



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Element C2 Community Co-Leads

Diane Hill, PhD

Manny Jimenez, MD, MS, FAAP

<http://njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu>





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Lead and Co-Leads



Shawna Hudson, PhD, FSBM



Diane Hill, PhD
Element C2 Community: Co-Lead



Manny Jimenez, MD, MS, FAAP
Element C2 Community: Co-Lead



Alfred Tallia, MD, MPH
Element C2 Community: Co-Lead





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Members and Staff



Tania Boster,
PhD



Donita Devance,
MCRP



Marsha Gordon,
MPH



Angela Garretson,
PhD



Jennifer Hemler,
PhD



Daniel Lima,
MSW



Maria Pellerano,
MA, MBA, MPH



Brittany Sullivan,
MSPH



Yvette Ortiz Beaumont,
MPA





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE Advisory Board

PARTNERS

PARTNership for ENGagement in RESearch STUdies

- 8 NJ HEROES TOO partners and
- 2 new community linkages





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

2024 Goals



Goal 1: Develop and implement innovative methods, tools, and approaches with community, health care, and patient partners to advance translational science, improve health, and promote equity through pragmatic and scientifically rigorous science (i.e., **bring novel learnings from our local ecosystem to the CTSA consortium**).



Goal 2: Foster patient-centered, inclusive translational science by developing educational and training resources for community members to facilitate their robust engagement in translational research programs (i.e., **empower community members to actively engage and shape translational research**).



Goal 3: Develop educational and training resources for research professionals on best practices for patient and community engagement and dissemination that trains our researchers to communicate effectively with multiple audiences to impact public health policy (i.e., **teach our researchers how to communicate effectively with multiple audiences to impact public health policy**).



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Services

- **One-on-One Consultations**
Project-specific input to enhance research design, implementation, and dissemination.
- **Community Engagement Virtual Salons**
Structured virtual approach to engaging members of the community for their meaningful guidance and input on specific research ideas or studies.
- **Network of Networks**
Connecting to experts through our Network of Networks to help build and sustain long-lasting relationships.
- **Partnership and Innovation Pilot Program**
Stipend to facilitate pilots in need of funding for a community partner for engagement activities.
- **Community Scientist Program**
Training and engaging community members interested in effective and safe human subjects training while providing researchers with rapid feedback from expert community members for culturally relevant projects.
- **Knowledge Dissemination**
Methods to make research results accessible, understandable, and actionable for the community, fostering a collaborative and informed approach to addressing community needs.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

High Level Successes and Outcomes



\$5,000,000 + LHS received
in federal funding



25+ virtual salons
conducted



36 Community
Scientists trained



300+ Consultations
(2019 – present)



\$140,000 awarded
in pilot grants

Signature Programs

- Awarded RADx-UP award for the NJ HEROES TOO – New Jersey Healthcare Essential Worker Outreach and Education Study – Testing Overlooked Occupations
- Developed Virtual Community Engagement Salons
- Developed the Community Scientist Program and corresponding completion badge
- Launched CTSA Compendium of D&I Catalogs

Engagement in Research Outcomes

- Funded 14 innovative research projects in collaboration with local organizations.
- Published 20 peer-reviewed articles and presented at 50 national and international conferences to highlight outcomes from community-engaged research.
- Partnered with UIC CTSA to introduce CIRTification, a tool designed to help researchers engage community members in their work.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Community Research Consultations



The community engagement core offers a variety of project-specific consultation services to enhance research design, implementation, and dissemination. The service is available to community stakeholders and all researchers at Rutgers University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Princeton University.

This consultation is a free service. The information you provide is confidential and will not be shared.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Community Engagement Virtual Salons

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
MOBILE HEALTH INTERVENTION TO PROMOTE SUN PROTECTION IN LATINX COMMUNITY

The NJ ACTS Community Engagement Virtual Salon (CEVS) creates a space for community stakeholders to provide immediate feedback to the researcher on specific areas of concern before the research project is implemented.

njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/community

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CLINIC

Looking to foster academic partnerships to seek technical and grant support for the development of community based mental health clinics within the Newark community.

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
NEW JERSEY FAMILY LEAVE INSURANCE

The NJ ACTS Community Engagement Virtual Salon (CEVS) creates a space for community stakeholders to provide immediate feedback to the researcher on specific areas of concern before the research project is implemented.

njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/community

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
A YOUTH-LED DIGITAL EDUCATION INTERVENTION TO IMPROVE ADULT BLOOD PRESSURE

The study implements a youth-led digital education intervention to improve blood pressure for hypertensive adults who present to the emergency department. Prior to pilot testing, adults with hypertension and youth from the local community will be recruited for user-centered design sessions to provide input in the development of the intervention.

njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/community

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

The NJ ACTS Community Engagement Virtual Salon (CEVS) creates a space for community stakeholders to provide immediate feedback to the researcher on specific areas of concern before the research project is implemented.

njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/community

CONNECTING YOU WITH COMMUNITY VOICES



ETROVSKY LAB

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
DEVELOPING A MUSIC-BASED APPLICATION

The goal of the prototype mobile application "Feel" (Feel Better Music) is to improve mental health and behavioral symptoms in persons living with dementia and their caregivers using music-based approaches.

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
THE DIABETES LIFEMAP

The NJ ACTS Community Engagement Virtual Salon (CEVS) creates a space for community stakeholders to provide immediate feedback to the researcher on specific areas of concern before the research project is implemented.

njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/community

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
RECOVER, A PEDIATRIC LONG COVID STUDY

RECOVER is a research project that aims to learn about the long-term health effects of COVID. The goal of this study is to learn why some children who get COVID feel sick for a long time, while others don't feel sick, or feel better quickly. When someone is sick many months after getting COVID, it's called "long COVID."

NJacts 4us!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VIRTUAL SALONS

FEATURING:
NON-EMERGENCY OR NO CHOLECYSTECTOMY CARE

We are designing a patient interview to understand patient's experiences seeking, obtaining, and achieving health care after the onset of symptoms for symptomatic gallstone disease (the most common digestive disease requiring inpatient and inpatient abdominal surgery in the US).

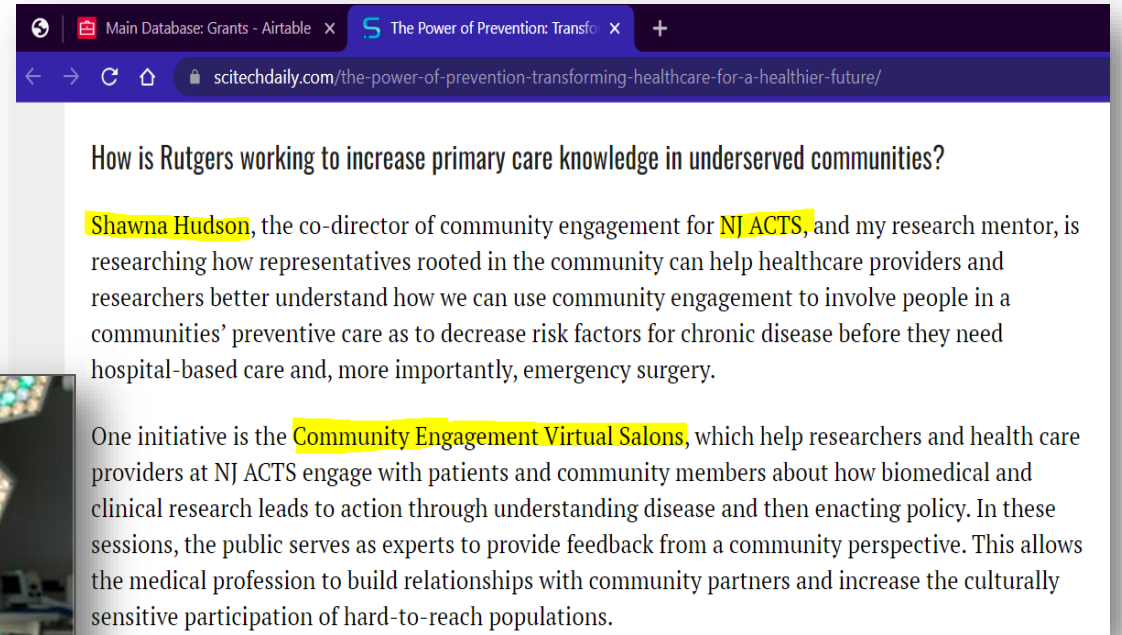
The NJ ACTS Community Engagement Virtual Salon (CEVS) creates a space for community stakeholders to provide immediate feedback to the researcher on specific areas of concern before the research project is implemented.

njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/community



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Community Engagement Virtual Salons





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Network of Networks

737 Active Members

378 Academic • 228 Community Based • 68 Healthcare





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE Community Scientist Program

RUTGERS Research


CIRTIfication Training

CIRTIfication Training

Effective July 1, 2022, The Rutgers Human Subjects Protection Program (HSPP) will begin offering an alternative educational training option for human subject research known as **CIRTIfication**.

What is CIRTIfication?



CIRTIfication is a new human subjects research training option for individuals in community organizations that was developed by Dr. Emily Anderson (Center for Clinical and Translational Science, University of Illinois) to provide core research ethics in lay language. CIRTIfication is a free, web-based human research protections training program tailored specifically to the needs and roles of community research partners. The program is currently offered in both English and in Spanish.



COMMUNITY SCIENTIST PROGRAM

Are you a community member interested in getting involved and learning how human subject research can be conducted effectively and safely in your communities?

It's as easy as these simple steps:

-  Complete CIRTIfication
-  Attend 5 virtual Community Conversations
-  Be matched with a researcher
-  Receive a digital badge



RUTGERS

Community Scientist

NJ Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Knowledge Dissemination



Home / Community

Our Services
[Click Here to View](#)

- COMMUNITY
- Core Leadership & Advisory Council
- Volunteering for a Clinical Trial FAQs
- How to Find a Clinical Trial
- Partnership & Innovation Funding Opportunities & Publications
- NJ ACTS Community Core Weekly Digest
- Community Engagement Core Quarterly Newsletter

- COVID-19 Resources
- Individuals
- Community Partners
- Researchers
- YouTube Playlist

Stay in Touch!
[Sign up for our mailing list](#)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE OVERVIEW

NJacts draws leading academic, industry and community groups together to understand and address the health needs of New Jersey. Central to this is engagement with our community to ensure that our efforts respond to their priorities. Our goal is to conduct research with the New Jersey community, in the community and for the community, and yet, have impact beyond our state's boundaries.

Resource for Investigators – CTSA Compendium of D&I Catalogs

Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) research focuses on translating evidence-based interventions into real-world settings to improve health outcomes in the broader community. An open-source **CTSA Compendium of D&I Catalogs** has been developed by the Clinical & Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Programs "Advancing Dissemination and Implementation Sciences in CTSA's" working group to support investigators at any stage of their D&I skill-building journey. It provides a curated list of resource catalogs relevant to the conduct of D&I science. The materials include frameworks/theories/models, methods/measures, funding resources, practice resources, training, and health equity resources. [Click here](#) to learn more.

CIRTIification – A New Alternative to CITI for Community Partners

The rollout of CIRTIification at Rutgers has begun. **The CIRTIification program provides research ethics training alternative for individuals in community organizations** with limited understanding of conducting human research and protecting potential research participants. This option provides training that focuses on establishing the skills in community partners to conduct human subject research effectively and safely in their communities.

To learn more about the program at Rutgers, please visit this link [CIRTIification](#).

Community Blog

Princeton researchers discover new strategy to encourage vaccinations and masking.
by William Jester | Nov 3, 2021 | Community, Covid, News
Now, two Princeton researchers have discovered an approach that they found successfully motivated people to make appointments for vaccinations and to consistently follow measures such as social distancing and mask wearing. "We think

NJacts 4 us!
NEW JERSEY ALLIANCE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

March 22, 2023

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week

Participate in NDAFW and help share facts about drugs, alcohol, and addiction in your community. NDAFW is an annual, week-long health observance that inspires dialogue about the science of drug use and addiction among youth.

Learn More

Record High in U.S. Put Off Medical Care Due to Cost in 2022

The percentage of Americans reporting they or a family member postponed medical treatment in 2022 due to cost rose 12 points in one year, to 38%, the highest in Gallup's 22-year trend.

Learn More

2022 PIAP Grant
PIAP grants are one-year academic researchers Jersey Institute of Technology together on

Nov
De
Mar

Lung Cancer Awareness
The American Lung Association's FORCE initiative is uniting caregivers across the country against lung cancer, the leading cancer killer of women and men in the U.S.

Learn More

JAMA Network Open

Original Investigation | Public Health
Black and Latinx Community Perspectives on COVID-19 Mitigation Behaviors, Testing, and Vaccines

Manuel E. Jimenez, MD, MS, Zorimar Rivera-Núñez, PhD, MS, Benjamin F. Crabtree, PhD, Diane Hill, PhD, Maria B. Pellegrino, MA, MSA, MPH, Dorita Devance, MChP, Myriela Macenei, MPH, Daniel Lima, MSW, Emmanuel Martínez-Arcaz, MD, Jeanne M. Fortané, MD, Emily S. Barrett, PhD, Martin J. Blaser, MD, Reynold A. Panettieri Jr, MD, Shawna V. Hudson, PhD

Abstract

IMPORTANCE Black and Latinx communities have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 pandemic, yet little work has sought to understand their perspectives.

OBJECTIVE To explore the experiences of Black and Latinx communities during better understand their perspectives on COVID-19 mitigation behaviors (eg, mask and vaccines).

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS In this community-engaged qualitative with 18 community-based organizations and 4 health care organizations between 2020, and February 5, 2021, in New Jersey counties severely affected by the par individual interviews were used to purposively sample 111 Black and Latinx indiv group interviews were organized by race/ethnicity and language: 4 English-spe Black participants (n = 34), 3 Spanish-speaking groups with Latinx participants (English-speaking groups with Black and Latinx participants (n = 36). To understa health care workers from these communities, 2 additional groups (n = 9) were c supplemented with individual interviews.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES Description of Black and Latinx participant during the COVID-19 pandemic and their perspectives on mitigation behaviors, t

RESULTS The study included 111 participants (87 women [78.4%], median age- 18-93 years). Participants described the devastating effects of the pandemic on ones, and their community. Their experiences were marked by fear, illness, loss. These experiences motivated intense information seeking, mitigation behaviors. Nevertheless, vaccine skepticism was high across all groups. Participants did not development process and wanted clearer information. Black participants expres want to be subjects of experiments.

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE The remaining unknowns about new vaccine acknowledged and described for Black and Latinx communities to make informe. Ultimately, scientists and public officials need to work transparently to address s questions and work collaboratively with trusted community leaders and health p foster partnered approaches, rather than focusing on marketing campaigns, to a skepticism.

JAMA Network Open. 2021;4(7):e210704. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.17074

Open Access. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the CC-BY License.
JAMA Network Open. 2021;4(7):e210704. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.17074



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Knowledge Dissemination

NJacts 4us!

MULTILINGUAL MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH: PIONEERING STRATEGIES FOR EQUITY

In Case You Missed It... Webinar

Join us in this crucial conversation as we delve into the challenges, opportunities, and solutions that arise when working with multilingual populations, ultimately striving for equitable healthcare access and improved health outcomes for mothers and children.

WATCH NOW

This program is supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under award number UL1TR003077 to Rutgers University. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not represent the official views of the NIH.

Karen D'Alonzo
Associate Professor, Rutgers Division of Nursing Science
Director, Rutgers Center for Community Health Partnerships

Diana Montoya-Williams
Attending Neonatologist, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Division of Neonatology

Zorimar Rivera-Núñez
Associate Professor, Rutgers School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology

Kate Yun
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

NEW JERSEY LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION

HEALTH EQUITY DIVERSITY
Leadership Impact Virtual Series - Part 2
Vaccination Hesitancy: History and Healing

Shawna Houston, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Health, Behavior, and Society, Johns Hopkins University

Janessa Medina-Castro, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Rutgers School of Public Health

Dr. Roshni Khanna, MD, MPH, FAAP
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Rutgers School of Public Health

Tuesday, June 21, 2022
11:00am

REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS WEBINAR BY GOING TO BELOW LINK OR SCANNING THE QR CODE
<https://tinyurl.com/54r3svwn>

noafi IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **RUTGERS** **MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY** **NJacts 4us!**

COMMUNITY ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP SYMPOSIUM: Best Practices to Achieve Health Equity

June 14, 2022
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

President's Tent
11 Bishop Place
New Brunswick

NJacts 4us! CONNECT

Empowering Our Community Through Research, Scholarship, and Engagement

A University Community Focus: NJacts



NJ HEROES TOO
A Program of the New Jersey Alliance for Cancer and Translational Science

PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATION

Clubhouse at Galloping Hill Golf Course
Tuesday, May 24, 2022 from 11:00am-2:00pm





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CORE

Goal Summary

COMMUNITY



CIRTification
Community
Scientist
Program



Community Science Training
to grow our cohort of
research savvy community
members and health care
stakeholders able to offer
valuable insight, suggestions
and feedback for
translational science projects.

Years 1 - 6



Diane Hill, PhD

RESEARCHERS

Researcher Training for inclusive research protocol development and implementation

- Community and Patient Engagement 101
- Recruitment skill development training
- Building and sustaining research partnerships
- Creating materials responsive to diverse educational & linguistic needs

Years 2 - 6



Manny Jimenez, MD,
MS, FAAP

COMMUNITY & RESEARCHERS

Virtual Salons – Years 1-6

Community Docent – Years 3 -6

Community Voucher Program – Years 2 - 6

PIAP transitions to stipend to facilitate pilots in need of funding for a community partner for engagement activities



Alfred Tallia, MD, MPH



Thank You!

