Welcome to the 2015 MHDI Spring Retreat! We are looking forward to seeing all of you and fostering new collaborations across departments, communities and organizations. You will have the opportunity to meet new people, stay connected throughout the retreat, and collaborate in the future as well.
Who we are

The primary objective of the Minority Health Disparities Initiative is to identify and strengthen the infrastructure, as well as the network of investigators and practitioners, addressing critical health issues in the state and the nation. MHDI is committed to breaking down traditional academic silos, and adopting an interdisciplinary and translational approach that includes science, policy, practice, and training to better the health and well-being of all Nebraska residents.
Schedule At A Glance

9:00  Registration & Breakfast
9:30  Introduction
     Prem S. Paul
     Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development
     Rick Bevins
     Chair of Psychology & Cather Professor of Psychology

9:45  Bullet Sessions
10:30 Break
10:45 Breakout Sessions
11:30 Lunch
12:00 Keynote Speaker
     Josie Rodriguez
     Director of the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity

12:45 BARNGA
2:00  Health Matters
     Larry Williams
     Director of Malone Community Center

2:15  Research Data Center
     John Anderson
     Baird Family Professor of Economics
2:30  Break
2:45  National Institute of Minority Health Disparities
     Anna Bellatorre
     NIMHD Division of Intramural Research
     Jennifer Alvidrez
     NIMHD Program Officer

3:15  Closing
The bullet sessions highlight the research and activities of health experts from all over Nebraska in short 5 minute presentations.
Break Out Sessions

The breakout sessions are designed to bring together researchers and community partners who are interested in similar minority health topics.

- Substance Abuse
- Innovative Data, Methodology & Technology
- Maternal & Child Health
- Community Based Participatory Research & Evaluation
- Physical Activity, Nutrition & Chronic Disease
Josie Rodriguez joined the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, as the Administrator of the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity in September of 2011. In her role as administrator, Josie is responsible for administering and directing all aspects of the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity which includes oversight of a budget of over 3.5 million dollars, program planning, strategic planning, policy development, and establishment of priorities to improve health outcomes for culturally diverse populations of Nebraska. Her duties also include organization of multifunctional programs that have a statewide impact, increasing awareness of the office and major health problems that affect racial and ethnic minorities, and building and enhancing collaborative relationships with stakeholders to achieve health equity for all Nebraskans. Josie holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Service Administration and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from Bellevue University. She has worked for the State of Nebraska for over 20 years working in various positions with diverse populations, Including the Nebraska DHHS Division of Public Health, Medicaid, Children and Families Services, and the Office of the Nebraska Attorney General.
An interactive presentation and experiential situation for a look at cultural communication.
Larry Williams
Director, Malone Community Center
Larry Williams is a native Nebraskan, born and raised in Omaha. He graduated from Central High School in Omaha and has a BA from the University of Wisconsin and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University Of Nebraska College Of Law. He has worked for the State of Nebraska Department of Economic Development as Legal Specialist/Program Representative and was Director of the City of Lincoln Commission on Human Rights. Larry currently serves as the Executive Director of the Malone Community Center.

Research Data Center
John Anderson
Professor of Economics
This presentation will provide information about exciting new research opportunities afforded by the new Central Plains Federal Statistical Research Data Center. This secure data center located at UNL will provide researchers access to micro-level data, including all of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We will describe data sets available with particular interest to MHDI researchers, such as the National Health Interview Survey, National Survey of Family Growth, and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.
National Institute of Health
Representatives

Anna Bellatore

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
Post Doctoral Fellow

Dr. Anna Bellatorre is an Intramural Research Training Awarded (IRTA) postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute on Minority Health Disparities, on the NIH main campus in Bethesda, MD. She works in Dr. Kelvin Choi’s lab as a health disparities scholar. Prior to joining NIMHD in 2014, Dr. Bellatorre was a Presidential Fellow at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she conducted research on health disparities in several areas including differences by race/ethnicity, LGB status, and disease status. Dr. Bellatorre received her Ph.D. in Medical Sociology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in August 2014.

Jennifer Alvidrez

Program Official, Division of Extramural Scientific Programs
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Jennifer Alvidrez is a Program Official at the National Institute on Minority Health Disparities, NIH. She is the program director for NIMHD’s Social, Behavioral, Health Services, and Policy Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01) program and Resource-Related Minority Health and Health Disparities Research (U24) Cooperative Agreement program. Prior to joining NIMHD in 2010, Dr. Alvidrez was an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco, where she conducted research on racial/ethnic disparities in mental health service utilization, barriers to mental health care by racial/ethnic minority populations, and mental health stigma. Dr. Alvidrez received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley.
Acknowledgements

We cannot express enough thanks to our MHDI Task Force, Advisory Board, the UNL Office of Research and Economic Development and the Tobacco Settlement Funds for their continued support and encouragement. And just as importantly, we would like to thank all of those who participated in the activities. Whether audience members, presenters, participants, —you all helped make this retreat successful. We look forward to working with you again in the future.
Contact

Rick Bevins
Chair
Department of Psychology
19 Burnett Hall
402-472-3721
rbevins1@unl.edu

Kirk Dombrowski
Professor
Department of Sociology
206 Benton Hall
402-472-3205
kdombrowski2@unl.edu

Mindy Anderson-Knott
Director of Evaluation & Development
Bureau of Sociological Research
Survey, Statistics, and Psychometrics
234 Whittier
402-472-7218
mandersonknott2@unl.edu

Trish Wonch Hill
Research Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
234 Whittier
402-472-3680
phill3@unl.edu

Devan Crawford
Director of Research Analysis
Bureau of Sociological Research
209 Benton Hall
402-472-2243
dcrawford3@unl.edu

Kim Gocchi Carrasco
Project Assistant
Bureau of Sociological Research
210 Benton Hall
402-472-5976
kstarlin2@unl.edu