



**Illinois Prevention  
Research Center**

# **The Prevention Research Centers Program**

**Illinois Prevention Research Center**  
*Supporting Policy and Environmental Change*

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**Director, Illinois Prevention Research Center**

**School of Public Health**

**University of Illinois at Chicago**

**SPH Executive Advisory Board Meeting**

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

# Our Key CDC Contacts

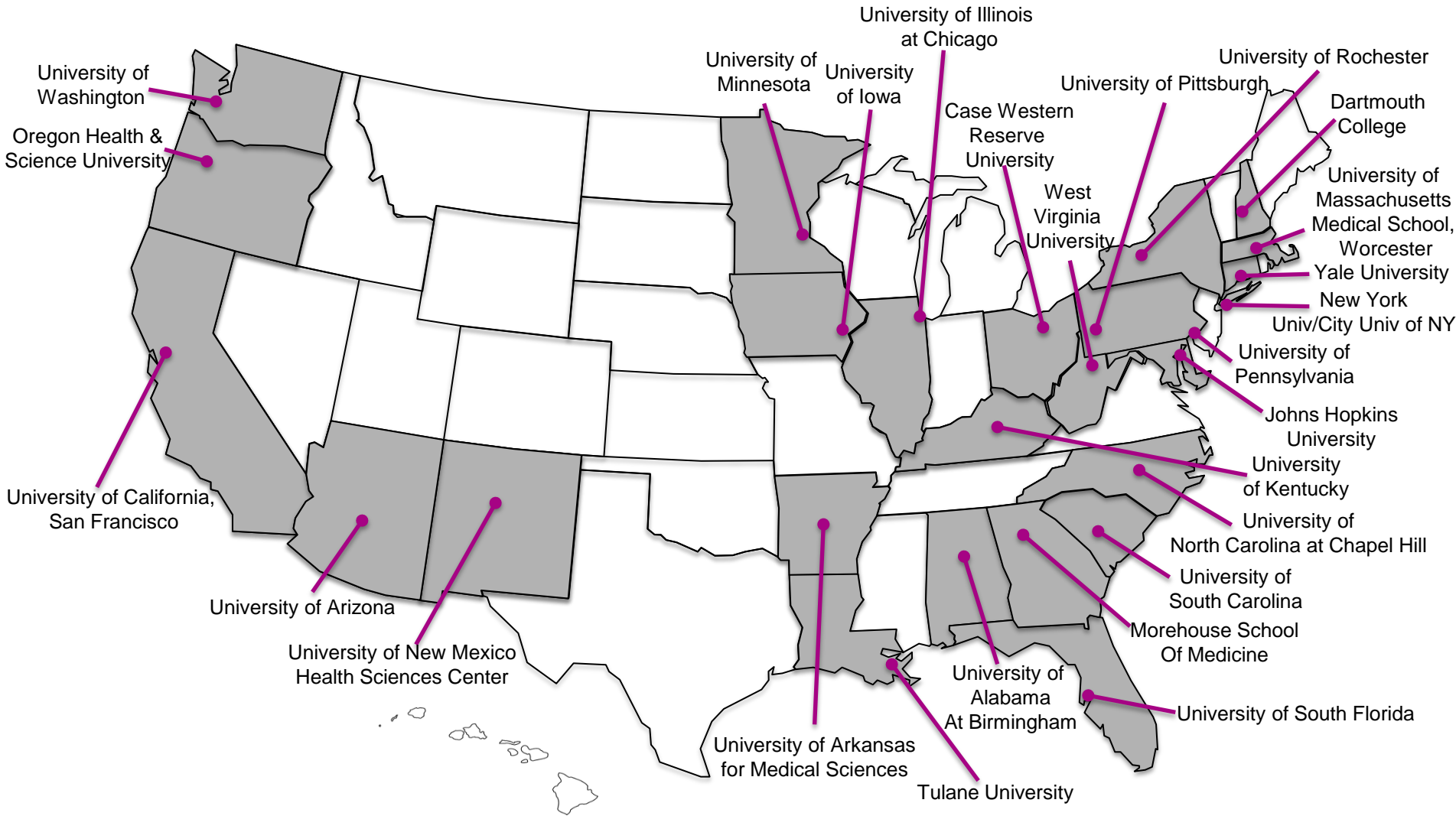
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**CAPT, US Public Health Service**  
**Director, PRC Program**  
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**Division of Population Health | NCCDPHP**

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# Prevention Research Centers 2014-2019



# Who are the PRCs and What They Do

## Located at:

- Schools of Public Health **15 (58%)**
- Medical Schools **11 (42%)**

## Each Center has:

- Infrastructure & administration
- Community engagement, partnerships & TA
- Communication and dissemination
- Training for skilled PH professionals & community partners
- Evaluation



# Who are the PRCs and What They Do

## Each PRC conducts:

- One large core research project
- Focusing on one of the 4 NCCDPHP domains\*

- **Domain #1**

- Epidemiology and Surveillance
- 19 PRCs (73%)

- **Domain #2**

- Environmental Approaches to Promote Health
- 21 PRCs (81%)

- **Domain #3**

- Health Systems Interventions
- 9 PRCs (35%)

- **Domain #4**

- Community-Clinical Linkages
- 16 PRCs (62%)

\* A single PRC project may include multiple domains



# Who are the PRCs and What They Do

## Each PRC:

- Conducts research in communities with health disparities
- Collaborates with health departments, other PH and community partners
- Disseminates findings with PH relevance & impact
- Evaluates their PRC Center and core research project
  - ...taking into account - scalability and sustainability



# Who are the PRCs and What They Do

## 26 Core Research projects

See PRC website: [www.CDC.gov/PRC](http://www.CDC.gov/PRC)

- Obesity, Nutrition, and Physical Activity 15 (58%)
- Healthy Heart Issues 6 (23%)
- STDs and High Risk Sexual Behavior 4 (15%)
- General Chronic Disease Issues 3 (12%)
- Violence Prevention 2 (8%)
- Cancer 2 (6%)
- Smoking, Mental Health, Substance Abuse 1 each



# Special Interest Projects (SIPs)

- Special Interest Projects (SIPs) are competitively awarded scientific projects and research opportunities that focus on a topic of interest or a gap in knowledge or research.
  - Individual Projects
  - PRC Thematic Network
- Only currently funded PRCs are eligible to apply for SIPs.





# PRC Thematic Networks Overview

**Infrastructure funding provides the opportunity to bring together academic experts who work collaboratively to:**

- **Conduct high quality research critical to the development, implementation, evaluation, and sustainability of environments and prevention strategies relevant to Program areas**
- **Advance knowledge and translate into public health practice key findings and information**
- **Support the development of the public health workforce and future leaders in the field**
- **Promote health equity**
- **Leverage resources, be opportunistic, and nimble**
- **Build synergies across thematic networks in terms of evaluation, training and dissemination**
- **7 Network areas include: Cancer; Healthy Brain; Epilepsy; Global Health; Nutrition and Obesity; Physical Activity; and, Workplace Health**



# Illinois PRC Mission

- The Illinois PRC collaborates with local and state partners to engage in interdisciplinary prevention research to test, develop, adapt, implement, and evaluate **policy** and **environmental** approaches to improve health behaviors to reduce chronic disease risk and health disparities.
- **Illinois PRC's mission:**
  - increase application and translation of evidence-based research to practice;
  - evaluate policy and environmental interventions;
  - engage in community-based research; and,
  - train practitioners to yield effective health promoting policy and environmental changes.

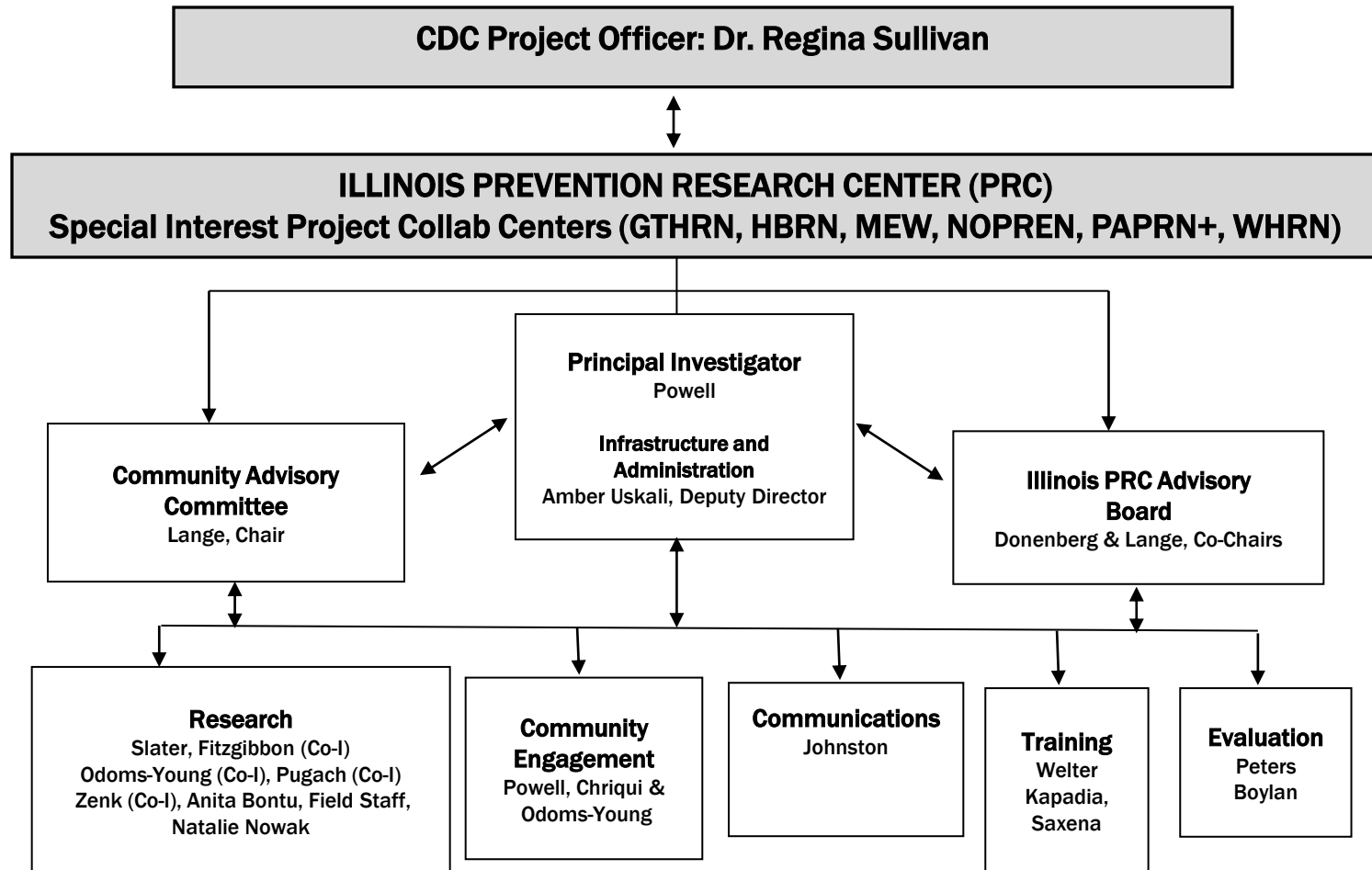


# Some Key Features

- **Health behaviors and outcomes include:** physical activity, nutrition, smoking, obesity, epilepsy, and cancer.
- **Key Goal:** reduce racial/ethnic and socioeconomic health disparities.
- **Significant expertise in:** policy, systems, and environmental change.
- **Community partners include:** Chicago Park District; Friends of the Park; the Chicago, Cook County and Illinois Departments of Public Health; Chicago Public Schools; and more.
- **Training activity includes:** in-person IPRC Change Institute conference training for 50 Illinois community partner practitioners annually to increase knowledge and skills to identify, implement, and monitor policy and environmental-oriented prevention strategies.



# CDC - Illinois PRC Team



# Community Advisory Committee Members

Name	Affiliation
Michael Lange	Project Manager, Chicago Park District [Committee Chair]
Elissa Bassler	CEO, Illinois Public Health Institute
Adam Becker	Executive Director, Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children
Bill Dart	Assistant Deputy Director, Illinois Department of Public Health
Jamie Dircksen	Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health
Melody Geraci	Deputy Director, Active Transportation Alliance
Shamar Hemphill	Director of Youth and Organizing, Inner-City Muslim Action Network
Tom Hughes	Executive Director, Illinois Public Health Association

Name	Affiliation
Gina Massuda Barnett	Director, Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion, Cook County Department of Public Health
Melanie Moore	Director of Policy, Friends of the Parks
Malik Nevels	Executive Director, Illinois African American Coalition for Prevention
Jameika Sampson	Director, Community Benefit Integration, Mercy Hospital
Maria Stone	Community Relations Manager, Chicago Park District
Renna Thomas	Vice President, Levin Park Advisory Council
Jamie Tully	Healthy CPS Project Manager, Chicago Public Schools
Rebecca Weinberg	Baby Wranglers of East Rogers Park



# Training

- **Goal: Increase the ability of Illinois public health practitioners, students, and researchers to plan, implement, and evaluate policy-and environmentally (PAE)-oriented behavior change initiatives.**
  - **Change Institute**
  - **Online policy and environmental change trainings on website**
  - **Evaluation Capacity Building (year 1)**



# Change Institute

- **Purpose**
  - Increase knowledge and skills to advance **policy**, **systems**, or **environmental changes** that promote healthy eating, active living, tobacco-free living, and clinical community linkages
- **Partnership with CCDPH**
- **Audience**
  - Local and/or state organizations
  - Limited free admission for staff from CAC affiliated organizations



# Change Institute

- Annual in-person conference training for 50 Illinois community partner practitioners to increase knowledge and skills to identify, implement, and monitor policy and environmental-oriented prevention strategies.
- 15 sessions, 4 topic areas
  - Healthy Eating
  - Tobacco Cessation
  - Active Living
  - Skills Building for Policy Change
    - Co-Creating a Common Agenda using Strategy Maps
    - Evaluating Technical Assistance Efforts that Support Policy- and Environmentally-Oriented Change Initiatives
    - Health Equity and Chronic Disease: Measuring Inequities by Race, Place, and Socioeconomic Factors





# Change Institute

- **Year 1: May 2015, Rosemont, IL**
  - CCDPH, Chicago metro area focus
  - ~100 attendees
  - Mean overall conference rating: 3.6/4
- **Year 2: September 2016, Springfield, IL**
  - IPHA, rural/statewide focus
  - Incorporate recommendations from year 1
    - More special skills sessions
    - Increase event promotion to expand reach
    - Increase networking opportunities for attendees



# Building Partnerships & New Research

- **The Illinois PRC continues to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new partnerships to undertake public health prevention research.**
  - **Partnered on numerous research opportunities**
  - **And, building and developing even more partnerships**



# Building Partnerships & New Research

- **Chicago Public Schools.** Evaluation of CPS' LearnWell Initiative. Community Trust's Community First Fund.
- **Illinois Public Health Institute.** Improving Food Sales Settings. National Network of Public Health Institutes and CDC.
- **Illinois Public Health Institute.** Assessment of Evidence-Based Practices to Improve Worksite Physical Activity. National Network of Public Health Institutes.
- **Trinity Health and Allegany Franciscan Ministries.** Social Innovation Fund grant application to the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- **Grow Greater Englewood.** Environmental Impacts of a HFFI-Supported Supermarket Opening.
- **Illinois Department of Public Health and Illinois Public Health Institute.** Opportunity Grants to Advance Implementation of Selected Action Items from *The Healthy Brain Initiative: The Public Health Road Map for State and National Partnerships, 2013-2018*. National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD)
- **National Network of Public Health Institutes, Public Health Institute, and Illinois Public Health Institute.** Healthy School Nutrition Action Collaborative (Healthy SNAC). CDC.
- **Mercy Hospital Systems and CLOCC.** Transforming Communities Initiative. Trinity Health Systems.
- **Transdisciplinary Collaborative Center for Health Disparities Research on Chronic Disease Prevention, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities**



# Illinois PRC Core Research Project: Chicago Plays!

- **Primary Objective:** To examine the impact of community engagement + park renovation compared to playground renovation alone on park-based utilization and physical activity.
- **Define community engagement as community coalition involvement to:**
  - 1.** Identify how playground renovations benefit their community; and,
  - 2.** Collaborate with FOTP to implement ongoing care and maintenance of playgrounds.



# Illinois PRC Core Research Project: Chicago Plays!

- **14,586 park users observed**
  - average 33 per day per park
    - average of 15 users moderate-to-vigorous activity
    - average of 18 users sedentary
  - one year after the playground renovations
    - 14 percent relative increase in park users
    - 25 percent relative increase in people engaged in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity



# Special Interest Projects

## Collaborating Centers

- **The Global and Territorial Health Research Network [GTHRN]**
  - PI: Karen Peters; Co-PI: DrPH and Andrew Dykens, MD, MPH
    - collaborating with health officials and health care providers to improve screening of cervical cancer in rural Senegal
- **The Healthy Brain Research Network Collaborating Center [HBRN]**
  - PI: David X Marquez, PhD
    - advancing culturally sensitive messages to promote cognitive health through education and communications.
- **The Managing Epilepsy Well Network [MEW]**
  - PI: Dilip Pandey, MD, PhD, FAHA
    - developing and testing a personalized, Internet-assisted education tool to improve the management of epilepsy by patients and their families (working with the Epilepsy Foundation and its Illinois chapter to do this work)



# Special Interest Projects

## Collaborating Centers

- **The Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network [NOPREN]**
  - **PI: Lisa Powell, PhD**
    - studying the impact of the Healthy Food Financing Initiative on the local retail food environment in underserved communities
- **The Physical Activity Policy Research Network+ [PAPRN+]**
  - **PIs: Jamie Chriqui, PhD, MHS and Sandy Slater, PhD**
    - examining the role that zoning codes, land use, and smart growth policies may play in facilitating walkable communities and walking
- **The Workplace Health Research Network [WHRN]**
  - **PIs: Naoko Muramatsu, PhD and Lisa Brosseau, PhD**
    - addressing the health needs of minority, immigrant and low wage workers who are at increased risk for chronic diseases and injury through an evaluation of physical activity and injuries among home care aides



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- The content of this presentation is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or the State of Illinois.
- Learn more at <http://go.uic.edu/IllinoisPRC>
- Contact us at: [illinoisprc@uic.edu](mailto:illinoisprc@uic.edu)

