# **Institute for Collaboration** on Health, Intervention, and Policy HANKORA SPLINARY NETWORK SUBJECT VIEW OR CHANGE HILL SEARCH BEINING CHANGE HILL SEARCH SEARCH

# ANNUAL REPORT

SHOMLEN HER HER HAR HER HAR STATE

UCONN

ERIE BIRE IN THE MET OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR

HENEH HHENEH HHENEN

May 16, 2016-May 15, 2017

> **Jeffrey Fisher. PhD** InCHIP Director & Board of **Trustees Distinguished Professor** of Psychological Sciences

IECHNOLOGI L

CIPLING NCE ABUSE OBESITY STEALTH RESEARCH BUILSM HERE

JGY HEALTH RESEARCH B

17

VELOP

USE OBESI

H DEVELOPING

**Deborah Cornman, PhD** InCHIP Associate Director & Associate Research Professor

**Amy Gorin, PhD InCHIP Associate Director &** Professor of Psychological Sciences

. AHA. ARSTER BORDER BO in the second se ASHIPS RESEA ROIVAH38 HO AINEKSHIPS R

# Contents

- 04 Executive Summary
- 08 Introduction to the InCHIP Cores
- **11** Administrative Core
- **12** Training and Development Core
- 14 Intervention Core
- 16 Biostatistics and Methodology Core
- 17 Community-Engaged Health Research Core
- 20 FY17 Seed Grant Competitions
- 22 Boundary Spanning Services
- 24 Lecture Series
- 26 UConn-Cuba Research Initiative
- 28 InCHIP Centers and Groups
- **29** Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
- **30** Collaboratory for School and Child Health
- 32 InCHIP Research Interest Groups
- 36 Institutes and Centers Retreat
- 37 Appendices
- 51 Acknowledgments

# **Executive Summary**

UConn's Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP) is a national and international leader in health and health behavior research, supporting world-class researchers in domains as diverse as obesity, HIV, cancer, substance use, and health disparities. During FY17, InCHIP implemented major changes to its organizational structure, and continued to expand and improve the ways it serves UConn and the community of health-related researchers across its many schools and departments.

InCHIP's new Core structure provides an efficient framework for delivering the services InCHIP has historically provided to its affiliates, as well as many that are entirely new or enhanced. The new structure expands InCHIP's ability to help researchers secure significant external grant funding for health-related research through the provision of enhanced faculty training and mentorship, grant writing support, and community-engaged health research facilitation. During FY17, in addition to the new Cores, InCHIP facilitated new collaborations between UConn researchers and investigators from Cuba and Israel, and continued its significant existing international collaborations. For these reasons and others, InCHIP's external grant portfolio continued its robust expansion during the past year.

Looking forward into FY18, InCHIP will continue to build its capacity in faculty research training and development, digital health research, and engagement with community groups, striving towards the ultimate goal of promoting cutting-edge research that can make long-lasting positive impacts on the health of communities in Connecticut, throughout the US, and around the world. It is anticipated, with adequate resources, InCHIP will continue to be highly successful in attracting external funding even in the current uncertain funding environment.

### **Grant Funding and Expanded Research Enterprise**

In terms of grant productivity, InCHIP had an outstanding year in FY17, as can be seen from the following:

**InCHIP's expended research dollars for FY17 are the highest ever at \$11,030,185 in total costs** (compared to \$10,862,122 in FY16) and \$8,466,665 in direct costs (compared to \$8,338,917 in FY16). Additionally, \$2,563,520 were recovered by the University in indirect costs from InCHIP external grant expenditures.

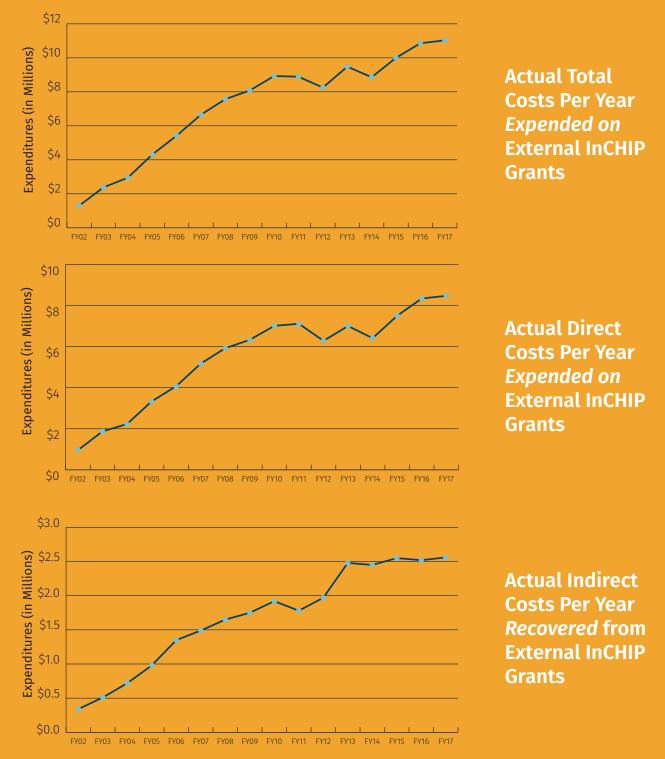
This past fiscal year, from May 16, 2016 - May 15, 2017, InCHIP had 93 active grants with the highest ever total active grant funding across all years, comprised of \$58,849,508 in total costs, \$44,282,069 in direct costs, and \$14,567,439 in indirect costs. This is compared to \$51,704,171 in total costs, \$39,263,862 in direct costs, and \$12,440,309 in indirect costs for the same period in FY16.

**InCHIP Principal Investigators (PIs) were very active in applying for external grants this fiscal year.** In FY17 (May 16, 2016 – May 15, 2017), InCHIP PIs applied for 103 new external grants, requesting \$79,643,036 in total costs, \$57,732,066 in direct costs, and \$21,910,970 in indirect costs. This re-

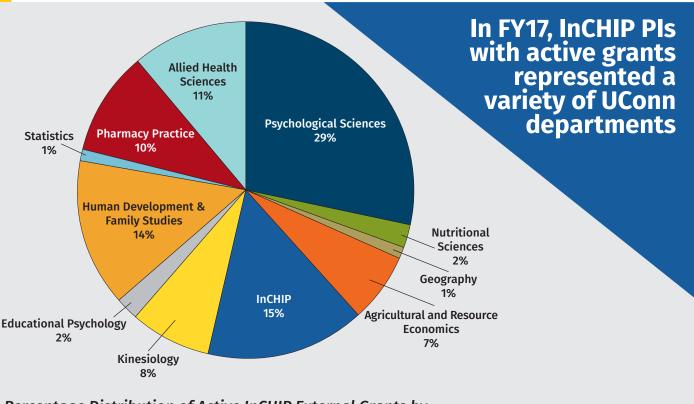
quested funding represents the highest ever in InCHIP's history. Over the same period in FY16, InCHIP PIs applied for new grants involving \$61,637,528 in total costs, \$39,499,018 in direct costs, and \$17,569,520 in indirect costs.

Since InCHIP's inception in 2002, InCHIP PIs have been awarded a remarkable \$140 million in total costs, \$107 million in direct costs, and \$33 million in indirect costs. **This past fiscal year, InCHIP PIs were awarded 26 new external grants** to conduct innovative research projects in a number of critical and diverse domains of health and health behavior. These new grant awards equated to \$13,669,046 in total costs, \$10,379,055 in direct costs, and \$3,289,991 in indirect costs.

### Total Costs Expended, Direct Costs Expended, and Indirect Costs Recovered Over the Past Year were the Highest Ever:



6



Percentage Distribution of Active InCHIP External Grants by Department (Out of 93 Total Grants as of May 15, 2017)

### (Executive Summary Continued)

### **Catalyzing Multidisciplinary Research Initiatives**

In FY17, InCHIP's multidisciplinary affiliate network of health researchers experienced considerable growth, bringing its total membership to 389 faculty/researcher affiliates representing almost all schools and colleges within the UConn system and nearly 60 other institutions.

**InCHIP continued to sponsor 5 multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs)** focused on eHealth/mHealth, obesity, cancer prevention and control, interprofessional healthcare, and HIV/AIDS; these RIGS currently have 179, 173, 124, 44, and 30 members, respectively, including researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, other institutions, and the community. Throughout the year, each RIG hosted networking and training events to cultivate new collaborations among members that would lead to innovative research and increased external funding.

**Facilitating the Development of Successful UConn-Community Research Collaborations:** At the beginning of FY17, under the direction of InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman, PhD, the Community-Engaged Health Research (CEHR) Core was created to foster collaborative relationships between UConn researchers and community partners who creatively and effectively address important individual and public health issues in Connecticut and elsewhere. Core activities included the formation of a Core Steering Committee of UConn faculty and community leaders; individual meetings with UConn faculty who are conducting health-related research in Connecticut; outreach to numerous leaders from community-based organizations in Hartford; and meetings with the Community Research Alliance, a group of community-based organizations that set research priorities in Hartford. In addition, the CEHR Core and the UConn Office

of Public Engagement co-sponsored: (1) two \$15,000 seed grant awards for community-engaged health research projects co-led by an InCHIP faculty member and a community partner, and (2) a workshop for UConn faculty entitled, "Cross-Cultural & Diversity Inclusiveness Training for Researchers."

**UConn-Cuba Health Research Initiative:** InCHIP and the Office of Global Affairs partnered on a major initiative this year to establish health behavior research collaborations between UConn faculty and investigators in Cuba. In March 2017, nine UConn faculty members traveled to Cuba to take part in a five-day workshop with 20 researchers from Cuban institutions. By the end of the workshop, Cuban and UConn investigators had agreed to collaborate on four major research projects: (1) a study to characterize the risk behaviors and health promotion needs of Cubans living with HIV, (2) a study to identify the factors associated with obesity in Cuban young adults, (3) a study to develop and evaluate an intervention to increase treatment adherence among Cubans with diabetes, and (4) a study to identify the factors associated with smoking and alcohol use among Cuban university students. In addition to these four major studies, UConn faculty member and InCHIP PI Michael Copenhaver, PhD (Allied Health Sciences) is working with Cuban investigators to develop a culturally-appropriate measure to assess neurocognitive impairment among Cubans with HIV. InCHIP and Cuban researchers are also exploring other common areas of interest for possible collaboration.

InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences) made extensive efforts this year to foster collaborations between researchers at UConn and in Israel. Researchers at InCHIP interacted via phone with investigators at the University of Haifa and Bar Ilan University, which so far have resulted in at least one productive collaboration, with others in process.

**Dr. Fisher and InCHIP staff members also facilitated a research collaboration between InCHIP PI Lisa Butler PhD, MPH, PhD and Aaron Miller, MD, MPA,** who is Executive Director of BRANCH, an organization that focuses on implementing child maltreatment prevention and treatment in Africa. Drs. Butler and Miller are currently working together on a project proposal in this area.

# InCHIP's New Core Structure Offers "One-Stop Shopping" for Researchers

At every stage of research, from posing a research question to applying for funding to implementing an intervention, InCHIP's new Core Structure provides "one-stop shopping" for researchers.

The past year has been one of significant growth and transformation at InCHIP, most notably for its continued evolution from the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) to the Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP). As part of the change from a Center to an Institute, InCHIP created an exciting new Core structure that provides "one-stop shopping" for researchers. From the conception of an initial research idea to the implementation of a funded research project, InCHIP provides critical services and support at each step of the process.

Of the many services being offered, InCHIP is prioritizing training and mentoring opportunities that help faculty and graduate students develop into strong researchers. InCHIP's Directors believe the new Core Structure and the developmental focus will lead to UConn researchers obtaining larger multidisciplinary grants. "The reality of public health issues is that they are complex," said Deborah Cornman, an Associate Director and Associate Research Professor at InCHIP. "Certainly, individual researchers can still get grants to address these issues but, more and more, funders are looking for a team approach that brings in different perspectives and areas of expertise. Historically, not just here at UConn but at most academic institutions, researchers have been relatively siloed. We are trying to bridge those siloes and bring people together. So for the past couple of years, we have been working aggressively on forming multidisciplinary teams of researchers."

The new Core structure was created to facilitate InCHIP's efforts, and during FY17, it was comprised of five Cores:

- <u>Administrative Core</u>
- Training & Development Core
- Intervention Core
- Biostatistics & Methodology Core
- <u>Community-Engaged Health Research Core</u>

The **Administrative Core**, headed by InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences), provides exceptional pre-award and post-award services. The Administrative Core staff works closely with researchers to provide them with tailored support as they prepare their grant proposals, and then again once their grants have been funded.

The Training & Development (T&D) Core is headed by Amy Gorin, an InCHIP Associate Director and Professor of Psychological Sciences. Dr. Fisher called the T&D Core "one of the most important Cores at InCHIP." For UConn researchers at all stages of their careers, from graduate students to tenured faculty, this Core provides a variety of services including training in grant writing, faculty mentors, seed grant funding, research team development, and expert assistance with developing grant proposals. Examples of the trainings this Core has provided include a six-session Grantsmanship Training Workshop in Spring 2016, a three-session Specific Aims workshop in Fall 2016, a Budget Workshop in February 2017, and a workshop on Team Science in May 2017.

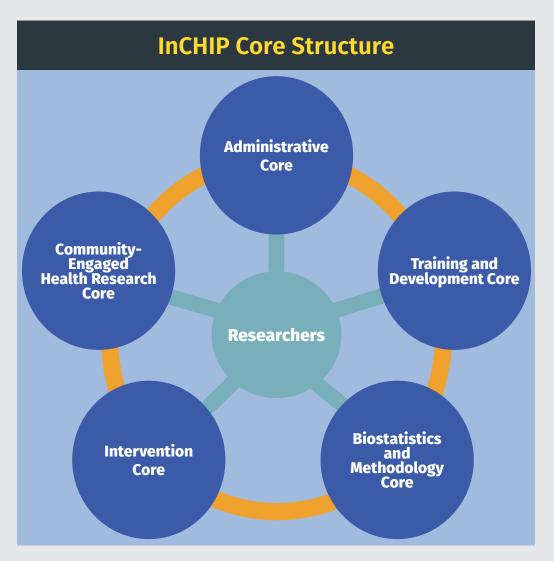
Another form of support provided by the T&D Core are the InCHIP Seed Grant Competitions. "There were six different types of seed grant opportunities offered by InCHIP this year and 13 projects funded," said Dr. Gorin. "The idea here is that a small investment pays off substantially in the long run. If you allow people to collect the pilot data they need, they are much more successful with their external grant applications."

The new InCHIP Grant Proposal Incubator is also part of the T&D Core. Co-chaired by Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences and InCHIP Principal Investigator (PI) Blair Johnson, PhD, and Professor of Allied Health Sciences and InCHIP PI Michael Copenhaver, PhD, the Incubator provides feedback to PIs and their teams about their research ideas and grant proposals. "The address critical individual and public health issues by providing assistance in designing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating innovative behavioral interventions." The Core maintains a directory of 20 faculty members with expertise in health behavior interventions who are willing to assist investigators with intervention research. "InCHIP is trying to build stronger intervention research at UConn, and this Core is a way of giving faculty the support they need to do that," stated Dr. Gans.

This past year, the **Biostatistics & Methodology Core** provided the support researchers needed to conduct statistically rigorous research and successfully compete for grants in the health sciences. Under the direction of Assistant Professor of Statistics and Allied Health Sciences Tania B. Huedo-Medina, PhD, and assisted by

Incubator is an opportunity for investigators to present an idea or a draft of a grant proposal to a panel of expert researchers. In turn, the investigators receive feedback on it, like how to best sell their idea to scientific review groups," noted Dr. Johnson.

The Intervention Core, co-led by Dr. Fisher and Professor of Human Development & Family Studies and InCHIP PI Kim Gans, PhD, is another InCHIP resource for researchers. According to Dr. Fisher, it helps them "create programs, interventions, and innovations that



Neag School of Education Graduate Student Eva Yujia Li, this Core connected researchers with a range of statistics experts and helped them establish successful collaborations for innovative health behavior research.

The **Community-Engaged Health Research Core** is the newest Core at InCHIP. Headed by Dr. Cornman, the goal of the Core is to develop partnerships between UConn researchers and community-based organizations who work together to identify and address critical health issues facing Connecticut and other communities. This Core is working closely with UConn's Office of Public Engagement as well as with a variety of community organizations, such as the Institute for Community Research, Hispanic Health Council, and Community Solutions. "The idea is to have the infrastructure in place to encourage and support community-engaged health research," stated Dr. Cornman. "Part of the Core's mission is to provide training to faculty and community partners in how to most effectively work together to conduct community-engaged research that is feasible and sustainable, and has a positive impact on health."

Critical to the operation of these Cores are In-CHIP's Boundary Spanners, John Giardina, MA and Grace Morris, MA, who work diligently to help carry out many of the activities of these Cores and support researchers across the University.

InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher succinctly summed up InCHIP's expanded focus:

"We tackle complex public health problems here at UConn, and InCHIP provides, in a single location, the variety of services and resources that researchers need to be successful at that, including assistance with developing research ideas, finding collaborators, writing strong proposals, and ultimately implementing their research."



Jeffrey Fisher, PhD InCHIP Director & Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences

## Administrative Core Provides Exceptional Grants Management Services

The <u>Administrative Core</u> is comprised of In-CHIP's dedicated and experienced professional staff who provide a "one-stop shop" for pre-award and grant management services to all InCHIP Principal Investigators (PIs). From initial submission of a grant application to progress reports and award closeouts, the services provided by this Core are distinguished by the individual attention given to each researcher. The Core's emphasis is on ensuring investigators have the ability to focus on their research rather than on navigating the bureaucracy surrounding their grants.

For any InCHIP Affiliate seeking to submit a grant consistent with InCHIP's mission, the Core offers pre-award services that include help preparing a grant budget, creating a biographical sketch, filling out administrative forms, and submitting the proposal through Sponsored Program Services. In FY17, the Core assisted with the submission of 103 external grant applications that requested nearly \$80 million in total costs (the highest in InCHIP history). Twenty-six have been newly awarded funding thus far, comprising over \$13.5 million in total costs. These results reflect the commitment the Administrative Core staff has to delivering high-quality pre-award services to InCHIP PIs.

After a grant is awarded, the Core continues to provide extensive grant management support to the Principal investigator in a variety of areas, including purchasing, payroll, travel, and effort reports, among others. The staff in the Core have significant experience and expertise navigating the complex issues inherent in large domestic and international research projects.

In FY17, the Administrative Core worked in collaboration with PIs on a wide range of grant budgets, including an NIH T32 training grant budget and the budget for a week-long workshop in Cuba co-sponsored by Global Affairs, InCHIP, and the Office of the Vice President for Research. Overall, InCHIP researchers expended over \$11 million in total costs this past year, all facilitated and supported by the Administrative Core.

The fact that researchers continue to return to InCHIP year after year for these services is a testament to the Administrative Core and the stellar job that they do in helping researchers be successful. As one Principal Investigator commented, "I couldn't manage without this support."

### Meet the Administrative Core Team

Steven Jagielo – Executive Assistant I: Oversees InCHIP's day-to-day business operations and provides human resources and payroll support to InCHIP PIs.

Lynne Hendrickson – Financial Assistant II: Coordinates domestic and international travel for InCHIP PIs, provides pre-award support, helps prepare grant projection reports, and assists with facilities management.

Niva Ranjeet – University Specialist: Processes student, special, and summer payroll for InCHIP PIs.

Melissa Stone – Financial Assistant II: Assists InCHIP PIs with grant budget management, grant-related purchases, participant incentive advances, sub-awards and consulting agreements, and projection reports.

Chris Tarricone & Josh Hardin – InCHIP IT: Provide desktop and specialized technical support to InCHIP PIs, including assistance with IT portions of grant applications.

AnnMarie White – Fiscal Manager: Provides pre- and postaward grant management support, including assistance with budget preparation and submitting applications through Sponsored Program Services.

# Training and Development Core Focuses on Maximizing Researchers' Potential

**InCHIP's Training and Development Core** provides mentorship, research team development, and instruction in grant proposal writing to UConn investigators at all stages of their careers from graduate students to tenured faculty. Under the leadership of InCHIP Associate Director Amy Gorin, A "one-stop shop" for mentorship, research team development, and instruction in grant proposal writing for UConn investigators at all stages of their careers from graduate students to tenured faculty

PhD (Psychological Sciences), this Core provides services designed to accelerate the development of both current and future generations of health-related researchers, helping them reach their full potential.

### **Inaugural Year Activities**

The Training and Development Core offered several well-attended workshops this past year including a series on grant writing. Over 100 faculty and graduate students participated in workshops devoted to writing a compelling Specific Aims section for an external grant application, learning how to showcase one's expertise and experience in an NIH-style Biosketch, and developing a grant budget.

On May 11-12, 2017, the Training and Development Core, along with the Collaboratory for School and Child Health and the Office of Public Engagement, sponsored a Team Science Summit featuring Dr. Kara Hall, Director of the Science of Team Science (SciTS) Team from the National Cancer Institute and a leading researcher in the SciTS field. She facilitated a workshop and gave a keynote lecture open to the entire UConn community, where participants learned about best practices in interdisciplinary collaborative team building.

# InCHIP Grantsmanship Mentorship Program for Junior Faculty

During the second semester of 2015-16, 31 junior faculty participated in the second InCHIP Grantsmanship Training Workshop for Health Behavior Researchers. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants were invited to apply for the InCHIP mentorship program, where they would have the opportunity to be paired with senior faculty who would mentor them for a vear in how to write a successful grant proposal. Thirteen of the workshop participants submitted mentorship applications to work on a specific research proposal, and six were matched with senior researchers who have served as their mentors over the past year. Of the six faculty who have been working with mentors, two have submitted external grants thus far, which are currently under review. In addition, one of the junior faculty partnered with his mentor on a grant application for CICATS internal funding and was awarded funding.

### **Nurturing New Ideas**

To help investigators develop their ideas into rigorous grant applications, the Training and Development Core launched a Grant Proposal Incubator this past year led by Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences and InCHIP Principal Investigator (PI) Blair Johnson, PhD, and Professor of Allied Health Sciences and InCHIP PI Michael Copenhaver, PhD. All applicants to the competition were given the opportunity to utilize the Incubator, and multiple junior faculty members ultimately participated.

These investigators met with a panel of InCHIP researchers, who all had extensive external grant portfolios, and received detailed feedback on the Specific Aims section of their proposal. One of the participants in the Incubator, Caitlin Elsaesser, PhD (Social Work), was eventually awarded a Junior Faculty Seed Grant. The Grant Proposal Incubator received very positive feedback from the faculty who participated and, based on this successful debut, the program will be expanded and offered multiple times next year.

### **One-on-One Support**

Navigating the complex grant application maze can be confusing and intimidating. It can be difficult to find the right funding mechanism, to identify potential partners, and to move a project from the idea phase to a successful application. To help investigators through this process during FY17, the Training and Development Core provided consultations with InCHIP Directors, experienced faculty researchers, and Boundary Spanners. Various forms of support were provided including connecting investigators with NIH program officers and UConn-based researchers who are experienced with particular funding mechanisms, sharing examples of successful proposals, and introducing them to researchers from other departments.



To access these services or for questions, please contact Training & Development Core Director Amy Gorin, PhD at:

### amy.gorin@uconn.edu

# A Diverse Group of Faculty Provide Expertise in Intervention Development

The <u>Intervention Core</u> provides expertise and support to health-related researchers across UConn, helping them design, implement, evaluate, and disseminate innovative interventions that target vital health behaviors like diet and exercise, medication and treatment adherence, and alcohol and substance use.

Effective interventions are key to modifying people's health behavior and improving their health. The Intervention Core leverages InCHIP's extensive experience in health behavior interventions to help InCHIP Affiliates and the broader community of health behavior researchers at UConn develop innovative, evidence-based interventions that can have a significant impact on the health of people around the world.

This year, under the leadership of InCHIP PI Kim Gans, PhD, MPH (Human Development and Family Studies) and InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences), the Core focused on building a network of intervention experts who would be available to collaborate



Kim Gans, PhD, MPH, and Jeffrey Fisher, PhD, Co-Directors of Intervention Core

with other researchers at UConn to design, test, and disseminate interventions. To date, the Intervention Core has recruited 20 UConn faculty members from an array of schools and departments to serve as experts. This includes faculty from the Neag School of Education, School of

### **Intervention Core Expertise** Development of Development of Intervention **Culturally-Based Conceptual and Logic** Evaluation Interventions Models Recruitment **Mixed Methods** and Retention Research Intervention Design Intervention Theory-Based Implementation and **Behavioral Interventions** Fidelity Monitoring Interface Between **Biological and** Intervention Intervention Behavioral Issues Dissemination Mapping

Dental Medicine, School of Nursing, Community Medicine and Health Care, Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Geography, Human Development & Family Studies, Kinesiology, Nutritional Sciences, Psychological Sciences, and Statistics, among others.

The Intervention Core also began facilitating the formation of research teams focused on the development of health behavior interventions. In the Fall semester, the Core hosted a lecture by InCHIP Affiliate Ross Buck, PhD (Communication) on Targeted Emotional Education Modules (TEEMs). TEEMs is an intervention methodology based on the idea that when people are taught to better understand their emotions, they are better able to control those emotions that might lead to risky or irrational behaviors. Following this lecture, the Core organized a meeting between Dr. Buck and other researchers at UConn, where they discussed different ways of applying the TEEMs methodology to various behaviors, and how TEEMs might be used to create more effective and scalable interventions.

The Core also supported the formation of a research team led by Asima Zehgeer, MBBS (Psychiatry) and Golda Ginsburg, PhD (Psychiatry) that is focused on developing an intervention to improve adherence to pediatric psychiatric treatments. The Intervention Core identified experts from UConn who could contribute to the project, including faculty members from the School of Pharmacy, the School of Dental Medicine, and the Departments of Statistics and Psychological Sciences, and organized an initial meeting with all the researchers to discuss possible research projects. This meeting led to the submission of an InCHIP Rolling Seed Grant application, which was recently funded to help Dr. Zehgeer further develop an interdisciplinary team and prepare applications for external grant funding.

To learn more about the resources and services described above, please visit the <u>Interven-</u> tion Core website.

# Biostatistics and Methodology Core Provided Critical Biostatistical Expertise to Researchers

"Working collaboratively with a biostatistician is vital to being competitive on grant applications." Those are the words of a Principal Investigator who reached out to the Biosta-

tistics and Methodology Core for assistance with her grant proposal. Statisticians' involvement in multidisciplinary research can increase the likelihood of proposals getting funded and is key to making scientific progress on complex health issues. With that understanding, InCHIP prioritized forming a Core that provided much needed statistical expertise to health researchers.

During the past year, under the leadership of InCHIP Affiliate

Tania B. Huedo-Medina, PhD (Allied Health Sciences and Statistics), the Core recruited 12 statistical experts from six departments at UConn to join its network of biostatisticians, including faculty from the Measurement, Evaluation, and Assessment program at the Neag School of Education; the Center for Quantitative Medicine at UConn Health; and the Departments of Statistics and Economics. The Core also created and maintained a database of graduate students with advanced statistical training, three of whom were eventually hired as research assistants for teams conducting health-related research.

Over the past year, utilizing the newly created network of experts, the Biostatistics and Methodology Core connected health researchers at UConn with the statistical expertise necessary to conduct innovative and rigorous research that can have a positive impact on individual and public health. The Core assisted faculty and students from 11 different academic departments, such as Allied Health Sciences, Anthropology, Biomedical Engineering, Kinesiology, and Psychological Sciences, among others. Not only did the Core help InCHIP Affiliates write competitive grant proposals utilizing state-of-

the-art analytical methodologies, they also helped coordinate statistical support for many ongoing research projects.

Beyond its primary function as a hub for health researchers and statistical experts, the Core also provided resources on its website for all UConn faculty and graduate students interested in learning more about statistical analyses and methodologies in the context of health-related research. This included a list of useful quanti-

tative courses at UConn, free online courses and resources for learning quantitative methods, and information about upcoming workshops, conferences, and events that featured the latest findings in statistical analysis and methodology. With the myriad of resources it provided, the Biostatistics and Methodology Core was a critical resource for InCHIP Affiliates and the broader community of health-related researchers at UConn. This Core helped ensure that path-breaking health research across the University was supported by rigorous analytical methodologies.

Unfortunately, due to budgetary constraints associated with InCHIP's anticipated FY18 budget allocation, the Biostatistics and Methodology Core had to be discontinued for the upcoming year. Because of the benefit it has provided to the community of health-researchers at UConn and its contribution to InCHIP's success in securing external funding, we hope to be able to reinstitute this Core in the future.



Tania B. Huedo-Medina, PhD, Director of Biostatistics and Methodology Core



# Community-Engaged Health Research Core Works to Build Strong Partnerships between UConn Researchers and Community Leaders

Community-engaged health research is a shared endeavor between academic and community partners in which health problems are examined within the context of people's everyday lives. To fully understand the complexities of a health issue and effectively address them, both the University and the community partner should play a substantial and meaningful role in planning and conducting the research, as well as in interpreting, disseminating, and translating the results. A reciprocal relationship between the partners that is based on trust is essential. InCHIP's Community-Engaged Health Research (CEHR) Core was created to foster these types of relationships between UConn researchers and community partners so they can work together on creating innovative, sustainable, and effective solutions to some of the most pressing health problems in Connecticut and beyond.

# The <u>CEHR Core</u>, which is headed by InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman, PhD, provides a range of services, including:

(1) Identifying UConn and/or community partners with whom to collaborate on research projects.

- (2) Finding relevant funding opportunities/mechanisms.
- (3) Helping to build a UConn researcher's capacity for community-engaged health research.
- (4) Helping to build the research capacity of a community partner who is working collaboratively with a UConn researcher.

(5) Identifying a UConn Expert and/or Community Expert to provide input/feedback on research concepts, study feasibility, methodology, recruitment strategies, cultural tailoring, potential barriers to enrollment, and/or dissemination of research findings into the community.

(6) Facilitating the development of a successful University-community partnership.

One of the first steps taken when the CEHR Core was created was to form a Core Steering Committee to serve in an advisory capacity to Core Director Deborah Cornman, PhD (InCHIP). The Steering Committee, which is comprised of 16 UConn faculty and community leaders, met quarterly to set priorities and identify strategies for building partnerships between UConn and community-based organizations.

Once the Steering Committee was formed, the CEHR Core met with UConn faculty who are conducting health-related research in Connecticut as well as with leaders from community-based organizations in the Greater Hartford area, such as the Institute for Community Research, Community Solutions, Hispanic Health Council, and Riverfront Recapture, Inc., to name a few.

In addition, Dr. Cornman made a presentation about the Core at the December meeting of the Community Research Alliance, a group of approximately 24 community-based organizations that set research priorities in Hartford.

To help foster University-community collaborations, the CEHR Core partnered with the UConn Office of Public Engagement to offer two \$15,000 seed grant awards for community-engaged health promotion research projects co-led by an InCHIP faculty member and a community partner. The projects had to be mutually beneficial to both partners, and have the potential to make significant scientific contributions and lead to positive changes in the health of the community.

### The following innovative projects were funded:

### "Formative Research to Inform Interventions for Latino Parents of Young Children"

This project is a University-community collaboration between Kim Gans, PhD, MPH of UConn (Human Development and Family Studies) and Leslie Gell, MA from Ready to Learn Providence. They will serve as Co-PIs on this project that will involve conducting formative research with Latino mothers and fathers of preschool children in Greater Providence to inform future



Deborah Cornman, PhD Director of Community-Engaged Health Research Core

multilevel childhood obesity interventions for Latino families. This project addresses the critical public health problem of childhood obesity in preschool children and focuses on Latino families, which is an underserved, high-risk population.

### "Exploring Medication Self-Management of Low Income Older Adults in Senior Housing"

UConn's Nathaniel Rickles, PhD, BCPP (Pharmacy Practice) and Jean Schensul, PhD from the Institute for Community Research, Hartford, are collaborating on a study to understand the variations in medication use patterns, and the factors associated with medication self-management and nonadherence among low income adults 50 years and older who reside in senior housing. Poor medication self-management is a known problem among older adults, so interventions to address this are greatly needed. With more than 25% of older low income adults in Connecticut residing in publicly-funded senior housing, this setting offers an ideal opportunity to understand how vulnerable adults aged 50 years and older with multiple comorbidities manage their complex medication regimens and how best to utilize the social infrastructure of these residences to build appropriate intervention approaches that improve medication self-management and medication adherence.

In order to develop strong, sustainable University-community collaborations, both University and community partners need to know how to work effectively with one another. Therefore, one of the key goals of the CEHR Core is to build the capacity of faculty and graduate students to conduct effective community-engaged health research. As a first step towards accomplishing this, InCHIP's CEHR Core and the Office of Public Engagement again came together to co-sponsor a workshop in May entitled, "Cross-Cultural & Diversity Inclusiveness Training for Researchers."

This workshop was facilitated by Grace Damio, MS, CD/N, the Director of Research and Training at the Hispanic Health Council in Hartford. It was designed to help participants examine their attitudes and assumptions about individuals and communities who have identities, experiences, and beliefs different from their own. Attended by 24 UConn faculty, research staff, and graduate students, the workshop received very positive feedback, with all participants indicating that the training will help them work more effectively with communities to address important public health issues.

To access any of the CEHR Core services, please contact Deborah Cornman, CEHR Core Director: <u>deborah.cornman@uconn.edu</u>

### CEHR Core Services and Resources to Support Successful University-Community Research Collaborations

Consultation	Communication &	Training	Research
Services	Dissemination	Workshops	Toolbox
<ul> <li>Linkages between UConn &amp; community researchers and organizations</li> <li>Identification of funding mechanisms</li> <li>Guidance to UConn &amp; community researchers about community-engaged research</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Identification of effective university- community communi- cation channels</li> <li>Leveraging available platforms for dissemi- nation of research project information and findings</li> </ul>	• In-person workshops and online trainings for UConn & communi- ty researchers (e.g., Community-Based Participatory Research, Cross-Cultural & Diver- sity Inclusiveness)	• Online repository of tools and resources for use by community and university researchers

# InCHIP's Annual Seed Grant Competitions Fund A Diversity of Cutting-Edge Research

In FY17, InCHIP continued its highly successful seed grant competitions. These competitions provide funding to UConn investigators to stimulate new research in health behavior that is likely to lead to external funding. Historically, some of InCHIP's largest and most successful external grants were made possible because their funding proposals included critical pilot data collected with the support of these annual seed grant competitions. When last calculated in June 2017, every \$1 of seed grant money invested by InCHIP had produced approximately \$82 in external grant applications by InCHIP PIs and about \$34 in external grant awards.

InCHIP sponsored six internal seed grant competitions in FY17, three of which were offered in collaboration with other groups at UConn. A description of each of these seed grant competitions and the proposals that were awarded are listed below:

### FY17 InCHIP Seed Grants for Junior Faculty/ • Researcher Affiliates

InCHIP offered two \$7,500 seed grant awards for junior faculty and researchers at UConn who had never received more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding. Grant applicants were encouraged to reach out to the various Cores for assistance with their grant proposals, including participating in the Grant Proposal Incubator for feedback on their Specific Aims. The following faculty were awarded funding for their innovative proposals:

- Caitlin Elsaesser, PhD (Social Work) "Creating a Measure of Cyberbanging: Social Media Aggression among Urban Youth"
- Kyounghae Kim, PhD, RN, NP-C (Nursing) "Developing a Health Literate mHealth Intervention to Promote HPV Vaccine Uptake"

# FY17 InCHIP Graduate Student Affiliate Seed Grants

InCHIP offered two \$1,500 seed grant awards for graduate students at UConn who are InCHIP Graduate Student Affiliates. The winners of this competition were:

• Lucy Finkelstein-Fox (Psychological Sciences) "Flexible Coping with Chronic Illness: Implications for Stress Management" **Roman Shrestha, MPH (Public Health)** "Testing an Integrated Bio-Behavioral HIV Prevention Approach among Drug Users"

# InCHIP Rolling Seed Grants to Develop New Interdisciplinary Teams

InCHIP offered Rolling Seed Grants for faculty and researchers at UConn who are InCHIP Affiliates. These grants provided funds to support the development of new interdisciplinary research teams with high potential for securing external funding through activities such as a one-day workshop or a series of structured meetings to develop a research agenda and identify team leaders, conduct small pilot studies, or publish a high-impact literature review to establish a team's expertise in a new area. The following three UConn researchers were awarded funding:

- Elaine Lee, PhD (Kinesiology) "Mechanisms of Exercise as an Adjuvant to Seasonal Flu Vaccine Responses." Funded for \$2,500.
- Sarah S. Willen, PhD, MPH (Anthropology) "Research Planning Workshop + Public Forum: Who Deserves a Healthy Life? How Implicit 'Deservingness Assessments' Can Impact Efforts to Tackle Health Inequities." Funded for \$1,500.

### • Asima Zehgeer, MBBS (Psychiatry)

"Development of a Pharmacotherapy Adherence Intervention for Adolescents with Anxiety and Depression." Funded for \$2,500.

### **InCHIP Co-Sponsored Seed Grants**

### FY17 InCHIP-IBACS Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Brain and Cognitive Science and Health

InCHIP and the Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (IBACS) offered two awards of \$15,000 each for new research initiatives at the intersection of brain and cognitive science and health that involved collaborations between faculty members, ideally from different disciplines. The two proposals that were awarded funding are the following:

- Lindsey Lepley, PhD, ATC (Kinesiology), Adam Lepley, PhD, ATC (Kinesiology), and Steven Harrison, PhD (Kinesiology)
   "Motor Control Deficits after ACL Reconstruction: Underlying Cortical Adaptations"
- John Salamone, PhD (Psychological Sciences) and Blair Johnson, PhD (Psychological Sciences)

"Inflammation Effects on Effort-based Decision Making: Relevance for Depression"

### FY17 InCHIP-Office of Public Engagement Seed Grants for Community-Engaged Health Research

InCHIP and UConn's Office of Public Engagement (OPE) collaborated on a pilot grant program that promotes community-engaged health research with reciprocal benefit to the community and the UConn faculty. OPE and InCHIP offered up to \$15,000 in funding for each of two community-engaged health research studies that meet a need identified by the community. The studies that were funded are the following:

• Kim Gans, PhD, MPH (Human Development and Family Studies) and Leslie Gell, MA (Ready to Learn Providence)

"Formative Research to Inform Interventions for Latino Parents of Young Children"  Nathaniel Rickles, PhD, BCPP (Pharmacy Practice) and Jean Schensul, PhD (Institute for Community Research)
 "Exploring Medication Self-Management of

"Exploring Medication Self-Management of Low Income Older Adults in Senior Housing"

### FY17 InCHIP-Committee on Interprofessional Excellence in Healthcare Seed Grants

InCHIP and the Committee on Interprofessional Excellence in Healthcare (CIPEH) at UConn offered two \$5,000 awards for proposals that stimulate new research on the effectiveness of interprofessional health sciences education, patient care, and outreach initiatives. The term "interprofessional" (IP) refers to opportunities and experiences that involve more than one profession (e.g., pharmacy and nursing) rather than "interdisciplinary," which may involve collaboration among different disciplines or specialties within the same profession (e.g., internal medicine and dermatology). The four Pls who were awarded funding are the following:

- Paula McCauley, DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC (Nursing) and Brenda Kurz, PhD (Social Work)
   "COordinated Pain-management Education with Practice for INterprofessionals"
- Nathaniel Rickles, PhD, BCPP (Pharmacy Practice) and Bonnie McRee, PhD (Community Medicine and Health Care)
   "Interprofessional Training to Identify and Intervene on Substance Use Disorders"

# InCHIP Boundary Spanners Foster Team Science

InCHIP is very much focused on "team science" and developing multidisciplinary teams that work collaboratively to develop innovative solutions to society's most urgent healthcare challenges. Over the past year, InCHIP brokered numerous research partnerships that not only spanned UConn departments, schools, and campuses, but also community organizations. Key to forming these partnerships were InCHIP's Boundary Spanning services.

### What is Boundary Spanning?

Boundary Spanning involves reaching across the silos of disciplines, departments, and institutions to build multidisciplinary research teams that address complex public health problems. Since 2010, InCHIP's Boundary Spanners have worked full-time to identify and connect investigators with experts and resources at UConn and beyond, and to identify funding mechanisms to support this work. Their role is to help build and support sustainable, collaborative teams across organizational boundaries.

Boundary Spanning services are tailored to the needs of the researcher and can include any of the following:

**Targeted Funding Searches:** InCHIP Boundary Spanners will search for federal, state, local, or foundation-based funding mechanisms for faculty affiliates. Boundary Spanners can also provide information about previously awarded projects for specific federally-sponsored grants.

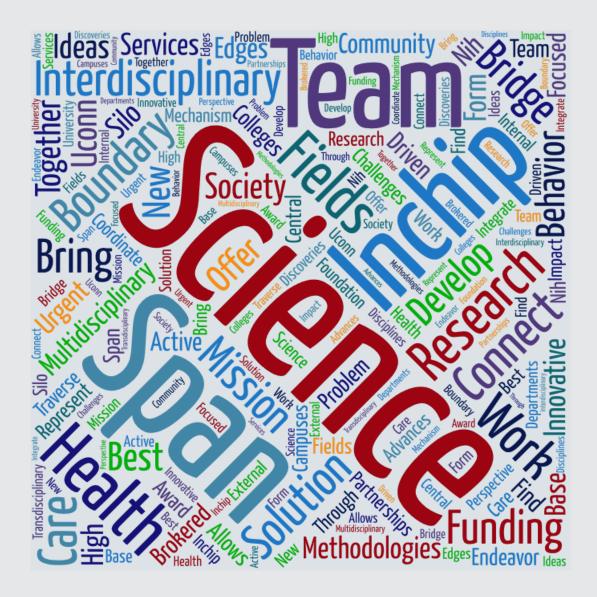
**Team Building:** Boundary Spanners will help faculty affiliates find and connect with collaborators across UConn, at other institutions, and in the community who have the specific topical or methodological expertise needed for a given research project. **Team Coordination and Development:** Boundary Spanners can assist budding research teams establish expectations, define roles, and determine best practices for communication in order to ensure effective and cooperative teamwork.

Examples of the excellent work that InCHIP Boundary Spanners John Giardina, MA and Grace Morris, MA accomplished this past year are the following:

- Dimitris Xygalatas, PhD (Anthropology) was interested in applying for funding for his research in experimental anthropology but was unsure which funding mechanisms were most applicable, so he reached out to InCHIP. Boundary Spanner Grace Morris identified relevant funding mechanisms, and then connected Dr. Xygalatas with researchers who had extensive experience with those mechanisms. Based on his interactions with those researchers, Dr. Xygalatas was able to make informed and confident decisions about which funding mechanisms would best fit his research goals. Ultimately, Dr. Xygalatas pursued foundation-based funding.
- Aaron Miller, MD, MPA is the Executive Director of BRANCH (Building Regional Alliances to Nurture Child Health), an organization whose mission is to develop the capacity of health systems in Africa to address child

maltreatment as a public health issue. Dr. Miller informed InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences) that he was interested in collaborating with researchers on implementing evidence-based child abuse prevention programs in Africa. Consequently, Boundary Spanners John Giardina and Grace Morris arranged multiple meetings between Dr. Miller and various UConn faculty members to discuss possible avenues for collaboration. As a result of these meetings, Dr. Miller is now working with InCHIP PI Lisa Butler PhD, MPH, PhD on a grant proposal on child maltreatment.

To access any of these services, please contact our Boundary Spanners at <u>boundary.spanners@</u> <u>chip.uconn.edu</u>.



### 2016-17 InCHIP Lecture Series Brings World-Renowned Health Behavior Researchers to UConn

Some of the brightest leaders in health behavior research came to share their cuttingedge work with UConn faculty and students at the InCHIP Lecture Series in 2016-17.

The lectures spanned a broad spectrum of health-related topics, including aging, cash incentives, climate change, digital health, health promotion, HIV prevention, maternal stress, obesity, oncology, and sexual health. InCHIP was extremely honored to host the following presenters:

### Fall Semester 2016

# Leonard Epstein, PhD, University at Buffalo, SUNY

"Reinforcement Pathology and Obesity"

### Rafael Ballester Arnal, PhD, Universitat Jaume, Castellon de la Plana, Spain "Promoting Sexual Health in Spain"

**Reinhard Laubenbacher, PhD, UConn Health** "Quantitative Approaches to Healthcare Across Scales"

### **Edward Maibach, PhD, MPH, George Mason University** "TV Weathercasters as Local Climate Change Educators: From Exploratory Research to National Network in 5 Years"

### Chris Dunkel-Schetter, PhD, UCLA

"Maternal Stress and Anxiety Before Birth: Consequences and Mechanisms"

### Richard F. Brown, PhD, Virginia Commonwealth University

"Physician-Patient Communication Research in the Oncology Health Care Setting"

Kari Kugler, PhD, Pennsylvania State University "Expanding the Tool Box: Using the Multiphase Optimization Strategy to Build Effective and Efficient Interventions"

### **Spring Semester 2017**

**Sheana Bull, PhD, MPH, University of Colorado, Aurora** "Innovations in Technology for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: The mHealth Impact Lab"

# J. Graham Thomas, PhD, Alpert Medical School of Brown University

"Digital Health Technology for the Assessment and Treatment of Obesity and Related Behaviors"

# Chandra Osborn, PhD, MPH, One Drop, Informed Data Systems Inc.

"The One Drop app with In-app Coaching Engages, Empowers, and Improves Health Outcomes"

### Mary Jane Rotheram-Borus, PhD, UCLA

"Implementing Scalable HIV Prevention Interventions for Women and Adolescents in South Africa and the US"

### Richard Fortinsky, PhD, UConn Health

"Testing In-Home Interventions to Improve Health Outcomes for Older Adults with Cognitive Vulnerability and their Families"

### Allison Earl, PhD, University of Michigan

"Racial Disparities in Attention to HIV-Prevention Information: Causes and Consequences for Health Promotion"

### Lucie Cluver, PhD, University of Oxford, UK "Social Welfare or Cash Incentives: Can Benefits or Bribery Stop Adolescent HIV in Africa?"



InCHIP is extremely grateful for the generous sponsorship provided by the following UConn schools, departments, institutes, centers, and other groups:

**SPONSORED ENTIRE LECTURE SERIES:** 

- <u>The Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences</u>
- Department of Allied Health Sciences
- <u>Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion</u>
- <u>Center for Public Health and Health Policy</u>
- <u>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</u>
- Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science
- Department of Human Development and Family Studies
- Department of Communication
- <u>UConn Global Affairs</u>
- <u>Neag School of Education</u>
- Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Office of Public Engagement
- <u>School of Business</u>
- <u>School of Medicine</u>

SPONSORED ONE OR MORE LECTURES:

- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- <u>School of Social Work</u>

### **Lecture Series Workshops**

In addition to presenting findings from their latest research, several of the speakers led a workshop or hosted a group discussion prior to or after their lecture.

One of the most well-received and well attended workshops offered this year was led by Kari Kugler, PhD (Penn State) and focused on the multiphase optimization strategy (MOST), which is an innovative approach that helps researchers identify which components of an intervention are worth retaining or discarding.

The workshops and group discussions give UConn faculty and graduate students the opportunity to learn cutting-edge methods from, and have detailed discussions with, leaders in health behavior research from around the world.

### Workshop in Havana, Cuba Fostered Development of Collaborative Relationships and Commitment to Pursue Important Research Projects in Health Behavior

In March 2017, a delegation of nine UConn faculty members who are InCHIP affiliates traveled to Cuba for a five-day networking workshop designed to develop collaborative relationships between investigators at UConn and their counterparts in Cuba. A total of 10 researchers from Cuba, representing multiple institutions in Cuba, took part in the five-day workshop, with another ten Cuban researchers taking part for one day. The meeting, jointly organized by InCHIP and the Cuban Society of Psychology, began with a meet-and-greet on the evening of Sunday, March 12 and ran through Friday, March 17. Funding for the workshop was provided by UConn's Office of Global Affairs, Office of the Vice President of Research, and InCHIP.

Over the course of the five-day workshop, researchers from both countries made presentations about their research and took part in brainstorming sessions focused on identifying the gaps in the state of science and areas for future fruitful joint investigation. The primary goal of the trip was to foster the development of collaborative research projects between Cuban and UConn investigators in the areas of HIV, obesity, cancer, and substance use. And that goal was achieved, according to InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences) who attended the workshop and played a key role in organizing it: "The trip was extremely successful. We developed some wonderful partnerships with our Cuban colleagues, and we are excited about the work that we are going to do together."

By the end of the workshop, Cuban and UConn investigators had agreed to start work on four major research projects in Cuba. These projects are focused on (1) characterizing the risk behaviors and health promotion needs of individuals living with HIV in Cuba, (2) identifying the factors associated with obesity and overweight in young adults, (3) determining the attitudes and social norms associated with smoking and alcohol use among university students, and (4) designing, implementing, and evaluating a theory-based intervention to increase treatment adherence among Cubans with diabetes.

Beyond these four studies, UConn faculty have continued working with Cuban investigators to identify common areas of interest and begin other projects. For example, UConn Professor of Allied Health Sciences and InCHIP Principal Investigator Michael Copenhaver, PhD is now collaborating with several Cuban investigators on the development of a culturally-appropriate measure of neurocognitive impairment that can be used to assess the capacity of patients with HIV to fully understand and participate in various care and treatment programs.

In addition to addressing important public health issues in Cuba, these collaborative projects provide an opportunity for UConn and Cuban researchers to exchange research expertise, methodological innovations, and insights about the two cultures that, until recently, the Cuban and U.S. research communities have not

Cultural, geographic, and language differences do not need to be barriers to researchers working effectively together on common public health issues."

Deborah Cornman, PhD



Cuban and UConn Collaborators on the final day of the workshop

been able to do. "Cultural, geographic, and language differences do not need to be barriers to researchers working effectively together on common public health issues," stated InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman, PhD. "This trip will hopefully mark the beginning of long-lasting research partnerships that will benefit the various investigators and universities involved, and the U.S. and Cuban nations as a whole."

### InCHIP Investigators who Participated in Cuba Workshop

Lisa Butler, PhD, MPH, PhD (InCHIP) Michael Copenhaver, PhD (Allied Health) Deborah Cornman, PhD (InCHIP) Michael Fendrich, PhD (Social Work) Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences) Kim Gans, PhD, MPH (Human Development and Family Studies) Meg Gerrard, PhD (Psychological Sciences) Rick Gibbons, PhD (Psychological Sciences) Debs Ghosh, PhD (Geography)

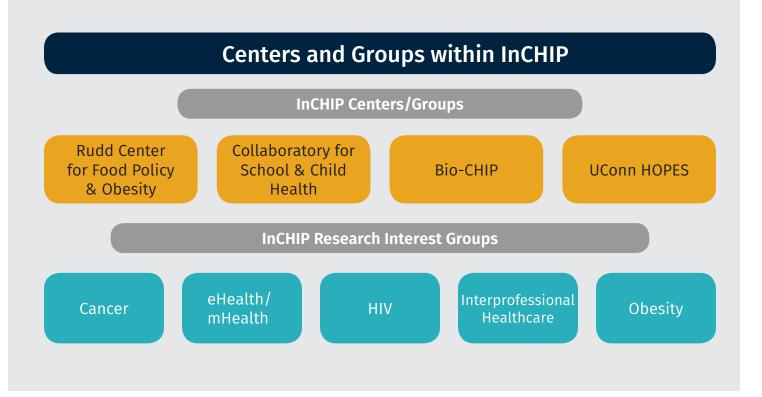
# InCHIP Helps Facilitate Research Collaborations Within and Across Institutes, Centers, and Other Groups at UConn

InCHIP serves as an umbrella Institute for multiple research centers and groups, helping to facilitate research collaborations both within and across these organizations. InCHIP centers and groups include the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, the Collaboratory for School and Child Health (CSCH), the Biosensor Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (Bio-CHIP), and the Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evidence Synthesis Group (HOPES).

In addition, there are five InCHIP Research Interest Groups (RIGs): Cancer Research Interest Group (Cancer RIG), eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG), HIV Research Interest Group (HIV RIG), Interprofessional Healthcare Research Interest Group (IPH RIG), and Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG).

Each of these multidisciplinary RIGs provides a forum for researchers from across disciplines, campuses, and the community to work collaboratively and seek funding to conduct innovative research on specific health topics. RIG members not only come from numerous departments and schools across UConn but also from community-based organizations in Connecticut.

Some of the highlights over the past year can be found on the pages that follow.





# **UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity**

Ranked as one of the highest-performing childhood nutrition and nonprofit health organizations in the country, the mission of the Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity is to promote solutions to childhood obesity, poor diet, and weight bias through research and policy.

The Rudd Center believes every child, regardless of who they are, where they live, and what they look like, deserves the opportunity to eat healthfully, but many do not get that opportunity. The Rudd Center is committed to interrupting this cycle of inequity by conducting research to inform advocacy and policy, supporting evidence-based solutions, challenging the status quo, and holding the food industry, media, government, and others that affect the food environment accountable for their actions.

### **Brief Overview of FY17 Achievements:**

- Rudd Center faculty and staff collaborated on research with faculty researchers from 25 universities across the country and internationally.
- In the past year, Rudd Center research was key in informing proposed local, state, and national policies that addressed a variety of issues, including strong nutrition standards in federal food programs, sugary drink excise taxes, and FDA-proposed guidance to industry on substantiation for structure/ function claims on infant formula labels.

- From May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017, there were approximately 3,260 media appearances for the Rudd Center core faculty in high-visibility online, print, and broadcast media.
- In FY17, the Rudd Center was funded by 17 external grants totaling \$3,157,074.
- Rudd Center faculty supervised 19 undergraduate students, 4 Masters students, and 13 PhD students.
- In 2016, the Rudd Center began their new post-doctoral training program.



Left to right: Marketing Initiatives Director Jennifer Harris, Advocacy Resources Director Sally Mancini, UConn General Counsel Richard Orr, UConn President Susan Herbst, Director Marlene Schwartz, and Deputy Director Rebecca Puhl

# **Collaboratory for School and Child Health**

InCHIP's Collaboratory for School and Child Health (CSCH) was developed by Co-Directors Sandra Chafouleas, PhD (Educational Psychology) and Carol Polifroni, EdD, NEA-BC, CNE, RN,

ANEF (Nursing/Office of Public Engagement) and a multidisciplinary team of faculty "to facilitate innovative and impactful connections across research, policy, and practice arenas relevant to school and child health. CSCH serves as a central resource to University



and external partners engaged in efforts that inform healthy, safe, supportive, and engaging environments for all children."

CSCH had a very productive FY17, organizing and sponsoring a variety of significant activities. One that was particularly noteworthy occurred on the evening of November 16, 2016. CSCH, in collaboration with the Neag School of Education, hosted a free screening of the award-winning documentary film "Resilience: The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope" in the UConn Student Union Theatre to an audience of 200 practitioners, community members, faculty, students, and researchers. Additional sponsors included InCHIP, UConn's Office of Public Engagement, Achieve Hartford!, and Clifford Beers Clinic.

This documentary, which was directed by James Redford of KPJR Films, chronicles the work of



researchers who discovered the destructive long-term biopsychosocial effects of abuse and neglect during childhood. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) put individuals at risk

for major health problems in adulthood. The film highlights the work of pediatricians, therapists, and educators who are using cutting-edge research and evidence-based interventions to intervene with children and protect them from the effects of toxic stress. The screening was immediately followed by a panel discussion moderated by CSCH Co-Director Sandra Chafouleas, with James Redford, Alice Forrester from Clifford Beers Clin-

ic in New Haven, and Paul Diego-Holzer from Achieve Hartford!.

As a follow-up to this important event, CSCH co-sponsored and hosted the "Symposium on Trauma-Informed School Mental Health" in May 2017 at UConn Storrs. Attended by approximately 100 school, mental health, and community leaders from across Connecticut, the primary goals of the symposium were to increase awareness about the negative effects of childhood trauma; discuss creation of a common framework for addressing trauma, violence, and the behavioral health needs of children; and begin work on the development of a state model for how to implement trauma-informed care. This symposium represented a collaborative effort between CSCH, Neag School of Education, Capitol Region Education Council, CT State Department of Education, Ana Grace Project,

Clifford Beers Clinic, and Child Health Development Institute.

Lastly, in an effort to stimulate research that promotes an integrated approach to health and learning through collaborations across the components of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model, CSCH offered two \$10,000 seed grants to researchers who are InCHIP and CSCH affiliates. The two awardees of CSCH's FY17 seed grant competition are:

- Amy Mobley, PhD, Assistant Professor of Nutritional Sciences. She and her co-investigators will be studying the impact of local foods on elementary school students' nutrition behaviors.
- Marlene Schwartz, PhD, Director of the UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity and Professor of Human Development and Family Studies. She will be creating a WSCC Policy Assessment Tool that captures and scores all of the school policies relevant to the WSCC model, similar to the existing WellSAT tool.



Panel Discussion following screening of "Resilience: The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope." Left to Right: James Redford, Alice Forrester, Paul Diego-Holzer

# **InCHIP Research Interest Groups**

### **Cancer RIG**

The Cancer Research Interest Group (Cancer RIG) serves as a hub for connecting researchers interested in biopsychosocial issues across the entire cancer control continuum of prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and end-of life. This RIG, which is led by InCHIP PI Crystal Park (Psychological Sciences), is currently comprised of 124 researchers from across UConn and beyond. During the Fall 2016 semester, members of the Cancer RIG met to discuss possible ways to advance cancer re-

search collaborations at the intersection of psychosocial and biomedical research, with a particular emphasis on developing projects involving investigators from both UConn Storrs and UConn Health. In addition to Connecticut Children's Medical Center, a variety of UConn schools, departments and Centers were represented, includ-

ing the Center for Advancement in Managing Pain, Center for Molecular Medicine, Department of Educational Psychology, Department

### eHealth/mHealth RIG

The eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG) brings together researchers from across UConn and other institutions who are interested in using digital technologies to modify and improve health behaviors. Digital technologies are increasingly becoming a core part of health behavior interventions, and the use of mobile technologies, social media, web-based interventions, and sensors have the potential to make interventions more targeted, effective, and scalable. Because successful digital health research requires a diverse array of expertise, including in computer science, communication,



of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of Kinesiology, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, School of Nursing, Division of Occupational & Environmental Medicine, Department of Pharmacy Practice, and Department of Psychological Sciences.

In the Spring 2017 semester, a group of Cancer RIG members began meeting to develop a research project centered around the National Cancer Institute (NCI) program announce-

> ment on "Oral Anticancer Agents: Utilization, Adherence, and Health Care Delivery." The project will focus on measuring facilitators of and barriers to treatment adherence among patients receiving oral anticancer agents. The research team consists of a multidisciplinary group of investigators from many different de-

partments, including Educational Psychology, InCHIP, Pharmacy Practice, Psychological Sciences, and Statistics.

and big data analysis, the EMRIG facilitates networking events, trainings, lectures, and workshops to help inform and connect investigators across disciplines, and foster the development of new and innovative ways to promote health behavior change.

The EMRIG has the largest membership of InCHIP's Research Interest Groups, with 179 members. This past year, the EMRIG prioritized identifying the necessary technical expertise to conduct digital health research, particularly around mobile and web application development. In the Fall 2016 semester, a survey was distributed to the EMRIG members to determine what types of expertise existed among

its members and to identify digital health experts and vendors with whom they had successfully partnered. This was followed by a meeting with EMRIG members in November 2016 where they discussed how best to support digital health research at UConn. The meeting was attended by faculty members and graduate students from many different departments and schools, including Communication, Geography, Human Development and Family Studies, Nursing, and Phar-

macy. In January 2017, EMRIG Co-Chairs Deborah Cornman, PhD (InCHIP) and Debarchana Ghosh, PhD (Geography) met with Computer Science and Engineering Department Head Alex Schwarzmann, PhD to identify faculty who might be interested in collaborating with InCHIP affiliates on health behavior research. And then in March 2017, in response to requests from its membership, the EMRIG hosted a presentation

by leaders from UConn Procurement Services on the rules and regulations for hiring vendors to build digital health apps and software.

> In addition to these activities. there were three InCHIP Lectures Series presentations on digital health. Sheana Bull. PhD. MPH, who is the Director of the mHealth Impact Lab at University of Colorado, presented on the opportunities that exist for using digital and mobile solutions in health promotion and prevention of diseases, and she discussed some of the successful interventions that have been developed as well as the challenges that this type

of research presents. J. Graham Thomas, PhD from Alpert Medical School of Brown University gave a talk on how digital technology can be used in the assessment and treatment of obesity. And former UConn graduate student Chandra Osborn, PhD, MPH from Informed Data Systems, Inc. gave a presentation on the One Drop mobile app with built-in coaching that helps those with diabetes manage their disease.

### **HIV RIG**

The newly formed HIV **Research Interest Group** (RIG) builds on InCHIP affiliates' groundbreaking research in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, where InCHIP has its roots. Under the direction of InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, PhD (Psychological Sciences) and Seth Kalichman, PhD (Psychological Sciences), the primary goal of the

HIV RIG is to bring together researchers from multiple disciplines who share a common interest in HIV prevention, HIV testing, and the con-



diagnosis to treatment. In addition to developing successful multidisciplinary collaborations to conduct impactful cutting-edge research, the group aims to build upon current UConn faculty members' tremendous expertise in HIV research to train a new generation of HIV researchers.

tinuum of care from initial

During its first year, the

HIV RIG hosted a Low-Hanging Fruit Breakfast, during which faculty discussed their existing datasets available for analysis and write-up as



well as ideas for publications. Graduate students and other faculty were invited to join these research projects. The event led to sev-

### Interprofessional Healthcare RIG

The Interprofessional Healthcare Research Interest Group (IPH RIG) is chaired by InCHIP Affiliate Michelle Judge, PhD, RD, CD-N (Nursing), with a current membership of 44 UConn researchers who are interested in conducting patient-centered interprofessional health research and expanding collaboration and teamwork in healthcare. The term "interprofessional" refers to opportunities and experiences that involve

more than one profession (e.g., pharmacy and nursing) instead of "interdisciplinary," which may involve collaboration among different disciplines or specialties within the same profession (e.g., internal medicine and dermatology).

FY17 marked the first year for the IPH RIG, which has worked closely with the University-wide Committee on Interprofessional Excellence in Healthcare (CIPEH) to promote research on the

effects of interprofessional healthcare on patient health outcomes. Among the collaborative efforts between the IPH RIG and CIPEH was a seed grant competition that was co-sponsored by CIPEH and InCHIP. This competition awarded two \$5,000 grants to fund pilot projects that will expand the existing knowledge about interprofessional healthcare and education and that will hopefully lead to strong external grant applications: Paula McCauley, DNP, APRN, ACNP-

### **Obesity RIG**

Co-directed by InCHIP Associate Director Amy Gorin, PhD (Psychological Sciences), Rudd Center for Obesity & Food Policy Director Marlene Schwartz, PhD (Human Development and Family Studies), and Kim Gans, PhD, MPH (Human eral collaborations between faculty as well as connections of faculty with Dr. Kalichman's T32 graduate student mentees.

BC (Nursing) and Brenda Kurz, PhD (Social Work) were funded for their proposal entitled, "COordinated Pain-management Education with Practice for INterprofessionals," and Nathaniel Rickles, PhD, BCPP (Pharmacy Practice) and Bonnie McRee, PhD (Community Medicine and Health Care) were awarded funds for their study, "Interprofessional Training to Identify and Intervene on Substance Use Disorders."

> The IPH RIG also hosted multiple meetings this year to organize and structure the activities of the group and to discuss the best ways to promote interprofessional healthcare research at UConn. In keeping with the purpose of this RIG, many different health professions were represented at these meetings, including medicine, nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, psychology, and speech-language pathology. The meetings

explored different ways to develop interprofessional research and education projects at UConn, including the establishment of an interprofessional health clinic and writing a grant proposal for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). The meetings were successful in establishing a strong framework for expanding the work of the IPH RIG in the coming year and establishing UConn as a center for research in interprofessional healthcare.

Development and Family Studies), the Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG) is a multidisciplinary network of 173 investigators, affiliates, and students who share a common interest in understanding, preventing, and treating obe-



sity. ORIG members represent numerous departments (e.g., Allied Health Sciences, Human Development and Family Studies, Kinesiolo-

gy, Nutritional Sciences, Pediatrics, Psychological Sciences) and area hospitals (e.g., Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford Hospital), and have expertise in obesity prevention and management, nutrition, and physical activity.

To help facilitate collaborative research, the ORIG sponsored several events this year including its an-

nual Low-Hanging Fruit Breakfast on October 18, 2016, where faculty presented existing datasets and ideas for publications, and offered graduate students and other faculty the opportunity to join these research projects. In addition, the ORIG hosted two InCHIP lec-



tures, including a lecture by Leonard Epstein, PhD from University at Buffalo, SUNY on food reinforcement, energy intake, and obesity, and a lecture by J. Graham Thomas, PhD from Brown University on the use of digital health platforms to assess and treat obesity in adults. And in May 2017, senior-level ORIG members from various UConn departments

and campuses met to discuss and plan future research and training initiatives for FY18 and beyond.

# **Institutes and Centers Retreat**

A central feature of InCHIP's mission is to build research collaborations not only among individual researchers but also across Institutes and Centers at UConn. Toward this goal, in the Fall 2017 semester, InCHIP sponsored a UConn health-related Institutes and Centers (ICs) Retreat, providing a unique opportunity for ICs from across UConn to come together and identify common areas of interest, share resources, and facilitate cross-disciplinary research collaboration. This retreat was developed following a working lunch held in May 2016, where the IC Directors agreed that a retreat would be the best way to initiate collaborations between the groups.

At the retreat, each IC had the opportunity to present their research interests and describe areas where there is potential for collaborating with other groups. Representatives from 15 ICs participated in the retreat, comprising a broad range of fields and expertise, including alcohol and substance use, brain and cognitive sciences, child health and development, environmental health, kinesiology, health disparities, health policy, human rights, pain management, and transportation safety. Following the presentations from the various ICs, there was an opportunity for the representatives to network and begin exploring possible collaborative projects.

Among the ICs that attended the May 2016 working lunch and/or the Fall 2017 retreat, many are now working together on health-related research initiatives or have partnered to build further collaborations. Some examples of these initiatives include:

- A seed grant competition for FY17 that was jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (IBACS) and InCHIP - This competition awarded \$15,000 apiece to each of two collaborative research teams for projects that addressed both health and the brain and cognitive sciences.
- A forum co-sponsored by The Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut (CHDI) and the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity - This forum, entitled "Aligning Policy with Research: Promoting Sound Nutrition in Early Childhood," was held on June 14, 2016 and attended by over 55 researchers, policy makers, and healthcare providers.
- A multidisciplinary team focused on pain and obesity research led by InCHIP Affiliate and Director of the Center for Advancement in Managing Pain (CAMP), Angela Starkweather, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNRN, FAAN, (Nursing) - The team includes InCHIP researchers from both the Storrs and UConn Health campuses as well as from Connecticut Children's Medical Center. The team is preparing a proposal for a Center of Excellence for Research on Complementary and Integrative Health (P01) grant from the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health at the National Institutes of Health. InCHIP helped identify faculty to join this multidisciplinary research team.
- InCHIP Associate Director Amy Gorin, PhD (Psychological Sciences) now sits on the IBACS Advisory Board.

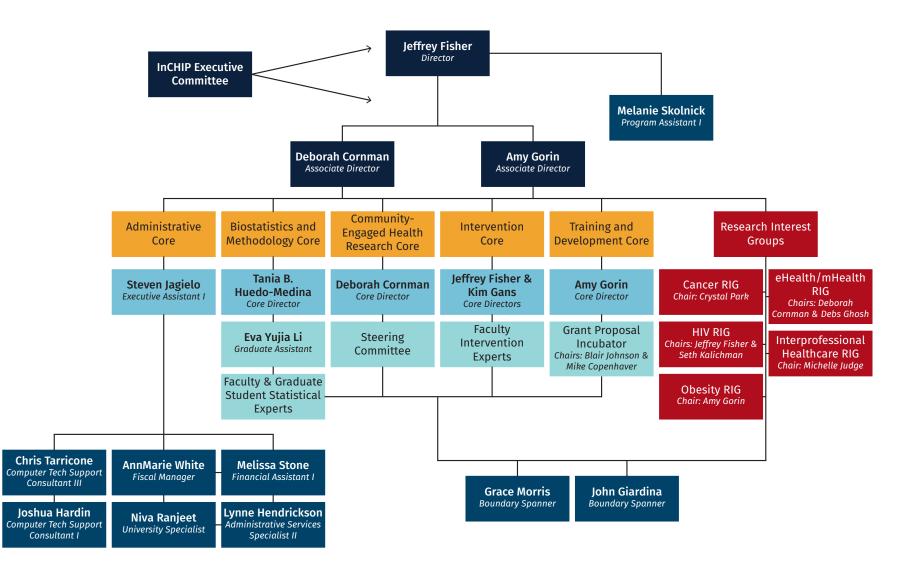
The Directors of the participating groups agreed that following the Institutes and Centers (ICs) retreat, they would continue to work on creating further connections and collaborations through smaller meetings and the use of a new Listserv. By developing consistent, long-lasting relationships between leaders of the ICs, the goal is to leverage UConn's expertise in many different health-related research areas and build truly interdisciplinary research programs that can address the most vital issues in individual and public health.

# Appendices

# Contents

FY17 InCHIP Organizational Chart	38
InCHIP FY17 Newly Awarded and Active Grants (May 16, 2016 – May 15, 2017)	39-48
InCHIP Mission Statement	49

## **FY17 InCHIP Organizational Chart**



		InCH	IP FY17 No	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$32,765	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	09/01/15	10/31/16	Duke Univer- sity/ RWJF	Supplementing Healthy Eating Re- search on In-Store Marketing Practices and Care on Education in Early Child- hood to Prevent Childhood Obesity
Andreyeva, Tatiana *	AGRE	\$14,832	\$13,484	\$1,348	\$14,832	0.5	09/01/16	12/31/16	Healthy Food for America	Updating the Rudd Tax Calculator
Andreyeva, Tatiana *	AGRE	\$7,000	\$6,364	\$636	\$7,000	1	09/01/16	12/31/16	Healthy Food for America	Updating the Rudd Tax Calculator –SUPPLEMENT
Andreyeva, Tatiana *	AGRE	\$62,968	\$25,103	\$7,079	\$32,182	3	09/19/16	09/18/19	Tufts Univer- sity/ USDA	The Tufts/ University of Connecticut Research and Development Grants in Economics Center (Tufts/UConn RIDGE Center)
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$149,603	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	02/01/15	6/30/16	USDA/ NIFA	Nutritional Quality of Foods in Non- CACFP Child Care Center
Andreyeva, Tatiana *	AGRE	\$8,170	\$6,052	\$2,118	\$8,170	1	03/07/17	06/29/17	CT DPH	Updating Quality Improvement Mod- ules for Early Care and Education Providers
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$421,078	\$57,495	\$33,348	\$90,843	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 - Phar- macy Initiative
Buckley, Thomas *	PHAR	\$49,500	\$39,286	\$10,214	\$49,500	1	09/01/16	06/29/17	CT DPH	The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) - SUPPLEMENT
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$44,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	06/30/15	06/29/16	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Phar- macy Initiative (Diabetes Enhanced) Year 3 SUPPLEMENT

		InCH	IP FY17 Ne	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>°</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Buckley, Thomas *	PHAR	\$44,000	\$27,848	\$16,152	\$44,000	1	06/30/16	06/29/17	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Phar- macy Initiative (Diabetes Enhanced) Year 4 SUPPLEMENT
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$119,398	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	06/30/15	06/29/17	CT DPH/ AST- HO	The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
Buckley, Thomas *	PHAR	\$60,000	\$47,619	\$12,381	\$60,000	1	12/01/16	06/29/17	CT DPH	Connecticut Pharmacy WISEWOMAN Project
Butler, Lisa	CHIP	\$3,038,231	\$367,893	\$108,414	\$476,307	5	05/01/16	4/30/21	NIH/ NIMH	Multi-Sectoral Agricultural Interven- tion to Improve Nutrition, Health and Developmental Outcomes of HIV-Infected and Affected Children in Western Kenya
Butler, Lisa	CHIP	\$114,093	\$24,280	\$14,082	\$38,362	3	05/01/16	4/30/19	UCSF/ NIH/ NIMH	Cognitive Behavioral and Structural HIV Prevention Intervention for Young Ugandan Women Engaging in High Risk Sexual Behavior
Butler, Lisa	CHIP	\$86,800	\$15,506	\$8,993	\$24,499	4	05/01/16	4/30/20	UCSF/ NIH/ NCI	Promoting Early Diagnosis of Kaposi's Sarcoma in Uganda
Butler, Lisa	CHIP	\$74,689	\$48,432	\$4,843	\$53,275	2	05/01/16	08/31/17	Global Strat- egies	Global Strategies Projects - PEP and NoviGuide
Butler, Lisa	CHIP	\$80,521	\$12,701	\$7,367	\$20,068	3	05/01/16	4/30/20	UCSF/ NIH/ NIMH	Agricultural Intervention for Food Security and HIV Health Outcomes in Kenya
Butler, Lisa *	CHIP	\$116,432	\$82,308	\$34,124	\$116,432	1	05/01/16	06/30/17	NIH/ NICHD	Comparative Effectiveness of Pedi- atric HIV Disclosure Interventions In Uganda
* Indicates that	the pro	ject was new	/ly awarded	in FY17						

	InCHIP FY17 Newly Awarded and Active Grants (May 16, 2016 – May 15, 2017)													
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title				
Chafouleas, Sandra	EPSY	\$1,259,296	\$311,955	\$57,614	\$369,569	2	07/01/15	06/30/17	US ED/ IES	Exploring the Status and Impact of School-Based Behavior Screening Practices in a National Sample: Im- plications for Systems, Policy and Research				
Chafouleas, Sandra *	EPSY	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	3	07/01/16	6/30/19	Provost Office	Collaboratory on School and Child Health				
Copenhaver, Michael	AHSC	\$3,107,659	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	04/01/12	03/31/18	NIH/ NIDA	Secondary HIV Prevention and Adher- ence Among HIV-infected Drug Users				
Copenhaver, Michael	AHSC	\$697,150	\$129,102	\$10,328	\$139,430	5	04/01/13	03/31/18	NIH/ NIDA	HIV Prevention and Adherence Among Priority Drug Using Populations				
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$120,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	11/01/09	10/31/16	CAPRISA	CAPRISA-CHIP Collaboration				
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$67,236	\$8,460	\$4,907	\$13,367	5	07/01/13	6/30/18	NIH/ NIMH/ Yale University	Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA)				
Cornman, Deborah	СНІР	\$920,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	05/01/15	07/31/16	DoD/ DHAPP	PHDP and GBV Prevention Programs for Soldiers in the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces				
Cornman, Deborah	СНІР	\$437,415	\$114,417	\$66,362	\$180,779	5	0/30/15	05/31/16	Yale/ NIH	Working with HIV Clinics to Adopt Addiction Treatments Using Imple- mentation Facilitation (WHAT IF?)				
Cruess, Dean	PSYC	\$124,028	\$20,000	\$11,600	\$31,600	4	04/01/16	3/31/20	Miriam Hos- pital/ NIH/ NICCIH	Psychosocial, Immunological, and Biobehavioral Benefits of Stress Man- agement Interventions for Chronic Diseases: Comprehensive Systematic Review and Meta-Analyses				
DiStefano, Lindsay *	KINS	\$10,665	\$10,665	\$0	\$10,665	1	03/15/17	03/14/18	American Council of Exercise	Physical Literacy Assessment in Children				
* Indicates that	the pro	ject was new	vly awarded	in FY17										

		InCH	IP FY17 Ne	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$426,597	\$51,656	\$27,428	\$79,084	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	\$96,186	\$13,998	\$7,976	\$21,974	5	09/30/13	08/31/18	NIH/ UConn Health	Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$743,143	\$193,088	\$47,933	\$241,021	3	10/01/15	9/30/18	DSS/ USDA/ FNS	School and Family-Based SNAP-Ed
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$3,065,906	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	07/11/11	04/30/17	NIH/ NIMH	Serosorting Intervention for HIV-Neg- ative MSM
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$328,372	\$45,471	\$26,373	\$71,844	5	06/01/13	03/31/18	NIH/ NIDA/ University of Pittsburgh	Understanding Delayed Access to HIV Prevention Services among Black MSM
Eaton, Lisa *	HDFS	\$3,709,316	\$535,689	\$287,351	\$823,040	5	09/26/16	05/31/21	NIH/ NIMH	Novel Stigma/Structural Interven- tions for Increasing HIV/STI Testing Among BMSM
Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$1,411,819	\$179,267	\$83,177	\$262,444	5	09/25/14	05/31/19	Drexel/ NIH	Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorders
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$408,961	\$49,071	\$28,461	\$77,532	5	09/01/14	5/30/19	NIH/ Brown University	Improving Nutrition and Physical Ac- tivity Environments in Home-Based Child Care
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$39,618	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	06/01/15	05/31/19	NIH/ Brown University	Improving Nutrition and Physical Ac- tivity Environments in Home-Based Child Care - Supplement
Gans, Kim *	HDFS	\$747,783	\$228,933	\$78,670	\$307,603	3	09/01/16	6/30/19	NIH/ NHLBI	Physical Activity in Latino Men Through Tailoring: Hombres Saludables
Gerrard, Meg	PSYC	\$286,795	\$45,183	\$26,206	\$71,389	5	09/15/14	6/30/18	University of Iowa/ NIH	Smoking-Associated Demethylation
* Indicates that	the pro	ject was new	ly awarded	in FY17						

		InCH	IIP FY17 N	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Ghosh, Debarchana	GEOG	\$863,345	\$159,879	\$12,790	\$172,669	5	08/01/14	07/31/19	NIH/ NIDA	Connecting People, Places, and Barri- ers: The Effect of These Connections on Adherence and Retention in Care for HIV-Infected Drug Users
Gibbons, Frederick *	PSYC	\$117,491	\$45,135	\$26,178	\$71,313	3.8	09/01/12	4/30/16	NIH/ NIAAA/ Washington State Univer- sity	Social Determinants of Inflammation and Metabolic Syndrome Among Af- rican Americans
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$142,661	\$21,795	\$12,642	\$34,437	4	03/01/14	2/28/18	NIH/ Univer- sity of Georgia	Social Determinants of Inflammation and Metabolic Syndrome among Af- rican Americans
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$2,823,769	\$410,896	\$140,899	\$551,795	5	09/15/14	6/30/19	NIH/ NIDA	Health Behaviors among Young Black Adults: Risk and Resilience
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$59,298	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	09/15/11	6/30/16	NIH/ Drexel	Environmental and Acceptance-Based Innovations for Weight Loss Main- tenance
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$432,705	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	12/01/14	11/30/17	NIH/ NHLBI	Test of a Theory-Based Weight Loss Program for Couples: Project TEAMS
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$279,593	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	01/01/15	03/31/18	Dell Founda- tion	Unhealthy Food Marketing Targeted to Children: Research to Evaluate Potentially Misleading Practices and Support Advocacy to Encourage In- dustry Change
Harris, Jennifer	AHSC	\$45,819	\$9,668	\$5,607	\$15,275	5	05/05/15	2/28/18	Regents of the University of Michigan/ NIH	Food Marketing Vulnerability and Increased Risk for Weight Gain in Adolescents
* Indicates that	the pro	ject was nev	vly awarded	in FY17						

		InCH	IIP FY17 No	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Harris, Jennifer	AHSC	\$100,000	\$49,818	\$0	\$49,818	2	09/01/15	09/01/17	Center for Ag- riculture and Food Sys- tems, Vermont Law School (CAFS)/ USDA	National Agriculture Library Propos- al FoodWorks: Pioneering State and Local Food Policies
Harris, Jennifer	AHSC	\$74,808	\$0	\$0	\$0	.5	03/01/16	08/31/16	Duke Univer- sity/ RWJF	Evaluating Healthy Kids' Meal Defaults
Harris, Jennifer	AHSC	\$1,704,689	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	02/15/16	03/31/17	Robert Wood Johnson Foun- dation	Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Un- healthy Foods to Children - Renewal
Harris, Jennifer *	AHSC	\$1,996,361	\$315,903	\$37,908	\$353,811	1.5	04/01/17	9/30/18	Robert Wood Johnson Foun- dation	Encouraging Industry and Govern- ment Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children – FY17 Renewal
Harrison, Steven *	KINS	\$12,500	\$7,912	\$4,588	\$12,500	1	09/08/16	04/30/17	University of Cincinnati/ NIH	Modeling the Behavioral Dynamics of Social Coordination and Joint Action
Himmelstein, Mary *	CHIP	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	1	01/09/17	12/31/17	The Society for the Psy- chological Study of So- cial Issues (SPSSI)	Meet Me at the Crossroads: Weight-stigma at the Intersections of Race and Gender
Johnson, Blair	PSYC	\$64,149	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	07/01/12	0/31/17	NIH/ NIAAA/ Miriam Hos- pital	Alcohol Consumption and HIV Be- havior: Evaluating the Evidence
Johnson, Blair *	PSYC	\$141,185	\$141,185	\$0	\$141,185	1.5	01/01/16	07/31/17	Elsevier LTD	Senior Editorship, Social Sciences & Medicine

		InCH	IP FY17 No	ewly Awar	ded and Ad	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Johnson, Blair *	PSYC	\$713,107	\$62,192	\$37,004	\$99,196	3	01/01/17	12/31/19	Columbia Uni- versity/ NIH	InCHIP Healthy Habits Systematic Review Project
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,632,176	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	03/17/11	6/30/16	NIH/ NINR	Nurse Delivered Cell-Phone HIV Ad- herence Intervention (Pick-It-Up)
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$3,327,281	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	02/01/12	01/31/18	NIH/ NIDA	Behavioral Intervention to Enhance HIV Test/Treat (ITM2)
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,813,490	\$431,034	\$132,084	\$563,118	5	04/01/13	01/31/18	NIH/ NIDA	Enhanced STI/HIV Partner Notification in South Africa
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$940,652	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	09/15/13	08/31/16	NIH/ NIAAA	Influence of Food Insecurity on Ad- herence
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$3,363,244	\$524,781	\$150,108	\$674,889	5	09/10/14	08/31/19	NIH/ NIAAA	Comparative Effectiveness Trial for Retention-Adherence-Health
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$142,599	\$15,003	\$8,702	\$23,705	5	07/28/15	6/30/20	San Diego State Uni- versity/NIH/ NIMH	Enhanced Linkage to HIV Care Fol- lowing Home-Based HIV Testing in Rural Uganda
Kalichman, Seth *	PSYC	\$1,675,525	\$316,976	\$18,129	\$335,105	5	07/01/16	6/30/21	NIH/ NIMH	Training in Social Processes of HIV/ AIDS
Kalichman, Seth *	PSYC	\$3,552,398	\$507,853	\$221,897	\$729,750	5	08/15/16	6/30/21	NIH/ NIDA	Unified Intervention to Impact HIV Care Continuum
Kalichman, Seth *	PSYC	\$303,257	\$48,108	\$27,903	\$76,011	3	03/01/17	08/31/19	NIH/ NIAAA	Comparative Effectiveness Trial for Retention-Adherence-Health - SUP- PLEMENT
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/23/14	6/30/16	Miriam Hospi- tal/ NIH	A State-Wide Initiative to Spread Effective Behavioral Weight Loss Strategies
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$1,082,533	\$270,222	\$59,499	\$329,721	3	08/23/14	05/31/18	NIH/ NIDDK	A Randomized Trial Testing Lay Health Coaches for Obesity Treatment

		InCH	IP FY17 Ne	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$164,515	\$12,935	\$7,502	\$20,437	5	09/25/14	08/31/19	VCU/ NIH	Low Intensity Weight Loss for Young Adults: Autonomous vs. Extrinsic Mo- tivation
Lepley, Lindsey	KINS	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	1.5	11/02/15	05/31/17	New England American Col- lege of Sports Medicine	Targeting Neural Pathways after ACL Reconstruction Using Eccentric Cross-Exercise
Lepley, Lindsey *	KINS	\$22,998	\$17,226	\$2,584	\$19,810	2	07/01/16	6/30/18	NATA Research & Education Foundation	Eccentric Exercise to Promote Im- mediate Beneficial Adaptations in Muscle
Mobley, Amy	NUSC	\$75,703	\$32,923	\$3,895	\$36,818	2	10/01/15	09/01/17	Child Health and Dev. In- stitute of Con- necticut Inc.	Development of Evidence-Based Child Feeding Messages to Prevent Obesity in Early Childhood
Mobley, Amy	NUSC	\$419,801	\$123,190	\$66,746	\$189,936	2	06/01/16	4/30/18	NIH/ NICHD	Father-Focused Nutrition and Parent- ing Program to Help Prevent Childhood Obesity in Preschool Age Children
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$356,253	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/01/13	6/30/16	NIH/ NCCAM/ Massachu- setts General Hospital	Preliminary Study of a Yoga Program to Catalyze Health Behavior Change
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$1,964,677	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	09/29/10	08/31/16	NIH/ NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy
Park, Crystal; Gutierrez, Ian	PSYC	\$106,078	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/01/13	08/31/16	NIH/ NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT to Promote Diversity)
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$610,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/01/13	08/31/16	NIH/ NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT)
* Indicates that	the pro	ject was new	ly awarded	in FY17						

		InCH	IIP FY17 No	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Park, Crystal *	PSYC	\$64,144	\$14,587	\$8,460	\$23,047	1	07/01/16	05/31/17	UCSD/ NIH/ NCCIH	Mind/Body Interventions for Chron- ic Low Back Pain and Neck Pain in Military Personnel
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$1,474,771	\$251,667	\$112,491	\$364,158	4	09/15/14	6/30/18	NIH/ NIGMS	Self-Regulation Skills as Predictors of URM Student Success Biomedical Research
Pescatello, Linda	KINS	\$19,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/23/14	09/30/16	Hartford Hospital/ CT Space Grant	Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women at Flight
Pescatello, Linda	KINS	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	07/01/15	6/30/16	American Col- lege of Sports Medicine	The Effect of Compression Socks on Blood Clot Risk During Travel in Oral Contraceptive Using Women
Pescatello, Linda *	KINS	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$0	\$7,100	1	01/01/17	12/31/17	Seabury Foun- dation	A Comparison of the Practice of Two Tai Chi Interventions Tailored for Dif- ferent Health Outcomes
Schifano, Elizabeth	STAT	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	06/01/16	6/30/16	CCMC/ CTDPH	Continued Collaboration on Easy Breathing Program
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$247,558	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Horizon Foun- dation	Improving Nutrition in Howard County: A Strategic Science and Policy Initiative
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$91,941	\$23,579	\$2,829	\$26,408	3	01/06/15	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	\$220,575	\$54,912	\$31,849	\$86,761	3	02/01/15	2/28/18	University of Illinois/ USDA	National Wellness Policy Study
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$49,991	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/01/15	07/31/16	Robert Wood Johnson Foun- dation	Testing the Impact of Improving the National School Breakfast Program
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$189,950	\$41,752	\$5,010	\$46,762	1.5	02/01/16	06/30/17	RWJF/ HER	Developing a Reliable, Valid Measure of School Wellness Policy Implemen- tation: The WellSAT-I
* Indicates that	the pro	ject was new	/ly awarded	in FY17						

		InCH	IP FY17 Ne	ewly Awar	ded and Ac	tive (	Grants (M	ay 16, 20 <sup>-</sup>	16 – May 15, 2	2017)
Principal Investigator	Dept.	Total Costs Awarded	FY17 Direct Costs Awarded	FY17 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY17 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs.	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Schwartz, Marlene *	HDFS	\$50,000	\$44,643	\$5,357	\$50,000	1	01/01/17	12/31/17	Food Trust/ RWJF	The Emergency Food System in a Culture of Health
Sobieraj, Diane	PHAR	\$355,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	05/17/16	04/11/17	AHRQ	Pharmacologic Management of Asthma
White, C. Michael	PHAR	\$275,000	\$37,975	\$22,025	\$60,000	5	12/01/14	11/30/19	AHRQ	Evidence-Based Practice Center (EPC) V
White, C. Michael *	PHAR	\$30,314	\$19,186	\$11,128	\$30,314	4	06/15/16	11/15/16	AHRQ	Evidence Based Practice Center V -Task Order 1
Total Active and Awarded Grants		\$58,943,185	\$6,783,361	\$2,201,299	\$8,984,660					
* Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY17										

## Department:

- AGREAgricultural & Resource EconomicsEPSYEducation Psychology
- NUSC Nutritional Sciences
- AHSC Allied Health Sciences
- ANTH Anthropology
- CHIP Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy
- COMM Communication
- GEOG Geography
- HDFS Human Development and Family Studies
- KINS Kinesiology
- PHAR Pharmacy Practice
- PSYC Psychological Sciences
- STAT Statistics

The University of Connecticut's Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP) provides an interdisciplinary nexus for investigators and Centers across the University to stimulate research collaborations and major newly-funded initiatives that create new scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks in health behavior at multiple levels of analysis (e.g., individual, family, community, policy). Health is broadly defined and includes physical and mental health, and outcomes with critical implications for health. Work at the intersection of behavior and biology, and at the intersection of science and public policy is encouraged. InCHIP disseminates its research and cutting-edge health behavior change interventions through publishing, structural change, capacity-building, teaching, mentoring, and collaboration at the University, local, state, national, and international levels.