

# PRCHN CONNECTION



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## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Friends,

It's been a busy Fall season for the PRCHN. The start of the academic year found many of us returning to our offices at the BioEnterprise Building and making space for our growing team.

I'm pleased to announce that our long-time staff member, Briana McIntosh, has accepted the role of Director of Research Operations. If you haven't had a chance to meet Bri, you can read more about her below! We also look forward to welcoming back Dr. Stephanie Pike Moore as our PRCHN Analyst.

The PRCHN has had a long-standing commitment to adolescent health with our work on the YRBS and many other youth-related projects. We are thrilled to introduce you all to our newest colleagues, Dr. Kristina Knight and Ms. Chyrel Oates, who share our commitment. Together, they lead the work of the Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute, which will now be physically located within the PRCHN. Inside this newsletter, we've provided more information about the CCYWI and encourage you to reach out to the team and learn more about their work.

Welcome to all of our new colleagues—now let's get to work!

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erika S. Trapl".

Erika S. Trapl, PhD

# CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

## Staff & Faculty updates



### **Briana McIntosh, MPH, CPH. | Director of Research Operations**

Over the last 6 years, Briana has served various roles across the PRCHN that primed her for an administrative role within the center. She joined the PRCHN as a coordinator for the REACH Initiative and has since managed project activities across both HIP-Cuyahoga REACH funding cycles and served as a coordinator for YRBS. In addition to her role as Director of Research Operations, she is also working with the Team Cook Bailey lab, coordinating the Jamaica Eye Study and providing public health perspectives and best practices to the other vision & eye health research. Briana is a double alumna of the University of Pittsburgh as she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Africana Studies and a Masters of Public Health in behavioral and community health sciences, specializing in health equity and global health.



### **Kristina Knight, PhD | PRCHN Faculty Affiliate**

Kristina Knight is an assistant professor Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences and serves as the associate director of the Master's in Public Health (MPH) Program. Dr. Knight is a community-engaged scholar who brings more than 20 years of experience in school, governmental, and academic public health. Her research focuses on the use of health education methods to improve outcomes for youth, youth professionals, and youth programs. Her passion for teaching focuses on preparing students to support the health of our diverse communities with a focus on equity and social justice.



### **Stephanie Pike Moore, PhD | Center Analyst**

Stephanie Pike Moore completed her Masters of Public Health at Kent State University and her PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Case Western Reserve University. She is an experienced epidemiologist and analyst with a history of working across sectors including academia, local government, and the private sector. Her true passion across her work is the intentional use of data to guide meaningful public health practice and policy. She is excited to return to the PRCHN from her year of Covid Surveillance at a local health department.



### **Chyrel Oates, MBA | Director of Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute**

Chyrel Oates is the Director of the Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute. She is a committed community and leadership advocate focusing on intentional approaches to achieve strategic outcomes for youth-serving organizations. Cheryl adopts a strengths-based approach to meet the needs of the staff and youth development field through training and coaching. Oates earned her MBA and Certificate in Coaching for Intentional Development from Weatherhead and a BS in accounting from Florida A&M University.



# CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

## Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute moves to PRCHN!

For more than 15 years, Case Western Reserve University has led an academic-community partnership to support professional development for individuals who work as part of Out-of-School Time (OST) programs. The Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute (CCYWI) was initiated in 2008 as a professional development network that provided training and technical assistance for youth professionals and programs. The Institute is now housed within the Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods in the School of Medicine. It is part of a series of youth-focused projects underway at the PRCHN, oriented toward surveillance, evaluation, training, and technical assistance.

In addition to this move, we are excited to announce that CCYWI has been awarded a Mental Health Awareness Training grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. This 5-year grant of nearly \$625,000 will allow for the provision of mental health awareness and crisis de-escalation training for OST programs in Cuyahoga County. It will also allow for the development of a community advisory board and referral system to support OST programs in assisting youth and families in need of mental health services. The grant will be led by Dr. Kristina Knight, Assistant Professor in the Department of Quantitative and Population Health Sciences, and Chyrel Oates, Director of the Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute.

Youth development professionals who work as a part of OST programs are trusted adults in the lives of youth and are often the first to know when a young person needs additional support or is in crisis.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, these professionals and programs demonstrated the resiliency they often support among the youth they serve - adapting their programs and services, promoting equity and access

to programming, and navigating uncertainty in resources that were typically allocated to support their programs. During the fall of 2021, as these programs continue to adapt, the CCYWI is excited to continue providing training and technical assistance to support youth, youth professionals, and youth programs. With the addition of funding from SAMHSA, the Institute will be able to expand programming to better equip youth professionals and OST programs to address the mental health needs of youth and families within the community.



*Photo from November 18th, 2019 at a CCYWI Training*

*If you have questions about the CCYWI or the youth-focused projects at the PRCHN, please contact Chyrel Oates ([cyo2@case.edu](mailto:cyo2@case.edu)) or Jean Frank ([jlf16@case.edu](mailto:jlf16@case.edu)).*

# CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

## Job Opportunities

### Research Assistant 3: REACH Project (Full-Time)

Working under limited supervision, the research project coordinator will provide project management, technical assistance and training, stakeholder engagement, and support for funded projects. Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant is a CDC-funded program that engages organizations from the Health Improvement Partnership-Cuyahoga (HIP-Cuyahoga) to address nutrition, physical activity, and chronic disease management in Cuyahoga County. The Healthy Eating and Active Living Sub-Committee co-chaired by Dr. Erika Trapl and co-anchored by the Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods at CWRU coordinates all nutrition-related aspects of the REACH grant. The Project Coordinator will work with the Director of Healthy Food Access Initiatives and community partners in implementing nutrition and food systems strategies that are a part of the REACH program.

Visit <http://prchn.org/job-opportunities/> to learn more and apply.

## PRCHN Seminar Series Schedule for 2021-2022

The PRCHN seminar series resumed on September 8th with a kick-off presentation from Dr. Kristina Knight. We have an exciting lineup for the rest of the academic year and hope you can join us. We will feature presentations by researchers and partners focused on understanding and addressing health inequities in Cleveland and beyond. All presentations are recorded and can be found [here](#).

**November 10th: Use of Community Sentinels to Study Public Compliance of Covid-19 Mitigation Behaviors**  
Community & Collaboration Core | Clinical Translational Science Collaborative

**December 8th: Local Policies and Interventions to Address Diet-Related Health Disparities**  
Dr. Caitlin Caspi, ScD | Director of Food Insecurity Initiatives at the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity,

**January 12th: Promoting Health Equity among Multiethnic and linguistically diverse older adults**  
Dr. Jane Jih, MD | Assistant Adjunct Professor at University of California San Francisco

**February 9th: All Eyes on Us: Community-based perspectives on eye health and vision care in Cleveland**  
Dr. Jessica Cooke Bailey, PhD, MA | Assistant Professor at School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University

**March 9th: FreshFinder: An Interactive Food Access Map**  
Dr. Elaine Borawski, PhD | Angela Bowen Williams Professor of Community Nutrition, Case Western Reserve University

**April 13th: Black Men's Health, Racism, and Respectful Engagement**  
Dr. Craig Fryer, DrPH | Associate Professor at University of Maryland School of Public Health

**May 11th: Food Insecurity and Tobacco Cessation**  
Dr. Jin Kim-Mozeleski, PhD | Assistant Professor at School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University

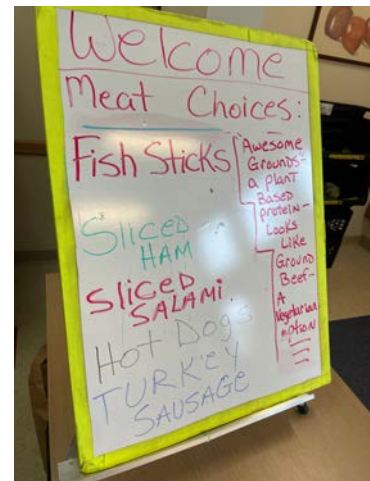
**June 8th: Asthma & Social Determinants of Health**  
Dr. Sarah Ronis, MD MPH | Director of the University Hospitals Rainbow Center for Child Health & Policy

Seminar Series Presenters and Titles are subject to change. For up-to-date information please visit [www.prchn.org/seminar](http://www.prchn.org/seminar)

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## REACH Team Gauges Readiness and Interest in Food Ranking System at local Pantries

In collaboration with the Hunger Network, the PRCHN has been conducting site visits to partner pantries in Cuyahoga County. These visits have given the team the benefit of hearing first-hand stories and experiences from a variety of pantry managers over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic and allowed to assess readiness and interest in the Food Ranking System, "Supporting Wellness at Pantries" (SWAP). Over the next few months, the REACH team will be working with select choice pantries to pilot and evaluate SWAP here locally as well as continue to identify and address the needs of pantries, such as PPE supplies, marketing, and behavioral design activities, education opportunities, and storage needs.



*Menu of Meat Options at pantry on West Side of Cleveland*

This work is part of the local REACH initiative, through HIP-Cuyahoga. The PRCHN is leading the food systems and food service guideline activities of the grant. To learn more about the REACH activities, visit [www.prchn.org/fsg](http://www.prchn.org/fsg).

*For more information about the REACH work, please contact Morgan Taggart at [mxt403@cased.edu](mailto:mxt403@cased.edu)*

## FETCH Project to Begin Smoking Cessation Outreach

The Food Security, Tobacco Cessation, and Health (FETCH) project is progressing towards its third and final project aim, which is to conduct smoking cessation outreach in community-based food assistance settings, towards increasing the reach of accessible but underutilized evidence-based cessation resources, such as the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line.

Towards this, the FETCH team spent the summer engaging with its Resident Advisory Group to inform tobacco cessation outreach activities. In July and August, we held a series of guided discussion sessions over Zoom, led by Adrianna Smell, a qualitative researcher and sociology PhD student. The team received valuable insights from residents who were currently or formerly using tobacco and had personal experience with food insecurity and visiting food pantries for food. The team is grateful for their valuable insights about the potential value of cessation outreach in food pantries and for sharing their perceptions around health-related messaging strategies. This information was used to devise our outreach program that is set to launch in late 2021-early 2022. The PRCHN and FETCH team remains grateful to the Hunger Network for their partnership.

*For more information about FETCH, please contact Dr. Jin Kim-Mozeleski at [jxk1225@case.edu](mailto:jxk1225@case.edu).*

# Cleveland African American Prostate Cancer Project

"The Cleveland African American Prostate Cancer Project" is the newest collaborative research project with the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center. This work is funded by the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation and aims to reduce prostate cancer disparities among Black men in Cleveland and our surrounding community. Through partnering with local barbershops, CAAPP will create comprehensive and culturally appropriate approaches to early prostate cancer screening and genetic testing beginning at age 40 in community settings. CAAPP is innovative in that it will provide men with a community navigator through the barbershops that will facilitate their navigation into follow-up services and care with the goal of establishing a long-term clinical care relationship for all men screened.

At the heart of this project is the co-development of activities by community stakeholders, institutional partners, and investigators to ensure CAAPP is rooted in the community's experience, needs, and preferences. In partnership with our Community Advisory Working Group, we have begun our early phase project activities, including discussing ideas for delivering prostate cancer education to men and their families and community engagement events that would motivate men for screening.



*Screenshot from the Community Advisory Working Group Meeting on October 4th, 2021*

This will be one of the initial strategies to inform the development of a sustainable program. Our next activity includes hosting our Listening Tour, where we will gather broad input from prostate cancer survivors, men and their partners, and other stakeholders to learn about Black men's experiences, beliefs, concerns, needs, and barriers to engaging in prostate cancer screening and genetic testing. This will be one of the initial strategies to inform the development of a sustainable program.



## CFLASH project presents at the National Institute of Health's Tobacco Regulatory Science Meeting

The lead authors for one of the CFLASH team's presentations were NIDA-funded summer intern Christopher Otieno from Kentucky State University and Case Comprehensive Cancer Center intern Nichele Abeyesundere from Shaker Heights High School.

Christopher and Nichele's abstract used CFLASH data from an extensive survey of young adult cigarillo users to explore whether they would switch to menthol cigarettes if they could no longer access flavored cigarillos. The interns' abstract was selected for presentation at the Tobacco Regulatory Sciences Conference (TRS) due to the importance of this topic. Young tobacco users frequently use flavored products and typically report using a flavored product when first using tobacco. Flavor ban proposals often exclude menthol; therefore, it is vital to understand how young tobacco users may shift their usage from other flavored products with emerging policies that allow for the continued availability of menthol cigarettes. Christopher and Nichele's analysis found that survey participants who had ever used menthol cigarettes were more likely to report that they would switch to using menthol cigarettes if flavored cigarillos became unavailable than participants who had never used menthol cigarettes.

Due to midterm scheduling conflicts, Dr. Erika Trapl gave this presentation at the TRS conference. The presentation expanded to examine demographic differences between participants who would switch to menthol cigarettes if flavored cigarillos became unavailable to understand whether minoritized populations were more likely to change products in the event of flavor bans that exclude menthol, exacerbating disparities in usage. You can find the presentation from TRS on our website at [www.prchn.org/CFLASH](http://www.prchn.org/CFLASH).

The CFLASH team is proud of the work of interns Christopher Otieno and Nichele Abeyesundere on this abstract and analysis and anticipates presenting these findings in a future manuscript.



**Christopher Otieno**



**Nichele Abeyesundere**

## PUBLICATIONS

### How cancer programs identify and address the financial burdens of rural cancer patients

October 2021 | *Supportive Care in Cancer*

Victoria Petermann, Whitney E. Zahnd, Robin C. Vanderpool, Jan M. Eberth, Catherine Rohweder, Randall Teal, Maihan Vu, Lindsay Stradtman, Elizabeth Frost, Erika Trapl, Sarah Koopman Gonzalez, Thuy Vu, Linda K. Ko, Allison Cole, Paige E. Farris, Jackilen Shannon, Jessica Lee, Natoshia Askelson, Laura Seegmiller, Arica White, Jean Edward, Melinda Davis & Stephanie B. Wheeler

### Neighborhood Ethnic Composition and Self-rated Health Among Chinese and Vietnamese American Immigrants.

June 2021 | *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*

Guan A, Kim-Mozeleski JE, Vyas P, Stewart SL, Gildengorin G, Burke NJ, Ma K, Pham AT, Tan J, Lu Q, McPhee SJ, Tsoh JY

## PRESENTATIONS

### Characterizing socioeconomic, lifestyle, and comorbidity mediators of racial disparities in ambulatory impairments in MS

October 2021 | Consortium of MS Centers Annual Meeting,  
Briggs FBS, Trapl ES, Conway DS, Gunzler DD

### Young adult substitution of flavored cigarillos with menthol cigarettes.

October 2021 | NIH Tobacco Regulatory Science Annual Meeting  
Otieno C, Abeyesundere N, Osborn C, Klein E, Quisenberry A, Trapl ES

### Cigarillo purchase task comparison of sexual and gender minority women and their counterparts

October 2021 | NIH Tobacco Regulatory Science Annual Meeting  
Quisenberry A, Klein EG, Trapl ES

### Flavor perceptions of cigarillos and e-cigarette products: A qualitative evaluation

October 2021 | NIH Tobacco Regulatory Science Annual Meeting  
Koopman Gonzalez S, Quisenberry AJ, Pike Moore S, Kaur M\*, Osborn CC, Klein EG, Trapl ES

### FreshFinder: An interactive food access map connecting food-insecure residents with health food options in Cleveland, OH

September 2021 | NIH Food Insecurity Conference  
Borawski E, Kucmanic M, Belzile-Davidson M\*, Gardenhire R, Gorham B, Trapl ES

### Identifying High Priority Clinical Topics via a Statewide Needs Assessment: The Cardi-OH Collaborative

August 2021 | American Association of Diabetes Educators Annual Conference  
Beverly, Elizabeth A., Koopman Gonzalez, Sarah, Dungan, Kathleen M., Wright, Jackson T., Rao, Goutham, Solomon, Glen D., Holliday, Michael B., Baughman, Kristin R., Konstan, Michael W., & Bolen, Shari D. on behalf of Cardi-OH.



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