



Winter 2013 — Vol. 6 Issue 1

From the desk of ...

Robert Wm. Blum, MD, MPH, PhD — UHI Director

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to our Winter 2013 Newsletter. It has been a busy and exciting few months here at the Urban Health Institute.

First, we launched the Asset Mapping Phase of the Community Health Initiative and have completed over 150 interviews (see our CHI article on page 2). We will use these data to develop new partnerships to help build on the tremendous human resources in our community.

Secondly, Johns Hopkins Hospital has initiated an unprecedented partnership with the East Baltimore community to improve health and reduce hospitalizations of those who live in our community with the most complex medical and social conditions. When in place, we will have a community—Hopkins network of care unparalleled in the country. The UHI is working to assure strong and consistent community engagement.

Likewise, we worked with a group of community and Hopkins partners to ensure that East Baltimore prepared a Health Empowerment Zone (HEZ) grant application to the State Department of Health. Unfortunately, the grant was not funded. The HEZ planning group is continuing its work to identify other possible funding sources.

We are excited about the community led initiative and are even more excited about the vision for this new collaboration.

One of the major activities during the past few months has been the production of a special report of the health of Baltimore's children and families. We anticipate the report to be available within the next few weeks and throughout the winter and spring we will be doing a series of briefs to focus on certain areas.

Finally, earlier this fall the Provost of Johns Hopkins University asked the UHI to lead the planning for the 2013 Colloquium on the Social Determinants of Health.

We are pleased to announce our 2nd annual symposium on April 23, 2013 and invite you to read more about the symposium on page 3.

As always, we welcome your thoughts, suggestions and input as, together, we work to improve the health and well-being of all who live and work in our community.

Warm regards,

The Urban Health Institute serves 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, and in so doing serve as a model of community-university collaboration regionally and nationally.

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COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE UPDATE

The Community Health Initiative (CHI) has made considerable strides since our last update in the beginning of October.

We have completed 163 Assets Mapping interviews with residents in five zip codes (21202, 05, 13, 24, 31). CHI accomplished this goal by being active in the community, establishing partnerships with libraries, community centers and local businesses. The data collectors were crucial in obtaining all of the interviews and brought invaluable experiences and community connections to this initiative.

Our next step will be to analyze the data from all of these completed interviews so that we can identify East Baltimore's assets in a scientific way. To do this, we will start to organize the data using a process called "coding." Coding is the way we pull out and organize all of the information that has been collected through the interviews. It involves systematically reading through each transcribed interview and labeling pieces of the text with different "codes."

The "codes" can be types of assets, but we might also find other themes that come up in the interviews. These

themes will help us make decisions together about the best ways to use East Baltimore's existing assets to improve the health of the whole community.

If you are interested in learning more about coding and being involved in the process, please contact Samantha Illangasekare at sillanga@jhsph.edu or 410-502-3284.

REFLECTING ON THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPACT

From the blog of Burness Health & Science Advocacy Institute

By Carol Schadelbauer

I felt more thankful this holiday season than in years past. This realization came to me during a media and advocacy training with Baltimore community leaders who are fighting for the rights, health and safety of children, mothers, and families in East Baltimore. I am thankful, because these advocates are having impact, and they have told us that our work with them has been part of what led them to success.

This was the second training – a 201 level course – with the same participants. My first question at the beginning of the day was, "How have you used what you learned in our previous training to have impact?"

To my surprise, one gentleman quickly spoke up and said that the lessons on the importance of message informed his letter to a funder – complete with a story and strong messaging – that

helped him win a \$50,000 grant to start up an after school athletic program for kids who have no one at home after school. Another participant said that after listening to our guest speaker – Sherrie Johnson, on-air television correspondent for WMAR-TV in Baltimore – she later called Sherrie and said, "I have a story for you."

Not only did Sherrie do a story, but several other media outlets did too.

The trainers and staff at Burness Communications feel incredibly lucky to be able to do what we love by supporting good people do the right thing. It is exhilarating to know that our goals are being met – to make sure we are having impact and finding solutions to the health and social justice issues in our world. We learned from our Urban Health Institute friends that we have lots of work to do in East Baltimore. And we learned from the horrific event in Newtown, Connecticut that there are many major problems here

and around the world yet unresolved, many policies to change, and many, many more important, clear messages to be shared with a variety of publics.

We look forward to doing all we can in 2013.

<http://www.burnesscommunications.com/institute-blog/2012/12/19/reflecting-importance-impact>

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

APRIL 23, 2013

Our Second annual symposium on April 23 will include Sir Michael Rudder from London and Dr. Anthony Iton from California as the two keynote speakers. Dr. Mindy Fullilove from Columbia University will participate as will a panel of philanthropic leaders from the Baltimore community. It will be held in Shriver Hall on the Homewood Campus.

Leading up to that event will be a series of programs including a couple recently held with Drs. Carlos Castillo and Peter Beilenson and the Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright.

Throughout the winter there will be additional activities and we envision a week of events in April to coincide with the April 23rd colloquium.

ACTION FOR EQUITY STUDENT POSTER SESSION

The Urban Health Institute announces the opportunity for students who collaborate with a community entity to highlight their work at the upcoming Social Determinants of Health Symposium planned for April 23. If selected, awards up to \$50 will be offered to cover poster production costs.

WHO

Students (individuals or groups) collaborating with a community entity (community based organization, government agency, etc.).

WHAT

Posters should highlight Baltimore-based programs or research related to the social determinants of health.

WHEN

Applications due by March 15, 2013.

For more information, to register or submit a proposal for the Poster session please visit:

http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu/Social_Determinants_of_Health/

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS OPPORTUNITY 2013 SMALL GRANTS FOR RESEARCH AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute (UHI) Small Grants Program was formed to stimulate and advance community-university collaborations around research and program development. Grants are awarded to partnerships that most successfully demonstrate the potential for advancing the health and well-being of the residents of Baltimore.

To download the complete RFP and apply please visit:
http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu/our_work/smallgrants.html

DATES TO REMEMBER

Date	Event	Location
Thursday, March 7, 2013 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Baltimore Book Club “The Healing” by Jon Odell	Amazing Grace Lutheran Church 2424 McElderry Street Baltimore, MD 21205 Lunch provided Please RSVP at : http://tinyurl.com/ah2doyo For more information please contact Catonya Lester at clester@jhsph.edu or 443-287-2708
Thursday, March 28, 2013 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Community Health Initiative All Partners Meeting	HUMANIM 1701 N. Gay Street Baltimore, MD 21213 For more information please contact Meron Solomon at mesolomo@jhsph.edu or 410-955-6669
Tuesday, April 23, 2013	The Second Symposium on the Social Determinants of Health	Shriver Hall-3400 North Charles Street #105 Baltimore, MD 21218 Registration needed- please visit website for more information and to register: http://urbanhealth.jhu.edu/Social_Determinants_of_Health/

Please visit our website home page” Highlight and News” section to view more information about events.
Or contact urbanhealth@jhsph.edu



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