

Annual Report

July 2016—June 2017





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I envision a world in which everyone can live healthy, productive lives, regardless of who they are or where they live.

Dr. Tedros, WHO Director-General

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Colleagues, partners, friends,

It's hard to believe another year has already come and gone! The past 12 months have brought a great deal of change—in the social and political climate of the country overall, and more specifically, in health equity and health policy. For our researchers in the Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky (CIK), these changes have yielded opportunities to develop new ideas, strategies, and research targeting policy and practice. We have also seen growth in the past year, including 24 new Commonwealth Scholars, 2 new graduate students, and numerous new contracts and partnerships.

Our ability to shape equitable policy and practice depends largely on our effectiveness in collaborating with a variety of stakeholders who bring diverse perspectives to the conversation and advance our mission. In the past year, our collaboration with the Center for Health Equity, housed within Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness, has expanded significantly. We created a shared post-doctoral research associate, submitted several project and research proposals, enhanced training for our graduate students, and engaged our young people with the 2017 Health Equity Youth Council.

Our partnership with the Kentucky State Data Center, led by Commonwealth Scholar and CIK Executive Committee member Dr. Matt Ruther, enabled CIK to facilitate UofL researchers' access to the new Federal Statistical Research Data Center at the University of Kentucky. In addition, an ongoing collaboration with Kentucky Voices for Health, a statewide advocacy group, is fostering the emergence of a strategy to assist Kentuckians in navigating health insurance under the soon-to-be-implemented Medicaid Waiver.

Finally, CIK formalized its partnership with IDEAS xLab, a network of artist-innovators driving change, to advance our collective efforts to create the Center for Art + Health Innovation to conduct cutting-edge research and practice marrying community, arts, culture, and health equity. These are just a few examples among many of the organizations and agencies that are critical to moving the needle in population health improvement.

Highlights from 2016-2017

- ◆ Secured 10 new research grants and contracts
- ◆ Published 4 articles
- ◆ Issued policy briefs on Medicaid expansion in Louisville and ACA implementation in Metro Louisville.

As the next year begins, we will continue to pursue partnerships with others who are striving towards health equity, to conduct relevant research to strengthen policy and practice at multiple levels.

Monica L. Wendel, DrPH, MPH

Director, Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky
Associate Dean for Public Health Practice
Associate Professor, Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences
School of Public Health and Information Sciences | University of Louisville

MISSION & VISION

The **mission** of the Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky is to inform policy and practice that will improve the health of populations in Kentucky and beyond by facilitating and supporting transdisciplinary collaborations for research and data analytics. Our **vision** is to serve as a leader in advancing equity through high-quality, inclusive research, in support of social action.

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

CIK had **17 funded projects** with a total of **\$3,092,992** in annual funding.

PROJECT	FUNDER	FY17	LEAD	TERM
CIK Infrastructure	KentuckyOne Health	\$915,492	Wendel	2015-2018
Health Care Access & Utilization	KentuckyOne Health	\$132,305	Wendel/ Buchino	2015-2018
West Louisville Health Literacy Project	KentuckyOne Health	\$100,000	Wendel/Combs	2015-2018
Master of Science in Health Administration	KentuckyOne Health	\$100,000	Johnson	2015-2018
Texas 1115(a) Medicaid Waiver Evaluation	Texas Health and Human Services Commission	\$171,521	Wendel/Creel	2014-2017
Youth Violence Prevention Research Center	CDC National Center for Injury Prevention & Control	\$1,296,752	Wendel/Ingram	2015-2020
Bootcamp Translation Health Literacy	Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence	\$195,000	Combs	2015-2017
Mountain States Genetics Regional Collaborative Evaluation	Mountain States Genetics Regional Collaborative	\$45,000	Creel	2016-2017
Arise to Safety Evaluation	KentuckyOne Health Master Agreement	\$12,000	Ingram	2015-2017
Pivot to Peace Evaluation	Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence	\$37,290	Jackson	2016-2018
Implementation of the Community Care Management Network	Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence	\$14,692	Creel	2017
Francis Center Planning	KentuckyOne Health/Catholic Health Initiatives	\$15,000	Buchino	2016-2017
Exploring the Path to Homelessness	University of Louisville Office of Community Engagement	\$4,000	Buchino	2017-2018
KY EHDl Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Project Evaluation	Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services /Maternal Child Health Bureau Human Resources Services	\$31,500	Creel	2017-2020
What is Health? A Photovoice Project with Special Olympics Kentucky Athletes	Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research	\$7,500	Chandan	2017-2018
LGBTQ Adolescent health in Louisville: An Approach to Identify and Assess Local Priorities	Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research	\$7,500	Combs	2017-2020
Examining Stigma, Stress & HIV Care Utilization Among African American Elders	Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research	\$7,440	Kerr	2017-2018

EVALUATION PROJECTS

CIK specializes in working with partners to evaluate the effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of public health programs and policies. CIK researchers have been contracted for local and national evaluation projects.



Liza Creel, PhD, MPH

Mountain States Genetics Regional Collaborative (MSGRC)

Dr. Liza M. Creel recently concluded the evaluation of the HRSA-funded Mountain States Genetics Regional Collaborative (MSGRC). Dr. Creel completed a five-year evaluation report, participated in the national evaluation led by the National Coordinating Center, and

implemented a survey that will measure collaboration within the region. In June 2017, the MSGRC transitioned to the Mountain States Regional Genetics Network (MSRGN) and Dr. Creel will continue as evaluator. The MSRGN facilitates access to genetic services for underserved populations, including those in rural communities, racial or ethnic populations where disparities are observed, or populations that face financial barriers to getting needed care. The MSRGN will comprise a network of partnerships and connections that link state health department leaders, providers (genetics or primary care/pediatrics), community organizations, and consumers. As MSRGN program evaluator, Dr. Creel will lead efforts to measure progress in achieving its program goals of linking medically underserved populations to genetic services, implementing evidence-based innovative models of telehealth with a focus on clinical genetics outreach, and providing resources to genetic service providers, public health officials, and families.

Community Care Management Network Evaluation

Metro Louisville's Dual Diagnosis Cross-Functional Team (DDCFT) created a Community Care Management Network (CCMN) to address concerns about continuity of care. This network of interdisciplinary providers provides support services for high system utilizers who may be referred from five potential points of entry—mental health care, substance abuse treatment, the criminal justice system, homeless services, and medical/dental care.

The evaluation study aims to determine the practice changes occurring within participating CCMN organizations and how the intervention impacts the behaviors or utilization patterns of high system utilizers during initial implementation. These early results will inform a larger evaluation of the CCMN, focusing specifically on systemic cost and population health outcomes of a predominately technology-focused intervention.

Texas 1115(a) Medicaid Waiver Evaluation

Drs. Monica Wendel and Liza M. Creel completed work on the Texas 1115(a) Medicaid Waiver Evaluation. As an innovative health system reform, Texas's 1115(a) Medicaid Waiver directed anticipated savings from Medicaid managed care expansion to create the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) pool for projects designed to improve health and health care quality, and contain costs. Evaluation included an inter-organizational network study to measure changes in organizational collaboration among organizations participating in DSRIP since implementation of the waiver began five years ago.

Results indicated that cooperative activity initially increased, particularly across sectors as projects began, but then later declined. Additionally, evaluation showed that community mental health centers took on a more central role within organizational networks, indicative of their ability to integrate

services with primary care. Of note, organizations recognized that their

collaborations with social service providers outside the DSRIP networks were an important part of their ability to deliver health care. The research team also completed a survey on waiver stakeholders, which resulted in recommendations that might apply to other health system transformation activities, including streamlining processes, timelines, and payment schedules; eliminating frequent changes to policy; and addressing the unique implementation challenges of different types of providers.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

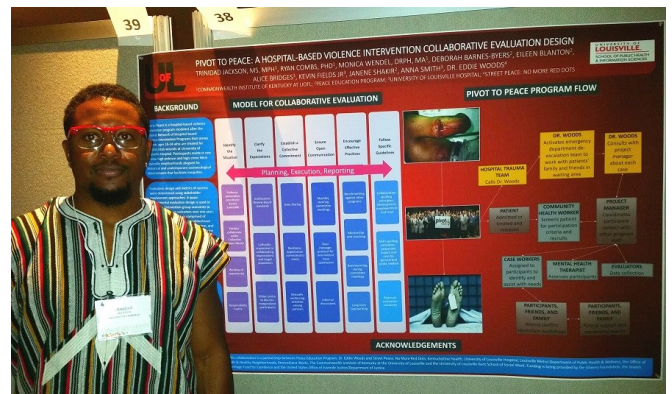
KY EHDl Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Project

Dr. Liza Creel and Dr. Susan Buchino were hired in April 2017 as the Program Evaluators for the HRSA-funded Kentucky Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (KY EHDl) Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Project of the Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN). Drs. Creel and Buchino are responsible for data collection in the form of key informant interviews, implementation of annual stakeholder surveys, and quantitative and qualitative data analysis to measure progress in achieving project goals. This work builds on prior work between Dr. Creel and the KY EHDl program to monitor incidence of hearing loss among Kentucky infants and children, incidence of risk factors for hearing loss, rates of follow-up for diagnostic testing, and factors associated with improved follow-up. Some of this work, including an assessment of how hospital scheduling of follow-up appointments impacts receipt of follow-up services, was presented at the 2017 Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Meeting in Atlanta and the Academy Health Annual Research Meeting in New Orleans.



Pivot to Peace

Implemented in April 2016 for its pilot year, Pivot to Peace is a hospital-based violence intervention program modeled after the National Network of Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs that serves patients ages 18-34 who are treated for gunshot/stab wounds at University of Louisville Hospital. Participants reside in one of nine high violence and high crime West Louisville neighborhoods plagued by historical and contemporary socioecological determinants that facilitate inequities. Evaluation design and metrics of success are determined using stakeholder involvement approaches, and outcome indicators are assessed by triangulating primary and secondary quantitative and qualitative data sources either identified or created by the collaborative members and evaluators. A quasi-experimental evaluation design has been used to compare intervention group outcomes to comparison group outcomes over one year. Key outcome indicators for participants include prosocial beliefs/behaviors, and the status of education, employment, and health. Baseline data analysis will be disseminated Fall 2017.

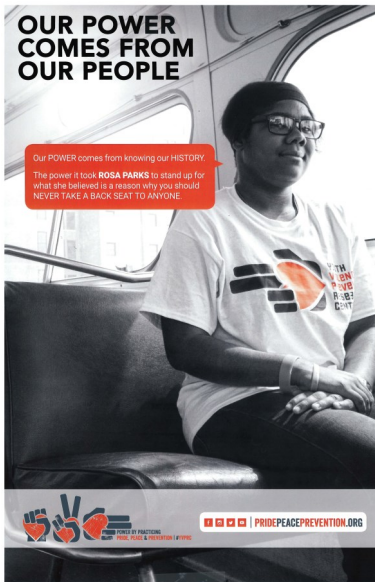


Trinidad Jackson, MS, MPH, Senior Research Associate at the 2016 American Evaluation Association's Annual International Conference in Atlanta.

The project's lead evaluator, Trinidad Jackson, presented on Pivot to Peace at the 2016 American Evaluation Association Annual International Conference in Atlanta in October 2016 . His presentation provided an overview on the utilization of the Model for Collaborative Evaluation among academic, community-based, and hospital system partners.

YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER

The University of Louisville Youth Violence Prevention Research Center (UofL YVPRC) brings together researchers, community representatives, communication experts, residents, practitioners, and policymakers to reduce youth violence in high-burden communities in Louisville. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the UofL YVPRC is one of only seven national Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention joining the ranks of Johns Hopkins, University of Chicago, University of Colorado, University of Michigan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Virginia Commonwealth University.



YVPRC Social Norming Campaign

UofL YVPRC's mission is to change social attitudes about violence through the development, implementation, and evaluation of a community-wide media campaign. A key partnership with Vanderbilt University strengthens the Center's infrastructure and rigor of its prevention evaluation. In its second year, UofL YVPRC conducted community discussion groups, youth interviews, a community readiness and leadership survey, and pre-campaign focus groups to inform the campaign's development.

In May 2017, the center kicked off its three-year long campaign, *Pride, Peace, and*

Science tells us that social norms affect individual behavior. If we think people who are like us act a certain way, we're more likely to act that way - whether we agree or not. But sometimes, our perceptions of those norms are inaccurate.

Monica Wendel, DrPH, MPH
Director, CIK

Prevention, which incorporates prevention messages targeting youth violence and nonviolent conflict resolution norms. The campaign aims to combat violence by making youth aware of their own pride and history. It focuses on changing social norms that govern attitudes and behaviors regarding violence among young people in West Louisville. It also seeks to foster community dialogue around difficult issues such as racial and social injustices. In doing so, YVPRC hopes to raise critical consciousness in an effort to promote racial justice and reduce youth violence.

The YVPRC campaign features Louisville Youth Voices Against Violence (LYVV) Fellows and others in YouTube videos, television commercials, radio ads, neighborhood billboards, print ads, a campaign website, and social media ads. Highlights of sharing the campaign message of Pride, Peace, and Prevention include hosting a block party on May 20, regular attendance at the Dirt Bowl, a summer-long basketball tournament in Louisville's Shawnee Park, and participating in the National Day of Peace in New Orleans on June 29 after receiving an invitation from rap artist Master P.

Knowing my History makes me feel PROUD, that LOVE of who I am in turn gives me PEACE of mind and peace within. PRIDE from where I come from, and peace in my heart is what I want to share with my community, my family and friends.

Pride—Peace—Prevention



Louisville Youth Voices Against Violence (LYVV) Fellows

LYVV Fellows are an integral part of UofL YVPRC's efforts to change the perception that violence is normal, accepted, and expected, especially among African American youth. Fellows participate in learning sessions and engage in research related to African American history and social action. They also engage in personal development opportunities in diverse areas such as activism and advocacy.

Using a community-informed approach involving local youth, the LYVV Fellows also contribute expertise and share in the decision-making and ownership of the *Pride, Peace, and Prevention* campaign. Each fellow spends 20 hours a week working on different aspects of the campaign including developing the campaign message, identifying relevant historical components, and deciding on media outlets for dissemination.



The work we are doing at YVPRC is important because not only are we trying to make a change in our community, we also are making a change within ourselves – I want to learn to be a strong force that people can look up to.

Jessica Murrah, LYVV Fellow



Left to Right: Jessica Murrah, Jershai Payne, Valene Porter, Elijah Thomas, Patricia Blackshear, TreyVon Neely, Jailen Leavell

LYVV Fellows Washington DC Trip

In September 2016, YVPRC organized a five-day trip to Washington, DC for LYVV Fellows. The aims of the trip were to provide Fellows with opportunities to learn more about African American history and gain exposure to new ways of communicating about their heritage.

Accompanied by several UofL YVPRC staff members, fellows attended the dedication ceremony of the Smithsonian National Museum for African American History and Culture. They also met lawmakers, visited several museums and historical sites such as the African American Civil War Memorial & Museum, and toured Howard University and Georgetown University. Photos and videos from the trip (featuring youth fellows reflecting on history and its relationship to racial identity) are included in the YVPRC social norming campaign.

“Our goal was to expose fellows to opportunities for growth and development, help them network, and build critical consciousness necessary to be positive social agents of change within their communities,” explained Monique Ingram, Director of the UofL YVPRC.

HEALTH LITERACY PROJECTS

Dr. Ryan Combs and his team continued their work on two health literacy projects in West Louisville, both of which address the community's ability to obtain and use health information and services. The researchers presented findings at the 2017 Kentucky Public Health Association conference.



Left to Right: Dr. Ryan Combs and Graduate Assistants Carmen Mitchell, TiQi Brown, Dr. Nida Ali, and Baraka Muvuka

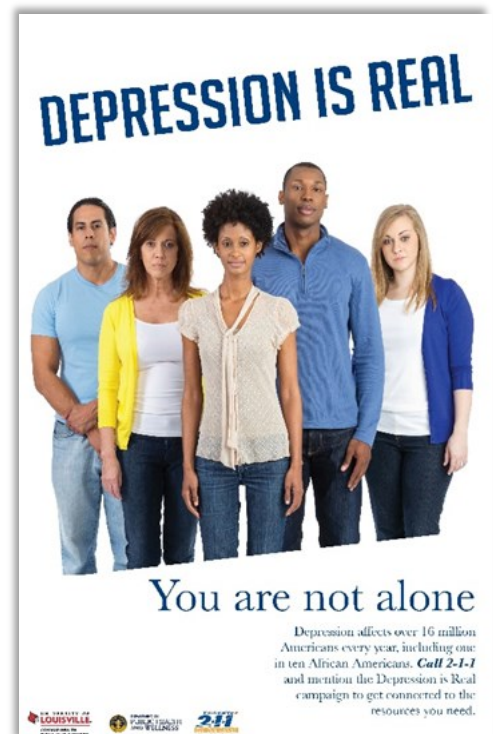
West Louisville Health Literacy Study

The West Louisville Health Literacy Study, funded by KentuckyOne Health, aims to understand how residents navigate the health care system and utilize their health insurance while examining the development, use, applicability, and design of health insurance, health systems, and health behavior literacy materials. The initial phase of the project involved a series of focus groups with residents from West Louisville neighborhoods (Shawnee, California, Russell, and Parkland) on health insurance and health behavior literacy. In the second year of the study, the research team explored how residents prefer health literacy information to be delivered. The study has uncovered several major themes: costs affect health care decision-making; health insurance information is complicated and difficult to navigate; consumers perceive disparities between public and private insurance; and consumers lack trust in the health care system. They also found that consumers strongly prefer personal assistance and short brochures to other forms of health insurance information delivery. The findings of this research has been applied to community education efforts. The study will continue into a third year during which the team will collect similar data in South Louisville.

West Louisville Boot Camp Translation

Funded by Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, the West Louisville Boot Camp Translation Project encompasses a series of community-based participatory research projects, called "Boot Camp Translations," that focus on specific health conditions. In 2016, a group of community members, health and public health professionals, and academics convened to address the issue of depression and translate medical jargon into culturally appropriate and effective messages that resonate with the community. This work led to a multifaceted health communication campaign on depression, which sought to raise awareness and understanding of depression among West Louisville residents; improve outcomes for those living with depression; increase utilization of mental health services; and reduce stigma. The key messages of the campaign were: depression is real; you don't have to suffer; you are not alone; and there are options to help you get better. The campaign directed individuals to call Metro United Way's 2-1-1, a phone line dedicated to connecting people to needed services.

In 2017, Dr. Combs and his team are applying the Boot Camp Translation process to two additional topics with the goals of increasing testing for HIV among West Louisville residents and ensuring every child with asthma in West Louisville has an asthma action plan. Recent findings from this project were presented by Dr. Combs and Kamau Brown at the National LGBTQ Health Conference in Chicago in April. The poster presentation focused on how to address homophobic and transphobic stigma in predominantly heterosexual African American HIV Initiatives.



HEALTH CARE ACCESS & UTILIZATION

CIK researchers are working on a number of studies investigating health care access and utilization in Louisville and Kentucky. This work was initially inspired by the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and has expanded as health care reform continues both locally and nationally.

- In partnership with Family Health Centers and the Louisville Metro Board of Health Enrollment Committee, Drs. Liza Creel and Susan Buchino completed a mixed-method study to understand the evolution and effectiveness of local outreach and enrollment activities since implementation of the ACA and provide a broad characterization of the remaining uninsured population in Louisville. Results indicated that although ACA implementation in Louisville was largely successful due to kynect and application assisters, individuals remained uninsured due to plan affordability and confusion around health insurance. These results have informed ongoing outreach work.
- Drs. Benitez, Creel, and Jennings published the article “Who and Where are Kentucky’s Remaining Uninsured?” in *Medical Care*. Their analysis of data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) demonstrated that following ACA implementation, unemployment, low-income status, and Hispanic ethnicity were positively correlated with being uninsured. These results suggest that Kentucky’s state-based marketplace and Medicaid expansion may contribute to long-run closures in disparities in health care access and outcomes.
- Dr. J’Aime Jennings and Dr. Liza Creel have continued investigating changes in hospital delivery of health promotion services since the Community Health Needs Assessment requirement of ACA went into effect.
- Dr. Joe Benitez has collaborated with Dr. E. Kathleen Adams of Emory University and Dr. Eric Seiber of The Ohio State University to evaluate the impact of Kentucky’s full rollout of the ACA on disparities in access to care due to poverty. Their work was published in *Health Services Research* in April. They have also been targeting urban-rural disparities in coverage, access to care, health care utilization, and self-reported health status, anticipating a second study will be complete this fall.



Left to Right: Barbara Casper, MD; Susan Buchino, PhD; John Yarmuth, Congressman (KY-3)

Health Care Coverage and the ACA in Kentucky

Dr. Susan Buchino presented alongside U.S. Representative John Yarmuth and UofL School of Medicine professor, Barbara Casper, on the *Healthcare Coverage and the ACA* panel held on February 21, 2017. The event was hosted by medical student members of Students for a National Health Program at UofL. Dr. Buchino discussed the financial costs and benefits of the ACA, which has brought federal funds into the state and resulted in job creation. She also described how the ACA has slowed the growth of rising health care costs and health insurance rates while reducing the number of individuals who experience debt and bankruptcy due to medical care.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CIK upholds the discipline’s priority to develop public health policies, programs, and priorities in collaboration with community members. Our researchers work throughout Louisville and Kentucky with numerous community partners to engage communities and stakeholders in population health improvement projects.

Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research Grants

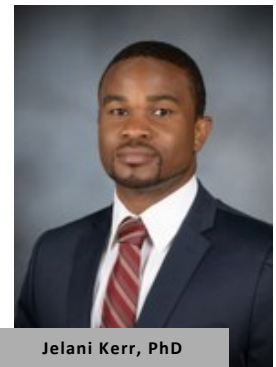
Three CIK researchers led teams that received funding from the recently established Collaborative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice (CCTSJR) at the University of Louisville. The CCTSJR is led by Cate Fosl, the director of the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research and Commonwealth Scholar, and Enid Trucios-Haynes, the director of the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice. The Consortium aims to bring together researchers from different disciplines along with community partners to facilitate transdisciplinary research focused on finding justice-driven solutions to compelling social problems. CIK researchers are among the first group of 13 grantees whose projects were funded by the CCTSJR.



Ryan Combs, PhD



Priya Chandan, MD



Jelani Kerr, PhD

LGBTQ Adolescent Health in Louisville: An Approach to Identify and Assess Local Priorities led by Dr. Ryan Combs, SPHIS/CIK, with Dr. Maurice Gattis (Kent School of Social Work) and Dr. Amber Pendleton (School of Medicine-Pediatrics).

In partnership with the Louisville Youth Group and the JCPS LGBTQ Student Supports Subcommittee, this project engages LGBTQ youth and others to identify health priorities and inform the development of a health communications campaign to improve the health of LGBTQ adolescents in Louisville.

What is Health? A Photovoice Project with Special Olympics Kentucky Athletes led by Dr. Priya Chandan, SPHIS/CIK, with Dr. Kathleen Carter (College of Education and Human Development) and Dr. Susan Buchino (SPHIS/CIK).

In partnership with Special Olympics Kentucky, this project seeks to address health equity for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities using photovoice as the methodology.

Examining Stigma, Stress and HIV Care Utilization among African American Elders led by Dr. Jelani Kerr, SPHIS/CIK, with Dr. Timothy Crawford (School of Nursing) and Dr. Lesley Harris (Kent School of Social Work).

In partnership with the House of Ruth, this project assesses the intersections of race, HIV-related stigma, ageism, and service delivery for HIV patients and explores the impact of a theater-based intervention in reducing stigma among HIV service providers.

Social justice challenges and proposes remedies for how systems of power activate and reinforce different forms of inequality. It is substantive, distributive, and grounded in liberation movements of the last century.

CCTSJR

Exploring the Path to Homelessness

Exploring the Path to Homelessness is a community-based research project involving homeless individuals receiving services through St. John Center for Homeless Men in Louisville. The purpose of this qualitative study is to identify gaps in supports and services that will assist in planning to meet the needs of this population. At the completion of this study, it is expected that the information gathered will increase the understanding of men's transition into homelessness after being housed, the supports that assisted them, and unmet needs that may have contributed to losing housing repeatedly. The study is led by Drs. Monica Wendel and Susan Buchino in partnership with researchers from the University of Kentucky College of Social Work, and is funded by the UofL Office of Community Engagement and the University of Kentucky College of Social Work.

Francis Center Planning

Dr. Susan Buchino was contracted by KentuckyOne Health to execute a grant from Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) funding a year-long planning process to implement community health and wellness services through the Francis Center at St. John Paul II parish in Louisville. Dr. Buchino completed data collection and analysis to assess health issues and opportunities in the Hikes Point community and facilitated stakeholder meetings to seek community input and feedback. The planning year resulted in the development of an action plan and logic model that reflected the community goals and needed steps toward implementing community-based health and wellness services for both parishioners and parish neighbors.

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

West Louisville Photovoice Project

Trinidad Jackson, Senior Research Associate with CIK, launched the West Louisville Photovoice project in 2016. The project engaged individuals from West Louisville neighborhoods in taking pictures that best represented manifestations of justice/injustice, safety/unsafety, hope/hopelessness, and racial equity/racism in their communities. The project was designed to provide communities with opportunities to share their concerns, and at the same time to act as a catalyst for discussions and action around issues relevant to these communities. Findings from this study will be used to provide the city with actionable information that can inform future policies.

Curated by Louisville-based IDEASxLab, a selection of these pictures were featured in an exhibition entitled "Yet We Live, Strive, and Succeed" at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage.

"This exhibit created space for people who aren't usually heard to tell their stories, talk about their experiences – and if we invest our time in listening, we can learn things that help us know how to create meaningful change in our community," explained Dr. Monica Wendel.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

Kentucky Federal Statistical Research Data Center

CIK will be administering UofL's membership in the Kentucky Research Data Center (KRDC), a consortium recently established between the University of Kentucky (UK) Research Foundation, Indiana University, The Ohio State University, the University of Cincinnati, and the University of Louisville. Housed at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics, KRDC is part of a nationwide system of Federal Statistical Research Data Centers, the mission of which is to expand the data infrastructure available to qualified scholars and students.

KRDC is a secure location for researchers of the consortium with approved projects to access restricted-use data from Census, CDC, and other agencies. Within the University of Louisville, SPHIS, the College of Business, and the College of Arts & Sciences have committed funds to the project.

Some of the datasets that are expected to be housed in KRDC are the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS), National Study of Long-Term Care Providers (NSLTCP), National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), and National Vital Statistics System (NVSS). In addition, mortality data and Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) data have been linked to the NHIS and NHANES, as have some data from the Social Security Administration (SSA). KRDC is also likely to house data from the Census Bureau, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Center for Health Equity

CIK has developed a strong partnership with the Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness (LMPHW) Center for Health Equity (CHE), led by Commonwealth Scholar, Dr. Brandy Kelly Pryor. The partnership has enhanced the capacity of CIK and CHE to address health inequities through policy, particularly with grant proposals, by demonstrating the collaboration between academics and government officials. Together, CIK and CHE have collaborated to advance authentic community engagement strategies, seen through critical facilitation provided by CIK for the CHE policy summit, My Dream for Lou 2016. The partnership also included a shared postdoctoral researcher, Dr. Aishia Brown, who provided a valuable focus to institutionalize equity and social justice youth development into the Youth Violence Prevention Research Center (YVPRC) as well part of the team conducting initial research for Louisville Metro Government's youth action plan, which addresses structural barriers faced by opportunity youth.

Our best science is relatively useless if we can't make it accessible and actionable for people. Arts and culture provide us with the language necessary to foster mutual understanding.

Monica Wendel, DrPH
Director, CIK

Center for Art+ Health Innovation (CAHI)

CIK has been working with IDEASxLab, an artist innovation group, on a strategic partnership to design and implement the Center for Art + Health Innovation (CAHI). Founded on the premise that health and well-being are culturally created, CAHI aims to find solutions to complex health problems through arts and culture.

CAHI employs a transdisciplinary perspective throughout its development, implementation and evaluation of its work by involving public health, health administration, visual arts, music, spoken word, literature, and social services, among many other disciplines. CAHI uses IDEASxLab's signature project, Project HEAL, as its guiding framework. The project is a place-based model for organizing communities' arts and cultural assets to influence Health in All Policies and increase social cohesion.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Benitez, J. A., Adams, E. K. & Seiber, E. E. (2017). Did health care reform help Kentucky address disparities in coverage and access to care among the poor? *Health Services Research*. doi: 10.1111/1475-6773.12699. [Epub ahead of print]

Benitez, J. A., Creel, L., & Jennings, J. (2017). Who and where are Kentucky's remaining uninsured? *Medical Care*, 55, 215- 219. doi: 10.1097/MLR.0000000000000646

Castle, B., Wendel, M., Kelly Pryor, B. N., & Ingram, M. (2017). Assessing community leadership: Understanding community capacity for health improvement. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, 23(4), 47-52.

Benitez, J. A., Creel, L., & Jennings, J. (2016). Kentucky's Medicaid expansion showing early promise on coverage and access to care. *Health Affairs*, 35, 528-534. doi:10.1377/hlthaff.2015.1294



Joseph Benitez, PhD



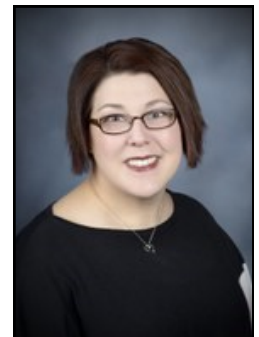
Liza Creel, PhD



Billie Castle, PhD



J'Aime Jennings, PhD



Monica Wendel, DrPH

POLICY AND RESEARCH BRIEFS

Buchino, S., Wendel, M., and Combs, R. (December 2016). Medicaid expansion in Kentucky. Retrieved from <https://louisville.edu/sphis/departments/commonwealth-institute-of-kentucky/docs-and-pdfs-1/medicaid-expansion-policy-brief>

Creel, L.M., Buchino, S. (October 2016). ACA implementation in Metro Louisville: Outreach, enrollment, and the remaining uninsured. Retrieved from <http://louisville.edu/sphis/departments/commonwealth-institute-of-kentucky/docs-and-pdfs-1/aca-implementation-louisville>

CIK SUPPORTED 8 GRADUATE ASSISTANTS DURING FISCAL YEAR 2017

We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Nida Ali** completed her PhD in May 2017. Her dissertation, *Evaluating the Impact of Statewide Policy Implementation on Interorganizational Collaboration at the Regional Level: An Application of Network Analysis*, was supported by Drs. Monica Wendel and Liza Creel and their Texas 1115(a) Medicaid Waiver Evaluation.



COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARS

Bringing together the expertise of researchers from multiple disciplines, CIK is broadening its capacity to address health disparities across the state and beyond.

Joseph Benitez, Ph.D., assistant professor, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

Craig Blakely, Ph.D., M.P.H., dean, SPHIS

Aishia Brown, Ph.D., postdoctoral research associate, Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky, SPHIS

Susan Buchino, Ph.D., OTR/L, assistant professor, Dept. of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS; assistant director, Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky, SPHIS

Priya Chandan, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor, Dept. Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS; Dept. of Neurosurgery, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, SOM

Ryan Combs, Ph.D., M.A., assistant professor, Dept. of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS

Liza M. Creel, Ph.D., M.P.H., assistant professor, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

Jean Edward, Ph.D., R.N., C.H.P.E., assistant professor, UK College of Medicine

Robert Esterhay, M.D., associate professor, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

José Fernandez, Ph.D., associate professor, Dept. of Economics, College of Business

Catherine Fosl, Ph.D., professor, Dept. of Women's and Gender Studies, College of Arts & Sciences; director, Anne Braden Institute; Co-Principal Investigator; Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research

Jeremy Gaskins, Ph.D., assistant professor, Dept. of Bioinformatics & Biostatistics, SPHIS

Martin Thomas Hall, Ph.D., M.S.S.W., assistant professor, Kent School of Social Work

Diane Harper, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., professor and chair, Dept. of Family and Geriatric Medicine, SOM

Vicki P. Hines-Martin, Ph.D., C.N.S., R.N., professor and director, Office of Health Disparities and Community Engagement, SOM; director, Community Outreach, HSC Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Lisa Hooper, Ph.D., C.A.S., M.A., professor and program coordinator, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Dept. of Counseling and Human Development, CEHD

J'Aime Jennings, Ph.D., M.P.A., assistant professor, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

V. Faye Jones, M.D., Ph.D., M.S.P.H., professor and assistant vice president for Health Affairs, Diversity initiatives, SOM

Christopher Johnson, Ph.D., professor and chair, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

Detra Johnson, Ph.D., M.Ed., M.S., assistant professor, Dept. of Educational Leadership, Evaluation, and Organizational Development, CEHD

Brandy Kelly Pryor, Ph.D., director, Center for Health Equity, LMPHW; assistant professor, Dept. of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS

Jelani Kerr, Ph.D., M.S.P.H., assistant professor, Dept. of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS

Kristi King, Ph.D., M.P.H., R.D.N., associate professor and program coordinator, Community Health, CEHD

Maiying Kong, Ph.D., associate professor, Dept. of Bioinformatics & Biostatistics, SPHIS

Jing Li, M.D., M.S., assistant professor, Special Title Series, Dept. of Internal Medicine, UK College of Medicine; administrative director, UK Center for Health Services Research; deputy director, Office of Value and Innovation in Healthcare Delivery (OIHD), UK HealthCare

Bert Little, Ph.D., professor, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARS

Gilbert Liu, M.D., medical director, Kentucky Dept. of Medicaid Services; associate professor, Dept. of Pediatrics, SOM;

Doug Lorenz, Ph.D., associate professor, Dept. of Bioinformatics & Biostatistics, SPHIS; director, the Statistical Consulting Center, SPHIS

W. Paul McKinney, M.D., associate dean for research; professor, Dept. of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS

John Myers, M.S.P.H., Ph.D., professor, Dept. of Pediatrics, CAHRDS, SOM

Sarah S. Moyer, M.D., M.P.H., Director, LMPHW; assistant professor, Dept. of Health Management & Systems Sciences, SPHIS

Elizabeth Munnich, Ph.D., assistant professor, Dept. of Economics, College of Business

Patrick Pössel, Dr. rer. Soc., Ph.D., professor, Dept. of Counseling and Human Development, CEHD

Matthew Ruther, Ph.D., director, Kentucky State Data Center; assistant professor, Dept. of Urban & Public Affairs, College of Arts & Sciences

Michael Bradley Schuck, Ed.D., associate professor, Dept. of Educational Leadership, Evaluation, and Organizational Development, CEHD

Michelle D. Stevenson, M.D., M.S., professor and chief, Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Dept. of Pediatrics, SOM

Janice Sullivan, M.D., professor, Dept. of Pediatrics, Pharmacology Research Unit, UofL; chief and medical director, Kosair Charities Pediatric Clinical Research Unit

Jeffrey Talbert, Ph.D., professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice and Science, UK College of Pharmacy; director of Institute for Pharm. Outcomes and Policy; associate director, UK Center for Clinical and Translational Science

Kristina M. Zierold, Ph.D., M.S., associate professor, Dept. of Epidemiology and Population Health, SPHIS

Sara Watson, M.D., assistant professor, Dept. of Pediatrics, SOM

Monica L. Wendel, Dr.P.H., M.A., associate dean for public health practice; associate professor, Dept. of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS

Deborah Winders Davis, Ph. D., professor, Dept. of Pediatrics, CAHRDS; SOM; director, Louisville Twin Study

Charles Reece Woods, Jr., M.D., M.S., professor and director, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Laboratory, Dept. of Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases, SOM; director, Child and Adolescent Health Research Support and Design

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

- ◆ 24 new Commonwealth Scholars
- ◆ 29 grant proposals submitted
- ◆ 10 new funded projects
- ◆ 17 projects are in progress
- ◆ 2 projects were completed
- ◆ 7 UofL schools represented

MEET THE CIK STAFF



Sherry Duffy, MS
Deputy Director



Susan Buchino, PhD, OTR/L
Assistant Director



Noémi Stanev, MBA, MPA
Senior Program Coordinator

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Craig Blakely, Dean
School of Public Health and Information Sciences
University of Louisville

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Health Management and Systems Sciences
School of Public Health and Information Sciences
University of Louisville

Jerry Johnson, Chief of Staff
to the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs
University of Louisville

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Kentucky Department of
Medicaid Services

Paul McKinney, Associate Dean
School of Public Health and Information Sciences
University of Louisville

Matt Ruther, Director
Kentucky State Data Center
University of Louisville

Tom Walton, System Director
Healthy Communities
KentuckyOne

Monica Wendel, Associate Dean
School of Public Health and Information Sciences
University of Louisville



CONTACT US

Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky

School of Public Health & Information Sciences
University of Louisville
485 E Gray St.
Louisville, KY 40202

Phone: 502-852-8087

Fax: 502-852-3291

E-mail: cik@louisville.edu

Website: louisville.edu/sphis

Link: [UL-Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky](http://louisville.edu/sphis)

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