



Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
at Case Western Reserve University

## PRCHN Research Seminar Series

### The FARE Project: Using a Health Equity Framework to Improve Access to Healthy Food

**Presented by: Morgan Taggart, MUPDD, Director, Healthy Food Access Initiatives, PRCHN; and the FARE team**

**Wednesday, March 11th, 2020, 12:00 - 1:15 pm**

Health equity has become a popular topic within public health communities the last few years. While it's relatively easy to adopt the language of equity, what does it look like when a community health initiative places those values in the center of their work and rethinks their organization and programming through an equity lens? In 2019, Food Access Raises Everyone [FARE] decided to assess the alignment of their work with their values through a diversity, equity and inclusion framework and made significant changes to their approach and how community members and stakeholders are integrated into their programming and decision making. FARE is an initiative developed by The Food Trust (TFT) in 2014, to increase the capacity and coordination of local, Cleveland-based stakeholders and strengthen their current efforts to increase food access and improve health. FARE partners with community members and local organizations supporting farmers markets and nutrition incentives; healthy food retail and healthy food financing initiatives; urban agriculture projects; and nutrition education and seeks to position local leaders to achieve their long-term goals.

This presentation will share an overview of FARE's approach to food access work in Cleveland and how FARE's staff and advisors assessed their work using a health equity lens and developed a new community-based participatory framework to guide their decision making and work moving forward. FARE will also present a case study of the impact of adopting this new framework on the outcomes of a nutrition education program, Heart Smarts that was implemented in two other cities [San Jose, CA and Indianapolis, IN] in 2019.



(Pictured left to right):

**Morgan Taggart**, Project Director: Morgan guides program design and implementation, provides technical assistance to local partners and manages partnerships for The FARE Project. She was the co-founder of the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition. She received her BA in Biology From Earlham College and a Masters in Urban Planning, Design and Development from Cleveland State University.

**Ronnetta Stallworth**, FARE Outreach Associate: Ronnetta provides nutrition education to corner stores and small grocery stores in Cleveland and East Cleveland through the Heart Smarts program. She previously worked for the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority connecting CMHA residents to job opportunities. She cares passionately about people and is committed to challenging herself and others to create positive change.

**Wyndi Moore**, FARE Outreach Associate: Wyndi organizes and supports FARE's Lower Kinsman Community Collective, a group of community members working to address social determinants of health in their neighborhood. She is working to end the food apartheid in underserved communities by creating a "healthy inclusive food system" in which community members take the lead in building equity in their communities. Wyndi is a Certified Community Health worker and will graduate from Baldwin Wallace in May 2020 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and a focus in Public Health.

**Alysha Ellis**, FARE Advisor: Alysha has been involved with the FARE Project since the beginning as a grantee, then as a FARE Fellow and now as as Advisor to the project. She is the co-founder of Freshly Rooted, a local business whose mission is to support, empower, and engage by utilizing a culturally-relevant and holistic approach to make sustainable health and lifestyle choices. Alysha has a Bachelor's of Science in Urban Studies and an MBA from Cleveland State University.

**Tanisha Velez**, Project Associate: Tanisha organizes and supports the Clark-Fulton Community Collective on Cleveland's near west side and coordinates Heart Smarts nutrition education programming in local corner stores. She is passionate about making fresh produce available in Cleveland and recognizes the importance of working together to change lives for the better.

*The PRCHN Seminar Series is open to the public and takes place from 12:00 - 1:15 on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the BioEnterprise Building, 11000 Cedar Avenue, Room 03A-B*

*Parking is available and a light lunch is served. Contact Madeline Castele at: [mcc92@case.edu](mailto:mcc92@case.edu) for more information.*



**The Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhood's mission is to foster partnerships within Cleveland's urban neighborhoods for developing, testing, and implementing strategies to prevent and reduce the burden of chronic disease.**