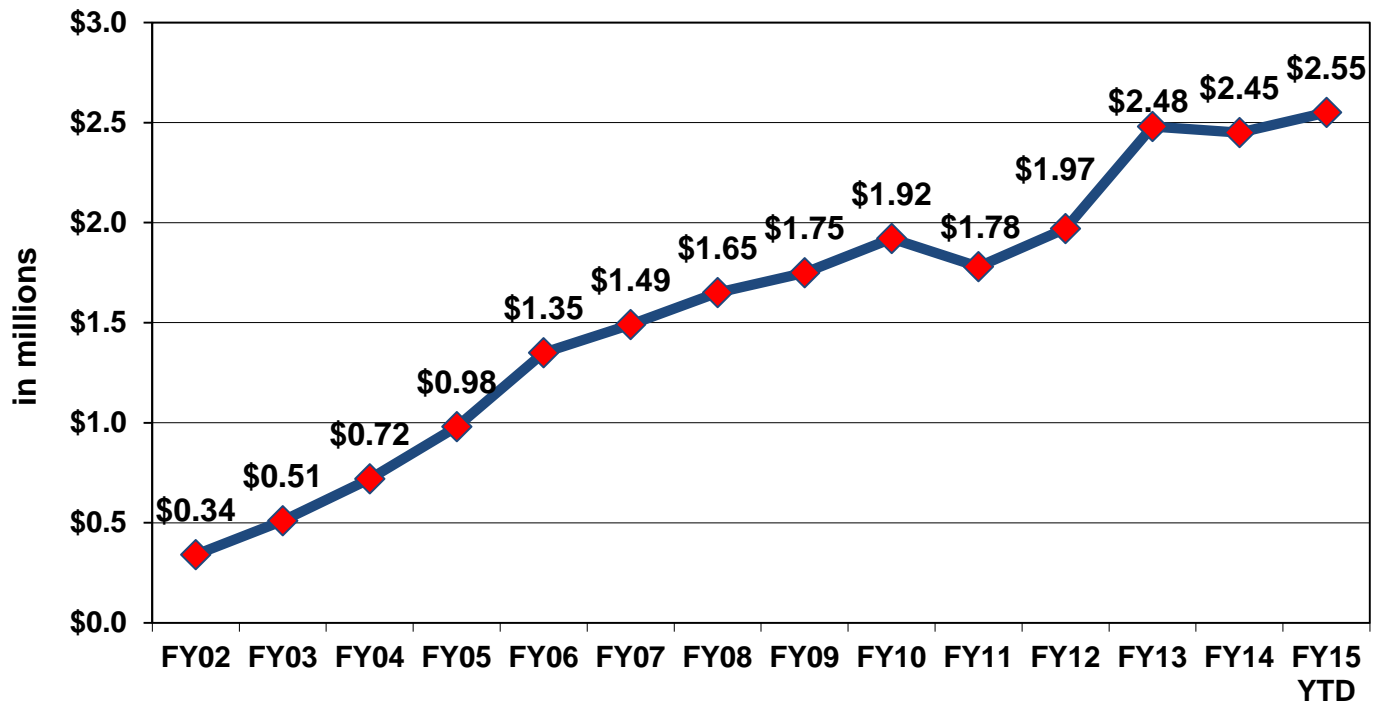
**Figure 5: Actual Total Costs Expended Per Year on CHIP External Grants**



**Figure 6: Actual Direct Costs Expended Per Year on CHIP External Grants**

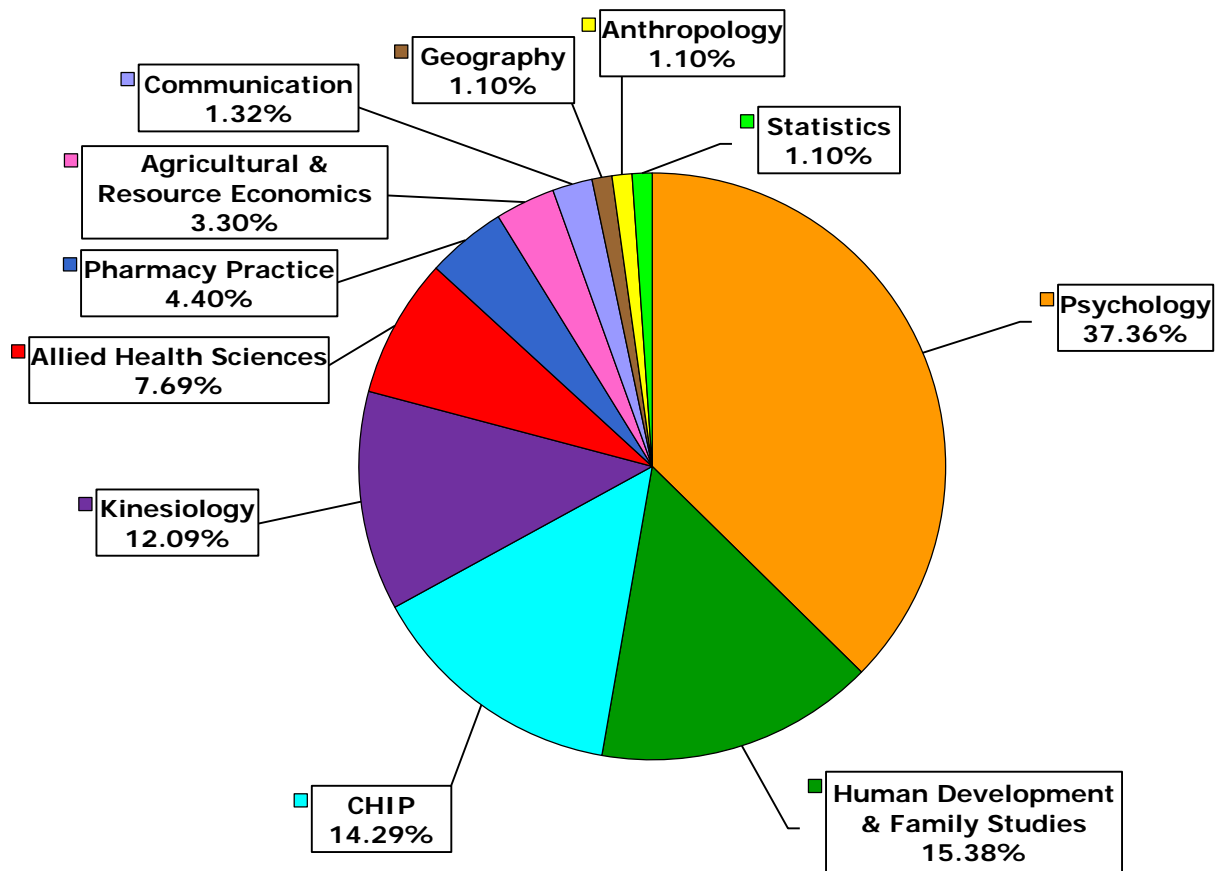


**Figure 7: Actual Indirect Costs *Recovered Per Year* from CHIP External Grants**

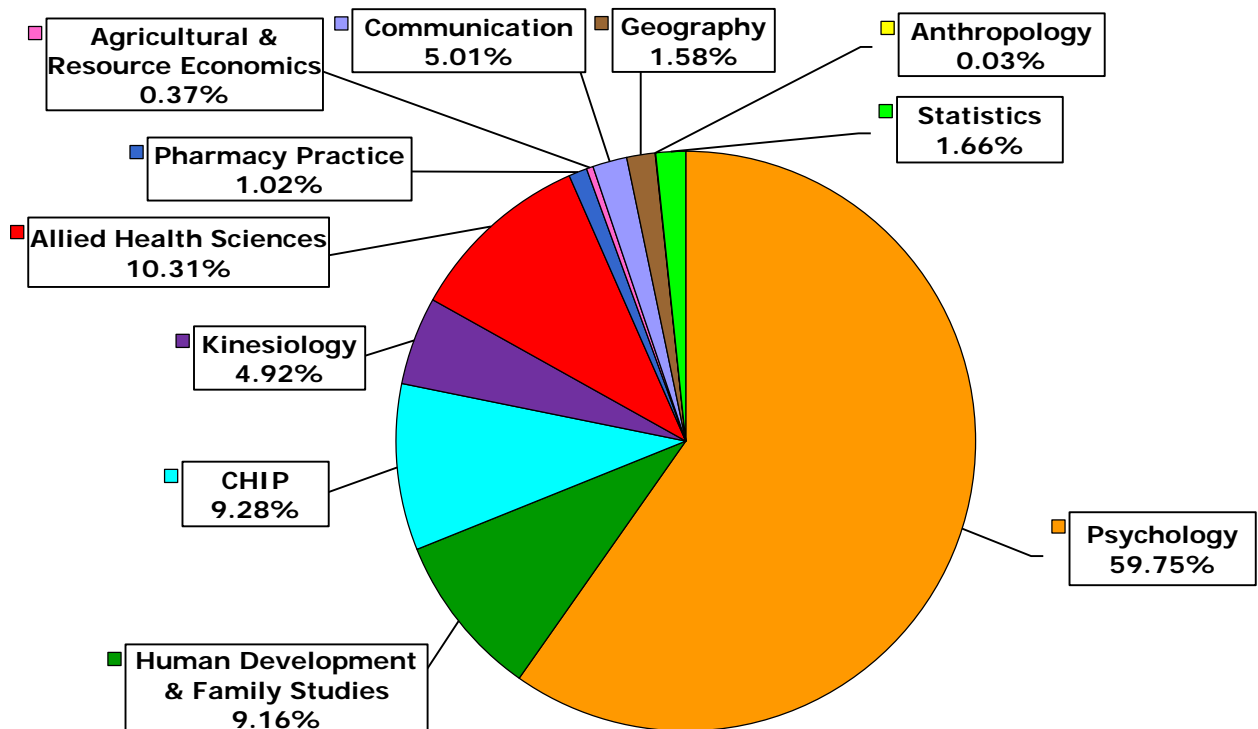


Figures 8 and 9 below show the distribution of active CHIP grants and CHIP grant dollars by academic department.

**Figure 8: Distribution of # of Current CHIP External Grants by Department  
(Out of 92 Total Grants as of May 15, 2015)**



**Figure 9: Distribution of # of Current CHIP Grant Dollars by Department  
(Total Costs across All Year of Grants as of May 15, 2015)**



## O. CHIP Graduate Student Highlights

Graduate students working with CHIP PIs benefit tremendously from the unique research, collaborative, professional, and mentorship opportunities available through the Center. CHIP graduate students consistently publish in many of the most prestigious peer-reviewed journals in their fields, present at professional conferences around the world, and secure internal and external funding for research projects. Moreover, they provide an invaluable asset to CHIP PIs as substantial contributors to collaborative research projects and grants.

This year, CHIP internal and external grants funded 78 graduate students across multiple departments. Total yearlong graduate student funding from CHIP grants was \$582,438.

Below are featured highlights of graduate student research involvement (most of which is multidisciplinary) and accomplishments in FY15:

- **Dalnim Cho** (Psychology) has been involved in a longitudinal study regarding health behavior changes in Connecticut breast cancer survivors, which is funded by the Connecticut Breast Health Initiative. Working with CHIP PI Crystal Park (PhD, Psychology), Cho's work on this project is to advertise the study to Connecticut breast cancer survivors, timely send and receive appropriate materials, and analyze the data.
- **Megan Clarke** (Psychology) is continuing to work with CHIP PI Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychology) on her dissertation, which focuses on the impact of infant sleep training on maternal health behaviors. She collected data this past spring and is currently analyzing it. Upon completion of her work at UConn, she will be moving onto her clinical internship with the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and the Whiting Forensic Division within the state of Connecticut. During her internship, she will be working primarily with adults with serious mental illness on an outpatient basis, as well as with individuals with mental illness who are incarcerated in medium or maximum security at the Whiting Forensic Institute, either awaiting trial or serving their sentences.
- **Sarah Grace-Glennon** (Allied Health Sciences) has been working at UConn Health since June 2014 with grant PI Mark Litt, (PhD, Behavioral Sciences and Community Health) and grant Co-I Valerie Duffy (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) on an electronic cigarette research study. This study is investigating how nicotine and flavoring influences preference, smoking behaviors, and cognitions of cigarette smokers who are willing to switch to electronic cigarettes for six weeks. Glennon works directly with the participants, administering the baseline and follow-up measures, including taste and smell tests and assessments of electronic cigarette use.
- **Lauren Lamberti** (Kinesiology) recently started working under the direction of CHIP PI Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology) on the new CHIP project entitled, *The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health Under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion* (FITT and FIRED UP). FITT and FIRED UP is using a cross-sectional study design to investigate markers of sudden cardiac death in firefighters before and after a maximal exercise bout. Specifically, Lamberti's role on this project is to focus on processing blood for analysis of biomarkers, DNA and RNA. Co-investigators include Beth Parker (Ph.D., Hartford Hospital Division of Preventative Cardiology) who provides expertise in vascular physiology, and Paul Thompson (MD, Hartford Hospital Division of Preventative Cardiology) who has medical expertise in preventative cardiology.
- **Jessica Maksut** (Human Development and Family Studies) worked with CHIP PI Lisa Eaton (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) on a publication that is currently in press at *Women's Health Issues*. The article is entitled, "Female Condoms = Missed Opportunities: Lessons Learned from Promotion-Centered Interventions." Maksut was mentored by Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychology) on this project.
- **Adam Rainear** (Communication) presented a paper in May 2015 entitled, *The Health Belief Model as an Explanatory Framework for Climate Change Cultivation Effect*, at the 65th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association: Post-conference on Climate and Sustainability Campaigns in San Juan, PR. In addition, Rainear worked with CHIP PI John Christensen (PhD, Communication) to apply for a Graduate Student seed grant from CHIP.
- **Kristen Riley** (Kinesiology) has been actively involved with work on the NIH/NCCAM-funded *Essential Properties of Yoga Questionnaire* study with Dr. Park. This is an ongoing project identifying the aspects of yoga that create changes/benefits in mental and physical wellbeing. Riley will be doing a predoctoral internship in Clinical

Psychology at the Miami VA Hospital from July 2015 to July 2016, and is planning to defend her dissertation in summer 2015.

- **Mastaneh Sharafi** (Nutritional Sciences) has actively been involved in two different projects. In the first project, supported by USDA/HATCH grant, she is working on the development of a dietary quality index from a novel dietary assessment tool - a liking survey. She is validating the liking-based dietary quality index in both adults and children, examining its associations with adiposity, CVD risk factors, taste perception, and nutritional biomarkers such as dermal carotenoid status. The second project, which is supported by SNAP-ed funds, involves providing nutrition education to low income families to assist them with healthy eating and obesity management. After graduation in fall of 2015, she plans to pursue a postdoc in the field of epidemiology.
- **Roman Shrestha** (Community Medicine & Health Care) has been actively participating in the “Secondary HIV Prevention and Adherence among HIV-Infected Drug Users” project, working with CHIP PI Michael Copenhagen (PhD, Allied Health Sciences). It is a randomized controlled comparative effectiveness trial to test the relative efficacy and cost-effectiveness of a brief adapted version of an evidence-based intervention (EBI) vs. the original EBI targeting drug users living with HIV. Shrestha has been developing his own research interests in the area of evidence-based intervention adaptation and implementation, working with Dr. Copenhagen to secure his first CHIP seed grant to develop and pilot a novel HIV prevention approach targeting high-risk migrant workers in Nepal. This project addresses HIV prevention among the difficult-to-reach population of migrant workers and their families.
- **Kayla Vosburgh** (Allied Health Sciences) has been working under grant PI Sharon Smith (MD, Molecular and Cell Biology), Co-I Valerie Duffy (PhD, RD, Allied Health Sciences), and Study Coordinator Christine Henry since August 2014 on a pediatric obesity prevention study that is being conducted at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center (CCMC). This study involves administering a food/activity preference survey developed by Dr. Duffy, to patients and their families at CCMC’s Pediatric Emergency Department and Primary Care Center. Anthropometric data is also collected from these patients, and brief nutrition education is provided in the form of two handouts. Vosburgh is responsible for enrolling study participants, training undergraduate research assistants, and managing undergraduate students in the Coordinated Dietetics Program during their research rotation at CCMC. This research team, along with Carolyn Lin (PhD, Communication) and Christine Ohannessian (PhD, CCMC, Center for Community Research), are working to create an innovative evidence-based Smartphone application to support childhood obesity prevention.
- **Amanda Zaleski** (Kinesiology) is working under Dr. Linda Pescatello and has taken the lead on coordinating the study entitled, “The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion” (FIT and FIRED UP). The leading cause of on-duty firefighter fatality is sudden cardiac death, accounting for nearly half of all firefighter deaths. For this reason, the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate has issued an urgent call to action for “active engagement of qualified fitness trainers, professional organizations, and formation of collaborations with fire service groups to effect fitness and risk reduction programs.” FIT and FIRED UP will examine the influence of cardiorespiratory fitness on markers of sudden cardiac death and cardiovascular disease before and after a maximal physical effort among 50 firefighters from the Middletown Fire Department. Co-investigators include CHIP affiliates Dr. Beth Taylor (Hartford Hospital Division of Preventive Cardiology) who is providing expertise in vascular physiology, Dr. Paul Thompson (Hartford Hospital Division of Cardiology) who is providing medical expertise in sudden cardiac death, Crystal Park (PhD, Psychology) who is providing expertise in mental health and stress, Kim Gans (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) who is providing expertise in nutrition, Ming-Hui Chen (PhD, Statistics) who is providing statistical oversight, and Susan Glenney (PT, DPT, MS, GCS, CSCS, Kinesiology) who has expertise in health-related fitness testing. Zaleski currently has two publications in press in the journal, *The Physician and Sportsmedicine*: “An Update on the Boston Marathon as a Research Laboratory” and “Protective Effect of Compression Socks in a Marathon Runner with a Genetic Predisposition to Thrombophilia due to Factor V Leiden.” She received the American Kinesiology Association Graduate Student Writing Award on April 14, 2015 for her publication in the journal *Cholesterol* entitled, “Effects of Atorvastatin on Resting and Peak Exercise Blood Pressure among Healthy Men and Women.”



## P. CHIP Facility Update

Central to CHIP's impressive growth is the CHIP research facility at 2006 Hillside Road on the Storrs campus. Since taking occupancy of the facility in March 2003 and its renovated second floor in July 2007, CHIP investigators and administrative staff have worked to establish it as a highly productive site for collaborative multidisciplinary research in health behavior. The resulting continued growth over the past several years has convincingly demonstrated that having the ability to house investigators from multiple disciplines and their research teams in a single site greatly facilitates the evolution and conduct of collaborative multidisciplinary research. Since moving into the facility over 12 years ago, CHIP investigators have competed successfully for \$116.8 million in total costs in new grants.

The current CHIP research facility provides office space for 10 faculty members, research scientists, and post-docs; 11 research associates; 9 Center staff members; 29 graduate student researchers; and 16 student workers who represent a variety of key disciplines, the vast majority of whom are funded by external grants. At CHIP, affiliated faculty members, post-docs, research staff, graduate students, undergraduate students, CHIP staff members, and project-related support staff are accommodated and have access to critical research space. Often, CHIP-affiliated faculty members have their offices near their graduate students and grant-funded staff to conduct their research as a unit. In the CHIP research facility, faculty members, post-docs, and students from Allied Health Sciences, Communication, Human Development and Family Studies, Kinesiology, Nutritional Sciences, Physical Therapy, Psychology, Statistics, and related fields work together on research projects and apply for funding together. This includes many of the most productive researchers at the University, several of whom have consistently had external funding in excess of one million dollars per year. This enhanced multidisciplinary environment has vast benefits for UConn, resulting in improved research and additional funding opportunities, as well as unique opportunities for mentoring students and junior faculty.

A substantial amount of funded research is physically carried out at the CHIP research facility, which has ten small interview cubicles for conducting research, a focus group room with large overstuffed chairs to create a relaxing environment for participants, four meeting and presentation rooms that can also be used for research, and a small library for CHIP's health behavior resources. The main first floor conference rooms where meetings and presentations are held are outfitted with multimedia presentation capability. On the second floor, there is a large University-operated, long-distance learning media classroom that can house about 60 people for the CHIP Lecture Series and can also be reserved for large research projects.

On January 1, 2015 the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity moved from Yale University to become a center within CHIP at UConn. The Rudd Center is located at 1 Constitution Plaza in Hartford. CHIP occupies office space at this address as well. This office is utilized by CHIP staff on a weekly basis and is also available for use by CHIP-affiliated researchers to work on research projects based in the greater Hartford area.

## Q. Public Engagement

In FY15, CHIP participated in the following public engagement activities in pursuit of its long-range goals of sharing its expertise, and educating and mentoring students, researchers, and community members.

- CHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher agreed to serve as chair of a committee of 11 faculty members from a variety of health-related departments and Centers at UConn who will explore the possibility of creating a new UConn College of Health and Health Professions. If there is a decision to go forward with the College, it will bring together several UConn schools, departments, and centers into a cohesive unit that supports research and education in health and wellness. Dr. Fisher also served on the U.S. Board of Directors for Clover, an organization which operates in an extremely poor part of Kampala, Uganda to provide day care, education, and health care to children who live there.
- CHIP Associate Director and CHIP PI Deborah Cornman (PhD, CHIP) continued to serve on UConn's Office of Global Affairs Advisory Board, a group of faculty members who helped develop the Office of Global Affairs' original strategic plan and now make recommendations about how to best implement it. Dr. Cornman also continued to represent UConn/CHIP on Yale University's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA)'s Executive Committee, which meets monthly to provide guidance and oversight to CIRA. Lastly, at the end of the academic year, she began serving as Secretary for the UConn Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Society, Epsilon of Connecticut.

- CHIP's multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups and the *CHIP Lecture Series* are notable additional venues through which CHIP engages researchers, students, and professionals from other institutions as well as the community. More detail about these programs is provided in [Section H on pages 23-28](#) and in [Research Objective 6 on pages 15-17](#), respectively.

In the past year, individual CHIP PIs also regularly made significant contributions to the community in ways that drew on their unique expertise. Examples include the following:

- CHIP PI Kim Gans (PhD, Human Development & Family Studies) collaborated on various projects with End Hunger CT, Connecticut Food Policy Council, FreshAdvantage, Providence Mayor's Health Communities Office, Rhode Island Department of Health Initiatives for Healthy Weight, Rhode Island Healthy Schools Coalition, Rhode Island Public Health Institute, Lifespan Community Health Services, Greater Providence YMCA, Rhode Island Food Bank, African Alliance, Ready to Learn Providence, Providence After School Alliance, and Partnership for Providence Parks. Additionally, she presented her research study results about the impact of mobile markets on food insecurity at "A Hospital-Community Collaboration: Expanding Access to Nutritious Food to Improve Community Health Conference." She was also invited to speak on the Food and Nutrition Panel at the 2015 SEED Summit at Brown University. Lastly, she was interviewed by Minnesota NPR Radio about the importance of healthy food access.
- CHIP PI Meg Gerrard (PhD, Psychology) made presentations around the country, including "A Dual-Processing Approach to Interventions for Adolescent Risk Behaviors" at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center; and "The Erosive Effects of Racism: Discrimination, Self-Control, and Cancer Risk Behavior" at University of Utah, National Cancer Institute, and Cancer Center of Hawaii. For the Skin Cancer Foundation Journal, she wrote an invited article on her research about the prevention of skin cancer. She also provided pro bono consultation on best prevention strategies to "Defeat Melanoma," a consortium of melanoma foundations. In addition, she provided pro bono consultation to the Jeff Dulude Melanoma Foundation on the design of a corporate skin cancer prevention program.
- CHIP PI Rick Gibbons (PhD, Psychology) co-presented with Dr. Gerrard the lecture entitled, "The Erosive Effects of Racism: Discrimination, Self-Control, and Cancer Risk Behavior" at University of Utah, National Cancer Institute, and Cancer Center of Hawaii.
- CHIP PI Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychology) continued as an active member of the Hartford Childhood Wellness Alliance, a working collaboration among community organizations, schools, local and regional government, advocacy groups, healthcare centers and practitioners, and researchers aimed at preventing and decreasing childhood obesity in Hartford. She also collaborated with the Waterbury Department of Public Health's Obesity Taskforce, gave a presentation for the Dartmouth Interdisciplinary Network Research Group, presented at UConn's Clinical Research Center, and chaired a paper session at the Obesity Society's Annual Meeting. Additionally, the National Cancer Institute invited her to speak about dyadic approaches to health behavior change.
- CHIP PI Jennifer Harris (PhD, MBA, Psychology) spoke at the Annual Stanley N. Gershoff Symposium at Tufts University, UConn Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics Spring 2015 Seminar Series, UConn Department of Community Medicine, Yale School of Public Health, and International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity meeting. Her presentations included, "Reducing Unhealthy Food Marketing to Children: Opportunities for Research to Inform Public Policy," "Priming Obesity: Automatic Effects of Food Marketing on Poor Diet," and "Child-Targeted Marketing in the Supermarket: Extent and Impact." Her public engagement activities also included media coverage by the New York Times, Time Magazine, The Hill, Washington Post, USA Today, Yahoo! News, Education News, and Cato Unbound.
- CHIP PI Crystal Park (PhD, Psychology) continued her research on yoga participants' motivations for practicing yoga and was interviewed about her work by Fox CT.
- CHIP PI Rebecca Puhl (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) was invited to speak about obesity and weight stigma at several events this year. Her presentations included, "Weight-based Victimization in Youth: A Pervasive Problem with Concerning Health Consequences" at the Conference on Childhood Obesity and Bullying at Rutgers University School of Social Work; "Promoting Obesity-Related Health Communication without Bias

and Stigma” at Yale School of Public Health; “Childhood Obesity and Bullying: Nature, Extent, and Strategies to Support Vulnerable Youth” at Alliance for a Healthier Generation’s Annual Meeting; “Effects of Obesity Bias and Stigma on Health” at American Society of Nutrition’s Annual Conference; “Promoting Obesity-Related Health Awareness While Reducing Weight Stigma” and “Addressing Obesity Stigma in Health Care: Challenges, Remedies, and Implications for Bariatric Care” at Obesity Week in Boston, MA; “Obesity Stigma and its Importance for Patients, Providers, and Clinical Practice” at State Sleep Conference at Yale Medical School; and “The Nature and Health Consequences of Obesity Stigma: Implications for Obesity Prevention and Treatment” at Institute of Medicine’s Roundtable on Obesity Solutions. Additionally, she was interviewed and her research was featured in articles by ABC News, BBC News, Huffington Post, Yahoo News, Today Health, NPR, Consumers Digest, Guardian Liberty Voice, Parents Magazine, Medscape, and Kaiser Permanente.

- CHIP PI Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) presented at the Horizon Foundation, Harvard School of Public Health, Penn State, and National Institutes of Health (NIH). Presentation topics included “Research, Policy, and Politics: The Case of the National School Lunch Program” and self-regulation of appetite. She attended a Childhood Obesity 180 meeting to discuss the implementation of the federal menu calorie labeling law, as well as a Strategic Advisory Committee meeting for Voices for Healthy Kids in Washington, DC. Highlights of her media coverage in FY15 include interviews and articles by the Washington Post, NPR, WNPR, New York Times, Time Magazine, The Hill, US News & World Report, CNN, UConn Magazine, Inside School Food, and Lancaster Online.

## R. Conclusion

FY15 has been a remarkable year for CHIP, with a record high number of grant submissions (89 grants requesting \$57.1 million in total costs), new external grant awards (35 new grants for \$17.3 million in total costs), and active grants across all years (92 active grants for \$54.5 million in total costs). CHIP’s efforts this year focused on catalyzing new multidisciplinary research initiatives and collaborations in a broad array of health domains. In addition to supporting and fostering new and innovative research efforts in exercise science, global health, and treatment adherence and retention in care, the Center made efforts to expand research in obesity prevention, cancer prevention and control, digital health, mental health, child health, and policy-relevant research. These efforts involved providing a variety of exemplary research support services and resources during this past year, such as (1) identifying funding opportunities and potential collaborators, (2) offering seed grant funding for pilot research projects, (3) hosting networking events where affiliates could meet and network with other researchers from across UConn and other institutions, (4) training and mentoring junior researchers in successful grant applications, (5) assisting with writing the grant application, including the data analysis section and budget, and (6) hosting presentations by and opportunities to meet with nationally and internationally recognized leaders in health behavior research. Overall, this was a remarkable year of expansion and growth for CHIP and its affiliates from both a research and a programmatic perspective.

# Appendices

## APPENDIX 1: New CHIP Grants Awarded in FY15 (May 16, 2014 – May 15, 2015)

APPENDIX 1: New CHIP Grants Awarded FY15 (May 16, 2014 - May 15, 2015)									
Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	Total Direct Costs Awarded	Total Indirect Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Andreyeva, Tatiana	ARE	\$30,159	\$23,936	\$6,223	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	University of Wisconsin/ USDA	The Effects of the WIC Food Package Revisions on the Healthfulness of Food Purchases among WIC Households: Analysis of Scanner Data (RIDGE)
Andreyeva, Tatiana	ARE	\$149,603	\$104,722	\$44,881	1	03/15/15	03/14/16	USDA/NIFA	Nutritional Quality of Foods in Non-CACFP Child Care Centers
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$44,000	\$27,848	\$16,152	1	06/30/14	06/29/15	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (SUPPLEMENT)
Coleman, Craig	PHAR	\$40,000	\$31,746	\$8,254	1	12/03/14	06/30/15	Columbia Care, LLC	Designing the Improvements in Patient Ability due to Cannabis Therapy (IMPACT) Patient Registry to Scientifically Assess the Effectiveness and Safety of Medical Marijuana - Pilot Project
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$736,349	\$183,651	\$920,000	1	09/01/15	08/31/18	DoD/DHAPP	PHDP and GBV Prevention Programs for Soldiers in the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$93,576	\$59,225	\$34,351	5	09/30/13	08/31/18	NIH/UConn Health	Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers
Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$1,298,271	\$843,459	\$454,812	5	09/25/14	05/31/19	Drexel/NIH	Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorders
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$23,324	\$14,762	\$8,562	1	08/01/14	07/31/15	NIH/UCSD	Promoting Physical Activity in Latinas via Interactive web-based Technology
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$407,627	\$257,992	\$149,635	1	09/01/14	05/30/15	NIH/Brown	Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity Environments in Home-Based Child Care



**APPENDIX 1: New CHIP Grants Awarded FY15 (May 16, 2014 - May 15, 2015)**

<b>Principal Investigator</b>	<b>Dept</b>	<b>Total Costs Awarded</b>	<b>Total Direct Costs Awarded</b>	<b>Total Indirect Costs Awarded</b>	<b>Yrs</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Title</b>
Gans, Kim	HDFS	<b>\$308,640</b>	<b>\$288,513</b>	<b>\$20,127</b>	1	09/01/14	04/30/15	NIH/NCI	Fresh to You: Multilevel Approaches in Low Income Housing to Increase F&V Intake & Diversity Supplement
Gans, Kim	HDFS	<b>\$531,657</b>	<b>\$489,586</b>	<b>\$42,071</b>	1	09/01/14	02/28/15	NIH/NCI	Innovative Approaches to Increase F&V Intake thru Worksites: The Fresh Initiative
Gerrard, Meg	PSYC/CHIP	<b>\$290,924</b>	<b>\$184,129</b>	<b>\$106,795</b>	1	09/15/14	06/30/18	University of Iowa/NIH	Smoking Associated Demethylation
Ghosh, Debarchana	GEOG	<b>\$863,345</b>	<b>\$799,395</b>	<b>\$63,950</b>	5	08/01/14	07/31/19	NIH/NIDA	Connecting People, Places, and Barriers: The Effect of These Connections on Adherence and Retention in Care for HIV-Infected Drug Users
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	<b>\$2,837,927</b>	<b>\$2,288,121</b>	<b>\$549,806</b>	5	09/15/14	06/30/19	NIH/NIDA	Health Behaviors among Young Black Adults: Risk and Resilience
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	<b>\$193,821</b>	<b>\$162,738</b>	<b>\$31,083</b>	1	09/01/14	08/31/15	Weight Watchers	Ripple Effects in Weight Watchers: Are Weight Watchers' Members a Catalyst for Change in Untreated Family Members?
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	<b>\$432,705</b>	<b>\$289,309</b>	<b>\$143,396</b>	2	12/01/14	11/30/16	NIH/NHLBI	Test of a Theory-Based Weight Loss Program for Couples: Project TEAMS
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	<b>\$279,593</b>	<b>\$249,637</b>	<b>\$29,956</b>	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Dell Foundation	Unhealthy Food Marketing Targeted to Children: Research to Evaluate Potentially Misleading Practices and Support Advocacy to Encourage Industry Change
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	<b>\$1,299,857</b>	<b>\$1,160,587</b>	<b>\$139,270</b>	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	<b>\$3,383,912</b>	<b>\$2,577,141</b>	<b>\$806,771</b>	5	09/10/14	08/31/19	NIH/NIAAA	Comparative Effectiveness Trial for Retention-Adherence-Health

**APPENDIX 1: New CHIP Grants Awarded FY15 (May 16, 2014 - May 15, 2015)**

<b>Principal Investigator</b>	<b>Dept</b>	<b>Total Costs Awarded</b>	<b>Total Direct Costs Awarded</b>	<b>Total Indirect Costs Awarded</b>	<b>Yrs</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Title</b>
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	<b>\$881,052</b>	<b>\$758,608</b>	<b>\$122,444</b>	3	08/23/14	05/31/17	NIH/NIDDK	A Randomized Trial Testing Lay Health Coaches for Obesity Treatment
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$22,152</b>	<b>\$12,848</b>	1	08/23/14	06/30/15	Miriam Hospital/NIH	A State-Wide Initiative to Spread Effective Behavioral Weight Loss Strategies
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	<b>\$164,515</b>	<b>\$104,123</b>	<b>\$60,392</b>	5	09/25/14	08/31/19	VCU/NIH	Low Intensity Weight Loss for Young Adults: Autonomous vs. Extrinsic Motivation
O'Connell, Meghan	CHIP	<b>\$16,165</b>	<b>\$12,531</b>	<b>\$3,634</b>	1	04/01/15	03/31/16	University of Mississippi/ USDA/NFSMI	Assessing the Current Status of Nutrition and Wellness Components in Child Care Centers Participating in CACFP
Park, Crystal	PSYC	<b>\$610,856</b>	<b>\$494,554</b>	<b>\$116,302</b>	2	09/01/13	08/31/15	NIH/NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT)
Park, Crystal	PSYC	<b>\$44,863</b>	<b>\$44,863</b>	<b>\$0</b>	1	09/01/14	08/31/15	CT BHI	Predicting and Enhancing Connecticut Breast Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors
Park, Crystal	PSYC	<b>\$1,474,771</b>	<b>\$1,003,407</b>	<b>\$471,364</b>	4	09/15/14	06/30/18	NIH/NIGMS	Self-Regulation Skills as Predictors of URM Student Success Biomedical Research
Pescatello, Linda	KINE	<b>\$19,800</b>	<b>\$19,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>	1	8/23/14	09/30/16	Hartford Hospital/CT Space Grant	Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women At Flight
Schifano, Elizabeth	STAT	<b>\$15,250</b>	<b>\$12,708</b>	<b>\$2,542</b>	1	06/01/15	06/30/15	CCMC/CTDPH	Continued Collaboration on Easy Breathing program
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	<b>\$246,771</b>	<b>\$223,188</b>	<b>\$23,583</b>	1	01/01/15	06/30/15	RWJF/AHA	Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	<b>\$247,558</b>	<b>\$221,034</b>	<b>\$26,524</b>	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Horizon Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Howard County: A Strategic Science and Policy Initiative

**APPENDIX 1: New CHIP Grants Awarded FY15 (May 16, 2014 - May 15, 2015)**

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	Total Direct Costs Awarded	Total Indirect Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$111,879	\$70,810	\$41,069	1.3	01/01/15	03/31/16	NIH/Yale	School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$97,500	\$87,054	\$10,446	3	01/01/15	12/31/17	Partnership for a Healthier America	Evaluation of Commitments Made by Child Care Centers with Partnership for a Healthier America
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$45,000	\$40,179	\$4,821	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Claneil Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Food Banks
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$29,888	\$26,686	\$3,202	1	01/01/15	09/30/15	State Education Resource Center (SERC)/USDA	Connecticut Smarter Lunchroom Pilot
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$219,225	\$138,750	\$80,475	3	02/01/15	01/31/16	Univ. of Illinois/USDA	National Wellness Policy Study
C. Michael White	PHAR	\$60,000	\$37,975	\$22,025	5	12/01/14	11/30/19	AHRQ	Evidence Based Practice Center (EPC) V RFP (AHRQ-15-10001)

**Department:**

AHSC Allied Health Sciences  
 ANTH Anthropology  
 CHIP Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention  
 COMM Communication  
 ECON Economics  
 GEOG Geography

HDFS Human Development & Family Studies  
 KINE Kinesiology  
 NURS Nursing  
 PHAR Pharmacy Practice  
 PSYC Psychology  
 STAT Statistics

## APPENDIX 2: CHIP Lecture Series 2014-15

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to CHIP)
09/04/14	Audrey Chapman, PhD, MDiv, STM <i>University of Connecticut</i>	"Core Health Obligations from the Perspectives of Human Rights and Public Health"	Research Program on Global Health & Human Rights at the Human Rights Institute, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health
09/09/14	Ofer Harel, PhD <i>University of Connecticut</i>	<b>CHIP STATISTICS SEMINAR</b> "How to Complete the Incomplete: A Statistical Antidote for Incomplete Data Sets"	Department of Human Development and Family Studies and Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health
09/18/14	Stephen Schensul, PhD <i>University of Connecticut</i>	"Multilevel Approaches to HIV/STI Prevention among Married Women in a Low Income Community in Mumbai, India"	Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Asian and Asian American Studies Institute, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health
10/09/14	Gene Brody, PhD <i>University of Georgia/Emory University</i>	<b>CHIP LECTURE ON GENOMICS AND HEALTH BEHAVIOR</b> "Gene-Environment Interplay, Health, and Some Thoughts about the Future" <b>CHIP WORKSHOP</b> "Marrying Genetics and Prevention Research"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Department of Molecular and Cell Biology
10/16/14	Sherry Pagoto, PhD <i>University of Massachusetts Medical School</i>	<b>CHIP LECTURE</b> "How Mobile Apps and Social Media May Revolutionize Health Behavior Change" <b>CHIP WORKSHOP</b> "Using Social Media in Health Behavior Research"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Allied Health Sciences, and Department of Human Development and Family Studies
10/21/14	Elizabeth Schifano, PhD <i>University of Connecticut</i>	<b>CHIP STATISTICS SEMINAR</b> "An Overview of Multiple Comparison Methods"	Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, and Department of Statistics

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to CHIP)
10/23/14	Terrance Albrecht, PhD <i>Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University School of Medicine</i>	<b>CHIP LECTURE</b> "Reducing Cancer Health Disparities Using Community Engaged Research"  <b>CHIP DISCUSSION GROUP</b> "Tips for Establishing a Community-Engaged Research Program"	Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion, Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and UConn School of Social Work
10/30/14	John Pachankis, PhD <i>Yale University</i>	"Hidden from Health: Psychosocial Correlates and Intervention Implications of Sexual Orientation Concealment"	Department of Human Development and Family Studies and Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health
12/11/14	Perry Halkitis, PhD, MS, MPH <i>New York University</i>	"Aging with HIV: Lessons of the AIDS Generation"	Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, and UConn School of Social Work
01/22/15	William Klein, PhD <i>NIH/NCI</i>	"Self-Affirmation: From Theory to Process to Health Impact"	Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion, Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
01/29/15	Mark Sarzynski, PhD <i>LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center</i>	"Exercise Genomics and the Quest for Personalized Medicine: Lessons Learned from the HERITAGE Family Study"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy, Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of Kinesiology, Institute for Systems Genomics, Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
02/05/15	Rick Gibbons, PhD <i>University of Connecticut, CHIP</i>	"Racism as a Carcinogen: Risk, Resilience, and Genetic Sensitivity"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity



Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to CHIP)
02/19/15	Julia Rowland, PhD <i>NIH/NCI</i>	"Addressing Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
02/26/16	Rebecca Puhl, PhD <i>University of Connecticut, Rudd Center for Food Policy &amp; Obesity</i>	"Obesity Stigma: Public Attitudes and Potential Policy Remedies"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
03/05/15	Golda Ginsburg, PhD <i>University of Connecticut</i>	"Prevention of Pediatric Anxiety Disorders"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of Psychology, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
03/12/15	Michelle Cloutier, MD <i>UConn Health</i>	"Engaging Primary Care Clinicians in Translational Research: Why is it so difficult?"	None
03/26/15	Amy Mobley, PhD & Kelley Newlin-Lew, PhD <i>University of Connecticut</i>	"Don't Forget About Dad: Novel Approaches to Childhood Obesity Prevention" and "Translation of Evidence-Based Diabetes Self-Management and Prevention Programs to Community Sites"	None
04/09/15	Tricia Leahey, PhD <u>University of Connecticut</u>	"Harnessing Financial Incentives and Social Influence to Address Current Challenges in Obesity Treatment Research"	None
04/16/15	Cara Ebbeling, PhD <i>Boston Children's Hospital</i>	"Dietary Interventions for Obesity: Considering Internal and External Validity in RCTs"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Allied Health Sciences, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to CHIP)
04/23/15	Brian Wansink, PhD <i>Cornell University</i>	"Slim by Design: Engineering a Built Environment"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Department of Economics, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of Nutritional Sciences, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
04/30/15	Molly Bray, PhD <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	"Genetic and Non-Genetic Underpinnings of Energy Balance"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, Department of Allied Health Sciences, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of Kinesiology, Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
05/07/15	Gary Bennett, PhD <i>Duke University</i>	"Using Digital Health to Improve Comprehensive Obesity Treatment Among the Medically Vulnerable"	Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and Department of Economics Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of Nutritional Sciences, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity

**\* The CHIP Lecture Series is supported in part by the Office of the Vice President for Research**

## APPENDIX 3: CHIP PIs and Faculty/Researcher Affiliates (as of June 30, 2015)

### CHIP Directors

Jeffrey D. Fisher, PhD  
*Director, **Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP)***  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Psychology***

Deborah H. Cornman, PhD  
*Associate Director, **CHIP***  
*Research Scientist, **CHIP***

### Principal Investigators (PIs)

Tatiana Andreyeva, PhD  
*Director of Economic Initiatives, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***  
*Associate Professor in Residence, **Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention***

Thomas E. Buckley, MPH  
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John Christensen, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication***

Michael M. Copenhaver, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Allied Health Sciences***

Deborah H. Cornman, PhD  
*Associate Director, **CHIP***  
*Research Scientist, **CHIP***

Dean Cruess, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

Lindsay J. DiStefano, PhD, ATC  
*Associate Professor of **Kinesiology***

Valerie B. Duffy, PhD  
*Professor of **Allied Health Sciences***

Lisa Eaton, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Deborah Fein, PhD  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Psychology***

Kim M. Gans, PhD  
*Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Meg Gerrard, PhD  
*Research Professor of **Psychology/CHIP***

Debarchana Ghosh, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Geography***

Frederick Gibbons, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

Amy Gorin, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

Ofer Harel, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Statistics***

Jennifer Harris, PhD, MBA  
*Senior Research Scientist, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***  
*Associate Professor in Residence, **CHIP***

Blair T. Johnson, PhD  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Psychology***

Seth C. Kalichman, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

William Kraemer, PhD, FACSM, CSCS, FNCSA  
*Professor of **Human Sciences, Ohio State University** (previously UConn)*

Tricia M. Leahey, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Allied Health Sciences***

Rachel O'Neill, PhD  
*Professor of **Molecular and Cell Biology***  
*Director, Center for Genome Intervention, **Institute for Systems Genomics***

Crystal L. Park, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

Linda S. Pescatello, PhD  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Kinesiology***

Rebecca Puhl, PhD  
*Senior Research Scientist, Deputy Director, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***  
*Professor in Residence of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Marlene Schwartz, PhD  
*Director, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***  
*Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Merrill Singer, PhD  
*Professor of **Anthropology***

Leslie B. Snyder, PhD  
*Professor of **Communication***

Beth Taylor, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Kinesiology***

C. Michael White, PharmD, FCP, FCCP  
*Co-Director, **UConn HOPES/Evidence-Based Practice Center***  
*Professor and Head of **Pharmacy Practice***

### **CHIP Faculty/Researcher Affiliates**

#### **UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

Kari Adamsons, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

V. Bede Agocha, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Psychology and African-American Studies***



Jorge Agüero, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Economics***

Robert S. Astur, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

David A. Atkin, PhD  
*Professor of **Communication***

Haim Bar, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Statistics***

Keith M. Bellizzi, PhD, MPH  
*Associate Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Saraswathi Bellur, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication***

Mary Bernstein, PhD  
*Professor of **Sociology***

Hart Blanton, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

Alaina Brenick, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Preston A. Britner, PhD  
*Professor, Philip E. Austin Endowed Chair of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Robert Broadhead, PhD  
*Professor Emeritus of **Sociology***

Edna Brown, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Ross Buck, PhD  
*Professor of **Communication and Psychology***

Jeffrey Burke, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

Simon Cheng (Hsu-chih), PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Sociology***

Carl A. Coelho, PhD  
*Professor of **Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences***

Joanne Conover, PhD  
*Associate Professor, Director of **Physiology & Neurobiology***

Thomas Craemer, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Public Policy***

Mary Crawford, PhD  
*Emerita Professor of **Psychology and Women Studies***

Amanda Denes, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication***

Dipak K. Dey, PhD  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Statistics**  
Associate Dean, **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences***

Inge-Marie Eigsti, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

Pamela I. Erickson, PhD  
*Professor, Department Head of **Anthropology***

Ken Foote, PhD  
*Professor, Department Head of **Geography***

Guojun Gan, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Mathematics***

Linda Halgunseth, PhD  
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Sara Harkness, PhD, MPH  
*Professor of **Human Development and Family Studies***

Sangwook Kang, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Statistics***

Kristin A. Kelly, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Political Science***

Lynn Kuo, PhD  
*Professor of **Statistics***

Kenneth Lachlan, PhD  
*Professor of **Communication***

Carolyn Lin, PhD  
*Professor of **Communication***

Kerry L. Marsh, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

Stephanie Milan, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

Nancy A. Naples, PhD  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Sociology**  
Director, **Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies***

Anne Oeldorf-Hirsch, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication***

Nairan Ramirez-Esparza, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Psychology***

David L. Richards, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Political Science***

Stephen L. Ross, PhD  
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Beth S. Russell, PhD  
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Sarah S. Willen, PhD, MPH  
*Assistant Professor of **Anthropology***

Jun Yan, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Statistics***

Chaunrong (Cindy) Zhang, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Geography***

Yuping Zhang, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Statistics***

#### **UConn College of Agriculture, Health & Natural Resources**

Ben Campbell, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Agricultural and Resource Economics**  
Extension Economist*

Ock Chun, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Nutritional Sciences***

Richard Dunn, PhD  
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Pouran Faghri, MD, MS, FACSM  
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Maria-Luz Fernandez, PhD  
*Professor of **Nutritional Sciences***

Nathan Fiala, PhD  
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#### **UConn School of Business**

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Narasimhan Srinivasan, PhD  
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Dmitry Zhdanov, PhD  
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## UConn - Neag School of Education

Lawrence E. Armstrong, PhD  
*Professor of **Kinesiology***

Melissa Bray, PhD  
*Professor of **Educational Psychology***

Jennifer E. Bruening, PhD  
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Director of **Husky Sport**  
Deputy Director for Public Health Practice, **Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UConn Health***

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Brian Kupchak, PhD  
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Justin Z. Laferrier, PhD  
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Elaine Choung-Hee Lee, PhD  
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Lindsey Lepley, PhD  
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Stephanie M. Mazerolle, PhD  
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Director, **Entry-Level Athletic Training Education***

Colleen Muñoz, PhD  
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James M. O'Neil, PhD  
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Melissa Root, PhD  
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#### **UConn School of Engineering**

Ki Chon, PhD  
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Faquir Jain, PhD  
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Bing Wang, PhD  
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Fei Wang, PhD  
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#### **UConn School of Nursing**

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*Coordinator, **Graduate Community Health Track***

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*Director, **Center for Correctional Health Networks***

Angela Starkweather, PhD  
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Xiuling Lu, PhD  
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Jayashri Sankaranarayanan, PhD  
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Diana M. Sobieraj, PharmD  
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## **UConn School of Social Work**

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*Professor of **Social Work***  
*Associate Dean for Research*

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*Senior Research Scientist, **Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services***

Ann Marie Garran, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Social Work***

Michie N. Hesselbrock, PhD  
*Professor Emerita of **Social Work***

Brenda Kurz, PhD  
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*Director, **MSW Program***

Catherine Medina, PhD  
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Cristina Mogro-Wilson, PhD  
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Cheryl A. Parks, PhD  
*Emeritus Professor of **Social Work***

Lisa Werkmeister Rozas, PhD  
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## **UConn Health School of Dental Medicine**

Angela Bermudez-Millan, PhD, MPH  
*Associate Professor, **Division of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health***

Julie A. Wagner, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Behavioral Sciences and Community Health***

#### **UConn Health School of Medicine**

Danielle Barry, PhD, MPH  
*Assistant Professor of **Medicine, Calhoun Cardiac Center***

Lisa C. Barry, PhD, MPH  
*Assistant Professor, **Center on Aging***

Lance Bauer, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychiatry***

Molly Brewer, DVM, MD, MS  
*Professor, Chair of **Obstetrics and Gynecology***

Jorge Cervantes, MD, PhD  
*Research Associate, **Pediatrics***

Arvind Chhabra, PhD  
*Assistant Professor in Residence of **Medicine***

Andrew M. Cislo, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Medicine***

Michelle M. Cloutier, MD  
*Professor of **Pediatrics**  
Director of **Asthma Center, Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Emil Coman, PhD  
*Research Associate, **Ethel Donaghue Center for Translating Research into Practice and Policy***

Ellen K. Cromley, PhD  
*Adjunct Assistant Professor of **Community Medicine and Health Care***

Kevin D. Dieckhaus, MD  
*Associate Professor of **Medicine**  
Director, **AIDS Program, Department of Medicine***

Alicia Dugan, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Medicine***

Carolyn Drazinic, MD  
*Assistant Professor of **Psychiatry/Genetics***

Ann M. Ferris, PhD  
*Professor Emerita of **Nutritional Sciences***  
*Professor Emerita of **Community Medicine and Health Care***

Judith A. Fifield, PhD  
*Professor of **Medicine***  
*Director of **Ethel Donaghue Center for Translating Research into Practice and Policy***

Richard H. Fortinsky, PhD  
*Professor of **Medicine, Center on Aging***

Bruce E. Gould, MD  
*Professor of **Medicine***  
*Associate Dean for **Primary Care***

David I. Gregorio, PhD, MS  
*Professor, **Department of Community Medicine and Health Care***  
*Director of **Graduate Program in Public Health***

Jessica W. Guite, PhD  
*Pediatric Psychologist & Clinical Investigator, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***  
*Division of Pain & Palliative Medicine, **Pediatrics***

Victor M. Hesselbrock, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychiatry***  
*Scientific Director of the **Alcohol Research Center***

Jessica P. Hollenbach, PhD  
*Instructor of **Pediatrics***  
*Director of Asthma Programs, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Yifrah Kaminer, MD, MBA  
*Professor of **Psychiatry, Alcohol Research Center***



Zita Lazzarini, JD, MPH  
*Associate Professor of **Community Medicine and Health Care***

Mark D. Litt, PhD  
*Professor of **Behavioral Sciences***

Karina Lora, PhD  
*Adjunct Faculty Instructor, **Center for Public Health & Health Policy at UConn Health***

Renee Manworren, PhD, APRN, BC, PCNS-BC, FAAN  
*Nurse Scientist, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center**  
Assistant Professor of **Nursing, Medical School**  
Assistant Professor of **Nursing, UConn School of Nursing***

Christine Ohannessian, PhD  
*Director, **Children's Center for Community Research, Connecticut Children's Medical Center**  
Visiting Associate Professor of **Pediatrics***

Cheryl Oncken, MD, MPH  
*Professor of **Medicine & OBGYN***

Andrea Orsey, MD, MSCE  
*Assistant Professor of **Pediatrics**  
Attending Physician, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Scott Orsey, MS, MBA  
*Director of Operations and Strategy, **Office of Community Child Health, Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Joel S. Pachter, PhD  
*Professor of **Cell Biology***

Jeffrey Pella, PhD  
*Postdoctoral Fellow, **Department of Psychiatry***

Nancy M. Petry, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychiatry***

Jill Popp, PhD  
*Research Scientist, **Pediatrics, Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Carla Rash, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Medicine***

Juan C. Salazar, MD, MPH  
*Professor and Chair of **Pediatrics***  
*Interim Physician in Chief, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Melissa Santos, PhD  
*Pediatric Psychologist/Clinical Director, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Stephen L. Schensul, PhD  
*Professor of **Community Medicine and Health Care***

Adam Silverman, MD  
*Assistant Professor of **Pediatrics***  
*Leader, **Global Healthcare Project, Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Paul R. Skolnik, MD, FACP, FIDSA  
*Professor and Chair, Department of **Medicine***

Helen Swede, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Epidemiology and Biostatistics***

Howard Tennen, PhD  
*Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of **Community Medicine***

Christine Trapp, MD  
*Assistant Professor of **Pediatric Endocrinology***  
*Attending Physician at **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Keith A. vom Eigen, MD, PhD, MPH  
*Assistant Professor of **Internal Medicine***

Zhu Wang, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Medicine***  
*Senior Biostatistician of Research, **Connecticut Children's Medical Center***

Andrew Winokur, MD, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychiatry***

William Zempsky, MD, MPH  
*Director, **Pain and Palliative Medicine**, Connecticut Children's Medical Center*

#### **CHIP – University of Connecticut**

William D. Barta, PhD  
*Associate Research Scientist and **Nursing** Research Analyst*

#### **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity – University of Connecticut**

Roberta Friedman, ScM  
*Director of Public Policy, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***

Carol Hazen, MS  
*Program Director of Advocacy Resources, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***

Svetlana Kalnova, PhD  
*Assistant Research Professor, **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity***

#### **Brown University – Providence, RI**

Kate C. Carey, PhD,  
*Professor of **Behavioral and Social Sciences***

Michael P. Carey, PhD  
*Professor of **Behavioral and Social Sciences and Psychiatry and Human Behavior**  
Director, **Centers for Behavioral and Preventive Medicine**, the Miriam Hospital*

Sarah A. Lust, PhD  
*Project Coordinator, **Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies***

Cynthia Rosengard, PhD  
*Associate Professor of Research, **Behavioral and Social Sciences**, School of Public Health*

Lori A. J. Scott-Sheldon, PhD  
*Associate Research Professor of **Psychiatry and Human Behavior**, **Behavioral and Social Sciences***

Michael D. Stein, MD  
*Professor of **Medicine and Community Health**, School of Medicine*

**Christopher Newport University – Newport News, VA**

Alice E. Veksler, PhD

*Assistant Professor of **Health Communication***

**Colby College – Waterville, ME**

Allecia Reid, PhD

*Assistant Professor of **Psychology***

**College of the Holy Cross – Worcester, MA**

Stephenie R. Chaudoir, PhD

*Assistant Professor of **Psychology***

*Associate Research Scientist, **CHIP***

**Colorado State University – Fort Collins, CO**

Jennifer Jill Harman, PhD

*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

*Coordinator, **Applied Social Program***

**Eastern Connecticut State University – Willimantic, CT**

Carlos A. Escoto, PhD

*Professor of **Psychology***

*Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Coordinator*

**Fairfield University – Fairfield, CT**

Catherine Andersen, PhD

*Assistant Professor of **Biology***

**Georgia State University – Atlanta, GA**

Anthony Lemieux, PhD

*Associate Professor of **Communication***

**Hartford Hospital – Hartford, CT**

Kevin Ballard, PhD

Senior Scientist, Department of **Preventative Cardiology**

Jack Ross, MD  
*Adjunct Professor of **Infectious Diseases***

Paul D. Thompson, MD  
*Professor of **Medicine**  
Director of **Cardiology***

**Institute for Community Research – Hartford, CT**

Jianghong Li, MD, MPH, MS  
*Senior Research Scientist*

Kim E. Radda, RN, MA  
*Director of **Research Administration/IRB Administrator***

Jean J. Schensul, PhD  
*Senior Scientist and Founding Director*

Margaret R. Weeks, PhD  
*Executive Director*

**Institute of Living, Hartford Hospital**

Janet Ng, PhD  
*Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Cognition, Brain Imaging, Behavior Research and Allelic Variation Laboratory (COBRA Lab), **Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center***

**John Hopkins School of Public Health – Baltimore, MD**

Michelle R. Kaufman, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Health, Behavior, and Society***

**Michigan State University - East Lansing, MI**

Douglas K. Hartman, PhD  
*Professor of **Literacy and Technology***

**Mount Sinai Hospital – New York, NY**

Ashley M Fox, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Health Evidence and Policy, Mount Sinai School of Medicine***

### **National Cancer Institute - Bethesda, MD**

Rebecca Ferrer, PhD

*Program Director, **Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences***

Wynne E. Norton, PhD

*Assistant Professor of **Health Behavior***

### **North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC**

Karen Bullock, PhD, LCSW

*Professor, Department Head of **Social Work***

### **Ohio State University – Columbus, OH**

Richard S. Bruno, PhD, RD

*Associate Professor of **Human Nutrition***

Carl Maresh, PhD

*Chair of **Human Sciences***

Ann A. O’Connell, PhD

*Professor of **Educational Policy & Leadership***

Ana Lourdes Volek, PhD

*Visiting Assistant Professor of **Kinesiology***

Jeff S. Volek, PhD

*Professor, **Human Sciences Administration***

### **Private Industry**

Sarah Christie, MA

*Research Assistant*

Mark R. Convey, MA

*Research Associate/Anthropologist*

Sarah Diamond, PhD

*Associate Research Scientist at **Diamond Research, LLC***

Monika Doshi, MPH

*Medical Consultant*

Nathan Geffen, BS  
*Journalist*

Matthew Kostek, PhD  
*Human Performance Specialist*

Joseph McManus, MPH  
*Medical Consultant*

Sheri Pruitt, PhD  
*Director, **The Permanent Medical Group***

Mark Samos, MA  
*Clinical Consultant, **Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation***

Thomas Taaffe, PhD  
*Ethnographer*

Sagar Vaddiraju, PhD  
*R&D Director, **Biorasis, Inc.***

#### **Saint Francis CARE**

Marcus McKinney, DMin, LPC  
*Vice President, **Community Health Equity***

#### **Saint Louis University – St. Louis, MO**

Jeremiah Weinstock, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Psychology***

#### **San Diego State University – San Diego, CA**

Susan Kiene, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Global Health***

#### **Southern Connecticut State University – New Haven, CT**

Jean M. Breny, PhD, MPH  
*Professor, Department Chair of **Public Health***



**Syracuse University – Syracuse, NY**

Randall S. Jorgensen, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology**, **Clinical Psychology Program***

**Texas A&M University – Dallas, TX**

Idethia Shevon Harvey, DrPH  
*Assistant Professor of **Health & Kinesiology**  
Associate Director, **Transdisciplinary Center on Health Equity Research***

**Texas A&M University, Baylor College of Dentistry – Dallas, TX**

Marie Latortue, DDS, MS  
*Assistant Professor of **Dentistry***

**The Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo**

Samer Halabi, PhD  
*Lecturer of **Behavioral Sciences***

**United State Food and Drug Administration – Rockville, MD**

David B. Portnoy, PhD, MPH  
*Social Scientist, **Center for Tobacco Products***

**University at Albany School of Public Health – Albany, NY**

Jennifer Manganello, PhD, MPH  
*Associate Professor, **Health Policy, Management, & Behavior***

**University of Alabama – Birmingham, AL**

TaShauna Goldsby, PhD  
*Postdoctoral Fellow, **Division of Preventive Medicine***

**University of Arkansas – Little Rock, AR**

Ann M. Cheney, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Psychiatry***

**University of California – San Francisco**

Judy Tan, PhD  
*Postdoctoral Fellow, **Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, University of California San Francisco***

**University of Colorado – Boulder, CO**

Angela Bryan, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology and Neuroscience***

**University of Delaware – Newark, Delaware**

Anjana Bhat, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Physical Therapy***

**University of Exeter Medical School – United Kingdom**

Charles Abraham, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

**University of Hartford – Hartford, CT**

Jeffrey P. Cohen, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Economics***

**University of Illinois (Chicago) – Chicago, IL**

Demetria Cain, MPH  
*Research Program Manager, **Community Health Sciences***

**University of Kentucky – Lexington, KY**

Thomas W. Miller, PhD  
*Professor Emeritus of **Psychiatry**, College of Medicine*

**University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, MI**

K. Rivet Amico, PhD  
*Research Associate Professor of **Public Health***

**University of New Haven – New Haven, CT**

Carolyn Lagoe, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication***

**University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, NC**

Marcella Boynton, PhD  
*Research Assistant Professor, **Health Behavior at Gillings School of Global Public Health***

**University of North Carolina – Wilmington, NC**

Matthew A. Lapierre, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication Studies***

**University of Pennsylvania – Philadelphia, PA**

Megan Stanton, PhD  
*Research Fellow, **School of Social Policy and Practice***

**University of Saint Joseph – West Hartford, CT**

Katie S. Martin, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Nutrition and Public Health***

**University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC**

Mark Macaуда, PhD, MPH  
*Practice and Placement Coordinator, **Arnold School of Public Health***

**University of Toronto**

Paul A. Shuper, PhD  
*Senior Scientist, **Centre for Addiction & Mental Health***

**University of Virginia**

Nicola Bulled, PhD  
*Post-Doctoral Fellow, **School of Medicine***

**University of Western Ontario – London, Ontario, Canada**

William A. Fisher, PhD  
*Distinguished Professor of **Psychology, and Obstetrics and Gynecology***

**University of Western Sydney – Sydney, Australia**

Hudson Birden, PhD  
*Senior Lecturer, **University Centre for Rural Health, North Coast***

**University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

Chad Cotti, PhD  
*Associate Professor, Department Chair, Oshkosh Corporation Endowed Professor of **Economics***

**Vanderbilt University – Nashville, TN**

Chandra Y. Osborn, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Medicine***

**Wageningen University, Wageningen, the Netherlands**

Marijn de Bruin, PhD  
*Assistant Professor of **Communication Science***

**Western New England University – Springfield, MA**

Jason D. Seacat, PhD  
*Associate Professor of **Psychology***

**Yale University – New Haven, CT**

Frederick L. Altice, MD  
*Professor of **Medicine***  
*Director of **Clinical and Community Research***  
*Director of **HIV in Prisons Program***

Ruth M. Arnold, PhD  
*Associate Research Scientist, **School of Medicine***

John F. Dovidio, PhD  
*Professor of **Psychology***

Gerald H. Friedland, MD  
*Professor of **Medicine, Epidemiology, and Public Health***  
*Director, **AIDS Program***

Michael J. Kozal, MD  
*Professor of **Medicine, Infectious Diseases***

Archana Krishnan, PhD  
*Postdoctoral Research Associate, **Department of Internal Medicine***

Sheryl LaCoursiere, PhD, RN  
*Lecturer, **Center for Medical Informatics***

Godfrey D. Pearlson, MBBS, MD  
*Professor of **Psychiatry and of Neurobiology***  
*Center Director, **Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center***

Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, PhD  
*Professor of **Epidemiology***  
*Director, **Center for Eliminating Disparities among Latinos***

Gwendolyn Thomas, PhD  
*Postdoctoral Fellow, **School of Medicine***

Robin Whittemore, PhD, APRN  
*Associate Professor of **Nursing***

#### APPENDIX 4: CHIP Business Office Functions and Responsibilities (as of June 30, 2015)

Business Office Function	1 <sup>st</sup> Staff Member	2 <sup>nd</sup> Staff Member
Accounts Payable/Out-of-Pocket Reimbursements (not exceeding \$499)	Lynne Hendrickson	Melissa Stone
CHIP Annual Report	Julie DeSalvo	Susan Hoge / Deborah Cornman
CHIP Affiliation	Julie DeSalvo	Susan Hoge
CHIP Operational Budget Management	Melissa Stone	Lynne Hendrickson
CHIP Seed Grant Budgets/Expenses	Lynne Hendrickson	Melissa Stone
CHIP Seed Grant Pre-Submission/Applications	Megan Zhou	Deborah Cornman
Communications and Marketing	Beth Krane	TBN
Conference Room and Pod/Equipment Sign-Out	Julie DeSalvo	Susan Hoge
Facilities – Report Problems at CHIP	Melissa Stone	Lynne Hendrickson
Facilities – New Space Requests	Susan Hoge	Jeff Fisher
Research Funding Dissemination & Opportunity Emails (weekly) & Custom Funding Searches	Megan Zhou	TBN
Grant Management (Pre-Award & Post-Award)	AnnMarie White	Melissa Stone
Human Resources/Personnel (Faculty & Staff)	Susan Hoge	Deborah Cornman / Jeffrey Fisher
Inventory on Loan/ACT-40s	Lynne Hendrickson	Melissa Stone
Inventory/Warehouse (office furniture etc.)	Susan Hoge	Lynne Hendrickson
IT Management/Support	Chris Tarricone	Joshua Hardin
IT Purchasing Advice/Quotations	Joshua Hardin	Chris Tarricone
Keys	Julie DeSalvo (temporary/daily sign-out)	Susan Hoge (long-term sign-out)
Keycards (Proximity Cards)	Joshua Hardin	Chris Tarricone

<b>Business Office Function</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Staff Member</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Staff Member</b>
Labor/Union Relations (Staff & Students)	Susan Hoge	Deborah Cornman / Jeffrey Fisher
Lecture Series	Julie DeSalvo	Susan Hoge
LISTSERV Management	Julie DeSalvo	Susan Hoge
Mail Service	Lynne Hendrickson	Melissa Stone
Parking Tags	Julie DeSalvo	Susan Hoge
Participant Incentives/Cash Advances	Melissa Stone	Lynne Hendrickson
Payroll (Faculty, Staff, & Students)	Susan Hoge	Niva Ranjeet
Purchasing – CHIP	Melissa Stone	Lynne Hendrickson
Purchasing – Grants	Melissa Stone	Lynne Hendrickson
Security	Chris Tarricone	Susan Hoge
Statistical Support Requests	Haim Bar	N/A
Student Employment/Issues (Graduate Student, Student Labor, & Work Study)	Susan Hoge	Deborah Cornman
Subcontracts and Consultant Agreements (Grant Funded)	Melissa Stone	AnnMarie White
Telecommunications (Landlines, Cell Phones, & Blackberries)	Lynne Hendrickson	Melissa Stone
Travel – Authorizations and Reimbursements	Lynne Hendrickson	Melissa Stone
Website Administration/Management	Joshua Hardin	Chris Tarricone



## APPENDIX 5: Announcements of CHIP Seed Grant Funding



### Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): CHIP Seed Grants for Faculty/Researcher Affiliates FY15

#### A. KEY DATES

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| • October 7, 2014                 | FOA posted; earliest submission date                          |
| • Friday, December 5, 2014        | <b><u>Letters of Intent (required) due by 5:00 PM EST</u></b> |
| • Friday, December 19, 2014       | Applicants notified of LOI approval decision                  |
| • Friday, January 23, 2015        | CHIP Affiliate Application due by 5:00 PM EST                 |
| • Friday, February 6, 2015        | <b><u>Full Proposals due by 5:00 PM EST</u></b>               |
| • April 2015                      | Applicants notified of award decision                         |
| • April 15, 2015 – April 15, 2017 | Award period  |
| • June 30, 2017                   | Deadline for resulting external grant submission              |

#### B. PURPOSE

UConn's Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) offers seed grants for faculty and researchers at the Storrs or regional campuses who are CHIP Affiliates. These grants provide funds to support new research initiatives and pilot work that will lead to new large R01-type external grant applications submitted through CHIP in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change.

#### C. FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Two seed grants of \$15,000 each are available for award in this seed grant competition.
- ***One seed grant will be reserved for applicants who have never have never had more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding. The other seed grant will be reserved for applicants who have received more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding during their career.***
- Any external grant proposal that is ultimately written with support from this seed grant must be submitted through CHIP.
- Funds may be used to support routine research-related expenses such as payment of participants, copying of research material (e.g., questionnaires, consent forms), specialized equipment (e.g., digital recorder), or paying research assistants with specialized skills necessary for the proposed project (e.g., fluency in Spanish).

- Funds may **not** be used to support the investigator's salary, travel to conferences, routine office equipment (e.g., computers), or student tuition and/or fees.

## D. PROJECT AND INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

1. The investigator must have an advanced degree (e.g., PhD, MD, PharmD), have an eligible faculty appointment (see below) at UConn Storrs or the regional campuses (not UConn Health) and must be eligible to submit external grants through UConn.
2. Eligible faculty appointments are: tenured or tenure-track faculty; in-residence research faculty; clinical faculty; other research faculty; and research scientists/scholars.
3. Ineligible faculty appointments are: post-doctoral fellows; lecturers; research assistants and research associates; visiting titles; extension titles; and adjunct faculty.
4. Graduate students are not eligible for this opportunity.
5. The applicant is required to be an approved CHIP Faculty/Researcher Affiliate, or submit application to become a CHIP Faculty/Researcher Affiliate by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, January 23, 2015**. The CHIP Affiliation application form and instructions are available at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/affiliate-application/>. Please allow at least two weeks for approval.
6. The proposed research must focus on health behavior and be consistent with CHIP's mission, which can be found at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/about/mission/>.
7. Awardees are expected to commit in good faith to submit an external grant proposal written with support from this seed grant by June 30, 2017.
8. Any investigator who has funding from previous CHIP seed grants should close out that award before the start of this award period.
9. Each individual may only submit one LOI/proposal for this competition as the lead applicant (i.e., Principal Investigator).

## E. APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

### Stage 1: Letter of Intent

1. All applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) form by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, December 5, 2014**.
2. The online LOI form can be found at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants).
3. LOIs will be reviewed by CHIP to determine the eligibility of the investigator and proposed research.
4. Applicants must receive written approval of their LOIs prior to submitting a full proposal.

### Stage 2: Full Proposal

1. Full proposals must be submitted by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, February 6, 2015**.
2. Full proposals should be submitted *electronically* using the Seed Grant Application Form provided at the link, [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants) (available November 2014).
3. The Seed Grant Application form, which will be available on the above website by November 2014, is modeled after a National Institutes of Health (NIH) R21 grant proposal and will require, at a minimum:
  - a. Abstract
  - b. Roles and functions of project personnel

- c. Detailed budget and budget justification
- d. NIH-format biosketches for PIs and key personnel
- e. Research plan (**not to exceed 7 pages**)
  - i. Specific Aims (1 page)
  - ii. Research Strategy (max of 6 pages)
- f. References
- g. Human subjects section
- h. Information on other support for the project.

Research plans **should not exceed 7 single-spaced pages**, with one page for the Specific Aims and up to 6 pages for the Research Strategy. Additional required sections (e.g., Abstract, Budget, Biosketches, References, Human Subjects, and other support) do not count towards the 7-page limit. Detailed instructions will be provided in the Seed Grant Application form.

- 4. Proposals are **not** required to be routed through CHIP or Sponsored Programs Services.
- 5. CHIP grants management staff will not be able to assist with development of the budget, the budget justification, or any other aspect of the grant proposal.
- 6. Seed grant proposals must be predominantly the work of the Principal Investigator (PI) and *for the benefit of the PI's research program*. Proposals written primarily by graduate students or others in the PI's name will not be considered.
- 7. In fairness to all applicants, late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- 8. Investigators will be notified via email whether or not their proposal has been awarded funding.

## F. REVIEW CRITERIA

Priority for funding will be based on the following review criteria, in no particular order:

- Scientific merit of the research plan.
- Completed project's likelihood to elicit external funding.
- Importance of the research question.
- Extent to which the project is novel or innovative, especially a proposal testing a new methodology, new theory, or new area in need of pilot data.
- Composition of the research team (preference will be given to interdisciplinary work).
- Relevance to the mission of CHIP.
- Extent to which the project demonstrates collaboration with community-based organizations (community collaborations will be regarded positively).

## G. CONTACT

For questions not addressed in this FOA or at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), please contact [seedgrants@chip.uconn.edu](mailto:seedgrants@chip.uconn.edu).

**Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA):  
CHIP Grant Development Summer Stipends for Junior Faculty FY15**

**A. KEY DATES**

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • October 7, 2014           | FOA posted; earliest submission date                          |
| • Friday, December 5, 2014  | <b><u>Letters of Intent</u> (required) due by 5:00 PM EST</b> |
| • Friday, December 19, 2014 | Applicants notified of LOI approval decision                  |
| • Friday, January 23, 2015  | CHIP Affiliate Application due by 5:00 PM EST                 |
| • Friday, February 6, 2015  | <b>Full proposals due by 5:00 PM EST</b>                      |
| • April 2015                | Applicants notified of award decision                         |
| • Summer 2015               | Award period  |
| • September 1, 2015         | Deadline for resulting external grant submission              |

**B. PURPOSE**

UConn's Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) offers summer stipends to junior faculty at the Storrs or regional campuses who are CHIP affiliates, to assist them with writing successful grant applications in health behavior and health behavior change.

While the external grant proposal is being prepared, CHIP will mentor the grant writer and will also send the proposal, before it is submitted to the funder, for external review by major experts in the field. CHIP may also send the proposal to program officials at NIH (if applicable) for feedback. All feedback can be incorporated into the investigator's final external grant proposal.

**C. FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

- Two Summer Stipends of \$2,500 each are available for award in this competition.
- The Summer Stipend will be paid to you when the grant proposal is submitted to an external funding agency.
- Any external grant proposal that is written with support from a Summer Stipend must be submitted through CHIP.
- Those selected for the CHIP Grant Development Stipend cannot do summer teaching in 2015, during the period of the stipend.

## D. PROJECT AND INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

1. This seed grant opportunity targets faculty who have never been awarded a large external grant. Faculty who have previously been awarded an external grant of more than \$100,000 per year in total costs are not eligible.
2. The investigator must have an advanced degree (e.g., PhD, MD, PharmD), have an eligible faculty appointment (see below) at UConn Storrs or regional campuses (not UConn Health), and must be eligible to submit external grants through UConn.
3. Eligible faculty appointments are: tenured or tenure-track faculty; in-residence research faculty; clinical faculty; other research faculty; and research scientists/scholars.
4. Ineligible faculty appointments are: post-doctoral fellows; lecturers; research assistants and research associates; visiting titles; extension titles; and adjunct faculty.
5. Graduate students are not eligible for this opportunity.
6. The applicant is required to be an approved CHIP Faculty/Researcher Affiliate, or submit application to become a CHIP Faculty/Researcher Affiliate by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, January 23, 2015**. The CHIP Affiliation application form and instructions are available at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/affiliate-application/>. Please allow at least two weeks for approval.
7. The proposed research must focus on health behavior and be consistent with CHIP's mission, which can be found at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/about/mission/>.
8. Awardees are expected to commit in good faith to submit an external grant proposal written with support from the Summer Stipend by September 1, 2015.
9. Any investigator who has funding from previous CHIP seed grants should close out that award before the start of this award period.

## E. APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

### Stage 1: Letter of Intent

1. All applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) form by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, December 5, 2014**.
2. The online LOI form can be found at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants).
3. LOIs will be reviewed by CHIP to determine the eligibility of the investigator and proposed research.
4. Applicants must receive written approval of their LOIs prior to submitting a full proposal.

### Stage 2: Full Proposal

1. Full proposals must be submitted by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, February 6, 2015**.
2. Full proposals should be submitted *electronically* using the Seed Grant Application Form provided at the link [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants) (available November 2014).
3. The Seed Grant Application form, which is available at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), mirrors those used by the NIH and all Public Health Services agencies, and will require, at minimum:
  - a. Description of the focus of the external grant proposal that will be written, how it will contribute to the literature, the type of grant (R21, R03), the agency, and any funding mechanism under which the grant will be submitted.

- b. Description, in some detail, of the work that will be done on the grant proposal during the period covered by the CHIP stipend. Evidence that the funding agency is interested in the proposed study is helpful.
  - c. Research Plan (**not to exceed 5 single spaced pages**)
    - i. *Specific Aims* (**1 page**)
    - ii. *Research Strategy* (**maximum of 4 pages**)
      - 1. *Significance.*
      - 2. *Innovation.*
      - 3. *Approach.*
  - d. References.
  - e. **Brief** Human Subjects section, if applicable (i.e., Protection of Human Subjects, Inclusion of Women and Minorities, Targeted/Planned Enrollment Table, Inclusion of Children).
- Research Plans should **not exceed 5 single-spaced pages**, with one page for the Specific Aims and up to 4 pages for the Research Strategy. This 5-page limit does **not** include other required sections such as the References List, Human Subject section (if applicable), and Appendices. Detailed instructions will be provided in the full seed grant application form.
- f. Any letters of support from the research performance site(s) and collaborating faculty can be attached and should indicate appropriate linkage and support for conducting the proposed study at the selected location(s).

9. In fairness to all applicants, late applications and applications that do not include all required components will not be accepted.

10. Proposals are **not** required to be routed through CHIP or the Office of Sponsored Programs.

11. Investigators will be notified via email whether or not their proposal has been awarded funding.

## F. REVIEW CRITERIA

Priority for funding will be based on the following review criteria, in no particular order:

- Scientific merit of the research plan.
- Completed project's likelihood to elicit external funding.
- Importance of the research question.
- Extent to which the project is novel or innovative, especially a proposal testing a new methodology, new theory, or new area in need of pilot data.
- Composition of the research team (preference will be given to interdisciplinary work).
- Relevance to the mission of CHIP.
- Extent to which the project demonstrates collaboration with community-based organizations (community collaborations will be regarded positively).

## G. CONTACT

For questions not addressed in this FOA or at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), please contact [seedgrants@chip.uconn.edu](mailto:seedgrants@chip.uconn.edu).

## Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate Seed Grants FY15

### A. KEY DATES

- October 7, 2014 FOA posted; earliest submission date
- Friday, December 5, 2014 **Letters of Intent (required) due by 5:00 PM EST**
- Friday, December 19, 2014 Applicants notified of LOI approval decision
- Friday, January 23, 2015 CHIP Affiliate Application due by 5:00 PM EST
- Friday, February 6, 2015 **Full proposals due by 5:00 PM EST**
- April 2015 Applicants notified of award decision
- April 15, 2015 - April 15, 2017 Award period

### B. PURPOSE

UConn's Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) offers seed grants for graduate students at the Storrs or regional campuses who are CHIP Graduate Student Affiliates. These grants provide funds to support new research initiatives and pilot work in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change.

### C. FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- At minimum, three seed grants of \$1,500 each are available for award in this seed grant competition.
- Funds may be used to support routine research-related expenses, such as payment of participants, copying of research material (e.g., questionnaires, consent forms), specialized equipment (e.g., digital recorder), or paying research assistants with specialized skills necessary for the proposed project (e.g., fluency in Spanish).
- Funds may **not** be used to support the investigator's salary, travel to conferences, routine office equipment (e.g., computers), or student tuition and fees.

### D. PROJECT AND INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

1. The applicant must be a graduate student who studies at the UConn Storrs or the regional campuses (not UConn Health).



2. The applicant is required to be an approved CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate, or submit application to become a CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate by **5:00pm EST on Friday, January 23, 2015**. The CHIP Graduate Student Affiliation application form and instructions are available at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/affiliate-application/>. Please allow at least two weeks for approval.
3. The proposed research must focus on health behavior and be consistent with CHIP's mission, which can be found at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/about/mission/>.
4. Any applicant who has funding from previous CHIP seed grants should fully close out that award before the start of this award period.
5. Each individual may only submit one LOI/proposal for this competition as the lead applicant (i.e., Principal Investigator [PI]).

## E. APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

### Stage 1: Letter of Intent

1. All applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) form by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, December 5, 2014**.
2. The online LOI form can be found at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants).
3. LOIs will be reviewed by CHIP to determine the eligibility of the investigator and proposed research.
4. Applicants must receive written approval of their LOIs prior to submitting a full proposal.

### Stage 2: Full Proposal

1. Full proposals must be submitted by **5:00 pm EST on Friday, February 6, 2015**.
2. Full proposals should be submitted *electronically* using the Seed Grant Application Form provided at the link, [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants) (available November 2014).
3. The Seed Grant Application form, which will be available on the above website by November 2014, is modeled after a National Institutes of Health (NIH) R21 grant proposal and will require, at a minimum:
  - a. Abstract
  - b. Roles and functions of project personnel
  - c. Detailed budget and budget justification
  - d. NIH-format biosketches for PIs and key personnel
  - e. Research plan (**not to exceed 5 pages**)
    - i. Specific Aims (**1 page**)
    - ii. Research Strategy (**max of 4 pages**)
  - f. References
  - g. Human subjects section
  - h. Information on other support for the project

Research plans should **not exceed 5 single-spaced pages**, with one page for the Specific Aims and up to 4 pages for the Research Strategy. Additional required sections (e.g. Abstract, Budget, Biosketches, References, Human Subjects, and other support) do **not** count towards the 5-page limit. Detailed instructions will be provided in the full seed grant application form.

4. Proposals are **not** required to be routed through CHIP or Sponsored Programs Services.
5. CHIP grants management staff will not be able to assist with development of the budget, the budget justification, or any other aspect of the grant proposal.
6. In fairness to all applicants, late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.
7. Applicants will be notified via email whether or not their proposal has been awarded funding.

## F. REVIEW CRITERIA

Priority for funding will be based on the following review criteria, in no particular order:

- Scientific merit of the research plan.
- Completed project's likelihood to develop into a larger study and garner external funding (e.g., an NRSA proposal through NIH).
- Importance of the research question.
- Extent to which the project is novel or innovative, especially a proposal testing a new methodology, new theory, or new research area in need of pilot data.
- Composition of the research team (preference will be given to multidisciplinary work).
- Relevance to the mission of CHIP.
- Extent to which the project demonstrates collaboration with community-based organizations (i.e., community collaborations will be regarded positively).

## G. CONTACT

For questions not addressed in this FOA or at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), please contact [seedgrants@chip.uconn.edu](mailto:seedgrants@chip.uconn.edu).

## APPENDIX 6: Announcement of CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant for Collaborative Research



### **Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior FY15**

Issued September 11, 2014

#### **A. KEY DATES**

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • September 11, 2014           | FOA posted; earliest submission date                     |
| • Friday, December 5, 2014     | <b>Letters of Intent (required) due by 5:00 PM EST</b>   |
| • Friday, December 19, 2014    | Applicants notified of LOI approval decision             |
| • Friday, January 23, 2015     | <i>CHIP Affiliate Application due by 5:00 PM EST</i>     |
| • Friday, February 6, 2015     | <b>Full proposals due by 5:00 PM EST</b>                 |
| • April 2015                   | Applicants notified of award decision                    |
| • July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017 | Award period   |
| • December 31, 2017            | Deadline for resulting dual-PI external grant submission |

#### **B. PURPOSE**

The Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) at UConn Storrs and the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health invite proposals for new research initiatives at the intersection of mental health and health behavior, undertaken jointly by two investigators: one appointed at the Storrs or regional campuses and is (or becomes) affiliated with CHIP, and one appointed in the Psychiatry department at UConn Health. The ultimate goal of the **CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior** is to support interdisciplinary pilot research that will lead to strong future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through CHIP and UConn Health.

#### **C. FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

A total of \$50,000 is available to award in this seed grant competition. Proposals must be in the range of \$30,000 (minimum) to \$50,000 (maximum). All grant funds must be expended within two years of the award date. Unexpended funds will revert to CHIP and the Department of Psychiatry.

**Seed grant funds may only be used for direct costs of carrying out approved projects, such as:**

1. Personnel who are essential for conducting the research project, such as graduate research assistants and student labor. Individuals who are not on the regular state payroll (i.e., consultants and other off-campus assistance) may be hired to perform special research-related tasks as needed.
2. Resources that require fee-for-services within UConn or UConn Health.
3. Participant incentives for recruitment or study participation.
4. Travel that is necessary to conduct the research; NOT travel to present the results of the research, or travel to explore future funding opportunities.
5. Equipment necessary for conducting the research ("equipment" is defined as an article of tangible, nonexpendable, personal property that costs \$5,000 or more).
6. Project supplies, including drugs and services.
7. Other specifically authorized expenses as may be essential to carrying out the project.

**Seed grant funds may not be used for the following:**

1. Principal Investigator's, Co-Investigator's, or any faculty member's salary.
2. Living expenses.
3. Service/maintenance contracts on equipment.
4. Laboratory renovations or other infrastructure renovations.
5. Institutional memberships in professional organizations.
6. Travel to professional meetings to present the results of the research, or any conference attendance.
7. Indirect costs, including clerical and administrative personnel salaries.
8. Costs associated with the publication of results of the research, such as purchase of reprints. Page charges are allowable costs.
9. Investigator training costs, including tuition.

## **D. PROJECT AND INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY**

1. Proposals must be novel and must take an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to the study of mental health and health behavior. Both PIs in the dual-PI teams are expected to make appropriate and significant contributions to the proposed research, and to perform new research that could not be achieved without the collaboration and seed grant funding.
2. Two PIs are required and must meet the following eligibility requirements:
  - a. The "Psychiatry PI" must have an eligible faculty appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health, and is eligible to submit grants through UConn Health. The Psychiatry PI is not required to be a CHIP Affiliate.
  - b. The "Storrs PI" must have an eligible faculty appointment at the UConn Storrs or regional campuses (excluding UConn Health), and must be eligible to submit grants through UConn Storrs. The Storrs PI is required to be an approved CHIP Affiliate *by the time of final proposal submission*. The CHIP Affiliation application form and instructions are available at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/affiliate-application/>. Please allow at least two weeks for approval.
  - c. Eligible faculty appointments are: tenured or tenure-track faculty; in-residence research faculty; clinical faculty; other research faculty; research scientists/scholars; and adjunct faculty. Eligible faculty are not restricted to junior faculty.
  - d. Ineligible faculty appointments are: post-doctoral fellows; lecturers; research assistants and research associates; visiting titles; and extension titles.

- e. Post-doctoral fellows and graduate students are not eligible.
  - f. Seed grant proposals must be predominantly the work of the PIs and for the benefit of the PIs' research programs. Proposals written primarily by graduate students or others in the PIs' names are not allowed.
3. The proposed research must be consistent with the research missions of both CHIP and Psychiatry:
    - a. "CHIP will undertake research to create new scientific knowledge, theoretical frameworks, and methodological advances in the areas of health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention, and prevention. This work will focus on understanding the dynamics of health behavior and related systems, the science of health behavior change, and the science and practice of developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating effective interventions."
    - b. "Research in the Department of Psychiatry is wide-ranging in scope and approach, and it aims to advance knowledge that will improve the lives of people with mental illness and substance use disorders."
  4. Examples of eligible topics of study include, but are not limited to:
    - Assessment of mental disorders as mediators or moderators of health behavior change (e.g., the effects of depression on health behavior outcomes in cancer, HIV, etc.).
    - Health behavior interventions for mental illnesses and substance use disorders (e.g., behavioral interventions for alcohol/substance use, caregiver interventions for dementia, mindfulness meditation for depression).
  5. Proposed studies must be primarily clinical or translational in nature, and must be conducted primarily using human subjects or existing data from human subjects; proposals that are primarily basic science or preclinical studies are not eligible.
  6. The PIs must commit in good faith to use the seed grant funds to obtain pilot data to support an external grant proposal that will be submitted through either CHIP or UConn Health, with a substantial subcontract to the other entity, by December 31, 2017.
  7. Any PI who has funding from previous CHIP seed grants should fully expend and close out those award funds before the start of this award period.
  8. Each dual-PI team may only submit one LOI/proposal. However, PIs may submit one other LOI/proposal with a different co-PI.

## E. APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

**Note:** Neither CHIP nor Psychiatry staff will assist applicants with development of the budget, the budget justification, or any other aspect of the seed grant LOI or proposal.

### Stage 1: Letter of Intent

1. All applicants must submit an online Letter of Intent (LOI) form, available at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), by the above specified due date/time. Each dual-PI team should submit only one LOI. A budget is not required at the time of LOI submission. LOIs do not require routing through grants offices at UConn Health or UConn Storrs.
2. LOIs will be reviewed by CHIP/Psychiatry staff to determine the eligibility of the proposed research and applicant team.
3. Applicants must receive written approval of their LOIs prior to submitting a full proposal.

### Stage 2: Full Proposal

1. Full proposals must be submitted online at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants) by the above specified due date/time. The application form, which will be available on the aforementioned website by November 2014, is modeled after an National Institutes of Health (NIH) R21 grant proposal and will require,

at a minimum, an abstract, roles and functions of project personnel, detailed budget and budget justification, NIH-format biosketches for PIs and key personnel, a research plan, references, a human subjects section, and information on other support for the project. Each dual-PI team should submit only one full proposal, with separate budgets for the Storrs PI and the UConn Health PI. Late and/or incomplete submissions will not be accepted, so please plan accordingly and allow plenty of time to prepare your proposal.

2. Full proposals will undergo a rigorous review process based on the National Institutes of Health grant review process, with reviewers from CHIP and Psychiatry. One or more external reviewers may be consulted, as well. Individuals who are Senior/Key Personnel or Other Significant Contributors on a seed grant proposal will be excluded from participation in the review process.
3. Each dual-PI team will be notified via email whether or not their proposal has been awarded funding.

## F. REVIEW CRITERIA

Priority for funding will be based on the following review criteria, in no particular order:

- Scientific merit of the research plan.
- Extent to which the project is novel or innovative, especially a proposal testing a new methodology, new theory, or new area in need of pilot data.
- Relevance of the study to the research missions of CHIP and the Department of Psychiatry
- Importance of the research question to external funders.
- Feasibility of plans to submit a subsequent dual-PI proposal to external funders no later than December 31, 2017.
- Appropriate and significant scientific contributions by each of the two PIs to complete the aims of the study.
- Composition of the research team (preference will be given to teams with more disciplines represented).

## G. AWARDEE REQUIREMENTS

- Immediately after the award, the Psychiatry PI will be required to route the proposal through their Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) at UConn Health. The Storrs PI will not be required to route the proposal through their Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) at UConn Storrs.
- The awarded PIs are responsible for obtaining all required approvals for the research (IRB, ACC, etc.). The UConn Storrs and UConn Health IRBs will consider on a case-by-case basis whether the dual-PI team must obtain IRB approval from the UConn Storrs IRB, the UConn Health IRB, or both. Please contact Doug Bradway (UConn Storrs IRB Office, 860-486-0986, [doug.bradway@uconn.edu](mailto:doug.bradway@uconn.edu)) and/or the appropriate IRB coordinator at UConn Health (see <http://hspo.uchc.edu/contact/index.html>) to discuss the IRB requirements for your proposed project.
- Awardees will be required to submit progress reports every 6 months and a final report at the conclusion of the project or award period. Changes to the project's objective, PIs, and budget will require prior approval from CHIP/Psychiatry staff.
- Detailed awardee instructions/requirements will be distributed to seed grant winners when they are notified of the award decisions. All awardee requirements described above are subject to change in accordance with updated institutional procedures (e.g., routing requirements).

## H. CONTACT

For questions not addressed in this FOA or at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), please contact CHIP's Director, Jeffrey Fisher, at [jeffrey.fisher@chip.uconn.edu](mailto:jeffrey.fisher@chip.uconn.edu).

## APPENDIX 7: Announcement of CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research



### **Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Child Health Behavior FY15**

Issued September 11, 2014

#### **A. KEY DATES**

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • September 11, 2014           | FOA posted; earliest submission date                     |
| • Friday, December 5, 2014     | <b>Letters of Intent (required) due by 5:00 PM EST</b>   |
| • Friday, December 19, 2014    | Applicants notified of LOI approval decision             |
| • Friday, January 23, 2015     | <i>CHIP Affiliate Application due by 5:00 PM EST</i>     |
| • Friday, February 6, 2015     | <b>Full Proposals due by 5:00 PM EST</b>                 |
| • April 2015                   | Applicants notified of award decision                    |
| • July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017 | Award period   |
| • December 31, 2017            | Deadline for resulting dual-PI external grant submission |

#### **B. PURPOSE**

UConn's Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) and Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CT Children's) invite proposals for new research initiatives at the intersection of children's health and behavior change. Projects must be undertaken jointly by two investigators: one appointed at the UConn Storrs or regional campuses and is (or becomes) affiliated with CHIP, and one appointed at CT Children's. The ultimate goal of the **CHIP-CT Children's Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Child Health Behavior** is to support interdisciplinary pilot research that will lead to strong future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through CHIP and CT Children's.

#### **C. FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

Two awards of up to \$30,000 each are available for this seed grant competition. All grant funds must be expended within two years of the award date. Unexpended funds will revert to CHIP and CT Children's.

**Seed grant funds may be used only for direct costs of carrying out approved projects, such as:**

1. Personnel who are essential for performing research-related tasks, such as graduate or other research assistants, student labor, and consultants. Personnel may not be employed full-time by CT Children's, UConn, or the State of Connecticut.
2. Resources that require fee-for-services within UConn or CT Children's.
3. Participant incentives for recruitment or study participation.



4. Charges for patient care that are necessary for study participation (e.g., co-payments).
5. Travel that is necessary to conduct the research; NOT travel to present the results of the research, or travel to explore future funding opportunities.
6. Equipment necessary for conducting the research ("equipment" is defined as an article of tangible, nonexpendable, personal property that costs \$5,000 or more).
7. Project supplies, including drugs and services.
8. Other specifically authorized expenses as may be essential to carrying out the project.

**Seed grant funds may not be used for the following:**

1. Principal Investigator's, Co-Investigator's, or any faculty member's salary.
2. Living expenses.
3. Service/maintenance contracts on equipment.
4. Laboratory renovations or other infrastructure renovations.
5. Institutional memberships in professional organizations.
6. Travel to professional meetings to present the results of the research, or any conference attendance.
7. Indirect costs, including clerical and administrative personnel salaries.
8. Costs associated with the publication of results of the research, including page charges and purchase of reprints.
9. Investigator training costs, including tuition.

## D. PROJECT AND INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

1. Proposals must be novel and must take an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to the study of health behavior and health behavior change that affects the health of pediatric populations. The dual-PI teams are expected to make approximately equal contributions to the proposed research, and to perform new research that could not be achieved without the collaboration and seed grant funding.
2. Proposed studies must be primarily clinical or translational in nature, and must be conducted primarily using human subjects or existing data from human subjects; proposals that are primarily basic science or preclinical studies are not eligible.
3. Two PIs are required and must meet the following eligibility requirements:
  - a. The "CT Children's PI" must have an eligible faculty appointment at CT Children's. The CT Children's PI is encouraged but not required to become a CHIP Affiliate.
  - b. The "Storrs PI" must have an eligible faculty appointment at the UConn Storrs or regional campuses (excluding UConn Health), and must be eligible to submit grants through UConn Storrs. The Storrs PI is required to be an approved CHIP Affiliate *by the time of final proposal submission*. The CHIP Affiliation application form and instructions are available at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/affiliate-application/>. Please allow at least two weeks for approval.
  - c. Eligible faculty appointments are: tenured or tenure-track faculty; in-residence research faculty; clinical faculty; other research faculty; research scientists/scholars; and adjunct faculty. Eligible faculty are not restricted to junior faculty.
  - d. Ineligible faculty appointments are: post-doctoral fellows; lecturers; research assistants and research associates; visiting titles; and extension titles.
  - e. Post-doctoral fellows and graduate students are not eligible.
  - f. Seed grant proposals must be predominantly the work of the PIs and for the benefit of the PIs' research programs. Proposals written primarily by graduate students or others in the PIs' names are not allowed.

4. The proposed research must be consistent with the research missions of both CHIP and CT Children's, provided below:
  - a. CHIP will undertake research to create new scientific knowledge, theoretical frameworks, and methodological advances in the areas of health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention, and prevention. This work will focus on understanding the dynamics of health behavior and related systems, the science of health behavior change, and the science and practice of developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating effective interventions.
  - b. CT Children's mission is dedicated to improving the physical and emotional health of children.
5. Examples of eligible topics of study include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Piloting a novel adolescent mental health screening instrument for use in primary care or in community settings;
  - b. Evaluation of an established community-based childhood obesity prevention program;
  - c. Developing and piloting a novel school-based anti-bullying intervention;
  - d. Developing and piloting a mobile phone-based post-discharge pain management reminder system for parents of ill and injured children;
  - e. Piloting a behavior-based pain management protocol;
  - f. Developing and piloting an injury prevention program for infants and toddlers.
6. The PIs must commit in good faith to use the seed grant funds to obtain pilot data to support an external grant proposal that will be submitted through either CHIP or CT Children's, with a substantial subcontract to the other entity, by December 31, 2017.
7. Any PI who has funding from previous CHIP seed grants should fully expend and close out those award funds before the start of this award period.
8. Each dual-PI team may only submit one LOI/proposal. However, PIs may submit one other LOI/proposal with a different co-PI.

## E. APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

### Stage 1: Letter of Intent

1. All applicants must submit an online Letter of Intent (LOI) form, available at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), by the above specified due date/time. Each dual-PI team should submit only one LOI. A budget is not required at the time of LOI submission. LOIs do not require routing through grants offices at CT Children's or UConn Storrs.
2. LOIs will be reviewed by CHIP/CT Children's staff to determine the eligibility of the proposed research and applicant team.
3. Applicants must receive written approval of their LOIs prior to submitting a full proposal.

### Stage 2: Full Proposal

1. Full proposals must be submitted online at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants) by the above specified due date/time. The application form, which will be available on the aforementioned website by November 2014, is modeled after an National Institutes of Health (NIH) R03 grant proposal and will require, at a minimum, an abstract, roles and functions of project personnel, detailed budget and budget justification, NIH-format biosketches for PIs and key personnel, a research plan, references, a human subjects section, and information on other support for the project. Each dual-PI team should submit only one full proposal, with separate budgets for the Storrs PI and the CT Children's PI. Late and/or incomplete submissions will not be accepted, so please plan accordingly and allow plenty of time to prepare your proposal.
2. Proposal routing requirements and resources:
  - a. For CT Children's PIs: Applicants must work with the Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs to develop their budget and submit their full proposal.

- b. For Storrs PIs: Routing through the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) is not required. Instead, please refer to Office of Sponsored Programs' "Budgeting and Costing Guide" webpage at <http://osp.uconn.edu/budgetprep.php> for important information and guidance regarding how to prepare your budget (including information on Graduate Assistant stipends, fees, and tuition). Other potentially helpful information can be found in Office for Sponsored Programs' "Proposal Preparation Guidelines," which is located online at [http://osp.uconn.edu/prop\\_guidelines.php](http://osp.uconn.edu/prop_guidelines.php). If, after reviewing these webpages and the documents/links contained therein, you have additional questions, please contact CHIP Grants Manager Ann White at [annmarie.white@chip.uconn.edu](mailto:annmarie.white@chip.uconn.edu). Please know that a response cannot be guaranteed if your inquiry is submitted less than 2 weeks prior to the full proposal due date. Note that PIs are ultimately responsible for verification of their own budgets, and CHIP staff are unable to develop seed grant budgets, write budget justifications, or provide in-depth budget assistance. Thank you for respecting these limitations on the involvement of our grants management team.
3. Full proposals will undergo a rigorous review process based on the NIH grant review process, with reviewers from CHIP and CT Children's. One or more external reviewers may be consulted, as well. Individuals who are Senior/Key Personnel or Other Significant Contributors on a seed grant proposal will be excluded from participation in the review process.
4. Each dual-PI team will be notified via email whether or not their proposal has been awarded funding.

## F. REVIEW CRITERIA

Priority for funding will be based on the following review criteria, in no particular order:

- Scientific merit of the research plan.
- Extent to which the project is novel or innovative, especially a proposal testing a new methodology, new theory, or new area in need of pilot data.
- Relevance of the study to the research missions of CHIP and CT Children's.
- Importance of the research question to potential external funders.
- Feasibility of plans to submit a subsequent dual-PI proposal to external funders no later than December 31, 2017.
- Approximately equal scientific contribution by the two PIs.
- Composition of the research team (preference will be given to teams with more disciplines represented).

## G. AWARDEE REQUIREMENTS

- Immediately after the award, the CT Children's PI will be required to notify their Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs. The Storrs PI will not be required to route the proposal through their Office of Sponsored Programs.
- The awarded PIs are responsible for obtaining IRB and other relevant approvals for the research. The UConn Storrs and CT Children's IRBs will consider on a case-by-case basis whether the dual-PI team must obtain IRB approval from the UConn Storrs IRB, the CT Children's IRB, or both. Please contact Doug Bradway (UConn Storrs IRB Office, 860-486-0986, [doug.bradway@uconn.edu](mailto:doug.bradway@uconn.edu)) and/or Carrie Schmedding (CT Children's IRB Office, 860-837-5514; [cschmedding@connecticutchildrens.org](mailto:cschmedding@connecticutchildrens.org)) to discuss the IRB requirements for your proposed project.
- Awardees will be required to submit a mid-term progress report, and a final report at the conclusion of the project or award period. Changes to the project's objective, PIs, and budget will require prior approval from CHIP/CT Children's staff.
- Detailed awardee instructions/requirements will be distributed to seed grant winners when they are notified of the award decisions. All awardee requirements described above are subject to change in accordance with updated institutional procedures (e.g., routing requirements).

## H. CONTACT

For questions not addressed in this FOA or at [www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants](http://www.chip.uconn.edu/seedgrants), please contact CHIP's Director, Jeffrey Fisher, at [jeffrey.fisher@chip.uconn.edu](mailto:jeffrey.fisher@chip.uconn.edu).

## APPENDIX 8: CHIP Submitted Grants (May 16, 2014 - May 15, 2015)

APPENDIX 8: CHIP Submitted Grants (May 16, 2014 - May 15, 2015)									
Principal Investigator	Dept	Direct Costs Requested	F&As Requested	Total Costs Requested	Yrs	Start	End	Agency	Title
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$104,722	\$44,881	\$149,603	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	USDA/ERS	Nutritional quality of foods in non-CACFP child care centers
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$1,476,589	\$387,898	\$1,864,487	3	10/01/14	09/30/17	USDA/NIFA	USDA Center for Behavioral Economics and Healthy Food Choice Research
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$23,931	\$6,222	\$30,153	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	University of Wisconsin-Madison/ Institute for Poverty Research	The Effects of the WIC Food Package Revisions on the Healthfulness of Food Purchases among WIC Households: Analysis of Scanner Data (TRANSFER)
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$15,565	\$9,028	\$24,593	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Columbia University/ NIH/NCI	Estimating State-specific Annual Healthcare Cost Savings from Reducing Obesity (TRANSFER)
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$24,591	\$2,951	\$27,542	1	09/01/15	08/31/16	Healthy Eating Research/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Nutrition Quality in CACFP Child Care Centers
Aguero, Jorge	ECON	\$90,909	\$9,091	\$100,000	1	06/01/15	05/31/16	Gates Foundation	Agriculture and Nutrition in the Highlands
Astur, Robert	PSYC	\$799,571	\$326,735	\$1,126,306	5	12/01/15	11/30/20	NIH	A Virtual Reality Intervention for Smoking Cessation in People with Schizophrenia
Blanton, Hart	PSYC	\$275,000	\$132,814	\$407,814	2	10/01/15	09/30/17	NIH	Videogame Delivery of Antismoking Graphic Health Warnings (RESUBMISSION)
Breuning, Jennifer	EDLR	\$106,161	\$42,072	\$148,233	2	06/01/15	05/31/17	USDA/NIFA	Husky Programs in Hartford: Integrated for Childhood Obesity Prevention
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$151,202	\$44,151	\$195,353	3	10/01/14	09/30/17	CDC/Khmer Health Advocates	Connecticut Southeast Asian American Health Coalition REACH Project

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Buckley, Thomas	<b>PHAR</b>	<b>\$27,848</b>	<b>\$16,152</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	1	11/01/14	06/30/15	CT DPH/CDC	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (SUPPLEMENT)
Buckley, Thomas	<b>PHAR</b>	<b>\$113,924</b>	<b>\$66,076</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>	1	03/17/15	06/29/15	CT DPH/CDC	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (2nd SUPPLEMENT)
Coelho, Carl	<b>COMM</b>	<b>\$2,802,680</b>	<b>\$861,115</b>	<b>\$3,663,795</b>	5	09/01/15	08/31/20	NIH/NIDCD	Neurobehavioral Assessment of Discourse Following Traumatic Brain Injury
Copenhaver, Michael	<b>AHSC</b>	<b>\$510,211</b>	<b>\$58,898</b>	<b>\$569,109</b>	3	04/01/15	03/31/18	NIH	Adapting an Evidence-Based Intervention Targeting Peruvian HIV+ MSM with Substance Use Disorders (RESUBMISSION)
Copenhaver, Michael	<b>AHSC</b>	<b>\$9,520</b>	<b>\$2,476</b>	<b>\$11,996</b>	1	07/01/15	12/31/16	NSF/DDRI	Developing an Evidence-Based Intervention Targeting High-Risk Migrant Workers
Cornman, Deborah	<b>CHIP</b>	<b>\$736,349</b>	<b>\$183,651</b>	<b>\$920,000</b>	1	09/01/15	08/31/18	DoD/DHAPP	PHDP and GBV Prevention Programs for Soldiers in the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces
Cornman, Deborah	<b>CHIP</b>	<b>\$225,983</b>	<b>\$131,070</b>	<b>\$357,053</b>	5	09/01/15	08/25/20	Yale University/NIH	Working with HIV Clinics to Adopt Addiction Treatments Using Implementation Facilitation (WHAT IF?)
Cruess, Dean	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	CTBHI (CT Breast Health Initiative)	Text Messaging Intervention to Increase Tamoxifen Adherence Among Women Diagnosed with Breast Cancer

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<b>Principal Investigator</b>	<b>Dept</b>	<b>Direct Costs Requested</b>	<b>F&amp;As Requested</b>	<b>Total Costs Requested</b>	<b>Yrs</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Title</b>
Cruess, Dean	PSYC	\$275,000	\$156,020	\$431,020	2	04/01/15	03/31/17	NIH	Daily Mood Instability and Antiretroviral Adherence
Cruess, Dean	PSYC	\$76,735	\$44,506	\$121,241	4	04/01/15	03/31/19	Brown University/NIH	Tentative: Meta-analysis to Test Efficacy of Stress Management Interventions to Improve PNI Biomarkers and Health Outcomes among People with One of Four Chronic Illnesses (Coronary Heart Disease, Cancer, Diabetes, and HIV).
Coleman, Craig	PHAR	\$31,746	\$8,254	\$40,000	1	11/03/14	06/30/15	Columbia Care, LLC	Designing the Improvements in Patient Ability due to Cannabis Therapy (IMPACT) Patient Registry to Scientifically Assess the Effectiveness and Safety of Medical Marijuana - Pilot Project
DiStefano, Lindsay	KINE	\$11,393	\$6,607	\$18,000	1	05/01/15	10/31/15	NIH/Results Group LLC	BioMimetic ExoSkeleton & ExoTendon Rehabilitation Footwear System
DiStefano, Lindsay	KINE	\$48,802	\$0	\$48,802	1	06/01/15	05/31/16	AOSSM/Young Investigators Grant	The Effect of a Neuromuscular Training Program after an ACL Reconstruction
DiStefano, Lindsay	KINE	\$250,000	\$46,586	\$296,586	2	07/01/16	06/30/18	NOCSAE	Comprehensive Sport Safety Initiative for High School Sports
DiStefano, Lindsay	KINE	\$6,962	\$4,038	\$11,000	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	NSF/Results Group LLC	BioMimetic ExoSkeleton & ExoTendon Rehabilitation Footwear System
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$59,062	\$34,256	\$93,318	5	04/01/14	03/31/19	NIH/UConn Health	Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$6,545	\$3,796	\$10,341	1	12/01/14	11/30/15	NIH/UConn Health	Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers (SUPPLEMENT)
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$386,784	\$198,780	\$585,564	5	04/01/16	03/31/21	UCHC/NIH/NIDA	Taste, Preferences, and Behavior: Effects of Nicotine & Flavorings in Electronic Cigarette Smokers

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Eaton, Lisa	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$2,534,434</b>	<b>\$1,420,296</b>	<b>\$3,954,730</b>	5	12/01/15	12/20/15	NIH	Structural Intervention to Increase HIV Testing
Eigsti, Inge-Marie	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>\$150,228</b>	<b>\$425,228</b>	2	04/01/15	03/31/17	NIH	Sexual Literacy and Behavior Change in Young Adults with Developmental Disability
Gans, Kim	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$41,801</b>	<b>\$24,245</b>	<b>\$66,046</b>	3	04/01/15	03/31/18	Brown University/NIH	Testing Childhood Obesity Intervention Feasibility for Southeast Asian Families (RESUBMISSION)
Gans, Kim	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$14,762</b>	<b>\$8,562</b>	<b>\$23,324</b>	1	09/01/14	07/31/15	UCSD/NIH	Promoting Physical Activity in Latinas via Interactive Web-Based Technology
Gans, Kim	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$35,292</b>	<b>\$19,058</b>	<b>\$54,350</b>	1	09/01/14	04/30/15	NIH/NCI	Fresh to You: Multilevel Approaches in Low Income Housing to Increase F&V Intake & Diversity (SUPPLEMENT)
Gans, Kim	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$48,591</b>	<b>\$28,183</b>	<b>\$76,774</b>	1	09/01/14	02/28/15	NIH/NCI	Innovative Approaches to Increase F&V Intake thru Worksites: The Fresh Initiative
Gans, Kim	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$257,992</b>	<b>\$149,635</b>	<b>\$407,627</b>	5	09/01/14	8/31/19	Brown/NIH	Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity Environments in Home-Based Child Care
Gans, Kim	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$9,865</b>	<b>\$5,722</b>	<b>\$15,587</b>	2	12/01/15	11/30/17	Brown/NIH	Identifying and Examining Neighborhood Dietary Norms that Influence Diet Quality
Gerrard, Meg	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$236,064</b>	<b>\$136,917</b>	<b>\$372,981</b>	4	04/01/15	03/31/19	University of Iowa/NIH	Smoking Associated Demethylation
Gibbons, Rick	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$2,481,066</b>	<b>\$1,369,557</b>	<b>\$3,850,623</b>	5	04/01/15	03/31/20	NIH/NIDA	Black Adults' Health Behavior: Risk and Resilience
Gibbons, Rick	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$106,108</b>	<b>\$61,543</b>	<b>\$167,651</b>	2	07/01/15	06/30/17	Pennsylvania State University/NIH/NIAAA	Using FACHS Data to Adapt the Parent-Based Intervention
Gibbons, Rick	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$93,481</b>	<b>\$5,222</b>	<b>\$98,703</b>	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	NIH/NIDA	Black Adults' Health Behavior: Risk and Resilience (SUPPLEMENT)

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<b>Principal Investigator</b>	<b>Dept</b>	<b>Direct Costs Requested</b>	<b>F&amp;As Requested</b>	<b>Total Costs Requested</b>	<b>Yrs</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Title</b>
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$162,738	\$31,083	\$193,821	1	09/01/14	12/31/15	Weight Watchers	Ripple Effects in Weight Watchers: Are Weight Watchers' Members a Catalyst for Change in Untreated Family Members?
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$41,649	\$10,829	\$52,478	3	09/30/14	08/31/17	CCMC/CDC	Partnerships to Improve Community Health
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$86,979	\$50,447	\$137,426	5	07/01/15	06/30/20	University of Tennessee/NIH	Targeting Sedentary Behavior and Physical Activity during Obesity Treatment
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$2,252,574	\$810,552	\$3,063,126	4	07/01/15	06/30/19	NIH	A Primary Care, Patient-Centered Approach to Obesity Prevention in Young Children (Resubmission)
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$51,256	\$29,728	\$80,984	5	04/01/15	03/31/20	NIH/sub to University of Michigan	Food Marketing Vulnerability and Increased Risk for Weight Gain in Adolescents
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$249,637	\$29,956	\$279,593	2	12/01/14	12/31/16	Dell Foundation	Unhealthy Food Marketing Targeted to Children: Research to Evaluate Potentially Misleading Practices and Support Advocacy to Encourage Industry Change
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$1,160,587	\$139,270	\$1,299,857	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children
Harvey, Idethia	HDFS	\$275,000	\$164,585	\$439,585	2	03/01/15	02/28/17	NIH	UCAN (University of Connecticut Activity and Nutrition) Maintain Independence Through Physical Activity and Diet Study
Huedo-Medina, Tania	AHSC	\$100,000	\$51,877	\$151,877	2	04/01/15	03/31/17	NIH	Mediterranean Diet versus Pharmaceutical Treatment to Prevent Cardiovascular Disease in Older Adults: Lessons Learned from Research for Healthy Aging, a Meta-Analytic Approach



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Johnson, Blair	PSYC	\$1,779,005	\$978,115	\$2,757,120	4	07/01/15	06/30/19	NIH	Optimizing the Benefits of Exercise to Blood Pressure: High-Quality Meta-Analyses of Trials
Johnson, Blair	PSYC	\$150,000	\$87,000	\$237,000	2	07/01/15	06/30/17	NIH/NHLBI	Geospatial Models of Cardiovascular Health within the U.S.
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$94,489	\$54,803	\$149,292	5	07/01/15	06/30/20	SDSU/NIH	Enhanced Linkage to HIV Care Following Home Based HIV Testing in Rural Uganda
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$94,502	\$54,811	\$149,313	5	09/01/15	08/31/20	Harvard/NIH	A Livelihood Intervention to Reduce HIV Stigma in Rural Uganda
LaFerrier, Justin	KINE	\$102,827	\$59,640	\$162,467	5	07/01/15	06/30/20	University of Miami/DoD-CDMRP	A Comparison of the Effectiveness of Care for Service Members and Veterans with Limb Loss and Limb Salvage
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$763,692	\$360,500	\$1,124,192	3	08/23/14	05/31/17	NIH	A Randomized Trial Testing Lay Health Coaches for Obesity Treatment (TRANSFER)
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$22,152	\$12,848	\$35,000	1	08/23/14	06/30/15	Miriam Hospital/NIH	A State-wide Initiative to Spread Effective Behavioral Weight Loss Strategies (TRANSFER)
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$125,102	\$72,560	\$197,662	5	09/01/14	08/31/19	VCU School of Medicine/NIH	Low Intensity Weight Loss for Young Adults: Autonomous vs. Extrinsic Motivation
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$2,266,182	\$1,289,012	\$3,555,194	5	07/01/14	06/30/20	NIH	A Behavioral Economics Approach to Weight Loss Maintenance
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$56,732	\$30,654	\$87,386	1	09/01/15	08/31/16	sub to WayBetter, Inc/NIH NIDDK	Development of an Evidence-Based Internet Weight Loss Maintenance Game
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$366,856	\$196,745	\$563,601	3	09/01/15	08/31/18	sub to WayBetter, Inc/NIH NIDDK	Development and Evaluation of an Evidence-Based Weight Loss Game for Young Adults

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Mobley, Amy	<b>NUTR</b>	<b>\$1,293,331</b>	<b>\$536,649</b>	<b>\$1,829,980</b>	3	09/01/15	08/31/18	USDA/NIFA	Evaluating the Impact of a Novel Father-Focused Nutrition and Parenting Program to Help Prevent Childhood Obesity in Preschool Age Children (RESUBMISSION)
Mobley, Amy	<b>NUTR</b>	<b>\$43,846</b>	<b>\$6,154</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Aetna Foundation	Dad and Me: Impact of a Father-Focused Community Nutrition Program on Father and Child Fruit and Vegetable Intake and Physical Activity
O'Connell, Meghan	<b>CHIP</b>	<b>\$12,432</b>	<b>\$3,605</b>	<b>\$16,037</b>	1	04/01/15	03/31/16	University of Mississippi/ USDA/NFSMI	Assessing the Current Status of Nutrition and Wellness Components in Child Care Centers Participating in CACFP
Park, Crystal	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$298,969</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$298,969</b>	3	12/15/14	12/14/17	Alex's Lemonade Stand	A Multilevel Perspective on Pediatric Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors
Park, Crystal	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$1,086,972</b>	<b>\$456,846</b>	<b>\$1,543,818</b>	5	07/01/15	06/30/20	Oregon State University / NIH	Stress, Self-Regulation, Health Behavior Habits, and Health Disparities in Midlife
Park, Crystal	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$52,171</b>	<b>\$152,171</b>	2	04/01/15	03/31/17	NIH/NCI	Changes in Health Behaviors in Emerging Adults: A Multilevel Modeling
Park, Crystal	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$2,642,926</b>	<b>\$1,413,178</b>	<b>\$4,056,104</b>	5	10/01/15	09/30/20	NIH	Self-Regulation Assays to Understand the Intention-Health Behavior Gap
Pescatello, Linda	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$1,668,848</b>	<b>\$997,326</b>	<b>\$2,666,174</b>	4	04/01/15	03/30/19	NIH/NIDDK	Engaging Adults with Hypertension in Exercise Using Blood Pressure Specific Outcomes
Pescatello, Linda	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$6,165</b>	<b>\$3,267</b>	<b>\$9,432</b>	1	09/01/14	01/07/15	UCHC/NIH/NIDA	Reinforcing Exercise in Cocaine Abusers
Pescatello, Linda	<b>PSYC</b>	<b>\$101,651</b>	<b>\$17,133</b>	<b>\$118,784</b>	2	05/01/15	04/30/17	Hartford Hospital/ CTDPH	Exercise Training Based on APOE Genotype for Alzheimer's and Dementia Risk

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Pescatello, Linda	<b>KINE</b>	<b>\$2,156,910</b>	<b>\$798,225</b>	<b>\$2,955,135</b>	4	09/01/15	08/31/19	NIH/NHLBI/BMIO	Using the Immediate Blood Pressure Benefits of Exercise to Improve Cardiovascular Health
Pescatello, Linda	<b>KINE</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	American College of Sports Medicine	The Effect of Compression Socks on Blood Clot Risk During Travel in Oral Contraceptive Using Women
Pescatello, Linda	<b>KINE</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	American College of Sports Medicine	The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion (FIT and FIRED UP)
Puhl, Rebecca	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$406,000</b>	<b>\$1,106,000</b>	3	07/01/15	06/30/18	NIH	An Empirical Evaluation of Public Responses to Obesity-Related Media Campaigns (RESUBMISSION)
Puhl, Rebecca	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	1	05/01/15	05/01/16	Experience Theater	Using Interactive Theater to Enhance Provider-Patient Communication in the Management of Obesity in Adults
Schifano, Elizabeth	<b>STAT</b>	<b>\$12,708</b>	<b>\$2,542</b>	<b>\$15,250</b>	1	07/01/14	06/30/15	CCMC/CTDPH	Continued Collaboration on Easy Breathing program
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$138,750</b>	<b>\$80,475</b>	<b>\$219,225</b>	3	01/01/15	12/30/17	Univ. of Illinois/ USDA	National Wellness Policy Study
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$223,188</b>	<b>\$23,583</b>	<b>\$246,771</b>	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	American Heart Association	Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$120,972</b>	<b>\$64,707</b>	<b>\$185,679</b>	2	01/01/15	03/31/16	NIH/Yale	School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$219,448</b>	<b>\$26,334</b>	<b>\$245,782</b>	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Horizon Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Howard County: A Strategic Science and Policy Initiative
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$40,179</b>	<b>\$4,821</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Claneil Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Food Banks
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$82,259</b>	<b>\$9,870</b>	<b>\$92,129</b>	3	01/01/15	12/31/17	Partnership for a Healthier America	Evaluation of Commitments made by Child Care Centers with Partnership for a Healthier America

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Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$26,686	\$3,202	\$29,888	1	01/01/15	09/30/15	SERC	Connecticut Smarter Lunchroom Pilot
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$51,625	\$10,325	\$61,950	1	04/01/15	12/31/15	Action for Healthy Food	Sugar Sweetened Beverage Policies
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$28,851	\$3,462	\$32,313	1	03/01/15	06/30/15	American Heart Association	Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub (SUPPLEMENT)
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$38,131	\$0	\$38,131	1	09/01/15	08/31/16	Aid for Orphan Relief Foundation/ Cigna	A Comprehensive Program to Improve Food Security and Nutrition in Hartford Schoolchildren
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$41,171	\$8,234	\$49,405	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Testing the Impact of Improving the National School Breakfast Program
Snyder, Leslie	COMM	\$144,243	\$83,661	\$227,904	5	04/01/15	03/31/20	UCSD/NIH	MsFLASH: Living a Healthy Menopause
White, C. Michael	PHAR	\$3,164,557	\$1,835,443	\$5,000,000	5	11/30/14	11/30/19	AHRQ	Evidence Based Practice Center (EPC) V
TOTAL PROPOSAL BUDGET	89	\$39,499,018	\$17,569,520	\$57,068,538					

**Department:**

AGRE	Agricultural & Resource Economics
AHSC	Allied Health Sciences
CHIP	Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention
COMM	Communication
ECON	Economics
EDLR	Educational Leadership
HDFS	Human Development & Family Studies
KINE	Kinesiology
NUTR	Nutritional Sciences
PSYC	Psychology
PHAR	Pharmacy Practice
STAT	Statistics

## APPENDIX 9: CHIP Active and Awarded Grants (May 16, 2014 – May 15, 2015)

APPENDIX 9: CHIP Active and Awarded Grants (May 16, 2014 – May 15, 2015)										
Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY15 Direct Costs Awarded	FY15 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY15 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Amico, Kathy Rivet	CHIP	\$234,031	\$0	\$0	\$0	3.5	11/01/09	07/31/14	NIH/NIMH/FHI	HPTN 067 Behavioral Aspects of PrEP Counseling for Intermittent Exposure
Amico, Kathy Rivet	CHIP	\$221,484	\$36,086	\$19,126	\$55,212	4	06/05/11	07/31/14	NIH/Vanderbilt University	Multi-Component Intervention Packages for Chinese MSM
Amico, Kathy Rivet	CHIP	\$131,067	\$18,807	\$9,968	\$28,775	5	10/01/11	07/31/14	NIH/DPH San Francisco	Enhancing PrEP Adherence Support and Risk Reduction in a Public Health Setting
Amico, Kathy Rivet	CHIP	\$61,351	\$3,434	\$1,992	\$5,426	1.6	10/01/11	07/31/14	NIH/NIMH/FHI	HPTN 069: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) to Prevent HIV Transmission in At-Risk Men Who Have Sex with Men
Amico, Kathy Rivet	CHIP	\$304,010	\$38,600	\$22,388	\$60,988	5	07/01/12	07/31/14	NIH/University of Alabama	Integrating ENGagement and Adherence Goals upon Entry_iENGAGE to Control HIV
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$30,159	\$23,936	\$6,223	\$30,159	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	University of Wisconsin/ USDA	The Effects of the WIC Food Package Revisions on the Healthfulness of Food Purchases Among WIC Households: Analysis of Scanner Data (RIDGE)
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$24,591	\$15,565	\$9,028	\$24,593	0.5	01/01/15	06/30/15	Columbia University/ NIH	Estimating State-Specific Annual Healthcare Cost Savings from Reducing Obesity
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$149,603	\$104,722	\$44,881	\$149,603	1	02/01/15	03/14/16	USDA/ NIFA	Nutritional Quality of Foods in Non-CACFP Child Care Centers
Bhat, Anjana	KINE	\$695,023	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/30/09	08/31/14	NIH/NIMH	Robot Child Interactions as an Intervention for Children with Autism
Bhat, Anjana	KINE	\$146,438	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	01/23/11	08/31/14	NIH/NICHH	Visual Attention and Fine Motor Coordination in Infants at Risk for Autism

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Bhat, Anjana	<b>KINE</b>	<b>\$35,325</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	2	08/01/11	08/31/14	NIH/NIMH	Robot-Child Interactions as an Intervention Tool for Children with Autism
Bhat, Anjana	<b>KINE</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	2	12/01/12	08/31/14	Autism Speaks	Embodied Rhythm Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders
Buckley, Thomas	<b>PHAR</b>	<b>\$454,215</b>	<b>\$57,495</b>	<b>\$33,348</b>	<b>\$90,843</b>	5	11/01/13	06/29/18	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative
Buckley, Thomas	<b>PHAR</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	<b>\$27,848</b>	<b>\$16,152</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	1	06/30/14	06/29/15	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (SUPPLEMENT)
Christensen, John	<b>COMM</b>	<b>\$67,351</b>	<b>\$6,356</b>	<b>\$3,688</b>	<b>\$10,044</b>	3	12/01/12	08/31/15	NIH/University of Pennsylvania	Developing and Pilot Testing a Mobile Phone-Based HIV/STI Prevention Intervention
Copenhaver, Michael	<b>AHSC</b>	<b>\$3,113,725</b>	<b>\$477,108</b>	<b>\$118,513</b>	<b>\$595,621</b>	5	04/01/12	03/31/17	NIH/NIDA	Secondary HIV Prevention and Adherence Among HIV-infected Drug Users
Copenhaver, Michael	<b>AHSC</b>	<b>\$697,150</b>	<b>\$129,102</b>	<b>\$10,328</b>	<b>\$139,430</b>	5	04/01/13	03/31/18	NIH/NIDA	HIV Prevention and Adherence Among Priority Drug Using Populations
Cornman, Deborah	<b>CHIP</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	3	11/01/09	10/31/15	CAPRISA	CAPRISA-CHIP Collaboration
Cornman, Deborah	<b>CHIP</b>	<b>\$906,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	2	07/01/11	04/30/15	DoD/DHAPP	Prevention with Positives and Gender-Based Violence Projects in Mozambique 2011-12

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Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$97,677	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	03/01/14	04/30/15	DoD/DHAPP	Prevention with Positives and Gender-Based Violence Projects in Mozambique (SUPPLEMENT)
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$66,835	\$8,460	\$4,907	\$13,367	5	07/01/13	06/30/18	NIH/NIMH/Yale University	Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA)
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	11/08/13	03/31/15	DoD/DHAPP	Increasing Healthy Behavior among PLWHA in Military Settings in Ethiopia FY 13-14
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$920,000	\$736,349	\$183,651	\$920,000	1	05/01/15	04/30/16	DoD/DHAPP	PHDP and GBV Prevention Programs for Soldiers in the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces
Cruess, Dean	PSYC	\$658,841	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	12/01/10	11/30/14	NIH/NIMH	Internet-Based STI/HIV Prevention for HIV+ Internet Users
DiStefano, Lindsay	KINE	\$150,000	\$68,512	\$6,488	\$75,000	2	07/01/13	06/30/15	Charles H. Hood Foundation, Inc.	Pediatric Sports Injury Prevention: Monitoring Changes Over Time
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$424,148	\$61,063	\$31,170	\$92,233	5	09/30/13	08/31/18	NIH/UConn Health	Taste, Preferences, and Behavior: Effects of Nicotine and Flavorings in Electronic Cigarettes
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$93,576	\$11,023	\$6,393	\$17,416	5	09/30/13	08/31/18	NIH/UConn Health	Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$2,539,472	\$388,871	\$97,175	\$486,046	5	07/11/11	04/30/16	NIH/NIMH	Serosorting Intervention for HIV Negative MSM
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$526,434	\$167,654	\$97,239	\$264,893	2	02/01/14	04/30/15	NIH/NIMH	Serosorting Intervention for HIV Negative MSM (SUPPLEMENT)
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$334,429	\$43,896	\$25,460	\$69,356	5	06/01/13	03/31/18	NIH/NIDA/University of Pittsburgh	Understanding Delayed Access to HIV Prevention Services among Blank MSM

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Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$672,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	3.0	05/27/11	01/31/16	NIH/NIMH	Teaching Skills to Toddlers: A Program for Caregivers
Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$199,908	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	04/01/12	03/31/15	Autism Speaks	Screening, Diagnosis and Parent Training for Young Children with ASD in Albania
Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$1,298,271	\$168,378	\$89,992	\$258,370	5	09/25/14	05/31/19	Drexel/NIH	Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorders
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$23,324	\$14,762	\$8,562	\$23,324	1	08/01/14	07/31/15	NIH/UCSD	Promoting Physical Activity in Latinas via Interactive web-based Technology
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$407,627	\$40,779	\$23,651	\$64,430	1	09/01/14	05/30/15	NIH/Brown University	Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity Environments in Home-Based Child Care
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$54,351	\$25,056	\$13,530	\$38,586	1	09/01/14	04/30/15	NIH/NCI/Brown University	Fresh to You: Multilevel Approaches in Low Income Housing to Increase F&V Intake
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$76,774	\$22,652	\$13,139	\$35,791	1	09/01/14	02/28/15	NIH/NCI/Brown University	Innovative Approaches to Increase F&V intake thru Worksites: The Fresh Initiative
Gerrard, Meg	PSYC	\$290,924	\$45,183	\$26,206	\$71,389	1	09/15/14	06/30/18	University of Iowa/NIH	Smoking Associated Demethylation
Ghosh, Debarchana	GEOG	\$863,345	\$159,879	\$12,790	\$172,669	5	08/01/14	07/31/19	NIH/NIDA	Connecting People, Places, and Barriers: The Effect of These Connections on Adherence and Retention in Care for HIV-Infected Drug Users
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$1,251,386	\$0	\$0	\$0	2.4	08/23/12	06/30/14	NIH/NIDA	Factors Influencing the Health Behavior of Young African American Adults
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$96,930	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	08/23/12	07/31/14	NIH/NIDA/George Washington University	Discrimination, Drug Use, & Risky Sex Cognitions among Young African Americans



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Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$327,963	\$75,969	\$43,302	\$119,271	2.8	09/01/12	04/30/15	NIH/NCI/ University of Hawaii	Self-Control as a Moderator for Effects of Mass Media on Adolescent Substance Use
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$143,019	\$23,334	\$13,534	\$36,868	4	03/01/14	02/28/18	NIH/University of Georgia	Social Determinants of Inflammation and Metabolic Syndrome among African Americans
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$2,837,927	\$489,554	\$158,028	\$647,582	5	09/15/14	06/30/19	NIH/NIDA	Health Behaviors among Young Black Adults: Risk and Resilience
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$70,564	\$6,121	\$3,244	\$9,365	5	09/15/11	06/30/16	NIH/R01/ Drexel	Environmental and Acceptance-Based Innovations for Weight Loss Maintenance
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$78,014	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	10/01/12	08/31/14	Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)	Understanding Barriers to Weight Control in Submariners and Their Families
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	12/01/13	06/30/14	UConn Health/ CICATS	Thinking Big about Obesity: Building Team Science Initiatives at UConn and UCHC
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$58,444	\$17,291	\$10,029	\$27,320	2	06/01/13	03/31/15	NIH/CCMC	Early Childhood Obesity Prevention: Building Healthier Families and Communities
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$193,821	\$162,738	\$31,083	\$193,821	1	09/01/14	08/31/15	Weight Watchers	Ripple Effects in Weight Watchers: Are Weight Watchers' Members a Catalyst for Change in Untreated Family Members?
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$432,705	\$157,049	\$83,693	\$240,742	2	12/01/14	11/30/16	NIH/NHLBI	Test of a Theory-Based Weight Loss Program for Couples: Project TEAMS

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Harel, Ofer	STAT	\$889,402	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	04/09/10	01/31/16	NIH/NIMH	Dealing with Missing Data in HIV Prevention Trials
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$279,593	\$189,602	\$22,752	\$212,354	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Dell Foundation	Unhealthy Food Marketing Targeted to Children: Research to Evaluate Potentially Misleading Practices and Support Advocacy to Encourage Industry Change
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$1,299,857	\$1,160,587	\$139,270	\$1,299,857	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children
Johnson, Blair	PSYC	\$2,669,211	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	02/01/09	02/28/15	NIH/NIMH	Syntheses of HIV Risk Reduction, Phase III
Johnson, Blair	PSYC	\$68,567	\$10,240	\$5,939	\$16,179	5	07/01/12	06/30/16	NIH/NIAAA Miriam Hospital	Alcohol Consumption and HIV Behavior: Evaluating the Evidence
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,895,221	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	09/30/08	08/31/14	NIH/NIAAA	Alcohol-Related HIV Risks among South African Women
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,632,176	\$325,069	\$172,286	\$497,355	5	03/17/11	01/31/16	NIH/NINR	Nurse Delivered Cell-Phone HIV Adherence Intervention (Pick-It-Up)
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$3,183,513	\$384,696	\$223,124	\$607,820	5	02/01/12	01/31/17	NIH/NIDA	Behavioral Intervention to Enhance HIV Test/Treat (ITM2)
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,818,783	\$458,878	\$139,178	\$598,056	5	04/01/13	01/31/18	NIH/NIDA	Enhanced STI/HIV Partner Notification in South Africa
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$950,251	\$196,425	\$113,926	\$310,351	3	09/15/13	08/31/16	NIH/NIAAA	Influence of Food Insecurity on Adherence
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$150,029	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	02/01/14	01/31/15	NIH/NIDA	Behavioral Intervention to Enhance HIV Test/Treat (ITM2) (SUPPLEMENT)

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Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$3,383,912	\$541,356	\$167,570	\$708,926	5	09/10/14	08/31/19	NIH/NIAAA	Comparative Effectiveness Trial for Retention-Adherence-Health
Kraemer, William	KINE	\$650,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	01/15/13	01/31/15	DSO/DARPA	Adaptability of the Warfighter: An Interactive Model for Optimization of Performance and Resilience
Kraemer, William	KINE	\$401,783	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	07/01/13	08/31/14	Private Corporation	.... Project: Performance and Recovery
Kraemer, William	KINE	\$55,634	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/23/13	08/31/14	Private Corporation	Effects of ..... Supplementation on Skeletal Muscle Efficiency During Resistance Exercise
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$1,082,533	\$355,359	\$94,828	\$450,187	3	08/23/14	05/31/17	NIH/NIDDK	A Randomized Trial Testing Lay Health Coaches for Obesity Treatment
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$35,000	\$22,152	\$12,848	\$35,000	1	08/23/14	06/30/15	Miriam Hospital/NIH	A State-Wide Initiative to Spread Effective Behavioral Weight Loss Strategies
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$164,515	\$12,027	\$6,976	\$19,003	5	09/25/14	08/31/19	VCU/NIH	Low Intensity Weight Loss for Young Adults: Autonomous vs. Extrinsic Motivation
O'Connell, Meghan	CHIP	\$16,165	\$12,531	\$3,634	\$16,165	1	04/01/15	03/31/16	University of Mississippi/ USDA/NFSMI	Assessing the Current Status of Nutrition and Wellness Components in Child Care Centers Participating in CACFP
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$356,253	\$124,943	\$68,221	\$193,164	2	09/01/13	06/30/15	NIH/NCCAM Massachusetts General Hospital	Preliminary Study of a Yoga Program to Catalyze Health Behavior Change
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$1,964,677	\$335,611	\$50,842	\$386,453	5	09/29/10	08/31/15	NIH/NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy

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Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$61,205	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	01/01/11	12/31/14	VA Connecticut Healthcare System	Gender Differences in Addictive Behaviors Among Returning Veterans
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$384,730	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	04/01/11	03/31/15	NIH/NCI	Targeting the Teachable Moment: A Lifestyle Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$168,010	\$22,608	\$10,994	\$33,602	5	11/28/11	11/28/16	VA Connecticut Healthcare System	Study of Returning Veterans (SERV)
Park, Crystal; Gutierrez, Ian	PSYC	\$106,078	\$37,357	\$18,504	\$55,861	2	09/01/13	08/31/15	NIH/NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT to Promote Diversity)
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$610,856	\$494,554	\$116,302	\$610,856	2	09/01/13	08/31/15	NIH/NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT)
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$44,863	\$44,863	\$0	\$44,863	1	09/01/14	08/31/15	CT BHI	Predicting and Enhancing Connecticut Breast Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$1,474,771	\$248,404	\$133,923	\$382,327	4	09/15/14	06/30/18	NIH/NIGMS	Self-Regulation Skills as Predictors of URM Student Success Biomedical Research
Pescatello, Linda	KINE	\$382,193	\$6,165	\$3,267	\$9,432	5	09/30/09	01/07/15	NIH/NIDA subcontract from UConn Health	Reinforcing Exercise in Cocaine Abusers
Pescatello, Linda	KINE	\$24,480	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	12/01/13	09/30/14	UConn Health	Cardiometabolic Signatures Associated with Obesity and Hypertension and Their Response to Exercise: A Pilot Study

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Pescatello, Linda	<b>KINE</b>	<b>\$19,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	1	08/23/14	09/30/16	Hartford Hospital/CT Space Grant	Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women At Flight
Schifano, Elizabeth	<b>STAT</b>	<b>\$15,250</b>	<b>\$12,708</b>	<b>\$2,542</b>	<b>\$15,250</b>	1	06/01/15	06/30/15	CCMC/CTDPH	Continued Collaboration on Easy Breathing program
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$279,084</b>	<b>\$252,039</b>	<b>\$27,045</b>	<b>\$279,084</b>	1	01/01/15	06/30/15	RWJF/AHA	Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$247,558</b>	<b>\$114,358</b>	<b>\$13,723</b>	<b>\$128,081</b>	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Horizon Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Howard County: A Strategic Science and Policy Initiative
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$111,879</b>	<b>\$70,810</b>	<b>\$41,069</b>	<b>\$111,879</b>	1.3	01/01/15	03/31/16	NIH/Yale University	School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$97,500</b>	<b>\$33,223</b>	<b>\$3,987</b>	<b>\$37,210</b>	3	01/01/15	12/31/17	Partnership for a Healthier America	Evaluation of Commitments Made by Child Care Centers with Partnership for a Healthier America
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	<b>\$40,179</b>	<b>\$4,821</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	1	01/01/15	12/31/15	Claneil Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Food Banks
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$28,843</b>	<b>\$25,753</b>	<b>\$3,090</b>	<b>\$28,843</b>	1	01/01/15	09/30/15	State Education Resource Center (SERC)/ USDA	Connecticut Smarter Lunchroom Pilot
Schwartz, Marlene	<b>HDFS</b>	<b>\$219,225</b>	<b>\$28,364</b>	<b>\$16,451</b>	<b>\$44,815</b>	3	02/01/15	01/31/16	University of Illinois/ USDA	National Wellness Policy Study
Singer, Merrill	<b>ANTH</b>	<b>\$15,695</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	2	12/01/12	11/30/14	NIH/Yale University	Disparities in HPV Vaccine Completion: Identifying and Quantifying the Barriers
Snyder, Leslie	<b>COMM</b>	<b>\$976,059</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	1.9	07/25/12	04/30/15	NIH/Harvard University	Evaluation of Graphic Warning Labels on Tobacco Packages and Related Supporting Messages

**APPENDIX 9: CHIP Active and Awarded Grants (May 16, 2014 – May 15, 2015)**

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY15 Direct Costs Awarded	FY15 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY15 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
C. Michael White	PHAR	\$60,000	\$37,975	\$22,025	\$60,000	5	12/01/14	11/30/19	AHRQ	Evidence-Based Practice Center (EPC) V
TOTAL ACTIVE GRANTS AWARD	92	\$54,502,417	\$9,425,600	\$2,914,054	\$12,339,654					

**Department:**

AGRE	Agricultural & Resource Economics
AHSC	Allied Health Sciences
ANTH	Anthropology
CHIP	Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention
COMM	Communication Sciences
GEOG	Geography
HDFS	Human Development and Family Studies
KINE	Kinesiology
PHAR	Pharmacy Practice
PSYC	Psychology
STAT	Statistics

## APPENDIX 10: Guidelines for Use of CHIP Services

### Guidelines for Use of CHIP Services

Revised 02/13/15

- Note that access to CHIP services is only for work performed within CHIP's mission.
- Any exception to these guidelines needs prior approval from the CHIP Director and/or Associate Director.

#### NOTE:

- \* *CHIP affiliates* are individuals who are performing research, or scaling up to perform research, that is consistent with CHIP's mission. Affiliates must fill out an affiliation form (available on the CHIP website) and be approved by the Director and Associate Director, or their designee.
- \*\* CHIP affiliates and graduate students with active CHIP external or internal grants become *CHIP PIs* and are eligible for associated services.
- \*\*\* CHIP graduate student employees *who are also affiliates* may be eligible for services in both of the right most columns below, as appropriate.

CHIP SERVICES	CHIP PI with Active External or Internal Grant	* / ** CHIP Affiliate who is Not Currently CHIP PI	Research Staff at CHIP (non- student)	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Employee	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate
<b>CHIP INTERNAL GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES</b>					
CHIP Seed Grants for Faculty Researchers	X				
CHIP Seed Grants for Junior Faculty	X	X PI must be from UConn	X Must be CHIP Affiliate		
Pilot Seed Grants for Graduate Students					X
Summer Faculty Stipends for Grant Development	X	X UConn faculty			
Grants for Conference Development	X	X PI must be from UConn	X Must be CHIP Affiliate		X
<b>CHIP RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES</b>					
Receive grant funding opportunities via e-mail and access them through the website	X	X	X	X	X

CHIP SERVICES	CHIP PI with Active External or Internal Grant	* / ** CHIP Affiliate who is Not Currently CHIP PI	Research Staff at CHIP (non- student)	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Employee	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate
Request and receive custom grant funding searches/opportunities	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI
Recruit and mobilize networks of health researchers with common interests from various UConn academic departments and community-based organizations to increase collaboration, inspire innovative research, and accelerate the translation of health-related discoveries into clinical and community practice	X	X	X	X	X
Access to samples of awarded internal and external grants as a learning tool, with Director/Associate Director approval	X	X	X	X	X
Access to methodological and statistical pre-review of proposals and statistical support for other health-related research work, with Director/Associate Director approval	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI
Review of CHIP external grant proposal by outside experts prior to submission to funder, with approval from Director)	X	X	X		
Member of CHIP Listservs	X	X	X	X	X
University affiliate NET ID for CHIP-related work with Director/Associate Director approval		X			
Access to CHIP's Microsoft Lync Services (web conferencing platform)	X	X	X	X	X
CHIP Lecture Series and access to all presentations via pod casts and website ( <i>available to the general public</i> )	X	X	X	X	X
Access to resources on CHIP's website ( <i>available to the general public</i> )	X	X	X	X	X
<b>CHIP GRANTS MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b>					
Submit an external grant through CHIP with approval from Director/Associate Director	X	X w/official UConn title	X Must be a CHIP Affiliate		X



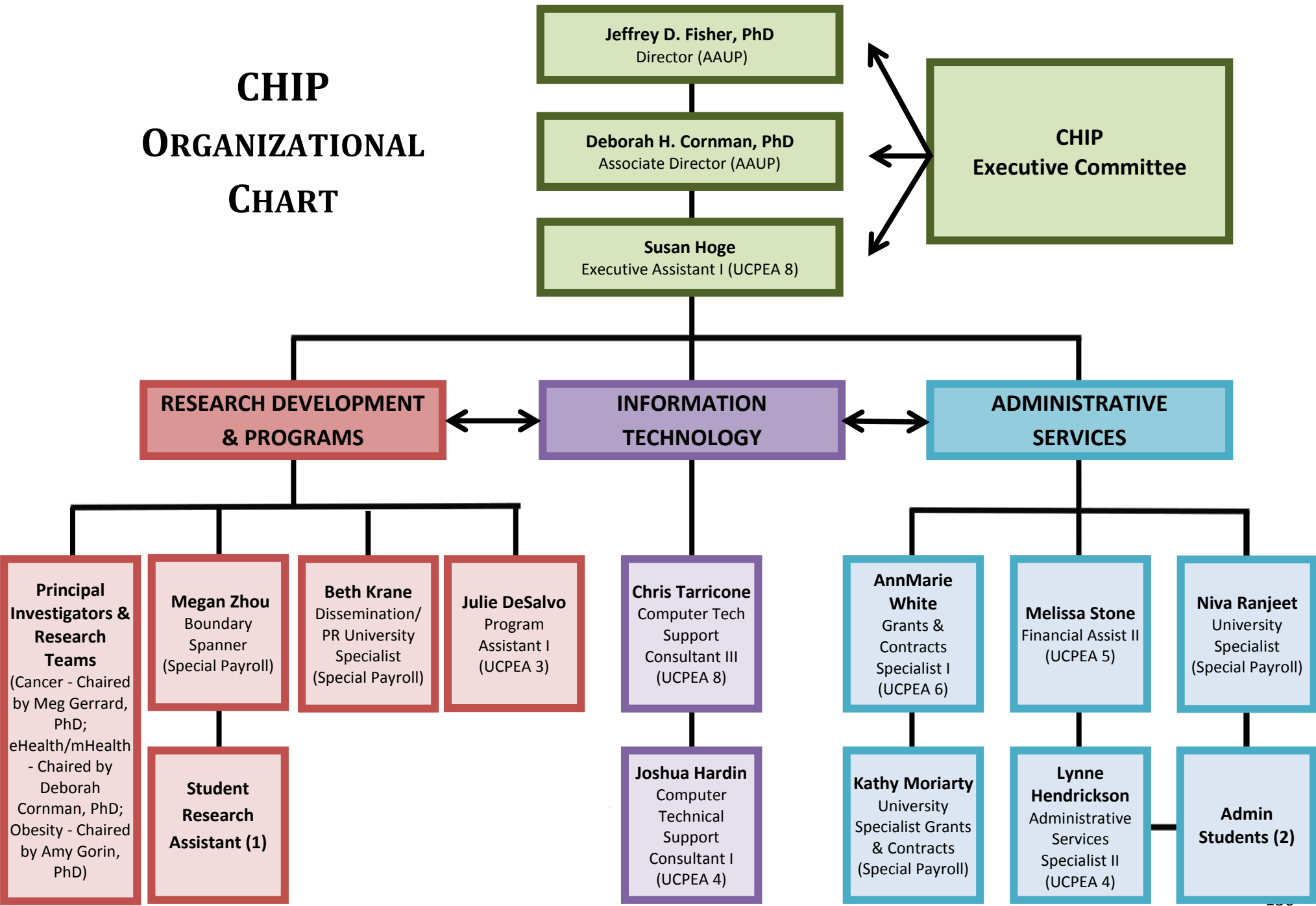
CHIP SERVICES	CHIP PI with Active External or Internal Grant	* / ** CHIP Affiliate who is Not Currently CHIP PI	Research Staff at CHIP (non- student)	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Employee	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate
PRE-AWARD (EXTERNAL GRANT APPLICATION) SERVICES: assistance with Internal Proposal Review Form (IPR), Significant Financial Interest Review Form (SFIR), budget, consortium agreements, grant application submission, and review of submission for compliance/requirements	X	X w/official UConn title	X When working under direction of CHIP PI		X Academic department approval required for external grants
POST AWARD (GRANT ADMINISTRATION) SERVICES: assistance with pre-award coding, set-up of awarded budget, subcontracts, invoice payment, re-budgeting and cost transfers, no cost extensions, budget projections, effort reporting, progress reports, carryover, and award closeout	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
<b>CHIP PERSONNEL &amp; PAYROLL SUPPORT SERVICES</b>					
Assistance with hiring staff, and undergraduate and graduate students	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
Assistance with processing payroll for research staff and undergraduate/graduate student employees	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
Assistance with staff-related human resources/labor relations issues	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
<b>CHIP PURCHASING SUPPORT SERVICES</b>					
Assistance with making purchases, payment of invoices and reimbursements & cash advances for participant incentives	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	

CHIP SERVICES	CHIP PI with Active External or Internal Grant	* / ** CHIP Affiliate who is Not Currently CHIP PI	Research Staff at CHIP (non- student)	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Employee	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate
<b>CHIP TRAVEL SUPPORT SERVICES</b>					
Assistance with making flight reservations and reconciling travel expenses when travel is funded by a CHIP grant	X	X UConn employees working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X If funded by CHIP Grant	
Travel safety information and assistance	X	X	X	X	X
<b>CHIP FACILITY SUPPORT SERVICES</b>					
Ability to reserve a CHIP conference or interview room for research, based on availability	X	X	X	X	X
Research office space at CHIP for use relevant to CHIP's mission, with approval from Director	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X	X	
Use of available equipment (Laptop, Polycom Pod, Skype Speakerphone & Digital Video Cameras w/ Tripods) for CHIP-related business and research	X	X	X	X	X
<b>CHIP IT SUPPORT SERVICES (for CHIP grant-related equipment and work only)</b>					
Consultation services to plan IT involvement in future research grant	X	X	X	X	X
Assistance with CHIP grant-related IT purchases (computers, hardware, and software)	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
Assistance with project management (setting up and managing servers, system analysis)	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	

CHIP SERVICES	CHIP PI with Active External or Internal Grant	* / ** CHIP Affiliate who is Not Currently CHIP PI	Research Staff at CHIP (non-student)	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Employee	** / *** CHIP Graduate Student Affiliate
Assistance with CHIP grant-purchased hardware and software issues (failures, warranty requests, upgrades, email, research software packages)	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
Long-term data storage on CHIP's server with secure access	X	X			
<b>CHIP DISSEMINATION SERVICES</b>					
Communications, public relations, dissemination of research findings	X	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	X When working under direction of CHIP PI	
Provide technical assistance to UConn researchers in developing materials for the effective and widespread dissemination of their work via the CHIP website (i.e., creating informational fact sheets summarizing their evidence-based interventions and validated measurement instruments, posting them on CHIP's Intervention Resources and Measurement Instruments webpages)	X	X	X	X	X
Provide education and information on cutting-edge developments in D&I research through CHIP lectures and the D&I Resources webpage (i.e., with links to funding and training opportunities, literature, webinars, and listservs)	X	X	X	X	X
Post on website affiliate's bio page, research measures, and conference presentations	X	X	X	X	X

APPENDIX 11: CHIP FY15 Organizational Chart (as of June 30, 2015)

CHIP  
ORGANIZATIONAL  
CHART



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