



## CBPR PARTNERSHIP ACADEMY: 2023-2024 Train-the-Trainer COHORT

### CALIFORNIA

#### Solano County Office of Education & Touro University California, School of Public Health

The Solano County Office of Education and Touro University California are currently partnered to support youth engagement programs revolving around topics such as education on public health issues and building capacity in advocacy and youth empowerment and community change. The primary population we work with, youth aged 13-25 residing or attending school in Solano County California, are afforded opportunities through these programs to explore issues they feel affect the health and/or safety of their communities. These programs support project development in alliance with local figures and leaders who can enact change on the youth's chosen issues. Our hope is to develop and implement a recruitment and training initiative to train a cohort of 20-25 youth leaders from local high schools and colleges in CBPR and YPAR principles and practices. We also plan to train a cohort of adults who serve youth programs in similar principles and practices to help encourage the use of CBPR and YPAR in youth programs throughout Solano County.

- **Johanna Nowak-Palmer:** Program Manager of Youth Development and Prevention Programs, Solano County Office of Education. Johanna's work primarily focuses on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention, violence prevention, and youth engagement programs for youth ages 12 - 18. She also serves on her organization's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee and serves as a regional leader and trainer for Positive Youth Development programming for the California Friday Night Live Collaborative.
- **Annette Aalborg:** Professor of Public Health, Community Action for Health, Touro University California and PI of the Youth in Action for Health Equity Project conducting in local high-school serving ethnically diverse and primarily low-income youth. The project uses a YPAR approach supporting youth to be leaders and Peer Health Promoters focused on educational and health equity. Annette Co-Chairs the University-Community Action and Advisory Council that includes a wide range of community public health leaders.

## HAWAI'I

### University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Office of Public Health Studies & College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and Ke Kula Nui O Waimānalo

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the Waimānalo community have been partnering together since 2006 to promote community wellness through cultural revitalization and food sovereignty. The Waimānalo Pono Research Hui was launched in 2017 as a result of the CBPR Partnership Academy, which is an example of a community-academic partnership that uses Indigenous pedagogy and methodologies, and community-based participatory research principles as the foundation to engage Hawaiian community members from Waimānalo in shaping educational programming and research that adhere to ethical protocols developed by the community. During the same year, we also founded a grassroots non-profit organization called Ke Kula Nui O Waimānalo to ensure our research and programs are owned and driven by the community. Our goal for the CBPR Partnership Academy is to enhance the capacity of other Hawaiian leaders and Hawaiian-serving organizations to learn and apply CBPR to their own work to uplift the Lāhui (Hawaiian People). We will bring leaders and staff from 10 Hawaiian serving organizations from each of the Hawaiian Islands (Kaua'i, O'ahu, Molokai'i, Lana'i, Maui, and Hawai'i Island) and hold a three-day in-person CBPR Summit that integrates hands-on educational training and workshops.

- **Ilima Ho-Lastimosa, MSW, MoA:** Assistant Specialist University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources; Board member, Ke Kula Nui O Waimānalo.
- **Jane Chung-Do, DrPH:** Professor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Office of Public Health Studies; Board member, Ke Kula Nui O Waimānalo.

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## INDIANA

### Metropolitan School District of Martinsville & Purdue University

MeCAP, Metropolitan School District of Martinsville, and Purdue are partnered to address groundwater contamination by tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and other toxic chemicals as well as elevated levels of such toxins in soil and indoor air that has all been a concern for many years in Martinsville, Indiana. We will work with the Martinsville community to learn about residents' concerns and perceptions on the contamination and will measure and evaluate the exposure of PCE and its potential health effects to help us develop an action plan with the community to address any issues that may be discovered from the collected data. In our capacity building work, we will co-develop a training session on research result dissemination and conduct training for community members and organizational staff that will lead to establishing a viable community advisory board.

- **Stephanie Littell:** Elementary public school educator. She is the Community Engagement Executive for MeCAP (Martinsville Indiana Community Action Project) focusing on helping researchers engage the community in essential research projects and community education.
  - **Sa Liu:** Assistant Professor of Occupational and Environmental Health Science in the School of Health Science at Purdue University. Her work focuses on assessing chemical exposures and associated health effects among worker and community populations. She is interested in how scientific data relevant to human exposure are developed, assembled, and evaluated, on which health risks and unacceptable risks are determined, with the ultimate goal of reducing exposure and mitigating health risks. Sa participated in the fourth cohort of the CBPR Academy.
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## LOUISIANA

### Together Baton Rouge & Louisiana State University

Together Baton Rouge (TBR) and Louisiana State University are partnering to develop a plan for building a CBPR center or institution that can engage TBR, its member institutions, and other East Baton Rouge Parish (EBRP) organizations in projects that utilize CBPR to promote health equity within the parish. This initiative has emerged from our current collaboration on a project that aims to advance mental health equity by implementing a CBPR project with TBR institutions to deliver and examine the impacts of a brief group mental health intervention. We plan to create a training framework for building CBPR projects that can be used to engage organizations in discussions surrounding the development of a CBPR-based center/institution.

- **Andrea Lavergne Pickett:** Project Organizer with Together Baton Rouge on the organization's mental health initiative, Communities Organizing for Power through Empathy that is in partnership with Dr. Jen Scott at the LSU School of Social Work. Her interest is improving expected health outcomes for people living in Louisiana.
  - **Jennifer (Jen) Scott:** (effective August 2023) an Associate Professor at Louisiana State University School of Social Work and her research focuses on social determinants of health, in particular economic access and (im)migration. Together with TBR she has developed and is implementing the Communities Organizing for Power through Empathy - a brief group mental health intervention that incorporates community organizing into its delivery strategy.
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## NEW JERSEY

### Prevent Child Abuse - New Jersey & Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Prevent Child Abuse - New Jersey and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey are partnering to develop the CBPR Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Prevention Coalition in New Jersey. We work to understand statewide programming, policies, and research that spans across school-based services, child-focused

and adult-focused education, public campaigns, problematic sexual behavior treatment, organizational and state policy initiatives, and research that examines implementation, outcomes, and community change. Through the New Jersey CBPR Community-Academic Forum, we plan to expand the capacity of local community-academic partnerships to engage in CBPR to promote the well-being of children and to specifically prevent child sexual abuse and other forms of maltreatment. We will offer an in-person training for up to 10 teams of local community-academic partnerships who are interested in learning how to use and apply CBPR to researching issues of child well-being and child welfare, with emphasis on topics related to CSA prevention or intervention.

- **Victoria Spera-Ballesteros:** Program Manager for Community Education at Prevent Child Abuse - New Jersey, where she has been promoting the wellbeing, resilience, and safety of NJ youth since 2017. She supports statewide programs focused on preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and childhood trauma by educating community members, youth and family-serving professionals, and parents.
- **Jacquelynn Duron:** Associate Professor at Rutgers University School of Social Work. Dr. Duron's research focuses on the intersection of family systems with criminal legal systems by striving to improve the child welfare and juvenile justice systems' responses to the adversities that children and adolescents experience. She researches community-based approaches for addressing the impact of traumatic experiences, promoting child and youth resilience, and advancing child and youth well-being.

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## NORTH CAROLINA

### Alamance County Health Department & Elon University, Public Health Studies Department

The partnership between the Alamance County Health Department and Elon University, Public Health Studies Department stems from the Healthy Alamance- Elon partnership that originally participated in the CBPR Academy in 2016. Through this evolved partnership, both the Alamance County Health Department and Elon University, Public Health Studies Department are members of the Alamance County Health Equity Collective. Our work with the Health Equity Collective is centered around the Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, primarily done in Alamance County. We have several goals and objectives we wish to accomplish through our participation in the Train-the-Trainers program: 1) To increase knowledge of readily available resources for CBPR that are both free and accessible to a variety of stakeholders; 2) To increase knowledge about our partners and about relationship building practice to regularly strengthen interpersonal aspects of partnership; 3) Practice presenting key aspects of CBPR using accessible language and presentation methodologies; 4) Increase understanding of stepwise approaches that will help enhance partnerships in a developmental manner; 5) To develop relationships with other partnerships around the country to broaden the community of CBPR practitioners and researchers.

- **Arlinda Ellison, DHSc:** Director of Community Health, Outreach, and Policy, Alamance County Health Department; Adjunct Instructor- Legacy Holistic Health Institute; Member- Alamance County Health Equity Collective.
  - **Stephanie Baker, PhD, MS, PT:** Associate Professor and Chair, Public Health Studies Department, Elon University. She is a scholar activist, and her work uses an anti-racism lens, combined with community-based participatory research approaches, to understand and address racial health inequities.
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## TEXAS disABILITYsa & University of Texas at San Antonio

disABILITYsa and UTSA's School of Architecture and Planning are partnered to conduct research on architectural design features that respond to specific needs of San Antonio individuals living with disabilities, including those who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, blind, low-vision, or live with a physical or cognitive disability. Our projects highlight elements of residential buildings and healthcare facilities that acknowledge and subsequently act on the needs of people of different ages and abilities. We hope to cultivate strong community involvement to broaden engagement from people living with disabilities in CBPR/PAR and increase the number of people living with disabilities who are engaged in the participatory research process. We are working to create a cohort of San Antonio residents who feel welcomed to participate in CBPR and enable CBPR efforts at various levels and institutions such as within university studies, government committees, and/or community nonprofits that will eventually impact policies, practices, and system designs that influence disabled San Antonio residents and those in neighboring communities.

- **Melanie Cawthon:** Co-Founder/Executive Director for disABILITYsa. Her work over the past 23 years has largely focused on the advancement of people with disabilities in the San Antonio community and the development of programs that promote greater inclusion and independence. In 2007, she co-founded disABILITYsa as a catalyst for amplifying the voices of the disability community, enacting systemic changes to address barriers, and cultivating a stronger sense of belonging in San Antonio.
- **Neda Norouzi:** Assistant professor of Architecture at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Neda believes that architecture should benefit everyone and that, through human-centered design, it can be used as a tool to allow input from people in society who may otherwise be unheard. Her research is focused on an interdisciplinary approach and incorporation of Human Development theories in the architectural process of designing for people of all ages and abilities and extends this inclusive approach in the classroom, teaching a cross-disciplinary understanding of the influence of the built environment on human health, wellbeing, and performance.

TEXAS

## **Migrant Clinicians Network & Dell Medical School and the University of Texas at Austin**

Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) has been partnered with Dell Medical School and the University of Texas at Austin since 2018, concentrating their work on Latino mental health. Starting in May 2023, the Division of Community Engagement and Health Equity at Dell Medical School will offer an annual mentoring program called Community-Academic Partnership for Health Equity Program (CAP-HEP). Informed by the University of Michigan's CBPR Academy, the program consists of a short course for community-academic partners focused on partnership development and CBPR, followed by monthly peer mentoring meetings and quarterly one-on-one mentoring meetings. Our capacity building objectives that would be met with the Train-the-Trainer are to (a) improve feasibility of recruiting academic and community partners and mentoring teams into CAP-HEP, (b) consider capacity goals of community-academic partners and design activities to meet those goals for future CAP-HEP implementations, (c) gain insight into the key concepts and skills to teach, and (d) identify skill-building resources and strategies that can optimize opportunities for collaboration among community-academic partners, both as part of CAP-HEP and through other CBPR initiatives in Austin.

- **Deliana Garcia:** MCN Chief Program Officer, International and Emerging Issues.
- **Carmen Valdez:** Valdez is associate professor in the Steve Hicks School of Social Work and at Dell Medical School, where she is Chief of the Division of Community Engagement and Health Equity. She participated in the second cohort of the CBPR Academy and has an interest in immigrant mental health and community-engaged research and practice.

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## **WASHINGTON**

### **Duwamish River Community Coalition (DRCC); Just Health Action (JHA) & University of Washington**

Duwamish River Community Coalition (DRCC), Just Health Action (JHA), and the University of Washington (UW) are partnering to implement a CBPR project in the Duwamish Valley (DV) in Seattle, Washington. Our goal is to improve air quality and reduce asthma hospitalization rates among youth by engaging youth and other community members of color via an air monitoring campaign and empower the Duwamish community to advocate for emission reduction strategies. We will also conduct a randomized control trial to test the effectiveness of low-cost box fans and filters to improve indoor air quality and reduce asthma symptoms among children in the DV. Our fundamental goal is to uplift community voices and empower community members. We hope to expand our equitable CBPR skills to create and implement capacity building workshops and/or training activities in the DV. Our primary audience for these capacity building workshops are academic partners, other community organizations and community members. We will teach CBPR principles and practices and to ensure that everyone understands the power sharing process that all partners need to support this value.

- **Lissette Palestro, MPH (DRCC):** Program Manager and Research Specialist for the Duwamish Air Improvement Study for Youth (DAISY) at the Duwamish River Community Coalition where she focuses on environmental justice and eliminating health disparities in the Duwamish Valley.
- **Linn Gould:** JHA's Executive Director. JHA advocates for reducing health inequities that result from social, economic, environmental, and political conditions. We research and document health inequities and we lead interactive workshops to engage diverse groups to build skills towards systems level change.
- **Anjum Hajat:** Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Washington. Dr. Hajat's research focuses on environmental justice and environmental health disparities with a focus on the inequitable distribution of air pollution and how it disproportionately harms the health of vulnerable communities.