Mission

The Center for Community Health Development (CCHD) uses a team science approach and works collaboratively with communities and other partners to develop, evaluate, translate, apply, and disseminate effective strategies to improve population health and reduce health disparities.

History & Success

The Center for Community Health Development was originally established in 2001 as the Community Health Development Program (CHDP) at the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Public Health (SPH). At this time, the program was created to provide SPH with the infrastructure to foster research, service, and education dedicated to improving population health status. The early success of the program provided a strong foundation for securing $11 million from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as one of 37 Prevention Research Centers. As a result of this achievement, the program received Center approval from the Texas A&M Board of Regents and was recognized as the Center for Community Health Development.

In addition to being a PRC from 2004-2014, the Center has secured over 60 grants and contracts totaling over $33 million. Some of CCHD’s prominent grant funding agencies include the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Office of Rural Public Health, Health Resources and Services Administration, the American Legacy Foundation, and the National Institutes of Health. Most recently, the Center was awarded $7.5 million from the Office of Adolescent Health to support and evaluate innovative teen pregnancy prevention programs across the nation.

By leveraging resources from Center projects, the Center has also established two components that aid the Center in achieving its mission. CCHD’s National Community Health Worker Training Center seeks to train Community Health Workers (CHWs) from across the country to build healthier communities. In 2010, the training center received certification as a Department of State Health Services (DSHS) training program, making it a state-certified CHW and CHW Instructor training center.

The Telehealth Counseling Clinic (TCC) evolved from an ongoing partnership between CCHD and the Texas A&M Department of Educational Psychology. TCC aims to increase access to mental health services for underserved and low-income residents throughout the Brazos Valley. The clinic does so by providing telehealth counseling services via videoconferencing technology to remote clinics located in the counties of Leon, Madison, Washington, Grimes and Brazos.

Key Projects

Creating an Integrated Health Outreach System in Isolated Colonia Residents in Hidalgo County Texas: Phases I and II


Community Access Program: Coordinating Health Services for Rural Residents

Steps to a Healthier San Antonio

The Program for Rural and Minority Health Disparities Research

Prevention Research Center 2004-2014

Evaluation of the Legacy Partnership for Healthier Communities

Evaluation of a Minority Youth Tobacco Elimination Project

Expanding Tele-Mental Health Services throughout the Brazos Valley

American Heart Association: ANCHOR Partnership Programs

Tobacco Quit Line Evaluation and Outreach Assistance

Innovative Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs

Healthy Texas Babies Coalition Evaluation

Contact CCHD

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