



Health Equity Community Advisory Board

Community Advisory Board Meeting
March 29, 2022
9:00am – 11:00am
Zoom Conference Call

Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>CAB Role</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Judi Patterson	Case Manager, Mental Health America	CAB Co-Chair	jpatterson@mhasd.org
Jamila K. Stockman	Associate Professor and Vice Chief, UC San Diego, Division of Infectious Diseases & Global Public Health	Director, Health Equity CAB	jstockman@health.ucsd.edu
James Jackson	Western & Southern Life	CAB Chair	james.jackson@wslife.com
Megan Liang	San Diego State University Research Foundation	Program Associate, Health Equity CAB	mkliang@sdsu.edu
Danielle Campbell	UC San Diego, Division of Infectious Diseases & Global Public Health	CAB Member	dacampbe@health.ucsd.edu
Lianne Urada	San Diego State University, School of Social Work	Guest	lurada@sdsu.edu
Argentina Servin	UC San Diego, School of Medicine	Guest	arservin@ucsd.edu
Sophie O'Bryan	UC San Diego, Division of Infectious Diseases & Global Public Health	Guest	sobryan@health.ucsd.edu
Dallas Davis	Program Supervisor, Neighborhood House Association	CAB Member	drdavis@neighborhoodhouse.org
Christina Williams	Program Manager, San Diego Center for AIDS Research	CAB Member	c4williams@health.ucsd.edu
S. Giovanna Carr	UC San Diego, Division of Infectious Diseases & Global Public Health	CAB Member	s3carr@health.ucsd.edu
Kiyomi Tsuyuki	UC San Diego, Division of Infectious Diseases & Global Public Health	CAB Member	ktsuyuki@health.ucsd.edu
Linda Cochran-Johnson	St. Paul Methodist Church	CAB Member	

Commencement

The CAB meeting began at 09:04 a.m.

Welcome from the CAB Chair and Co-Chair

Judi Patterson and James Jackson welcomed the group and facilitated introductions of leadership and participants via Zoom video conference. See attendee names, affiliations, and contact information above.

CFAR Announcements

Dr. Jamila K. Stockman began by announcing a webinar hosted by the Health and Human Services Office of Regional Health Operations. The topic would be on Women, Girls, and HIV/AIDS: Current Perspectives on Policy, Practice, and Prevention on March 30, 11 a.m.

Research Project Proposal: Adapting an HIV Peer Navigation Program to Reach Unstable/Un-Housed Cisgender and Transgender Women

Dr. Lianne Urada introduced her current research project proposal: Developing and Testing an HIV Peer Navigation Program to Reach High-Risk and Homeless Women. The focus of the presentation was to gather feedback on the NIMH 34 proposal and to locate additional community partners for outreach measures as well.

Dr. Urada initially evaluated the LOTUS peer navigation program for women living with HIV and saw the success of this at Christie's Place. Peer Navigation has been successful in a lot of arenas, especially for populations living with HIV. The goal of the R34 pilot randomized controlled trial pilot is to adapt HIV peer navigation training intervention, **Transform**, to help unstably/un-housed cis/transwomen. The primary outcomes are HIV testing and linkage to care/prevention (for HIV or PrEP [pre-exposure prophylaxis]). This includes transwomen and homeless women. The secondary outcomes are linkage to and retention in mental health care, housing, and substance use treatment.

Dr. Urada asked for any feedback or recommendations on the following categories: recruitment, sampling, tailoring, Transform's name, follow-up, and other theories.

On recruitment, Danielle Campbell asked for target enrollments and breakdowns of racial or ethnic targets. Dr. Urada explained that there would be 70 participants in treatment and 70 participants in control, and within each group of 70, 35 would identify as cisgendered and 35 would identify as trans. The study would be inclusive of all races and ethnicities. Dr. Stockman asked what the different recruitment strategies were. Dr. Urada explained that they would mainly rely on referrals, networks (using incentives), and frequenting different locations that homeless folks utilize. Dr. Urada noted that it would be important to get a representative sample, which is why it may not be appropriate to go to a clinic as patients may have more access to testing. Dr. Urada asked whether women in shelters get access to testing, to which Dr. Stockman mentioned that they might have more access to care but might not include HIV testing. Finally, Dr. Urada added that they would be recruiting ages 18 and above, and Danielle Campbell recommended looking into minors, another extremely vulnerable population, as well if the IRB and NIH would approve.

On the study name, **Transform**, Danielle Campbell liked the idea of transformation, and that the name was inclusive of transwomen.

Judi Patterson also mentioned that a commonly overlooked community are those who are transitioning after incarceration. National Crossroads is a place where services are offered, and

assistance is provided for women as a residential program for those still on probation. She also mentioned that churches may be a place to consider recruiting at, as women might not want to talk about these issues unless with their pastor.

Research Project Findings: Project 2VIDA!

Dr. Argentina Servin and Sophie O'Bryan initially presented on this research project when it was first funded. The focus of the current presentation was to share preliminary study findings.

The focus of the study was to evaluate COVID-19 vaccine uptake and address vaccine hesitancy in marginalized communities in partnership with San Ysidro Health. Since the beginning, community partners, researchers, physicians, and different businesses have all worked together on this project. The study objectives are as follows:

- AIM 1: to evaluate the preliminary impact of 2VIDA! Compared to the standard-of-care for COVID-19 vaccination services among Latinx and African American adults older than 18 years old in San Diego (with a sample size of 1000 participants)
- AIM 2: to assess feasibility, acceptability, and intervention effects of 2VIDA!

The first phase of the study was to develop materials on COVID-19 awareness, prepare for community outreach, and provide additional health education resources and services. The second phase of the study was to provide COVID-19 vaccines at participating pop-up community events in three intervention sites, San Ysidro, Lincoln Park/Valencia Park, and Logan Heights.

Currently, they are seeing more hesitancy to get the booster shot. As a result, they have created educational materials online and in paper flyers to disseminate education in a more digestible and accessible way. They took the most recent journals and made them into flyers in both English and Spanish. They expanded the number of online platforms, which include publishing a website in October 2021 (project2vida.com) and creating an active Instagram account (@Project_2VIDA).

Overall, the pop-ups have slowed down in the past few months, but the project still hosts one to two per month. The goal was to provide COVID vaccinations in convenient locations and at convenient hours. At these events, they also increased access to reliable information for still hesitant community members by having a bilingual provider and staff on-site. In addition to vaccines, they continued to promote COVID-19 for early detection and monitoring. Finally, at these events, they would provide additional screenings for many who have faced challenges accessing healthcare during the pandemic, including blood pressure screenings, glucose screenings, HIV testing, and provider follow ups and referrals. Since July 7th, the project has hosted a total of 75 pop-up clinics, with a total of 3,584 services. They've administered 1,601 COVID-19 vaccines and reduced COVID-19 infection by distributing over 1500 PPE kits, reusable masks, thermometers, oximeters, hand sanitizers, etc.

Preliminary Findings

The sociodemographic data from preliminary findings of 480 participants showed the following:

- Mean age: 39 years old
- Education: 60% ≤ high school education
- Average household income: 45% ≤ \$20,000
- Birthplace: 55.9% Mexico | 40.3% USA
- Gender identity: 46% male | 51% female | 3% gender queer, non-binary, transgender

- Hispanic (92%) vs. Non-Hispanic (8%); Hispanic or Latinx (92%)

Many of the participants were moms or homemakers; they typically don't have a lot of time to go to health centers because they don't have childcare. Most participants receive insurance through Medicaid, Medicare, ADAP, VA, Ryan White, etc. The most common existing medical condition is obesity. Most participants also typically get vaccines that are recommended by their health provider, and most have also received the flu shot. One-third of participants reported not having enough money to pay rent as a financial issue they faced since the outbreak of COVID-19. The main sources of information for participants come from the health department, health workers, the CDC, WHO, and national COVID-19 websites. On their beliefs about the vaccine, most participants strongly agreed that the vaccine can help stop the spread of COVID-19. While most people were not concerned about side effects from the vaccine, 30% reported being moderately or very concerned about this. Most participants would vaccinate their children if the CDC or their provider recommended it.

The best practices learned so far from the *2VIDA!* Study include: establishing a presence in the community, training and equipping Promotoras/CHWs in the community, strategically placing mobile vaccination clinics in areas that lack vaccination sites, and partnering with local businesses and organizations.

Open Discussion

Danielle Campbell (dacampbe@health.ucsd.edu) mentioned she is recruiting for the LinkPositively study for Black women with HIV.

Linda Cochran-Johnson hosts a monthly COVID-19 support group called *Living Your Truth Beyond COVID*. They meet every third Saturday from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.; all are welcome!

Finally, James Jackson mentioned that the National CFAR CAB Coalition is looking to see what is happening in different regions. CAB members should keep this in mind if they have a webinar or in-person event that they would like to share with the national community.

The next CAB meeting will be Tuesday, May 31, 2022, from 9 to 11am.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.