We’re pleased to announce Moveable Feast as the winner of the second annual Henrietta Lacks Memorial Award. Named in honor of Henrietta Lacks, the award recognizes and supports Baltimore community organizations that are collaborating with Johns Hopkins University to improve the health and well-being of the city of Baltimore.

The award was presented on October 6, 2012 at the Annual Henrietta Lacks Memorial Lecture at Johns Hopkins University.

Moveable Feast is one of over a dozen established community-university collaborations from across the city nominated for the award of $15,000. The organization was selected by a panel of leaders from community and city organizations and Johns Hopkins as a model collaboration for creating and sustaining healthier communities.

Moveable Feast was nominated by the Hopkins-based bike team Fierce Chicks Rock. Fierce Chicks Rock and Moveable Feast have an eight year history of successful collaboration, which has resulted in significant funding for Moveable Feast’s food and nutrition services and a better continuum of care, namely for HIV/AIDS patients transitioning to outpatient care.

Founded in 1989, Moveable Feast puts nutritious food on the table for people in Maryland with AIDS, breast cancer and other severe illnesses. Executive Director Tom Bonderenko accepted the award for the organization. “What this award will enable us to do, is take the household name Moveable Feast that is well known on Osler 8 and the Moore Clinic and let that become the same thing on all the oncology floors at Hopkins, that way when people go home and are in need of delivered meals, nurses, social workers and doctors think Moveable Feast is the answer for those individuals. We nourish the soul with compassionate care. We harness the power of our community to feed people, fight disease and foster hope.”

Two finalists were also recognized at the event, the International Rescue Committee Baltimore’s collaboration with Johns Hopkins School of Nursing Birth Companions Program and Sisters Together and Reaching’s (STAR) partnership with The Moore Clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Henrietta Lacks was an East Baltimore resident and cervical cancer patient in the early 1950s at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, where cells taken from her tumor became the first “immortal” human cells grown in culture and led to breakthroughs in cell research related to cancer, AIDS, the effects of radiation and more. The Henrietta Lacks Memorial Award honors Mrs. Lacks and her family and is intended to be an enduring reminder of her contribution to medical science and to her community.

A video of the winning organization is available at: http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu/henriettalacks_award/

For more information on Moveable Feast please visit their website at: http://www.mfeast.org/
We have been very busy at the UHI since our last newsletter. The last six months were full of events and new faces.

**SPRING 2012**

A movie screening of “The Interrupters” was co-sponsored by the UHI and Baltimore City Health Department. The screening was attended by over 100 individuals on March 22. The movie tells the moving and surprising story of three “violence interrupters” in Chicago who with bravado, humility and even humor try to protect their communities from the violence they once employed. Outreach workers of the Baltimore based Safe Streets program lead a panel discussion after the screening.

In April, a group of East Baltimore youth involved in the Viewfinders program, used photography to tell the collective story of their East Baltimore community from their own perspective. The event “Live to Love Life” was hosted by the UHI, Johns Hopkins East Baltimore Community Affairs and Office of Community Engagement at the Maryland Institute College of Art. The artwork is available for viewing in northeast corridor off the Wolfe Street entrance to the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

In May, Elizabeth Toft joined the UHI as the Program Coordinator. Elizabeth joined the UHI after serving as the Health Educator for the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning. She worked throughout the Baltimore community providing environmental home interventions and asthma education. Her background also includes work in program management, marketing and communication.

**SUMMER 2012**

Hopkins in Baltimore: A Three Part Symposium was presented in July to help introduce Baltimore to new Public Health students. A three part symposium was designed to explore University Community relationships, Hopkins history in Baltimore and an overview of a few programs that are working to improve the health and well being of Baltimore.

2012 Small Grants recipients were selected in August. Please see the update article on page 3.

**FALL 2012**

Meron Solomon and Tara Powell joined the UHI in September to work with the Community Health Initiative.

Meron Solomon, the CHI Administrative Coordinator, has spent the past four years working at the Eastside YO! Center where she managed the onsite administration of all their research activities. In this capacity, she managed survey administration, worked on recruitment and screening of youth participants, and managed multiple data sources.

Tara Powell, the CHI Field Coordinator, has spent the past several years as a community-based organizer at the Baltimore Education Network. In that capacity, she developed customized plans to increase parent involvement in schools, managed fourteen volunteers at eight different City schools who worked to recruit parents, and established new and strengthened existing partnerships according to the needs identified in school improvement plans.

The Community Health Initiative (CHI) brought on AmeriCorps Members to serve as Data Collectors.

The Data Collectors went through over 40 hours of training and started the first data collection interviews on 10/3/12. Stay tuned for another CHI update in the Winter Newsletter.

There is and has been a lot going on at the UHI. Please check out the calendar of events on the back of the newsletter and read “Friends of the UHI” on page 3 to ensure you stay connected.
Friends of the UHI

The UHI serves as an interface between Johns Hopkins and the Baltimore community in which it resides. A big part of that interface is communication. Our weekly listserv announcements are a great way to share news about events, opportunities and updates. The announcements reach over 1700 people throughout the Baltimore area.

The weekly listserv message usually goes out on Tuesday mornings so it’s important to send your event or news details to urbanhealth@jhsph.edu as soon as possible. We can announce the event or news update one time or continue to post it for a few weeks. When providing details of an event please be sure to cover the What, When, Where and Who. The listserv is also a great way to announce conferences and funding opportunities.

Tell Us Your Story

The CHI Data Collectors are having conversations with East Baltimore residents to learn about what is positive and working in their communities.

If you live or work in 21202, 21205, 21213, 21224, or 21231 and may be interested in sharing your story and completing an interview with a CHI data collector please contact:

Meron Solomon
443-613-1317 or
msolomon.chi@gmail.com

A New Addition to the UHI Website

The History of Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in East Baltimore is a recent addition to the UHI website thanks to the tremendous effort of Karen Kruse Thomas, PhD. The information is divided into a timeline with details spanning from 1930-1970, and information from more recent decades will be added soon.

Karen, who works for JHSPH in External Affairs as a development writer and school historian, produced the timeline from the research she is doing for her history of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health currently titled Defining Public Health. The book provides a history of the school from 1940-2000. Her book, currently in manuscript form, has been an ongoing project since 2008.

Karen notes of an interesting discovery she found in her research: “Ideas we think are cutting edge in Public Health today have often been discovered, and rediscovered by others in the past. The History of Urban Health in Baltimore certainly underlines that.”

The Community Health Initiative recently used the timeline as a resource for the Asset Mapping Data Collectors training.

The timeline can be found at: http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu/jhmi_eastbaltimore/index.html.

2012 Small Grants Update

The Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute (UHI) Small Grants Program was launched in 2008. The program was formed to stimulate and advance community-university collaborations around research and program development related to the health and well-being of the residents of Baltimore. To date 67 Grants have been awarded to collaborations between community organizations and Johns Hopkins students or faculty that most successfully demonstrate the potential for advancing the health and well-being of the residents of Baltimore.

In total 14 grants were selected for funding this year. It was a competitive selection process as we received a total of 35 proposals. The selected grants range in focus from the creation of a Safety-Decision smart phone App to Understanding the Effect of Experiential Outdoor Education on Urban Youth. A complete list of this year’s awarded grants and past recipients is available at: http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu/our_work/smallgrants.html.

Due to feedback from our information sessions the 2013-2014 Small Grants Request for Proposal announcement will be released earlier in the year to give collaborating organizations more time to prepare.

http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu
The Urban Health Institute is now on Facebook!

Check out our page for more news, updates, photos, and videos. Comment and share!

The mission of the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute is to serve as a catalyst that brings together the resources of Johns Hopkins Institutions with the city of Baltimore, and especially East Baltimore, to improve the community's health and well-being.