

ARIZONA PRC

Championing Community Health Worker Effectiveness in Arizona and Beyond

1 Dissemination
 • APHA Snapshot: Visual highlights and concise abstract recaps from the 2023 APHA Meeting

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 • Campesinos Sin Fronteras secures funding for a Community-Led Health Equity Initiative, partnering w/ AzPRC

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 • Co-PI and CAB partner recognized for excellence
 • CSF Honoring the AzPRC with an award.

Arizona at APHA 2023: Capturing Excellence, Team Triumphs, and New Faces!

Inside: Wrapping up 2023 celebrating achievements, milestones, and the collective spirit that propels us forward.

Innovation & Impact

Explore the AzPRC's APHA 2023 presentations, celebrate excellence & evolution in team triumphs, and get ready to meet the new graduate student additions in the upcoming edition. Join us in capturing the essence of progress and vibrant success in this issue.



Awards Received

APHA CAB Photos



Editor's Letter

Arizona Prevention Research Center's Journey Through 2023



Dear Readers,

Reflecting on the dynamic landscape of 2023, I extend sincere thanks to our Community Action Board (CAB) partners—the solid foundation of the Arizona Prevention Research Center. Your steadfast support is the bedrock of our efforts, and we are truly grateful for your dedication.

This year, punctuated by significant milestones, culminated at the 2023 American Public Health Association Meeting, where the spotlight shone on presentations from AzPRC members and our esteemed Arizona community partners. It underscored the collaborative spirit that defines our collective work.

At the outset of 2023, the CAB meetings provided essential guidance, patience, and invaluable moral support, fortifying our research team as we tackled the challenges of the new Prevention Research Center (PRC) application process we underwent in the summer. Looking ahead, there's a sense of optimism as we anticipate the potential for another five-year funding cycle to sustain our ongoing efforts in research and community engagement.

In closing, I want to express our sincere appreciation for the continued efforts of all our partners. Your commitment propels progress, and we look ahead with optimism. Here's to the journey ahead, the potential for new horizons, and the hopeful anticipation of ongoing support enabling our shared vision to thrive.

Appreciatively,
Ramses Sepulveda
on Behalf of the
Arizona Prevention Research Center



APHA 2023: Creating the Healthiest Nation – Overcoming Social and Ethical Challenges

The American Public Health Association (APHA) concluded its latest annual meeting, held in Atlanta, Georgia, from November 12th to 15th. Embracing the theme 'Creating the Healthiest Nation: Overcoming Social and Ethical Challenges', this year's gathering marked a significant milestone as APHA celebrated its 151st Anniversary, bringing together dedicated individuals in the field of public health.

Our team enthusiastically embraced the opportunity for in-person collaboration at the conference, delving into a wealth of knowledge and engagement. The AzPRC community made a noteworthy contribution with 8 impactful presentations, encompassing the core research project, special interest projects, the COVID supplement project, and other collaborative efforts related to the diverse themes and initiatives we are involved in.

Beyond our direct contributions, numerous affiliated Community Action Board (CAB) members presented their efforts, further enriching the conference with insights relevant to our network and state. As we reflect on the vibrancy of APHA 2023, join us in exploring the multifaceted tapestry of insights and collaborations that unfolded during this annual gathering.

1. Patty Molina, Ana Celia Martinez & Admiral Rachel Levine
2. AzPRC and CAB members networking
3. WEST EJ Center partners
4. CAB Co-chairs Patty Molina & Maria Chavoya taking selfie



Community health worker integration in local county health departments in urban and rural settings

Authors: Rodrigo Valenzuela Cordova, The University of Arizona, Gloria Coronado, Yuma County Public Health Services District, Lee Itule-Klasen, Pima County Health Department, Ada Wilkinson-Lee, University of Arizona, Maia Ingram, The University of Arizona, Scott Carvajal, The University of Arizona



Abstract

Intro/Background: National funding streams are increasingly calling upon local health departments to integrate Community Health Workers (CHW) into programming. However, few studies have examined the facilitators and barriers to CHW integration at county health departments. Given the importance of organizational support for CHW core competencies and their unique role in the community, this participatory study examines the facilitators and barriers to CHW integration at urban and rural county health departments in Arizona.

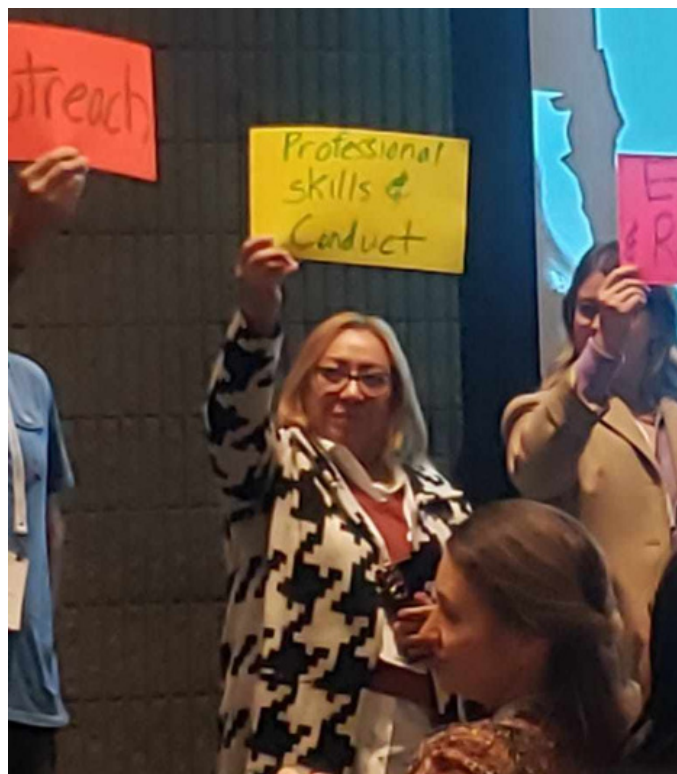
Methods: Key informant interviews were conducted with leadership, supervisors, and CHWs at urban and rural county health departments to explore strategies for integrating CHWs into local health department (LHD) infrastructure.

Results: Staff indicated facilitators and barriers to integrating CHWs at each local health department. CHWs are highly valued by LHD leadership, but knowledge of their core roles and practices varied. CHW integration was facilitated by the desire of LHDs to work more closely with community members. Barriers to integration included staff turnover, competing priorities, HR hiring guidelines, and job eligibility requirements (ie high school diploma, immigration status). There were key similarities and differences between sites.

Conclusion: Additional support is needed to integrate CHWs at local health departments, both in urban and rural settings.

CHW training program approval in Arizona: Building capacity for effective core competency training

Authors: Kathryn Tucker, Arizona Prevention Research Center Participatory Evaluation Institute, Floribella Redondo-Martinez, Arizona Community Health Worker Association, Carin Watts, Arizona Department of Health Services, Maia Ingram, The University of Arizona, Department of Health Promotion Sciences, Jill De Zapien, The University of Arizona



Abstract

The Arizona Community Health Workers Association (AzCHOW) developed and implements the CHW Training Program Approval process, which ensures that CHW training is based in the Core Competencies and prepares a CHW for their unique role. The process represented a systems-change approach to CHW workforce development that is possible because of the strong and organized network of CHW supporters in the state. The Arizona CHW Workforce Coalition, a network of CHW organizations and stakeholders dedicated to supporting the CHW workforce, recognized the value of supporting diverse CHW employers in implementing their own CHW trainings and ensuring that programs are developed and maintained by CHWs themselves. Organizations submit program approval applications and a small review committee, which includes CHWs and stakeholders with significant experience with the workforce, assess alignment with core competencies and training best practices. For example, the review committee ensures that CHWs are engaged in the training development and delivery, that organizational leadership understands and appreciates the importance of the CHW workforce, and that the training content and delivery will prepare CHWs to understand and express their professional identity. In November 2022, when the Voluntary Certification application opened in Arizona, it was recognized by the ADHS Special Licensing Office as the process to approve training programs to meet the eligibility requirements. In this session, we will describe the development and history of Training Program Approval, review the process and support available for organizations, and discuss lessons learned, successes and challenges to sustain and institutionalize the Training Program Approval Process.

Evaluation of the Arizona vaccine confidence network (AzVCN) and addressing structural barriers of COVID-19 vaccination

Authors: Tomas Nuno, Natalie Dillingham, Breanne Harvey, Erika Rascon, Lidia Azurdia Sierra, Ramses Sepulveda, Refugio Sepulveda, Ada Wilkinson-Lee, Scott Carvajal, Maia Ingram - University of Arizona



Abstract

Background: The purpose of the Arizona Vaccine Confidence Network (AzVCN) was to target COVID-19 vaccine knowledge and barriers faced by underserved communities in the Arizona-Mexico border region.

Objective: To facilitate the identification of knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs of COVID-19 vaccines and demonstrate effective strategies to implement COVID-19 vaccinations.

Methods: Listening sessions with community partners, key informants, and stakeholders were conducted. Surveys were administered by trained staff and students to patients of our Mobile Health Unit collaborator. Formative, process, and outcome evaluations were completed by the AzVCN project team.

Results: Several structural barriers and facilitators were identified by our community partners. The top three barriers were: Misinformation, Resources for Sustainability, and Time. The top three facilitators: Bilingual staff, Targeted Messaging, and Collaborative Partnerships. Key findings of the survey included 82% saying they would be extremely likely to recommend getting a COVID-19 vaccine to others and 75% saying it was very easy to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Top motivators for getting a vaccine were 73% saying to protect their health and 75% saying to protect health of family/friends. Sixty percent said they very much trust public health agencies that recommend getting a COVID-19 vaccine, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was cited as being the most trusted source of information about COVID-19 vaccines (75%), followed by 31% for state and local health departments, and 24% for family and friends.

Conclusion: Addressing the structural barriers of COVID-19 vaccination can have a major impact on vaccination knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and uptake.

Developing and sustaining an effective CBPR partnership with community partners from the community partner perspective

Authors: Ramses Sepulveda - Arizona Prevention Research Center, Patty Molina - Mariposa Community Health Center, Maia Ingram - Arizona Prevention Research Center, Maria Velasco-El Rio Community Health Center, Gloria Coronado - Yuma County Public Health Services District, Jill De Zapien - The University of Arizona, Floribella Redondo-Martinez - Arizona Community Health Worker Association



Abstract

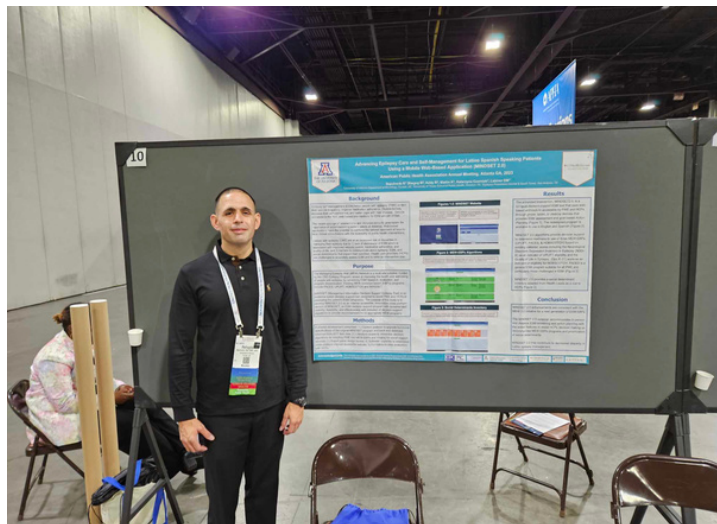
Issue: Participatory research partnerships require considerable discussion and planning to meet the needs of every party involved. The shared foundation of a CBPR definition, shared knowledge, power, effective communication, resource sharing, capacity, and long-term implications surrounding a research project are often seen through differing lens by researchers and partnering community organizations.

Description: The Arizona Prevention Research Center has been conducting CBPR projects for over 20 years. The Community Action Board that guides research is comprised of various community partners, and together they developed two infographics to address key discussion topics that should occur when researchers approach new community partners. One infographic addresses key questions for community organizations when they are approached by a researcher, while the second is designed for researcher to increase their sensitivity to the burdens of research. Each infographic identifies key topics of discussion that should take place when forming a CBPR partnership. The researcher's infographic, as well as the community partner's are accompanied by an extended guide, further explaining the key principles of a successful partnership.

Lessons-learned: When exploring the possibility of engaging in a CBPR partnership both researchers and community partners encounter confusion, miscommunication and a sense of self-interest that could deter or pose barriers in the development of CBPR partnerships. Often both parties overlook uncomfortable topics of time, resource, and capacity, in an effort to work together on an identified shared issue. Empowering communities with the right information can improve the CBPR process and foster trust between researchers and future project proposals.

Advancing epilepsy care and self-management for Latino spanish speaking patients through the use of a mobile web-based application (MINDSET 2.0)

Authors: Refugio Sepulveda, David Labiner, Ramses Sepulveda,-The University of Arizona
Ross Shegog, Katarzyna Czerniak, Alejandra Garcia Quintana, Robert Addy, Kimberly Martin-
University of Texas Health Science Center



Abstract

Background: Latinos with epilepsy (LWE) are at risk of disparities in managing their epilepsy due to 1) lack of awareness of epilepsy self-management (ESM) which is associated with improved seizure control, medication adherence, and quality-of-life, and 2) barriers to communicate about epilepsy, ESM, and social determinants that impact their condition. Health care providers (HCPs) are challenged to accurately assess LWE ESM and tailor an intervention plan. Increasing telemedicine consults underscore the importance of digital platforms in addressing this challenge.

Purpose: To enhance Management Information Decision Support Epilepsy Tool (MINDSET), an online bilingual decision support for ESM to provide HCPs assessment (based on LWE self-report) and tailored recommendations for evidence-based ESM interventions for their LWE patients.

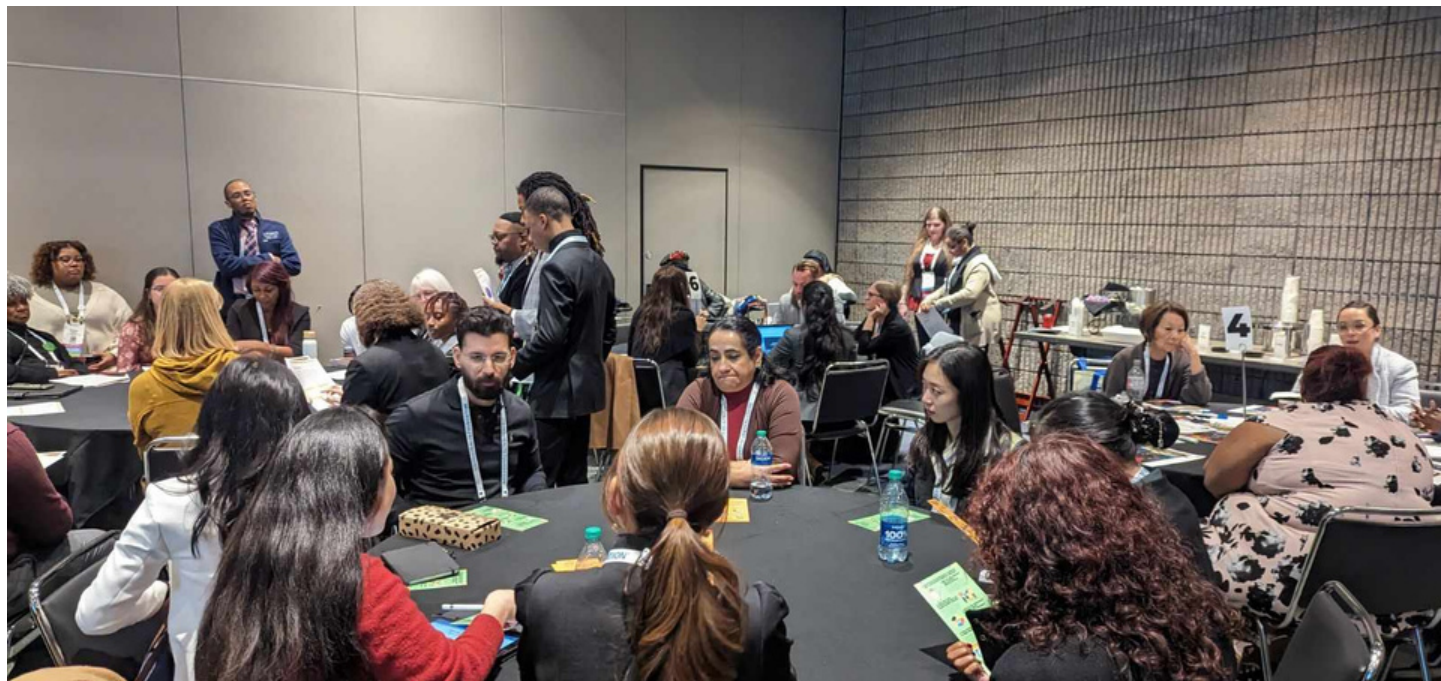
Methods: A phased development comprised: 1) content analysis to upgrade decision algorithms; 2) expert panel review; 3) manual and software upgrades; and 4) formative in-clinic evaluation with HCPs.

Results: The enhanced intervention, MINDSET 2.0, is web-based for increased accessibility, adds tailored recommendations to evidence-based CDC Managing Epilepsy Well programs (PACES, UPLIFT, HOBSCOTCH) to a pre-existing ESM patient Action Plan based on branched chain logic informed by the ESM scale, the QoLIE-10, the QoLIE-31 cognitive subscale, and the NDDI-E depression scale. Social determinant needs are also added based on the Health Leader survey. HCPs rating MINDSET 2.0 positively and significant in increasing clinic encounter thoroughness and communication ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: MINDSET 2.0 may contribute to decreased disparity in Latino epilepsy management. Further feasibility testing with LWEs and their HCPs is indicated.

The health impact of latinx faith-based organizations along the US-Mexico border: Understanding behaviors and adherence to the influenza vaccine following covid-19

Authors: Ramses Sepulveda & Refugio Sepulveda, The University of Arizona



Abstract

ISSUE: Mexican-origin adults living near the U.S.-Mexico border experience a unique and pervasive communication ecology regarding the SARS-CoV-2 virus (Coronavirus), including faith-based messaging, conflicting best health practices from the US and Mexico, and politically influenced vaccine-misinformation campaigns, potentially contributing to the behaviors and adherence to the Covid-19 vaccine and the seasonal influenza vaccine.

DESCRIPTION: Researchers from the Arizona Prevention Research Center at the University of Arizona developed an informal communication network at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic to aid the largest faith-based organization of southern Arizona, the Catholic Diocese of Tucson, adhere to the various counties social distancing protocols. This faith-based organization primarily serves a Latinx transnational community, with many overlapping policy arenas. The researcher's leveraged their own experience as practicing Catholics, and Knights of Columbus to bridge the trust gap and create communication pathways to aid church leadership in understanding the latest pandemic protocols. The network continued to meet despite the decrease in pandemic-related cases, continuing public health efforts and focusing on the seasonal influenza vaccine. The continued work led to the creation of an ad hoc health taskforce by the faith-based organization, building on the original efforts made by the network.

LESSONS LEARNED: Mexican-origin communities along the US-Mexico border are uniquely burdened by conflicting health messaging, despite these issues there is an opportunity to work with faith-based organizations to combat health misinformation post Covid-19.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Public health practitioners have the ability to reach underserved and marginalized communities by building rapport with the faith-based organization's that serve them.

Participatory evaluation: A methodology for strong partnerships, mutual learning, and effective program evaluation

Authors: Kathryn Tucker, Maia Ingram, Rodrigo Valenzuela Cordova, Georgia Weiss-Elliott, The University of Arizona, Prevention Research Center, Participatory Evaluation Institute



Abstract

The Arizona Prevention Research Center (AzPRC) Participatory Evaluation Institute (PEI) at the University of Arizona College of Public Health partners with organizations in Southern Arizona to evaluate public health programs using a participatory evaluation methodology. Participatory evaluation is a mutual learning process which relies on partner expertise to define and refine program outcomes and methods, increasing the likelihood that evaluation findings are relevant to the priorities of the program and integrated into ongoing program planning. In this session, we will discuss how the PEI built and maintains our principles of participatory evaluation and how these principles guide our work with community partners. We will provide examples of successes, challenges and lessons learned from over two decades of work in participatory evaluation. We will also explore how the participatory evaluation methodology builds strong partnerships that contribute to efforts beyond individual projects; for example, we provide technical assistance and connections between organizations and support our partners through programmatic challenges and changes. Finally, we will share perspectives from our community partners about participatory evaluation and our partnerships.

Transborder, and binational public health collaborative along the US-Mexico border: La red binacional de Arizona-sonora

Authors: Ramses Sepulveda & Jill DeZapien- The University of Arizona, Arizona Prevention Research Center Brenda Sanchez - Southeast Arizona Health Education Center Violeta Dominguez - Arizona Border Rights Foundation Brenda Sanchez - Southeast Arizona Health Education Center



Abstract

Context: Cross-border health information sharing and health service collaborations are an important aspect of life in border regions. Understanding use of health services and public health issues in settings of high cross-border mobility, such as at the United States-Mexico border region, is critical for national health systems planning.

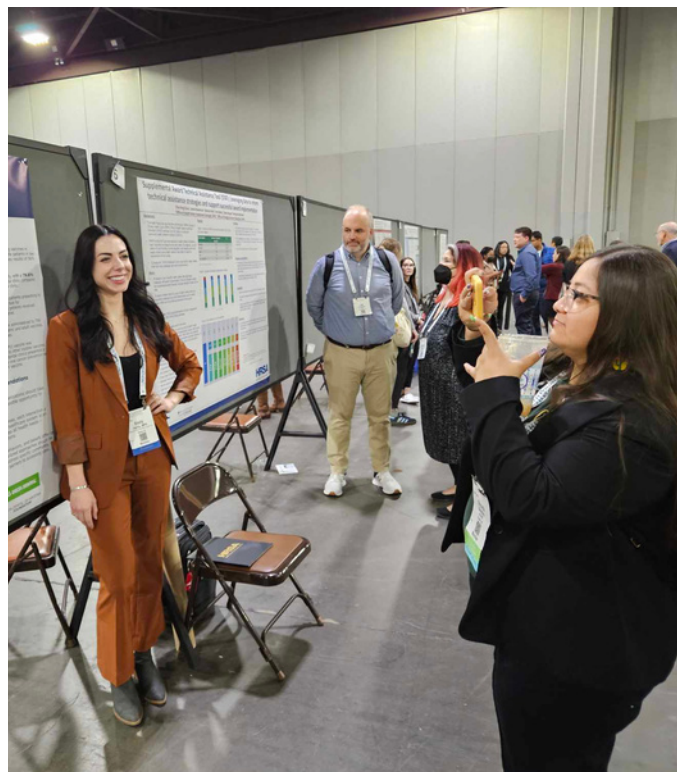
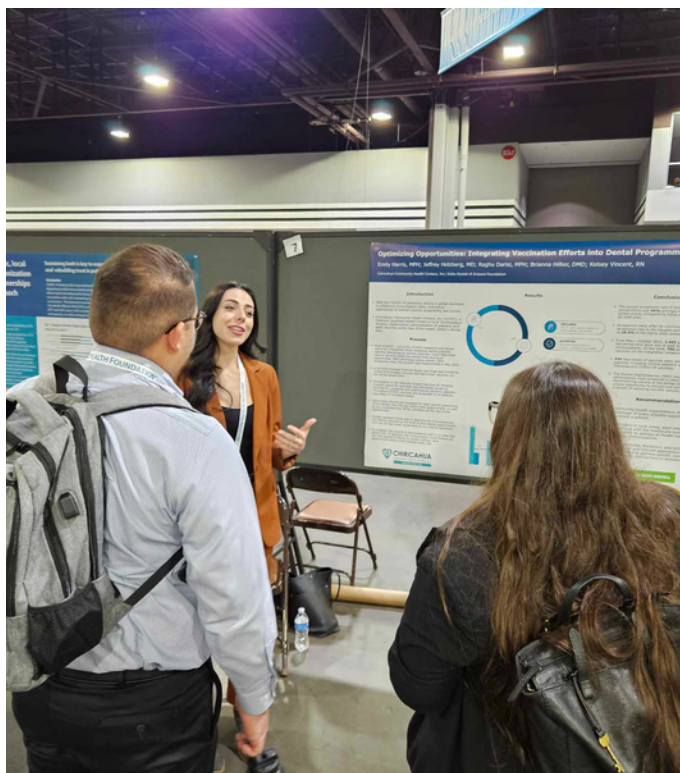
Methods: The College of Public Health at the University of Arizona has coordinated a binational Sonora (Mexico) -Arizona network of researchers, providers, educators, Community Health Workers, and activists to provide information regarding ongoing research, outreach and education to improve the quality of life in the border region. The “Binational Network for Healthy Communities in the Sonora-Arizona Border Region” holds biannual conferences/symposiums, gatherings over 110 formal members from both sides of the US-Mexico border. The membership comprised primarily of Mexican-origin members comes together to create collaboration opportunities as well as to share funding opportunities, health service availabilities, and region-specific issues affecting social determinants of health.

Results: Since its creation in 2014, the Binational Network has grown in participation, reaching an all-time high of 100+ participants. The year 2020, at the height of the pandemic, membership continued to grow despite the temporary switch to a virtual (zoom) conference setting. The interest of water-rights, vaccine availability, migrant health, among other issues has strengthened the network and led to formalized partnerships between the University of Arizona, El Colegio De Sonora (Sonora University Mexico, and the Southeast Arizona Health Education Center (SEAHEC). As a result the sponsoring Arizona Prevention Research Center has committed to providing the network’s virtual infrastructure, creating a highly sought after repository of conference sessions and presentations by network members.

Conclusion and discussion: The interest and growth in the binational network points to the growing health needs of the Mexican border region. Farmworker health, migrant health, rural health, and conflicting health policies and availabilities between countries presents a unique opportunity for developing strategies to facilitate and increase access to health services along the US-Mexico border.

Optimizing opportunities: Integrating vaccination efforts into dental programming

Authors: Emily Harris, Jeffrey Holzberg, Raghu Darisi, Brianna Hillier, Kelsey Vincent - Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc



Abstract

With the COVID-19 pandemic driving a global decrease in childhood immunization rates, innovative approaches to ensure vaccine accessibility is crucial. Implementation of vaccine administration into dental programming was an approach applied at Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc (CCHCI) – the only Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) located in rural Cochise County, Arizona.

CCHCI's vaccine and dental integration program aims to implement the administration of pediatric and adult vaccines within two of the health center's dental sites. A full-time nurse was hired with the aim of assessing eligibility for immunizations amongst the FQHC's dental patients and administering on-site all within the timeframe of the dental appointment. CCHCI's Research Team conducted a feasibility study to assess potential demand. A total of 642 adult patients and 628 parents/caregivers of pediatric patients were surveyed. For adult patients and pediatric patients, survey results showed a 61.8% and 50.2% rate of acceptance amongst participants, respectively. With promising survey results, CCHCI moved forward with a pilot program focusing on adult patient populations at one dental site.

Data from the pilot implemented 8/23/22 through 1/30/23 showed 233 patients attending dental appointments eligible for one or more vaccine. 124 vaccines were administered during these dental appointments, with an overall acceptance rate amongst eligible adult patients at 47.2%. Given preliminary data, CCHCI will move forward with implementing all-age immunizations into dental programming in two sites. CCHCI's participation in the federally funded Vaccines for Children program will allow equitable and affordable access to vaccines for pediatric patients, regardless of insurance status.

APHA 2023: Candid Moments Gallery



Campesinos Sin Fronteras is awarded \$1.125M from the National Institute of Health Common Fund



Campesinos Sin Fronteras (CSF) has secured a significant \$1.125M award from the National Institute of Health Common Fund for their Community-Led, Health Equity Structural Intervention Initiative (CHESI). This grassroots non-profit, renowned for advocating health equity for migrant farmworkers, anticipates a total award of \$6 million over five years. CSF's project, funded by NIH, addresses structural causes of health disparities through the Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS) Program. Executive Director Emma Torres, MSW, expressed gratitude for NIH's recognition of the farmworker community's vital role and commitment to a culturally competent research approach. CSF will collaborate with stakeholders, including the University of Arizona Prevention Research Center (AzPRC), their primary research partner. AzPRC Co-Director Maia Ingram will lead the UA team in this effort, aiming to achieve substantive improvement in the overall health and well-being of farmworkers.

Campesinos Sin Fronteras' Board President, Mrs. Olivia Zepeda, enthusiastically commended the CSF team for their tireless efforts and persistence, emphasizing the ongoing work for farmworkers. The AzPRC, excited about supporting CSF, looks forward to addressing structural problems impacting the health of the farmworker community. This collaboration aims to provide valuable lessons on measuring the impact of such interventions on health equity.

For further details, including the NIH News Release, visit:

The [NIH official announcement here](#) or visit www.campesinossinfronteras.com

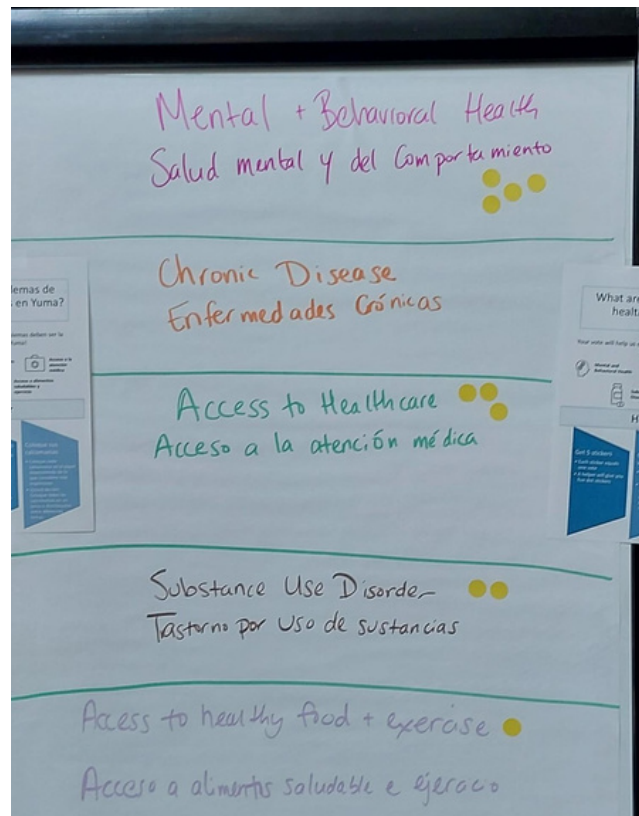


Empowering Change: Yuma's Insightful Gallery Walks Illuminate Community Health Priorities

Yuma County recently hosted engaging Gallery Walk events at Foothills, San Luis, Somerton, Wellton Libraries, and the Yuma County Public Health Services District, with a total of 129 participants. Over the past year, the Prevention Research Center Participatory Evaluation Institute (PEI) collaborated with the Yuma County Public Health Services District on its inaugural Community Health Assessment.

The Gallery Walk, a participatory data collection method, empowered participants to prioritize health issues and share their perspectives. These events were strategically set up in public spaces, such as Yuma County Public Libraries and the Yuma County Public Health Services District building, to encourage community engagement. Information about Gallery Walks was widely disseminated through listservs and social media, attracting diverse participants, including members of the general public.

The self-paced activity featured a voting component with five stickers, each representing a "vote" for



participants to allocate among the top five priority health areas. Additionally, six stations corresponding to the identified health priorities and social determinants of health allowed participants to explore issues, learn about data collection results, and share their experiences and input on flipchart paper. The stations covered a range of health topics, fostering informative conversations between staff members and participants.

To enhance demographic understanding, participants were invited to complete an optional demographic form, contributing valuable insights into the diverse makeup of those engaging in the activity. The collaborative effort between the PEI and the Yuma County Public Health Services District exemplifies a community-driven approach to understanding and addressing local health priorities.

November 2023, Somerton Arizona

Campesinos Sin Fronteras hosts first gala since the pandemic in Somerton

Campesinos Sin Fronteras (CSF) celebrated its first gala post-COVID-19 this November in Somerton, held at the Cocopah Casino and Resort, a shift from its usual venue at the San Luis community center.

This year's gala bestowed honors upon remarkable entities making impactful contributions. Below is a list of award names and recipients :

1. **RAICES DEL DESIERTO / DESERT ROOTS:** Recognizing the Arizona Prevention Research Center team located at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, University of Arizona.
2. **LOS COMPAÑEROS / THE PARTNERS:** Extending appreciation to the Arizona Department of Agriculture.
3. **CASITA DIGNA / DIGNIFIED HOUSING:** Acknowledging the United States Department of Agriculture/Rural Development.
4. **LAS MADRUGADORAS / THE EARLY RISERS:** Saluting the Yuma County Department of Economic Security.
5. **EL SEMBRADOR / THE SOWER:** Honoring THE GROWERS COMPANY, Inc., with special mention of Sonny Rodriguez, President & CEO.



The gala, adorned with a blessing and traditional honor songs performed by Cocopah tribal members, set the stage for a memorable evening. The AzPRC embraced a profound sense of pride and gratitude for the honor alongside these esteemed awardees. Expressing our deep satisfaction with the collaborative work with CSF, the AzPRC sees this recognition as a testament to our enduring commitment to public health partnerships around the border. The award was received by AzPRC Co-Directors Scott Carvajal and Maia Ingram, on behalf of the entire center staff. The event's infusion of cultural richness and tradition further heightened the sense of accomplishment and shared purpose among all gala attendees.



Scott Carvajal & Maia Ingram receiving the Desert Roots award from Emma Torres

Fall 2023, University of Arizona

Recognizing Achievement: Dr. Ada Wilkinson-Lee Receives Professional Achievement Award

Dr. Ada Wilkinson-Lee, Co-Principal Investigator of the AzPRC, was honored with the prestigious Professional Achievement Award by the Norton School Council of Alumni. This distinguished award is presented to individuals who have showcased superior performance in their field of endeavor and have made significant contributions to the well-being of families and consumer sciences. Dr. Wilkinson-Lee's exceptional achievements align seamlessly with the award's criteria, highlighting her outstanding accomplishments and positive impact in the field.

This recognition is a testament to Dr. Wilkinson-Lee's dedication and significant contributions to family and consumer sciences, with her exemplary work stretching over 15 years since her graduation. Notably, Dr. Wilkinson-Lee's affiliation with the University of Arizona is further celebrated, as the award preferences individuals who have received a degree from the university in family and consumer sciences.

The AzPRC extends heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Ada Wilkinson-Lee for this well-deserved honor, applauding her commitment to advancing the well-being of families and consumer sciences. Her recognition by the Norton School Council of Alumni underscores the invaluable expertise and leadership she brings to the AzPRC, reflecting the center's commitment to excellence in public health research and partnerships.

1. Dr. Ada Wilkinson-Lee showcasing her award.
2. Dr. Ada Wilkinson-Lee and fellow recipients Drs. Totenhagen, Nelson, Pallock.
3. Ceremony pictures on UArizona's main campus



Empowering Change: Emma Torres Inducted into Arizona Women's Hall of Fame

Campesinos Sin Fronteras joyously commemorates the induction of its dedicated CEO, Emma Torres, into the esteemed Arizona Women's Hall of Fame. The ceremony, held on October 26, 2023, at the AZ Heritage Center in Papago Park, Tempe, AZ, marked a historic moment in recognizing women whose profound impact has shaped the state's narrative.

Emma Torres, distinguished for her unwavering commitment to advancing health equity for migrant and seasonal farmworkers, stands proudly among the 2023 inductees. Her journey reflects a rich history of Campesinos Sin Fronteras, a grassroots organization that tirelessly advocates for health equity for farmworkers and low-income families.

As a crucial figure within Campesinos Sin Fronteras, Emma Torres personifies the organization's mission of fostering a healthier and more equitable community. The ceremony resonated with individuals inspired by Torres' transformative influence and her dedication to social change.

Acknowledging Emma Torres as a 'Living Legacy inductee' extends beyond recognizing individual accomplishments; it's a celebration of the resilience and strength embodied by women shaping Arizona's history. In joining the prestigious ranks of the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame, Emma Torres' induction stands as a powerful inspiration, contributing to the ongoing narrative of empowerment and positive change for generations to come.



National Rural Health Day

Celebrating the **Power of Rural!**®



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

AzPRC News

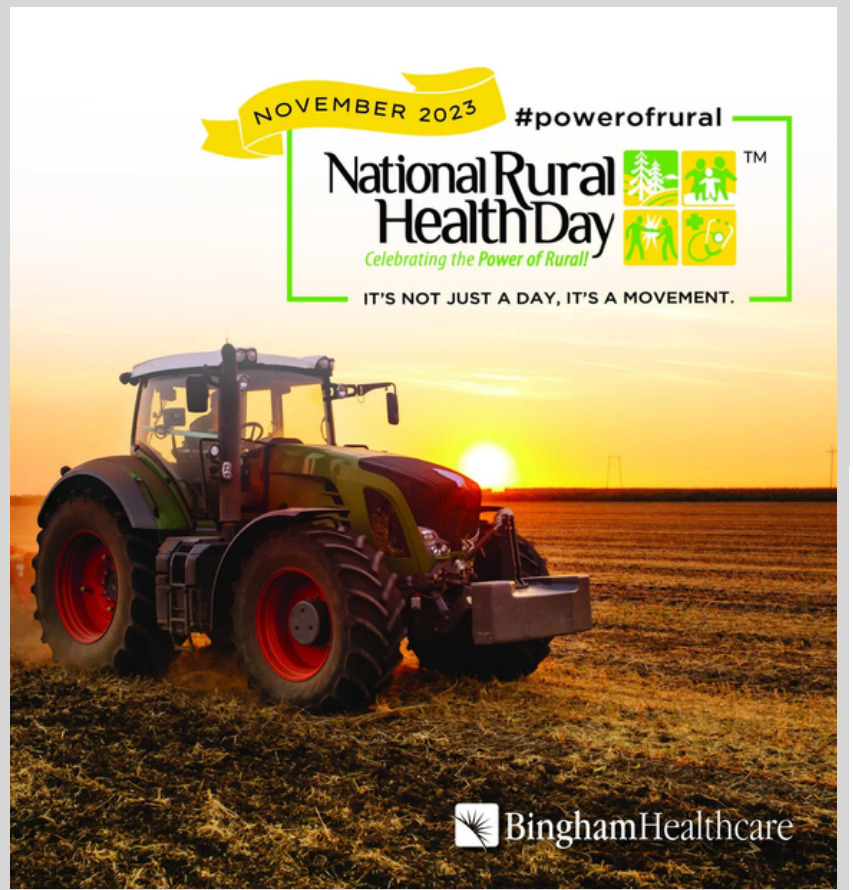
Meet Our Rising Stars: Spotlight on Arizona PRC's newest faces: Graduate Student Assistants in the Upcoming Newsletter

Tune in to the upcoming Arizona PRC newsletter for exclusive snapshots of our three talented graduate student assistants. Get a sneak peek into their roles— one is spearheading the development of an undergraduate internship program, paving the way for the next generation of public health professionals. Another is integral to our ambitious CHW enumeration project, requiring innovative thinking and CHW engagement. The third, joining us through a fellowship, will play a crucial role in our grant sunseting process, contributing to new initiatives with fresh perspectives. Don't miss the chance to learn more about these dynamic individuals and their impactful contributions to our team's mission.

Coalition and Network update:

In our forthcoming newsletter, we're not only showcasing the talents of our talented graduate student assistants but also providing a update to upcoming events. Stay tuned for exclusive insights into pivotal meetings for our networks and coalitions, with a special focus on the dynamic activities of the CHW Workforce Coalition and the Binational Network of the Az-Sonora region.

For questions regarding the coalition and network email: Ramses@arizona.edu



Social Media

Every month the AzPRC participates in the monthly social media campaigns in collaboration with the CDC. The following efforts were highlighted across our social media sites and all the participating PRC's in the communication committee. Following are the campaigns for November & December.

November: National Rural Health Day Recap

This November, the AzPRC proudly celebrated National Rural Health Day on November 16th! We explored the Rural Health Day toolkit and participated in featured social media events as part of the nationwide observance. Thank you for joining the AzPRC as we amplified the voices and stories that make a difference in rural health.

December: Spotlight the Pathway to Practice (P2P) Resource Center

The Pathway to Practice (P2P) Resource Center, a valuable online platform featuring tools and resources developed by CDC-funded Prevention Research Centers (PRCs). This one-stop website offers easy navigation, robust search functions, and verified resources to support community organizations, public health practitioners, researchers, and evaluators. The P2P Resource Center centralizes evidence-based strategies, interventions, and supporting materials, promoting the dissemination and implementation of best practices in community public health programs. By offering a wide range of health topics and populations, this resource empowers users to enhance population health impact and address chronic disease prevention priorities while advancing health equity.

Community Action Board

The Community *Action* Board of the AzPRC plays a vital role in guiding the center's activities and initiatives. This esteemed board convenes quarterly to engage in meaningful discussions about the center, its various projects, and public health efforts, particularly focusing on the US-Mexico border region, rural communities, and tribal populations. Comprising of approximately 25 dedicated members, the board's overarching theme centers around championing the community health worker (CHW) workforce. These passionate individuals collaborate to enhance the impact and effectiveness of CHWs in addressing health disparities and promoting equitable health outcomes. For further details and to learn more about the Arizona Prevention Research Center, please visit azprc.arizona.edu.

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Campeños Sin Fronteras

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University of Arizona's Participatory Evaluation Institute

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Land Acknowledgement CAB adaptation :

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference. We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. The native communities around Tucson number over 30,000 strong and are descended from many tribes and native communities. We are gathered on the ancestral unoccupied land of the Tohono O'odham, Pascua Yaqui and many more who may call this place home. We pay respects to the elders past and present, please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration and settlement that bring us together here today.