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July 2015 marked the end of the third year of UNL’s Minority Health Disparities Initiative (MHDI). Following the directions and benchmarks set by our new Advisory Board and with the momentum of the first and second year’s accomplishments, we have established a community of like-minded researchers, an ambitious palette of submitted and funded grant applications, numerous engagement activities, and reaching out for contact with those institutions in Nebraska concerned with health disparities.

MHDI has three primary agendas:

1. Build and support a community of researchers at UNL with active interest in minority health and health disparities.

2. Increase the participation of minority scholars at all levels (faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates) in health-related research.

3. Encourage emerging health scholars to pursue a research career in minority health disparities.

These are complex and ambitious goals, constrained at one end by a shrinking federal funding budget, yet driven forward by the recognition that the current unequal health conditions for minorities in the US is both knowable in its causes and fixable in its future course. MHDI sponsored and initiated events cross-cut these three agendas. Some, such as our Spring retreat, served more than one goal. At this retreat we sought ways to build a sense of community and common interest among a range of community members and scholars within and outside of UNL. Presentations aimed at recruiting collaborative research proposals and relationships, sought to open eyes to many possibilities for health disparities research for those who may not have conceived of their own work in this way. Other activities, such as the MHDI Summer Research Program, were aimed at a single goal—encouraging a group of high achieving undergraduate students to pursue graduate study (and potentially a career) in minority health disparities. But this too aims for greater sustainability, laying the groundwork and establishing a working model for an NSF REU application in social sciences and minority health that was funded in March of 2015. High on our list of priorities are steps toward greater financial self-sufficiency. Many of the concrete outcomes we seek—foremost being the reduction and eventual elimination of race- and ethnicity-based health disparities in Nebraska and beyond—will require time, and equally, sustained effort. To make this possible, MHDI too must move toward greater self-sufficiency and sustainability. This is no small task, as two of our three goals have very limited revenue generating potential. For this reason, we are advancing towards sustainability, steering the Initiative in that direction, and providing a foundation for greater levels of self-support over the next several years. We would like to thank the UNL Office of Research and Economic Development for their continued support and guidance, and to our Advisory Board for their direction and encouragement. And just as importantly, we would like to thank all of those who participated in the activities described here. Whether audience members, presenters, participants, grant writers, or even just subscribers to our weekly e-newsletter—all helped make MHDI one of the more prominent new movements at UNL. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Kirk Dombrowski, Rick Bevins, and Mindy Anderson-Knott
We are the result of our hard work. Our passion for what we do makes us pioneers in our sector.

The MHDI Team
MHDI’s mission is linking science, policy, practice, and training to better the health and well-being of all Nebraska residents.
The mission of the MHDI is linking Science, Practice, Policy and Training for the purpose of eliminating minority health disparities. 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 to 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.

Funded by the UNL Office of Research & Economic Development and the Tobacco Settlement Funds, the Minority Health Disparities Initiative was formed in Fall of 2012 with a steering committee that defined the mission and vision through a series of meetings in year one. Since that time, we have expanded our Steering Committee to a full Community Advisory Board, with partners drawn from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, community organizations in Lincoln (and beyond), and the work of UNL’s academic administration. As we look back on year 3 of the Initiative, and look forward to the work and goals of our 4th year, we are working with our community partners to expand the MHDI mission to include communities from across the state of Nebraska. Our mission has not changed, but its scope continues to grow as MHDI grows. In looking back we look forward to achieving a mission of health equity for all Nebraskans.

The report that follows is marked by elements related to this mission: Engagement, Outreach, Training, and Research. But as will become clear in the report that follows, all of these activities are linked. To build a coalition of scholars, policy makers, and community leaders, it takes trust, purpose, and integrity. To become the community we want to be, we must act like a community already. The events and activities described in this report reflect that idea: that we move toward of a world of health equity by believing in its possibility from the start.
Through our growing number of Post-Doctoral Scholars, our NSF-funded REU, and our new collaboration with UNL’s McNair Scholars program, our training mission has expanded to include researchers at all stages of the University. To train the next generation of health scholars, and expand the inclusion of historically under-represented groups in health research more generally, we have embarked on an ambitious training program to meet the needs of Nebraska’s changing human landscape.

2015 marked our first outreach and collaboration with the University of Nebraska Extension programs. Thanks to our new core faculty members, we are now connected to the primary means that UNL has for reaching Nebraskans on the ground, where they live. As research moves closer to a national model of Community Based Participatory Research, UNL MHDI researchers are leading the way by bringing communities into the research building process, and in the research process itself.
SCIENCE
This report details the expansion of MHDI to include core faculty from across the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Together, these scientists are tackling the problem of health disparities with new techniques—from bio-marker research to computer simulation. With additional funding support from several branches of the National Institutes of Health, this cutting edge science is leading the way to better care for people across the United States, and across the world.

POLICY
Better science can lead to better lives, but the key mechanism for this change is better policy. MHDI’s new Community Advisory Board links researchers with community advocates, policy makers from Nebraska DHHS, and our partners at UNMC. Together we tackle the question of translation, evaluation, and policy advancement.
My research addresses health disparities among historically underserved groups in two areas. My initial work was with Native American groups in the far North, as they transitioned to modern economies and new modes of self-government. The transition has not always been smooth. Since the mid-1990s, I have also been working with a harm reduction coalition to better understand the source of large and persisting HIV and Hepatitis C disparities among minority groups. My current research is aimed at understanding these problems in Puerto Rico and Alaska.

Rick Bevins  
Chair of Psychology & Cather Professor of Psychology

My research program bridges areas of neuroscience, pharmacology, animal learning and cognition, psychology, and immunology. I use animal models as a tool to elucidate factors involved in the etiology of drug abuse that affect the ability of drug cues to acquire additional excitatory and/or modulatory control over behavior. Other empirical effort focuses on the parallel between mechanisms mediating novelty and drug reward, learned associations between environmental cues and the psychoactive effects of abused drugs, and immunotherapy techniques for nicotine and methamphetamine addiction.

Kirk Dombrowski  
John Bruhn Professor of Sociology

My research addresses health disparities among historically underserved groups in two areas. My initial work was with Native American groups in the far North, as they transitioned to modern economies and new modes of self-government. The transition has not always been smooth. Since the mid-1990s, I have also been working with a harm reduction coalition to better understand the source of large and persisting HIV and Hepatitis C disparities among minority groups. My current research is aimed at understanding these problems in Puerto Rico and Alaska.

Mindy Anderson-Knott  
Director of Evaluation and Development, Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Consortium

My research interests involve studying inequalities and conducting program evaluation. My current work involves evaluating a variety of programs aimed at addressing gender and racial inequalities, which allows these interests to intersect. Specific to minority health, I am evaluating the impact of grants disseminated to local organizations in the state of Nebraska to address local minority health disparities, chronic disease, and underage drinking behavioral disparities. In addition, I am evaluating a grant working to improve child well being for Native children.
THE TEAM

Kim Gocchi Carrasco

MHDI Project Coordinator

My research interests involve examining the translation and dissemination of data for hard to reach populations. My current work involves developing responsive, precise and culturally specific publications to create positive social change in the communities that we work with. In addition, I also assist with coordinating the National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates, the MHDI annual conference, Conversation Series, visiting speakers, and other MHDI related activities.

Devan Crawford

Director of Research Analysis

I have eight years of experience managing multisite research projects across the country and internationally. Projects have included a culturally-based, equine-assisted prevention program in partnership with an American Indian reservation, a health assessment of Latino/a adolescents in rural Nebraska, a Canadian Aboriginal suicide prevention, an eight reservation longitudinal study, a health/mental health study among homeless women in three U.S. cities, and a randomized control trial of a family based substance use prevention program with six reservation partners. Most currently, I have been working with faculty access departments on grant development including assisting with pilot project budgets, grant documents and submissions.
We feel it is important to expand our role in the University and in the larger community. The new FY 2015 Advisory Board brings together leaders of community organizations, UNL faculty, members of Nebraska’s Department of Health and Human Services, representatives from UNL’s administration, and scholar/researchers from across the NU system. The board meets tri-annually at UNL to receive reports from the MHDI leadership team, and to provide guidance and direction to the initiative.

ADVISORY BOARD

Larry Williams
Director of the Malone Community Center

Steve Goddard
Associate Vice Chancellor for Research
Professor of Computer Science and Engineering

Roger Garcia
Executive Director of El Centro de las Americas

Josie Rodriguez
Director of the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity

Amber Williams
Director of Admissions University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Arthur Maerlender
Research Associate Professor, Director of Clinical Research, Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior

Laurie Bellows
Director, McNair Scholars Program

Dejun Su
Director of Center for Reducing Health Disparities, Associate Professor Department of Health Promotion, Social and Behavioral Health College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Lisa Crockett
Professor of Psychology
Engagement

2014-2015
Building on the successful approaches of years one and two, a number of specific efforts were undertaken by MHDI to work toward our mission and vision. The following outlines progress made toward our first goal: the creation of a community of like-minded scholars capable of engaging each other in pursuit of high-level research. In overview, wide combinations of media were used to disseminate minority health disparity information to the UNL community and beyond, and to bring together an audience that could form the basis of a research community. This included the update and redesign of the MHDI website, the posting of weekly emailed announcements, sponsorship of a multi-institution retreat, hosting invited speakers, sponsoring an intramural conversation series on research efforts related to the initiative’s goals, and hosting an MHDI writers retreat which offered participants the ability to gain new inspiration on ground-breaking ideas for projects on minority health issues while simultaneously creating a new book to disseminate to the public.

**WEBSITE & LISTSERV**

A new and improved Website was created in part to harmonize with the UNL 4.0 version of the UNLedu Web Framework, and also to be a resource for faculty and community members alike. Additionally, we added more information about ourselves as an initiative, our advisory board, and a page dedicated to our Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) funded by the National Science Foundation.
The MHDI Spring Retreat was held Monday, April 13 at Country Inn and Suites Conference Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. The location was selected to facilitate collaboration between faculty and community partners in Lincoln and Omaha. The theme of the retreat was “Building Collaborations to Address Health Disparities.” Fifty-eight people attended from across the state and from multiple entities including sixteen different departments, and six state offices and organizations. The agenda for the retreat included bullet session, and multiple breakout discussion sessions. There were a total of ten presenters that included researchers and community leaders from all over the state. The keynote speaker, Josie Rodriguez from the Nebraska Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity, presented on health disparities in Nebraska and the current events at DHHS. In the afternoon, we had several speakers from partner organizations. Anna Bellatore, a recent UNL post doctoral student along with Jennifer Alvidrez from National Institute on Minority Health gave insight on up and coming funding announcements at NIH. Larry Williams visited from the Malone Center to talk about his television series (see page 20) on the health of underserved populations in Lincoln, NE.

Participants selected breakout sessions based on interest and discussed collaborative funding opportunities with the presenter and other participants at the table. Notes from the meetings were compiled, and follow-up emails were sent by MHDI affiliated faculty member and coordinator of the Retreat, Kim Gocchi Carrasco, to each discussion session participant to help facilitate continued discussion and collaboration. The targeted outcome of the retreat was to facilitate collaboration, which was met with great success. Presentations were utilized to educate participants on current research interests of UNL and community organizations. According to retreat evaluations submitted by participants, the majority (97%) agreed that they learned something new about UNL research in the area of minority health. Moreover, nearly all participants who completed an evaluation (68%) agreed or strongly agreed that they had found a researcher or a community partner that they intend to collaborate with on a project regarding minority health disparities.

Feedback from the retreat on the intellectual/research value of the presentations and format for participant interaction was also positive, with most participants who completed evaluations reporting value in attending the retreat and appreciation for the agenda format.

SUMMER WRITING RETREAT

A second retreat was held at the Lied Lodge Conference Center in Nebraska City on May 29-31. The goal of this retreat was to produce a collection of articles written by researchers at UNL to help disseminate information on health disparities in Nebraska to the wider health community. The audience for the book is a mix of non-academic local community health researchers and advocates, school officials, Department of Health and Human Services, local policy makers, community advocates, and potentially classroom use in undergraduate and graduate courses.

Activities included strategic planning, developing the theoretical framework and direction for the series, a peer review and extensive group discussion about each of the articles. Participants included, Bridget Goosby from Sociology, Tonia Durden from Education and Human Sciences, Virginia Chaidez from Nutrition, Jacob Cheadle from Sociology, Rochelle Dalla from Child, Youth and Family Studies, Devan Crawford from Sociology, Virginia Chaidez from Nutrition, Kirk Dombrowski from Sociology, Mindy Anderson-Knott from the Social & Behavioral Sciences Consortium, Kim Tyler from Sociology, Tim Nelson from Psychology, Colleen Syron from Art, Art History and Design, and Kim Gocchi Carrasco from Sociology. The book will appear in the Fall of 2015 and be circulated widely among Nebraska state officials, DHHS, and interested members at the Nebraska public health community.
2015 SPRING RETREAT

Featured below and on the following page are some of the bullet session slides that were presented at the 2015 MHDI Spring Retreat. Attendees were given the opportunity to create a one-page slide to present during the retreat. We had a total of ten presenters from both UNL and community organizations.

5-4-3-2-1 GO! ®:
Counting down childhood obesity.

Eating right & being active...
It’s as easy as

1. Or more hours of physical activity a day
2. Hours or less of screen time a day
3. Servings of low-fat dairy a day
4. Servings of water a day
5. Servings of fruits and vegetables a day

Go!

Eagle Adventure

Through the Eyes of the Eagle by Georgia Perez Nambe Pueblo

- Developed by the CDC Division of Diabetes Translation’s Native Diabetes Wellness Program, in collaboration with the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee and Indian Health Service.

Program Components

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<th>Interpersonal level</th>
<th>School level</th>
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<td>Eagle Recipes</td>
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<td>Four in-class lessons</td>
<td>Parent tip sheets</td>
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<td>Cultural connections</td>
<td>Eagle Moving Activities</td>
<td>Banners</td>
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<td>Hands on activities</td>
<td>Nestwork</td>
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Pediatric Sleep, Behavior, and Health

**Sleep: The most under-appreciated critical health behavior**

- Affects our brains, bodies, and behavior
- Sleep problems are common and increasing
- Problems disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations and contribute to health disparities
- Sleep loss in children may be especially detrimental because of effects on the developing brain and behavior
- Sleep is rarely addressed in mental health and health promotion interventions – missed opportunity!

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<th>Child Sleep Deficits</th>
<th>Sleep Intervention</th>
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**Future Directions**

- RCT examining added value of brief sleep treatment for ADHD
- Sleep module in primary care; sleep health promotion to reduce health disparities; telehealth
- Sleep intervention and physical health (weight management, T2D)

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Methods Used to Successfully Quit Smoking in the United States: Racial and Ethnic Differences

*Julia N. Soulakova* and *Lisa J. Crockett*

**Goal 1:** to determine the quality of smoking-cessation-related health care; **Goal 2:** to identify the most frequently used smoking cessation methods, and smokers’ awareness and attitudes regarding available methods and treatments. **Differences** will be assessed with respect to NH White, NH Black, NH American Indian/Alaska Native, NH Asian, NH Multiracial, and Hispanic subpopulations. **Method:** Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey
CONVERSATION SERIES

Three intramural “conversation” luncheons were held during the year. These were informal meetings led by UNL researchers who in turn, provided an overview of ongoing research on topics relevant to a range of MHDI affiliates and led discussion around these topics, including bringing to light research by other attendees on the same topics. The latter serves two purposes. The free exchange of research “in process” can markedly improve the scope and impact of existing projects. Secondly, common interests discovered in these events can lead to future collaborations, as researchers find the delicate match of complementary skills and common interests. A review of the collaborative grant applications submitted this year by retreat and conversation series presenters/attendees demonstrates clearly that community is an essential adjunct to research ambition and success.

BRANDY CLARKE PhD, LP  
Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools  
Changing Adverse Health Outcomes Through Educational Success.

TIM NELSON PhD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology  
Access to High Quality and Culturally Appropriate Services Using Telehealth.

JORDAN SOLIZ PhD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology  
Addressing current practices in research on race and ethnicity in health disparities.
VISITING SPEAKERS

A number of external speakers were brought to campus to consult with UNL faculty and to provide a public presentation on a minority health related topic. All external speakers’ presentations were well attended with approximately 20-40 attending each presentation.

In October 2014, Dr. Tyson Brown, Assistant Professor from Vanderbilt University, presented “Racial Inequality in Health: The Consequences of SES, Stress, Discrimination, and Neighborhoods”. Dr. Brown presentation was co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology.

Also in October, Dr. Roberto Abadie was invited to present on his research titled, “The Professional Guinea Pig: Big Pharma and the Risky World of Human Subjects”. Dr. Adabie is an anthropologist who received his Ph.D. from the CUNY Graduate Center. He has conducted extensive research on HIV, Intravenous Drug Users and the ethinics of clinical trials research. His focus on HIV has led him to study HIV risk behaviors among IDU’s in his home country, Uruguay, where he produced the first ethnographic account of cocaine intravenous users in the late 90’s.

Dr. Jimi Adams was invited to present in February of 2015 on, “Mapping Interdisciplinary Fields: Efficiencies, Gaps & Redundancies in HIV/ADS Research”. Dr. Adams is an associate professor in the department of Health and behavioral sciences at the university of Colorado-Denver. Broadly, his research addresses how networks constrain or promote the diffusions of information and/or diseases through populations.

OCTOBER

In October 2014, Dr. Tyson Brown from Vanderbilt University presented “Racial Inequality in Health: The Consequences of SES, Stress, Discrimination, and Neighborhoods”. Dr. Brown presentation was co-sponsored by the department of Sociology.

Dr. Roberto Abadie was invited to present at the 2014-2015 MHDI Speaker Series on, “The Professional Guinea Pig: Big Pharma and the Risky World of Human Subjects”. Dr. Adabie is an anthropologist who received his Ph.D. from the CUNY Graduate Center.

FEBRUARY

Dr. Jimi Adams was invited to present at the 2014-2015 MHDI Speaker Series on, “Mapping Interdisciplinary Fields: Efficiencies, Gaps & Redundancies in HIV/ADS Research”. Dr. Adams is an associate professor in the department of Health and behavioral sciences at the university of Colorado-Denver.
It Takes a Community

Becoming a city, state or nation, free of disparities in health and health care is something we can’t do alone. It takes the effort of the entire community, working together, to eliminate health disparities among underserved populations.

We, as a university based initiative, have a vision to bridge the gaps between community organizations, government agencies, and other entities to provide evidence based research to make health care safer, higher quality, more accessible, and equitable, and to work with these institutions and other partners to make sure that the evidence is understood and used in communities that we serve.
Mindy Anderson-Knott facilitated a session on creating a loving community at the Latino Leadership Symposium, an event dedicated to fostering confidence and a sense of community among Latino youth of Nebraska.

FACTSHEETS
Following the advice of our advisory board, our MHDI undergraduates created a number of factsheets and reports to better translate the University's research on minority health to a wider audience. You can find a sample of those factsheets on pages 24-25.

ADDRESSING DISPARITIES LOCALLY
Through minority health related program evaluation contracts, Mindy Anderson-Knott is working with every county in NE with 5% or more minority population to guide them on their efforts to address health disparities.

HEALTH MATTERS
On June 1, 2015, Larry Williams sat down with Kirk Dombrowski, Co-Director of MHDI and John G. Bruhn Professor of Sociology at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. They discussed the Minority Health Disparities Initiative at UNL and other related research projects.

PUBLIC AGENCY OF CANADA
Devan Crawford, Director for Research Analysis, along with our undergraduate research assistants worked on developing a boardgame for Anishinabe First Nations as part of the sustainability and broader impacts of the project.

THAILAND
Dr. Kirk Dombrowski spent a week in Bangkok, Thailand attending the 3rd World Health Organization/UN AIDS Global HIV Consultation conference. This conference happens once every 5 years to set the HIV Surveillance agenda for the next 5 years.

SERVICE
Mindy Anderson-Knott is currently serving on the provisional board for the Nebraska Minority Public Health Association as well as the Minority Health Council.
As UNL research scholars continue to push research in new, critical areas of public health, a central goal of MHDI is to provide the outreach necessary to turn research in policy and public action. In this role, faculty affiliates and research staff work locally, nationally, and internationally to make sure that the best science informs the best policy. This year MHDI affiliates collaborated with the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services leaders to create a series of research fact sheets that can be used at public health fairs throughout the state. MHDI coordinator Mindy Anderson-Knott led a team of UNL evaluation specialists to provide guidance and program direction to state-sponsored health improvement grants in nearly every county in the state. Also in Nebraska, MHDI faculty coordinator Kirk Dombrowski appeared on local health television program “Health Matters with Larry Williams” to discuss the role of MHDI in facilitating research that impacts the people of Nebraska.

Internationally, Dombrowski was invited to speak at the World Health Organizations Third Summit on global HIV surveillance. This congress meets every 5 years to set the agenda for HIV reductions for the world. Here the work of MHDI scholars impacts public health far and wide, helping to provide a scientific basis for policy decisions that affect millions of global citizens and promote health equity across the world. Similarly, MHDI research director Devan Crawford was asked by the Public Health Agency of Canada to serve as the external evaluator and program consultant for Canada’s national First Nations suicide prevention program. In this role she drew on years of research experience and program implementation with Les Whitbeck, UNL sociologist and pioneer in aboriginal health issues.

Together, these and other efforts by MHDI affiliates ensure that research carried out at UNL reaches its ultimate goal: a healthier planet, from our closest neighbors to our most distant contacts.

**OUTREACH**

Dr. Kirk Dombrowski (right) sits down with Larry Williams on the television program, Health Matters, to discuss the Minority Health Disparities Initiative at the University of Nebraska Lincoln.
MINORITY HEALTH IN NEBRASKA

Individual and Familial Stressors Among Rural Nebraskan, Bilingual, Paraprofessional Educators

Participants were divided into two groups who had high and low depression scores.

Intimacy/assistance, social integration/affirmation, and nurturance were all negatively correlated to depression.

Participants mental and physical health was influenced by spouses or significant others.

Out of 24 items on the acculturation scale 20 participants identified 8.6 of the items as relevant to their lives.

Strong support is correlated with better mental health.

Acculturation stress was negatively correlated to perceived support from network members.

Individuals who spoke English more often were more likely to be depressed than those who did not among the most depressed subgroup in the study.

Conclusion: As social support increased, depressive symptoms decreased.

Conceptions Regarding Children's Health: An Examination of Ethnotheories in a Sending and Receiving Community

44 Mexican adults in six focus groups discussed issues regarding children in their communities.

Ethnotheories: cultural models that underlie motivations for parenting practices and how parents organize early childhood experiences.

Issues discussed were:
- Physical health: asthma, flu, etc.
- Mental health: hyperactivity, stress, depression, etc.
- Behavioral health: substance abuse, suicide, teen pregnancy, etc.

Three focus groups emphasized the topic of immigration as a contributor to negative health outcomes.

Mostly female groups emphasized that cultural attitudes and beliefs influenced health issues.

All groups mentioned these as being causes of negative health outcomes:
- Unhealthy lifestyles
- Family issues
- Environmental issues
- Health care

Findings show it is important to take a comprehensive approach to children’s health. Health issues are complicated and range from personal, to family, to community, and culture-level issues.

Results stress how big a role cultural processes play in health practices and health care of migrants.

Conclusion: This information and future research may help create an appropriate approach for handling culturally sensitive to health related issues of children.

De Guzman, M. R. T., DeLeon, J., Gonzalez-Kruger, G., & Cantarero, R. Conceptions Regarding Children’s Health: An Examination of Ethnotheories in a Sending and Receiving Community.
Few Differences in Diet and Health Behaviors and Perceptions Were Observed in Adult Urban Native American Indians by Tribal Association, Gender, and Age Grouping

Forty-nine percent of participants believed their diet was poor while a minority of 5% believed their diet was excellent.

Perceptions of health were significantly different between genders on the lower and higher end of health perception ratings with 6% of males rating their health as poor in comparison to 19% of women and 9% of men vs 3% of women rating their health as excellent.

Values of percent kcal from fat, saturated fat, protein, cholesterol, dietary sugars, and iron intakes were not significantly different across tribes.

Intakes of food energy, vitamin C, and sodium were significantly lower for women than men.

Diet perceptions had little differences for gender, age group, or tribal association.

Differences in consumption of lunch varied by tribe with 69% of the Sioux, 82% of Omaha, 100% of Other tribal groups.

Macronutrient distribution range (AMDR) and saturated fat recommendations were exceeded by over half of Sioux and Other tribal associations while half of the Omaha tribe also exceeded the recommended amount of AMDR.

Diabetes was prevalent in 51-76 year olds (56%) in comparison to 19-30 year olds (0%).

Age also played a role in alcohol consumption with 77% of participants who were 30 years or young consuming more than 30-50 year olds (50%) and 50-76 year olds (24%).

Among women consumption of alcohol (38%) and eating lunch (69%) was lower compared to males (93% and 94%).

Carter, T. L., Morse, K. L., Giraud, D. W., & Driskell, J. A. Few differences in diet and health behaviors and perceptions were observed in adult urban Native American Indians by tribal association, gender, and age grouping.
Training
2015
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Each summer, 10 undergraduate students from throughout the United States are selected to participate in the 10-week research program. The first two weeks the students participate in a workshop to train them in social network analysis, which is the mapping and measuring of relationships among groups of individuals, organizations or other entities. The students then use those new skills to work with a mentor on a research project related to minority health disparities.

The three-year, $350,000 grant funds a Research Experience for Undergraduates program through NSF. REUs, as funded by the NSF, support active research participation by undergraduate students in areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation; however, UNL hosts additional REUs each summer that are not NSF funded.

Kirk Dombrowski leads the program, which features mentors from several academic areas, including sociology, communication studies, psychology, the Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The program is the only REU in the nation to explore minority health disparities. The subject matter also helps attract some of the best students in the nation. In 2015, there were 183 applicants, of which 68 percent were from historically under-represented groups and 75 percent were women. The 2014-2015 projects are highlighted on pages 33-35.
183 applicants

75% WOMEN

68% HISTORICALLY UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS
Will Fogarty  
Professor Jordan Soliz  
COMMUNICATION STUDIES  
Community Dynamics in Racial-Ethnic Identity

The participant, Will Fogarty, was able to use statistical techniques to test process models linking community dynamics and personal relations with development of racial-ethnic identity and salient health outcomes. Further, comparisons between racial-ethnic groups including biracial-ethnic groups was examined.

Mayra Coronado, Sara Francisco and Kristina Brandveen  
Professor Kirk Dombrowski  
SOCIOLOGY  
Network Risk of HIV and HCV Infection in Rural Puerto Rico

This project investigated the social network contexts of HIV and HCV infection drawing on data from four rural communities in Puerto Rico collected in 2014-5. The emphasis of this project was put on the use of block modeling and network statistical analysis to isolate indicators of high risk that result from dyadic relationships among injectors and the injection “roles” that result from these interactions.

Lili Rothschild  
Professor Art Maerlender  
CENTER FOR BRAIN, BIOLOGY AND BEHAVIOR  
Race and Ethnic Disparities in Concussion Outcomes

Lili Rothschild was able to work with the High School Reporting database, the CPSC’s National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, and the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury to evaluate the presence of race and ethnicity-based disparities in concussion related epidemiology.

Allie Mann  
Professor David DiLillo  
Psychology  
Understanding Risk for Revictimization Among Young Adult Women

Allie Mann assisted in broadening the focus of revictimization to include several types of adult interpersonal violence (sexual, physical, psychological) within shifting relational contexts as the women in our sample pass through critical developmental junctures (i.e., establishing intimate partner relations).
Sharrone Francis, Professors Julia McQuillan and Trish Wonch Hill
SOCIOLOGY
Promoting Health Science Literacy to Reduce Health Disparities

The participant worked with the youth and teachers during a summer program. In addition, the participant helped with conducting focus groups, interviews, participant observation, and statistical analyses of a survey of adult Nebraskan’s attitudes towards vaccination. The data analyses focuses on using data to promote health science literacy.

Maira Birrueta
Professor Christina Falci
SOCIOLOGY
Science Networks, Race, and Gender Inequality in a University Setting

For this REU project, Maira Birrueta worked with an interdisciplinary research team to (1) examine the effect of a diverse array of network characteristics pertaining to the size, structure, and composition of research networks on a faculty member’s research productivity (e.g., number of publications) and quality (e.g., citation counts), and (2) explore differences gender in faculty network characteristics.

Chelsea McBride
Professor Dejun Su
CENTER FOR REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES
Remote Intervention and Telehealth

Based on data collected for this project and/or secondary data on other telehealth programs, the REU participant, Chelsea McBride assisted Dr. Su in analyzing the cost effectiveness of telehealth programs and reviewing practices and policies that facilitate telehealth services in the U.S.

Eli Talbert
Professor Patricia Wonch Hill
SOCIOLOGY
Impact of Social Networks on Science Identity Formation in Adolescents

The REU participant, Eli Talbert, helped with basic analyses of social network data to understand how adolescent network ties influence science identity over time. In addition, the participant helped further develop measures of science identity by analyzing data from a non-random sample of children and their caregivers at a science festival.
MINORITY HEALTH DISPARITIES POST DOCS

In addition to undergraduate and graduate research training, MHDI supports a number of advanced researchers at the post-doctoral level. In 2015, 3 MHDI Post-Docs worked on projects in minority health and health equity that advanced their own ongoing research, and allowed them to draw on the support and mentorship of UNL faculty. These scholars produced scientific publications, grant applications, and conference presentations that help launch their careers as health researchers. In the process, they further MHDI goals of creating a wider community of UNL scholars. Several of the scholars are now transitioning to full time faculty positions, using the training they received at UNL to further the training of students across the United States.

TESS NEAL Ph.D.
Dr. Tess Neal completed her Postdoctoral Research fellow with Public Policy Center in 2015. She submitted a number of publications during her last year with MHDI, and has taken a position as an Assistant Professor in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, Social & Behavioral Sciences Division at Arizona State University.

GRANTS
SPSSI Grant-in-Aid - “To Approach Good Choices or To Avoid Bad Choices? How Approach and Avoidance ‘Nudge’ Policies affect Public Trust and Policy Support” Role: PI, $1,980
NSF – Career-Life Balance Supplemental Funding Opportunity ($11,142; Role: Postdoc) Submitted and Pending Grants

PUBLICATIONS


ELLIE SHOCKLEY Ph.D.

In 2014, Dr. Ellie Shockley published a number of articles, submitted two grants, one F32 postdoc program under Bridget Goosby studying minority health and discrimination (PA-14-149, August 2014), and another to the John Templeton Foundation.

PUBLICATIONS


DEADRIC WILLIAMS Ph.D.

Deadric Williams obtained his Ph.D. in Sociology in 2015. He currently works with MHDI as a Post Doctoral Research Associate in families, stress & couple relationships, race & ethnicity, mental health, poverty, and quantitative methods.

PUBLICATIONS

MINORITY HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

In addition to postdoctoral mentoring, MHDI supports two research assistant professors. In 2015, Drs. Trish Wonch Hill and Brandy Clarke worked on projects in minority health and health equity that advanced their own ongoing research, and allowed them to draw on the support and mentorship of UNL faculty.

BRANDY CLARKE  Ph.D.

In 2014, Dr. Brandy Clarke engaged in extensive studies related to minority health disparities. Specifically, she has conducted an exhaustive, structured literature review on the engagement of Latino children and families in research. She is now an Assistant Professor for the Munroe-Meyer Institute.

GRANTS


Grants in preparation

PUBLICATIONS

TRISH WONCH HILL Ph.D.

Dr. Trish Wonch Hill is currently a Research Assistant Professor at UNL working on the Minority Health Disparities Initiative (MHDI) and on Biology of Human, an NIH Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA). She conducts both applied and basic research that focuses on understanding how people use science to make decisions about their health and how science informs their opinions about health policy.

GRANTS

Principal Investigator: Patricia Wonch-Hill. "CIC Family-Friendly Writing Retreats to Retain and Advance STEM Women Faculty" National Science Foundation. $701,887; Submitted September 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

Hill, Patricia Wonch, Mary Anne Holmes & Julia McQuillan. (2014) The New STEM Faculty Profile: Balancing Family and Dual Careers. Advances in Gender Research.
At the heart of our growing initiative is a new group of faculty affiliates that have helped transform MHDI in 2015. Drawn from across a range of UNL colleges, this group of promising scholars represents the foundation for future growth, and a collective spirit of engagement that propels us forward in policy and training.

As members of the initiative, these faculty draw on a common core of support that enhances their ability to plan large-scale research projects, and to pursue the grant-support necessary to carry out this research. By creating a model of shared support resources based around a singular focus—health equity—MHDI has dramatically increased the scope of research grant activity, allowing new faculty at UNL to pursue their first research funding, and to allow newly tenured faculty to aim for research at a national and international level.

The results are tangible. Over 2015, faculty affiliates of MHDI received more than $8 million dollars in NIH funding. Setting the stage for the future, they also applied for over $25 million dollars to carry out future projects. While the results of many of the applications won’t be known until the next fiscal year, the steady upward trajectory of research funding and applications represents one of most significant accomplishments this year. As we look to the future, and to the addition of more core faculty to our existing team, we feel that the shared resource model, based around a common interest theme, represents the fastest route to the community of scholars envisioned by the original MHDI Steering Committee.

As this core develops, we celebrate the accomplishments of our current members. As detailed on pages 44-49, 2015 saw the publication of articles ranging from the physiological consequences of stress to behavioral-ecological network models, written by faculty from fields as different as Art and Psychology. What brings these scholars together is a common belief that science in the name of a better public future remains at the heart of a great public university.
Bridget Goosby
Happold Associate Professor of Sociology

Dr. Bridget Goosby’s research interests focuses on how the intersections of social inequality and discrimination ‘get under the skin’ to influence minority group members’ health over the life course and across generations.

Jordan Soliz
Director of Graduate Studies & Associate Professor, Intergroup and Family Communication

Dr. Jordan Soliz studies communication and intergroup processes primarily in personal and family relationships, with a current emphasis on multiethnic-racial families and interfaith families.

Jacob Cheadle
Happold Associate Professor of Sociology

Dr. Jacob Cheadle’s research focuses on how social processes intersect with biological processes to create individual variation in social functioning and health from late childhood and into adulthood.

Tim Nelson
Associate Professor of Psychology

Dr. Nelson’s research interests are in pediatric psychology. Specifically, his work focuses on the intersection between health and behavior with an emphasis on health promotion in children and adolescents.

Kim Tyler
Professor of Sociology

Dr. Kim Tyler’s current research examines the link between dating violence and substance use. She is also interested in Social Networks and HIV Risk Behavior among Homeless Youth.
Rochelle Dalla
Professor of Child, Youth & Family Studies

Dr. Rochelle Dalla's research interests center on marginalized female populations—those who are confined to the fringes of society, who experience little social, personal, or political power, and whose voices often remain unheard.

Les Whitbeck
Professor Emeritus Sociology

Dr. Whitbeck's areas of specialization are in drug and alcohol prevention, high-risk children and adolescents and family sociology.

Virginia Chaidez
Assistant Professor of Nutrition

Dr. Virginia Chaidez's research focuses on health disparities, particularly those affecting the Latino population including obesity, diabetes and developmental disabilities.

Colleen Syron
Assistant Professor of Practice, Graphic Design

As the Communications Director for the MHDI, Syron strives to capture every aspect of this significant research in a meaningful way and also is interested in how collaboration between research and design can bring about social change.
**Tonia Durden**  
*Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education*

Dr. Tonia Durden's current research focuses on examining how educators and families can support the socio-cultural and identity development and awareness of young children.

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**Julia McQuillan**  
*Chair & Professor of Sociology*

Dr. McQuillan's research focuses on social inequality, with special emphasis on work and health. She is also passionate about supporting learning experiences for undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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**David DiLillo**  
*Professor of Psychology*

Dr. DiLillo's primary research interests are in the area of family violence, including child maltreatment and marital and couple violence. He is particularly interested in understanding revictimization occurring during childhood, adolescence and adulthood.

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**Julia Soulakova**  
*Associate Professor of Statistics*

Dr. Soulakova is an Associate Professor in the Survey Research and Methodology Program.
Grants & Publications
2014-2015
2014-2015 was a busy year of grant submissions with MHDI core faculty and MHDI support staff. In total, we completed twelve grant applications to federal agencies with our faculty partners. Our MHDI support staff provided help with every step of the application process, including grant development, budgeting support, assistance with subcontracts, submission through NUGrant and assistance with the actual application package preparation. It was an exciting year of possibilities as we expanded our services.

GRANTS RECEIVED

A RCT of a Family-Centered Ojibwe Substance Abuse Prevention
Principal Investigator: Les Whitbeck.
National Institute of Health. R01 DA037177-01
$ 3,772,807: 2014 - 2019

Injection Risk Networks in Rural Puerto Rico
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski.
National Institute on Drug Abuse.
R01DA037117-01. $3,414,000; August 2014 - July 2019.

Developing Effective Proximal Care to Prevent Rural Alaska Native Youth Suicide
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski.
National Institute of Mental Health.

Applying Behavioral-Ecological Network Models to Enhance Distributed Spectrum Access in Cognitive Radio
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski. co-Principal Investigator: Bilal Khan CUNY.
National Science Foundation. AST 1443985.
$499,986; September 2014 - August 2016.

Stressors, Protective Factors, and Substance Use among Homeless Youth and Young Adults
Principal Investigator: Kimberly A. Tyler.
National Institute on Drug Abuse.
R21 DA036806. $408,768; 2014 - 2016.

Stress Exposure, Sleep, and Minority Health Disparities: Understanding Intergenerational Pathways to Health Risk.
Principal Investigator: Timothy Nelson
Co-Principal Investigator: Bridget Goosby, Jacob Cheadle

UNL Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Consortium Minority Health Grant.
$24,998; 2015-2016.

Understanding How Stress Process Physiology Affects Health during Youth and Adulthood Using Polygenic Risk Scores
Principal Investigator: Jacob Cheadle
Co-Investigator: Scott Stoltenberg, Bridget Goosby
UNL Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Consortium Minority Health
$25,000; 2015 - 2016.

Family Dynamics, Identity, and Psychological Well-being in Multiethnic-racial Individuals
Principal Investigator: Jordan Soliz
Co-Investigator: Lisa Crockett
UNL Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Consortium Minority Health
$22,870; 2015 - 2016.

An initial study of MyHeartBaby: A mobile application to provide remote care support for caregivers of infants with congenital heart disease
Co-Investigator: Timothy Nelson, PH.D.
National Institute of Health. $75,000 (total award), $22,255 (UNL subaward); July 2014 - June 2015.

Understanding Science Identity Development and the Role of Peer Social Networks-Biology of Human
Principal Investigator: Patricia Wonch-Hill.
Lincoln Research Council Grain in Aid.
$9,861.79; January 2014 - December 2014.
A Longitudinal Study of the Physiological Consequences of Stress among Youth/Parent Dyads: Perceived Discrimination, Stress Reactivity, Chronic Disease Risk and Biological Aging in Diverse Populations

A Longitudinal Network Study of Homelessness in the Great Plains
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski. National Institutes of Health-NIDA 1R01DA040018. $3,750,776; Submitted October 2014.

Brief sleep intervention to enhance behavioral ADHD treatment for children
Principal Investigator: Timothy Nelson, PH.D. National Institutes of Health, NICHD. 1R01HD086197. $3,600,000; Submitted February 2015.

Executive Control and Adolescent Weight Trajectories
Principal Investigator: Timothy Nelson, PH.D. National Institutes of Health – NIDDK. 1R01DK107742. $3,578,000; Submitted 2015.

Substance Use and Sexual Risk for HIV among Zambian Street Youth
Principal Investigator: Kimberly Tyler, PH.D. National Institutes of Health, NICHD. $3,073,985; Submitted May 2015.

SHELTER: A National Study of HIV and HepC Risk among Homeless and Unstably Housed Youth in the United States
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski. National Institutes of Health-NIDA. 1R01DA040545. $2,996,807; Submitted January 2015.

Research to Evaluate the CDC Heads Up Concussion Initiative in Youth Sports.
Principal Investigator: Art Maerlender. CDC. $1,549,168; Submitted March 2015.

An Open Mobile Infrastructure for Dynamic Social Network Data Collection and Analysis
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski. National Science Foundation. SMA1539281. $1,300,329; Submitted February 2015.

Modeling Behavioral Influence on the Epidemiology of Heroin Abuse among New User Cohorts
Principal Investigator: Kirk Dombrowski. National Institutes of Health-NIDA. R01DA040072, $301,376; Submitted October 2014.

Family Dynamics, Identity and Psychological Well-Being of Multiethnic Individuals
Principal Investigator: Jordan Soliz, PH.D. National Institutes of Health-NICHD. R03HD084773-01. $100,000; Submitted October 2014.

CIC Family-Friendly Writing Retreats to Retain and Advance STEM Women Faculty
Principal Investigator: Patricia Wonch-Hill. National Science Foundation. $701,887; Submitted September 2014.

Evaluating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Success of National Health Care Efforts to Promote Smoking Cessation
PI: Julia Soulakova (Department of Statistics) Co-I: Lisa Crockett (Department of Psychology) National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, NIH, DHHS $550, 000; Submitted 2015

Parsing Assortative and Diffusive Substance Use Mechanisms within a Social Network.
Principal Investigator: Patrick Habecker. National Science Foundation. $11,995; Submitted November 2014.
Native Families for Native Children Diligent Recruitment Project Evaluation
Principal Investigator: Mindy Anderson-Knott, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

Minority Health Grant Evaluation: Year 2
Principal Investigator: Mindy Anderson-Knott, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity.
$27,492: 2015.

Chronic Disease 1422 Grant Evaluation
Principal Investigator: Mindy Anderson-Knott, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health Chronic Disease Prevention and Control.
$72,000: 2015.

Strategic Prevention Framework Partnership for Success Evaluation: Year 2
Principal Investigator: Mindy Anderson-Knott, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health.
$114,852: 2015.

Nebraska State Health Status Assessment
Principal Investigator: Mindy Anderson-Knott, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health Office of Community Health and Performance Management.
SCHOLARSHIP (PUBLICATIONS)

A Predicting the onset of alcohol use and the development of alcohol use disorder among Indigenous adolescents.
Child Development (forthcoming).
Armenta, B., Sittner Hartshorn, K., & Whitbeck, L.

A longitudinal examination of the measurement properties and predictive utility of the center for epidemiologic studies depression scale among North American Indigenous Adolescents.
Psychological Assessment (2014).
Armenta, B., Sittner Hartshorn, K., Whitbeck, L., Crawford, D., & Hoyt, D.

Growing Healthy Kids: A School Enrichment Nutrition Education Program to Promote Healthy Behaviors for Children.

Interactive effects within the prototype willingness model: Predicting the drinking behavior of Indigenous early adolescents.
Armenta, B., Whitbeck, L., & Gentzler, K.

The historical loss scale: Longitudinal measurement equivalence and prospective links to anxiety among North American Indigenous adolescents.
Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology (forthcoming).
Armenta, B., Whitbeck, L., & Habecker, P.

Khan, B., Dombrowski, K., Mohammad Saad, M.

Bilal Khan, Kirk Dombrowski, Ric Curtis & Travis Wendel.

Comparison of maternal beliefs about causes of autism spectrum disorder across race/ ethnicities and association with utilization of services and treatments (forthcoming).
Chaidez V., Wang L., Fernandez E., Hertz-Picciotto I., & Hansen R.L.

Bias and Opportunity in the Victimization of Latino/a Migrants on Long Island, NY
Human Organization (forthcoming). Marcus, A., Dombrowski, K., & Huatala, D.

A communication-based approach to adoptive identity: Theoretical and empirical support.
Communication Research (2015).
Colleen Colaner, C. W. & Soliz, J.

Communicatively managing religious identity difference in parent-child relationships: The role of accommodative and nonaccommodative communication
Colaner, C.W., Soliz, J., & Nelson, L. R.

Child maltreatment and adult criminal behavior: Does criminal thinking explain the association?

"I Want to Leave—Go Far Away…I Don’t Want to Get Stuck on the Reservation": Examining Developmental Trajectories and Indicators of Well-Being among the Adolescent-Aged Children of Navajo Native American Teenage Mothers Journal of Adolescent Research (2015).
Dalla, R. L. & *Kennedy, H. R.

Race Still Matters: Preparing Culturally Relevant Teachers, Race
Ethnicity & Education (2014).
Durden, T., Dooley, C, & Truscott, D.

Gateway to Quality: Online Professional Development for Family Child Care Providers.
Early Child Development and Care (In press).
Durden, T., Mincemoyer, C., Crandall, L., Alivz, K. & Garcia, A.

Changing Faces: Parenting, Culture and Child Learning and Development.
Zero to Three (2015).
Iraka, I., Durden, T., & Kennel, P.

Parental underestimates of child weight: A meta-analysis.
Greiner, A.L., Gervais, S., DiLillo, D., & McChargue, D. M.

Giles, H & Soliz, J.

Giles, H., & Soliz, J.

Haikalis, M., DiLillo, D., & Gervais, S.J.

Lundahl, A., & Nelson, T.D.

Lundahl, A., & Nelson, T.D.

Goosby, B.J., Malone, S, Richardson, E., Cheadle, J., & Williams, D.T.

Greil, Arthur L., McQuillan, J. & Sanchez, D.

Hautala, D. S., Hartshorn, K. J. S., Armenta, B., & Whitbeck, L.

Kazyak, E., Park, N.P., McQuillan, J., & Greil, A.L.

Hautala, D. S., Sittier, K. J., & Whitbeck, L. B.

The New STEM Faculty Profile: Balancing Family and Dual Careers Advances in Gender Research (2014).
Hill, Patricia Wonch, Mary Anne Holmes & Julia McQuillan.

Jaffe, A. E., DiLillo, D., Hoffman, L., Haikalis, M., & Dykstra, R. E.

Effectiveness of a parent health report intervention to increase physical activity among preschoolers Children's Health Care (2014).

Kaiser L.L., Chaidez V., Neelon M., Algert S., Horowitz M., Martin A., Mendoza C., & Ginsburg D.


Maldonado, R. C., Watkins, L. E., & DiLillo, D.

Whitbeck, L. B., Armenta, B. E., & Gentzler, K. C.

Evans, S. E., DiLillo, D., & Steel, A. L.
Stimulant medications and sleep for youth with ADHD: A meta-analysis.
Pediatrics (In press).

Sampling Social Divisions in a Rural Inuit Community.
Kirk Dombrowski, Bilal Khan, Joshua Moses, Emily Channell, & Ric Curtis.

Communicative correlates of family satisfaction.
Koenig, K.J., & Soliz, J.

Medical service utilization among with disabilities in residential care.
Child and Youth Care Forum (2015).

Pediatric sleep: Associations with executive functioning, ADHD, and beyond.
Nelson, T.D.

Sleep and food intake: A multisystem review of mechanisms in children and adults.
Lundahl, A., & Nelson, T.D.

Parental overestimations of children's underweight status: A meta-analysis.

A meta-analysis of the effect of experimental sleep restriction on youth's attention and hyperactivity.

Indigenous adolescent development: Psychological, social, and historical contexts.
Whitbeck, L. Sittner Hartshorn, K. & Walls, M.

Interethnic communication.
Rollof International encyclopedia of interpersonal communication (2015).
Soliz, J.

Can college students alter their intimate partner aggression-risk behaviors using emotion regulation strategies? An examination using I3 Theory.
Maldonado, R. C., DiLillo, D., & Hoffman, L.

Exploring the Social Integration of Sexual Minority Youth Across High School Contexts.
Martin-Storey, Alexa, Jacob E. Cheadle, Julie Skalamera, & Robert Crosnoe.

The Importance of Motherhood and Fertility Intentions among U.S. Women.
McQuillan, Julia, Arthur L. Greil, Karina M. Shreffler, & Andrew V. Bedrous.

Rural Latino health: Preliminary examination of health status and cultural correlates.

Health-related quality of life among adolescents in residential care: Description and correlates.

Estimating child sleep from parent report of time in bed: Development and evaluation of adjustment approaches.

Parental socialization of ethnic identity: Perspectives from multiethnic individuals.
Qualitative Research Reports in Communication (2015).
Nuru, A., & Soliz, J.

Anger and children's physical and mental health: The differentiating role of inward versus outward expression of anger on sleep, medical service utilization, and mental health.
Children's Health Care (In press).
Preschool sleep problems and differential associations with specific aspects of executive control in elementary school.

Negative urgency and emotion regulation strategy use: Associations with displaced aggression.
Aggressive Behavior (In press).

Is Adoption an Option? Role of the Importance of Motherhood and Biomedical Help-seeking on Adoption Consideration
Park, Nicholas & Patricia Wonch Hill.

Homeless Young People's Experiences of Caregiver Rejection.
Schmitz, R.M., & Tyler, K.A.

Emotional lability and affective synchrony in borderline personality disorder.
Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment (In press).
Schoenleber, M., Berghoffa, C. R., Tull, M. T., Dilillo, D., Messman-Moore, T. L., & Gratz, K. L.

Borderline personality disorder and self-conscious emotions in response to adult unwanted sexual experiences.
Schoenleber, M., Gratz, K. L., Messman-Moore, T., & Dilillo, D.

Variation in pregnancy intendedness across U.S. women's pregnancies.

Surgical sterilization, regret, and race: Contemporary patterns.
Social Science Research (2015).
Shreffler, K.M., McQuillan, J., Greil, A.L., & Johnson, D.R.

Applications of Asymptotic Confidence Intervals with Continuity Corrections for Asymmetric Comparisons in Non-inferiority Trials.
Soulakova, J.N. & Bright, B.

Traumatic bereavement and mindfulness-based care: A preliminary study of mental health outcomes using the ATTEND model.
Thielman, K., Cacciatore, J., & Wonch Hill, P.

Applications of Asymptotic Confidence Intervals with Continuity Corrections for Asymmetric Comparisons in Non-inferiority Trials.
Soulakova, J.N. & Bright, B.

Health literacy in high-risk youth: A descriptive study of children in residential care.
Child and Youth Services (2014).

Prevalence of physical health issues of youth with school identified disabilities in residential settings.

Prevalence of weight problems among youth with high-incidence disabilities in residential care.
Behavioral Disorders (2014).


Culture Politic: The Story of Native Land Claims in Alaska.
Dombrowski, K.

The Utility of the Prototype willingness model in predicting alcohol use among North American Indigenous Adolescents.
Armenta, B., Huatala, D., & Whitbeck, L.

Overweight and obesity among youth entering residential care: Prevalence and correlates.
The interactive effects of emotion regulation and alcohol intoxication on lab-based intimate partner aggression. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors (In press).
Watkins, L. E., DiLillo, D., & Maldonado, R. C.


Williams, D.T., Cheadle, J.E, & Goosby, B.J.


Soliz, J.
Funded by the UNL Office of Research & Economic Development and the Tobacco Settlement Funds, the Minority Health Disparities Initiative was formed in Fall of 2012 with a steering committee that defined the mission and vision through a series of meetings in year one.

As we transition to FY 2016, we are guided by the same principles with which we began, but our goals and ambitions have grown. In our 4th year we work under the direction of a larger advisory board, and have expanded our mission to impact all of Nebraska.
FY 2016
FINANCIAL
PLAN

PERSONNEL
EVENTS
OFFICE SUPPORT

BREAKDOWN

$162,482
$13,755
$9,514

TOTAL: $185,751
## MHDI 2014-2015 BUDGET

### PERSONNEL & GRANT DEVELOPMENT

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### EVENTS

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### TOTAL

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WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

NEBRASKA: Our research on minority health in Nebraska directly involves local individuals and communities to which it can provide direct benefits. Drs Goosby, Nelson and Tyler from our core faculty are all conducting research here in Nebraska.

ALASKA: Our research with Northern Communities has been concerned with overlapping, self-organizing social networks that form around public health, economy, and resource development.

NEW YORK CITY: Our study in New York will use the methods of Implementation Science – research synthesis, mathematical modeling and simulation, and comparative effectiveness analyses – to determine how best to constitute a portfolio of interventions for the prevention and control of HCV and its consequences while taking into account limited resources and underlying epidemiologic and social network features.

PUERTO RICO: We are investigating HIV and Hepatitis C risk among injection drug users in central rural Puerto Rico and ultimately, we aim to use this research to reduce the spread of HIV and Hepatitis C in Puerto Rico by identifying effective prevention strategies.

THAILAND: Dr. Dombrowski spent a week in Bankok, Thailand attending the 3rd World Health Organization/UN AIDS Global HIV Consultation conference. This conference happens once every 5 years to set the HIV Surveillance agenda for the next 5 years. The focus is on creating a uniform set of measures and update local/national health departments and ministries on new innovations in testing, surveying, and data analysis.

CANADA: Beginning this last Spring in 2015 the grant entitled: A RCT of a Family-Centered Ojibwe Substance Abuse Prevention (1R01DA037177) was funded to assess the efficacy of Bi-Zin-Da-De-Dah (BZDDD) a 14-week family based prevention program with five reservation partners. This application continues collaborations with reservation communities from the Healing Pathways (HP) Project (AA020299).

ZAMBIA: Dr. Kim Tyler, one of MHDI core faculty members, submitted a grant to do research to improve the lives of young people by reducing HIV risk practices by informing culturally appropriate prevention and interventions for Zambian street youth.
A year in pictures.
CONTACT

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