

Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) Activities Across the Translational Research Continuum

Abstracts

COE Supplements to NCI-Designated Cancer Centers 2020–2021

December 2020

Administrative Supplements for the NCI P30 Cancer Center Support Grants to support COE activities across the translational research continuum

Historically, COE activities have been concentrated in cancer centers' Population Science/Cancer Prevention and Control Research Programs. However, COE efforts should ideally span all cancer center programs, including basic, clinical, translational, and population research. In FY20, NCI issued a call for Cancer Center Administrative Supplements to support COE activities that focus on either basic science (Option 1) or the translation of evidence-based interventions into community practice (Option 2). The long-term goal of the supplement initiative is to build capacity for cancer centers' COE programs to adapt and implement evidence-based programs and successfully collaborate with cancer center investigators across research programs and in partnership with community members.

Option 1	Option 2
Centers will develop, pilot, and evaluate a one-year capacity building project that either serves to initiate a new collaboration between COE, community partners, and one of the Center's basic research programs or enhance an existing collaboration	Centers will conduct a one-year project that assesses how Cancer Centers identify, adapt, implement, and evaluate existing evidence-based interventions (EBIs) in collaboration with community stakeholders

List of Funded Cancer Centers**Page Number****Option 1:**

Case Western Reserve University	4
Duke University Medical Center	4
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center	5
Northwestern University	5
Thomas Jefferson University	5
University of Alabama at Birmingham	6
University of Arizona	6
University of California, Davis	7
University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center	7
University of Colorado	8
The University of Kansas Cancer Center	8
University of Oklahoma	8
University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center	9
Vanderbilt University	9
Virginia Commonwealth University	10
Wake Forest University Health Sciences	10

Option 2:

Baylor College of Medicine	11
Harvard/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute	11
New York University Langone Medical Center	11
University of California at Los Angeles	12
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	12
University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute	12
Yale University School of Medicine	13

Option 1

Institution: Case Western Reserve University

Project Contact(s): Erika Trapl

Project Title: Integrating Community Outreach and Engagement Activities into Basic Science Research Programs and Training

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to develop, support, and sustain a COE infrastructure that will engage basic scientists and encourage them to make their research more connected to the communities served by the cancer center. The initiative will provide a platform for basic scientists in the Molecular Oncology (MO) Program to understand the unique challenges within the cancer center's catchment area in regard to cancer risk, treatment, and survivorship, and encourage these scientists to structure their research around these issues. The project will also establish a program to educate the community on the value of basic science discoveries in developing new approaches for treating and preventing cancer, and develop partnerships between community partners and scientists for bidirectional information sharing. Specific activities that will be carried out as part of this supplement project include (1) assessing perceptions, motivations, barriers, and capacity-building needs through interviews with basic science investigators in the MO program as well members of the Community Advisory Board, (2) developing a set of strategies for engaging and supporting basic scientists in the MO Program in bidirectional learning with community partners, (3) implementing and evaluating strategies (such as collaborative working retreats) within the MO Program, and (4) promoting increased institutional engagement and support for collaborative research with community stakeholders, for example, by integrating COE principles into cancer training program activities.

Institution: Duke University Medical Center

Project Contact(s): Nadine Barrett, Jenny Freedman, and Tomi Akinyemiju

Project Title: BASIC Engage: Engaging Community Partners and Basic Scientists in Collaborative Research

Program Overview:

This supplement will develop and pilot test an innovative basic science and community engagement program at the cancer center with the goal of enhancing and extending the cancer center's robust COE and basic science research infrastructure to build capacity for rigorous, high-impact community—basic science research collaborations. The program, titled "BASIC Engage," will include a matchmaking and engagement platform designed to support bidirectional communication and co-learning for community partners and basic scientists toward the co-development of mutually beneficial projects and grant proposals. The project team will host trainings, educational programs, panel sessions, and virtual conferences with basic scientists and community partners to support bidirectional communication and highlight the benefits of collaboration and opportunities for partnered research. The project team will also conduct surveys with basic scientists and community partners to assess knowledge and awareness of basic science and community engagement, the current use of such collaborations, perspectives around the benefits, value, and utility of such collaboration, and interest and readiness to explore community and basic science collaborations, and use the results of these surveys to inform the program's ongoing support for community and basic science collaborations. Lastly, the team will pilot test the development of a community stakeholder and basic science research collaboration focused on prostate cancer. Throughout the course of the funding cycle, community partners and basic scientists will have regular meetings to fine-tune the pilot research project aims, identify key questions that are a priority to the community, and develop a full collaborative research proposal.

Institution: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Project Contact(s): Jay Mendoza, Ray Monnat, Jonathan Cooper, Kathy Briant, and Hallie Pritchett

Project Title: Integrating Basic Science and Community-Engaged Research Teams: Lost in Translation No More

Program Overview:

The overall goal of this supplement is to increase capacity for community-engaged research at the cancer center via bidirectional linkages between the Office of Community Outreach and Engagement, community partners, and investigators in the Cancer Basic Biology Program. While the cancer center has many community-engaged research projects, very few are focused on research at the “basic science” phase. In order to address this gap, the team will undertake several capacity-building activities. These activities include creating a “Transdisciplinary Consult Service” that will match basic science researchers with clinical and/or population sciences researchers and enable them to obtain input on their projects from community stakeholders, and hosting a “Transdisciplinary Research Retreat” with basic, clinical, and population sciences researchers and Community Action Coalition members to catalyze ideas for early translational, transdisciplinary pilot projects. The proposal will also establish a “Consortium Translational Pilot Grants Program” for transdisciplinary, early translational phase projects relevant to the catchment area that include basic scientists and community stakeholders. At the end of the funding period, a “Transdisciplinary Symposium and Report to the Community” event will be held where pilot program progress and best practices for establishing transdisciplinary teams will be presented.

Institution: Northwestern University

Project Contact(s): Melissa Simon, Tarneka Manning, Adam Murphy, and Laura Tom

Project Title: Leveraging citizen scientists to infuse community perspectives within bench and translational science at Lurie Cancer Center

Program Overview:

This supplement aims to increase bidirectional linkages between community stakeholders as Citizen Scientists and the cancer center’s basic research program scientists. The team will accomplish this by developing, piloting, and evaluating a six-person Citizen Scientist brigade that will spend a few months rotating between three basic science research teams where they will spend time listening, learning, and discussing the research from a community perspective. The citizen scientists will be representatives of local minority community organizations and schools, as well as patient advocates. They will contribute their unique views and experiences to the research team, and their involvement will help basic science researchers learn to discuss their science in lay language and frame their work in a way that will be relevant to patients and community members.

Institution: Thomas Jefferson University

Project Contact(s): Amy Leader, Quincy Greene, and Rebecca Melillo

Project Title: From Nuclei to Neighborhoods: Integrating Community Outreach and Engagement Across the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Research Programs

Program Overview:

The supplement proposes three main activities. The first is an environmental scan of the center’s research programs, which will assess the extent to which each program’s research portfolio is reflective of the priorities of the center’s catchment area, the readiness and capacity of each research program to embrace COE-reflective research, and challenges and opportunities to enhance COE representation within each research program. The second activity is the creation of an academic-community partnership between members of the LGBTQ community and investigators in the Cancer Cell Biology and Signaling Program to advance research related to the metabolic pathway of HPV-related cancers (this partnership will prepare and embed community members into the research protocol to enhance recruitment of biological samples from the LGBTQ community). The third activity involves enhancing bidirectional linkages between cancer center investigators and community members by (1) establishing an interactive program to train investigators about principles and practices of speaking plainly about their research with a lay audience, and (2) holding an event where investigators share their research and engage with the community.

Institution: University of Alabama at Birmingham

Project Contact(s): Monica Baskin, Claudia Hardy, and Rochelle Wallace

Project Title: Integrating basic science and community outreach and engagement to bridge the transdisciplinary cancer research continuum

Program Overview:

This supplement proposes to develop, pilot, and evaluate a program that will (1) establish a new collaboration between the Office of Community Outreach and Engagement (OCOE), the Experimental Therapeutics (ET) Research Program, and community stakeholders; (2) enhance an established community-based cancer educational program to include tailored basic science information matching the health literacy of the audience; and (3) facilitate novel lines of basic science research inquiry relevant to the catchment area. Specific activities undertaken as part of the project include development of a four-session training program to facilitate knowledge transfer and skills acquisition among those participating in the newly established collaboration, creation of tailored materials focused on basic science, precision medicine, and clinical trials for use by the cancer education program, and implementation of a program to fund pilot studies and/or supplement existing studies to address research questions generated via bidirectional communication with the OCOE or community members.

Institution: University of Arizona

Project Contact(s): Jennifer Hatcher, Monica Yellowhair, and David Garcia

Project Title: Building Capacity for Collaborative Research Between Basic Sciences and Underrepresented Communities in the UACC Catchment Area

Program Overview:

The purpose of this supplement is to facilitate equitable, collaborative, and sustainable relationships between community stakeholders and basic scientists with the goal of decreasing cancer disparities among Hispanics in the cancer center's catchment area and beyond. The proposed project consists of four phases. In Phase I, a working group consisting of basic scientists and community stakeholders (e.g., clinical partners) will be established—this working group will develop and vet projects to address issues that are priorities for the community and within the expertise of the cancer center's basic scientists. A "Research Ambassadors" mentoring program for students and a "Community Ambassadors" program for community members will also be established in Phase I. In Phase II, research projects that reflect the expertise of basic science researchers will be presented to the working group (e.g., identifying genetic mechanisms associated with increased risk of prostate cancer death or identifying genetic mechanisms associated with increased risk of developing triple negative breast cancer in the Hispanic population). The working group will provide input on these proposals in order to come up with a few well-developed projects that are tailored to community needs, implementable in collaboration with community partners, and within the expertise of the basic scientists at the cancer center. Phase II also includes a community-based survey that will elicit feedback on these proposed research projects. In Phase III, revised project proposals will be presented to community members in a series of "scientific cafés." The final phase will focus on building sustainability for the selected projects and developing a system for dissemination of research across the catchment area.

Institution: University of California, Davis

Project Contact(s): Chen Moon, Ramsey Badawi, and Lorenzo Nardo

Project Title: Towards Enhanced Access for State-of-the-Art Imaging Technologies for Racial/Ethnic Minorities: A Community Outreach and Engagement-Biomedical Technology Program Collaboration

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement project is to initiate a new collaboration between the Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) program and the Biomedical Technology Program (BTP) at the cancer center in order to improve the precision of the EXPLORER advanced imaging tool by broadening the representation of healthy racial/ethnic minority participants. The project aims explore whether leveraging COE assets with community stakeholders can synergistically enhance the utility, validation, and dissemination of EXPLORER's radiological and diagnostic capabilities. To achieve these aims, the project team will solicit input from the cancer center's Community Advisory Board regarding messaging about the significance of the EXPLORER imaging tool for racial/ethnic minority populations and create a revised YouTube video about EXPLORER based on the board's feedback. An invitation to view the video will be disseminated to racial/ethnic minorities in the cancer center's catchment area using Facebook. The project team will then conduct a pilot study for a modified version of NCT04110743, focused on racial/ethnic minority healthy participants enrolled along with assessments of their genomically determined ancestry. NCT04110743 is an ongoing, IRB-approved clinical trial. The IRB will be amended so that a 3-5 ml blood draw can be taken to be utilized for quantitative, genetics-based estimates of ancestry (e.g., African, Chinese, Columbian, Western European, Mexican, Vietnamese), which is especially valuable in the case of admixed individuals. The final aim focuses on conducting a mixed-methods evaluation of the overall supplement activities and planning for a larger research study based on the pilot.

Institution: University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Project Contact(s): Nita Lee, Gina Curry, and Alia Poulos

Project Title: UCCCC Community Outreach Research Engagement (CORE) Model: A Pilot Framework for Integrating COE across the Cancer Research Continuum

Program Overview:

This supplement focuses on developing, piloting, and evaluating a one-year capacity building program for bidirectional engagement among community stakeholders and the cancer center's research programs. Key components of the program include: (1) a formalized structure for building relationships between researchers, community members, and community based organizations; (2) training for community members (survivors, caregivers, health workers or community leaders) in patient research advocacy skills, scientific principles, methods, and the language of basic research; and (3) training of basic and translational scientists in the patient experience, community needs, cancer disparities, and effective scientific communication to diverse non-scientific audiences. After receiving their respective trainings, the scientists and community members will work to develop an interdisciplinary research summit focusing on Cancer and the Microbiome, which will include scientific presentations on cancer and the microbiome by researchers, presentations by community advocates, and interactive breakout sessions.

Institution: University of Colorado

Project Contact(s): Antonio Jimeno, Evelinn Borryo, and Daniel Pacheco

Project Title: Building Capacity to Engage Underrepresented Coloradans in Development Therapeutics Research

Program Overview:

The objective of this supplement is to engage underserved populations in the basic and translational research being conducted by the cancer center's Developmental Therapeutics (DT) program and to build a Research Collaborative that will advance a sustainable research effort focused on addressing cancer disparities. To accomplish this, the team will first characterize cancer disparity "hot spots" in Colorado using a database that integrates data from the All Payer Claims Database and the Colorado Cancer Registry. They will then engage in a formative process with community-based organizations (CBOs) that serve populations in these areas, such as community-based hospitals, to increase the representation of disparity populations from these "hot spots" in developmental therapeutics research. The team will convene a steering committee comprised of DT researchers and selected CBO partners to (1) build a common understanding of project goals, terminology, and methodology, (2) identify cancer disparities of concern to "hot spot" communities, and (3) identify mechanisms to improve and sustain representation of disparity populations in basic and clinical investigations at the cancer center. The steering committee will also provide input on ways to better translate research into clinical practices that benefit disparity populations and help identify research projects on genetic or biological factors that explain cancer disparities and mechanisms to therapeutically target these factors. The team will then pilot test the feasibility of performing research on genomic differences among underrepresented minority groups (with a focus on cancer prevention and biomarkers of treatment response) by utilizing the Colorado Center for Personalized Medicine's Biobank to investigate genetic difference that might explain disparities.

Institution: The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Project Contact(s): Ron Chen, Sara Douglas, and Hope Krebill

Project Title: Patient and Investigator Voices Organizing Together (PIVOT) Across the Translational Research Continuum

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to develop a community-informed and Community Advisory Board-approved community engagement training program for basic scientists in order to establish and strengthen long-lasting collaborations between the COE program, patient stakeholders, and basic science researchers. This type of community engagement training program for basic scientists and a clear rationale for patient-researcher collaboration has been identified by community members as a pressing need. The training program will be offered to researchers at all levels, from graduate students to senior faculty, and will contain both didactic and experiential components. These components include a COE workshop that will provide an overview of COE principles and the relevance of COE activities to basic science investigators, communication skills workshops that will help basic scientists communicate and relate to a lay audience, and a team-building workshop that will reinforce the importance and mutual benefits of the scientist/community collaboration and define the roles and expectations for members of the team. Throughout the year, we will support longitudinal projects focused on collaboration between patient research partners and basic scientists assisting them in developing a sustainable partnership.

Institution: University of Oklahoma

Project Contact(s): Mark Doescher, Paul Spicer, and Jessica Blanchard

Project Title: Promoting Engagement for Cancer Biology Research in American Indian Communities

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to foster dialogue about American Indian and Alaska Native participation in basic science research at the cancer center. The project will conduct a series of linked community engagement events focused on tribal members' perspectives regarding the balance between data sharing and data control in developing resources for basic biological research on cancer, and work with leadership of tribal nations in Oklahoma to move toward a model for the stewardship of American Indian and Alaska Native samples and data for basic biological research in cancer. The cancer center has developed a model of co-facilitated deliberations in which university-based researchers partner with community leaders to jointly develop protocols for deliberation. As part of this project, the cancer center will bring partners from each participating tribal community to jointly articulate a question regarding how the cancer center handles tissue and data from American Indian and Alaska Native participants and develop protocols to answer this question. Each participating tribal community will then host a separate deliberation event on this common question. Deliberation events generally have gathered 15–20 people for 1.5 days and are jointly facilitated by a member of the research team and a community member, but will be modified to be conducted virtually over a longer time period to protect participant safety during the pandemic; the goal of these discussions is to identify salient issues for policy makers to consider. Following each deliberation event, a deliberation report will be made available to inform tribal policy development and recommendations will be synthesized for cancer center and tribal leadership.

Institution: University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center

Project Contact(s): Kristen Litzelman, Allison Dahlke, Sarah Marcotte, Andrea Plassman, Sara Richie, Angela Flickinger, and Rebecca Shirley

Project Title: Building Relationships to Connect Cancer Researchers with Community Members: Bench to Community Pipeline

Program Overview:

This supplement will utilize the University of Wisconsin's Division of Extension framework to build infrastructure that the cancer center's basic scientists can leverage to connect with and learn from Wisconsin communities. The supplement proposes three strategies for connecting basic science researchers with community stakeholders. First, the team will create linkages between the cancer center and the University of Wisconsin Division of Extension's 72-county educator framework in order to foster engagement through cancer outreach and education. These linkages will create opportunities for bidirectional learning, as the educators will share their local knowledge of community needs relating to cancer control and research capacity and will in turn gain access to important cancer control information for their community members. As part of these efforts, a "community connections" website will be established that will house resources and serve as a portal for community members, Extension Educators, and faculty. Second, a COE "in-reach" initiative will be established that educates and trains basic scientists on the science of COE, its importance to the core mission of the cancer center, and how to use that knowledge to increase the impact of their research. In addition to training researchers on best practices in community engagement and science communication, the "in-reach" initiative will also provide basic researchers with data and reports on needs within the catchment area so that basic scientists can work to make their research more community-driven. Lastly, one collaborative pilot project will be identified and facilitated. The pilot project will involve Community Outreach Specialists and Extension Educators working with a team of basic science researchers to partner with a community member or organization to implement a research project.

Institution: Vanderbilt University

Project Contact(s): Debra Friedman, Pierre Massion, Melinda Aldrich, Alissa Weaver, Yong Zou, Kelsey Minix, Anne Washbrun, Patricia Midori, and Jennifer Richmond

Project Title: Engaging community in basic science to reduce lung cancer burden

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to enhance community engagement in the discovery of biomarker-based modalities for the early detection of lung cancer within the cancer center's Host-Tumor Interaction (HT) research program. In order to strengthen the cancer center's capacity for bidirectional community engagement in basic science research focused on innovative biospecimen-based strategies for early detection of lung cancer, the COE Office will implement bidirectional engagement activities with community stakeholders (e.g., community advisory board, survivor/caregiver research advocates) and academic stakeholders in the HT research program. As part of this effort, the team will develop and deliver two training modules: one on community engagement for basic scientists and one on cancer biology research for non-scientists. The team will then facilitate the inclusion of community/patient perspectives in a project exploring candidate biomarkers for early detection of lung cancer by (1) embedding a trained research advocate (lung cancer survivor) with the research team, (2) soliciting input on the project during community advisory board meetings, (3) hosting community tours of HT labs, and (4) administering a survey to patients undergoing lung cancer screening. At the end of the project, scientists and community stakeholders will co-develop digital "research highlights" (e.g., infographics, video) to disseminate the research findings to the community.

Institution: Virginia Commonwealth University

Project Contact(s): Vanessa Sheppard, Maghboeba Mosavel, and Kathy Tossas

Project Title: VCU Massey Cancer Center COE Champions IN-REACH Initiative, Massey Project Inreach-Integrating Neighbor-Researcher Engagement for Cancer Health

Program Overview:

The supplement aims to connect basic scientists in the cancer center's cancer biology program and lay community members from under-resourced neighborhoods within the cancer center's catchment area. The team will accomplish this by first assessing the readiness of scientists and community stakeholders, identifying shared priorities, and developing a bilaterally informed infrastructure/curriculum to build translational dissemination skills among researchers, and then piloting this infrastructure/curriculum to educate and prepare researchers to communicate their work to community members and obtain community feedback. The pilot will entail researchers delivering a series of short talks about their work in community settings such as churches, train stations, and barbershops and receiving real-time feedback via live text polling, followed by focus groups.

Institution: Wake Forest University Health Sciences

Project Contact(s): Ronny Bell and Carla Strom

Project Title: Bidirectional Research: Involving Diverse Groups through Engagement (BRIDGE)

Program Overview:

This supplement proposes to work with the center's Cancer Genetics and Metabolism (CGM) scientific program to implement a bidirectional communication strategy with underserved communities in the cancer center's catchment area focused on basic/translational research. This strategy will involve two components, one targeting the basic scientists at the cancer center, and the other targeting community members. The first strategy will involve the creation of a CGM Community Engagement Core focused on improving knowledge of COE principles and methods among basic-science researchers and developing themes and materials for a streamlined community research curriculum. As part of this program, existing CGM projects will be assessed for relevance to the catchment area and their potential to reduce disparities, a dictionary that explains relevant scientific terminology and methodologies in lay terms will be developed, and CGM members will be selected to present and discuss their research with lay community members at a "research studio." The second strategy will consist of efforts to improve community capacity around engaging with basic scientists through tailored educational programming designed to provide basic knowledge and enable community members to provide input that helps direct CGM research goals and dissemination strategies. To achieve this, the existing "Advocates for Research in Medicine" program will be expanded to include basic/translational research and recruit community members interested in providing input into these types of investigations. Advocates will be volunteers who have a personal experience with cancer (as a survivor, caregiver, or high-risk individual) and complete intensive training so they can work with researchers to advise, review, and implement cancer research projects and disseminate information about these research efforts.

Option 2

Institution: Baylor College of Medicine

Project Contact(s): Debbe Thompson, Jayna Dave, Chishinga Callender, Guisela Mackey, Cynthia Brown, Jane Montealegre, Maria Jibaja-Weiss, Roshanda Chenier, and Danielle Gilmore

Project Title: Modifying the Home Environment to Promote & Support Child Obesity Prevention

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to develop and implement a model for how the cancer center's COE works with community stakeholders and cancer center researchers to adapt and plan for the implementation of EBIs developed by the cancer center in a way that meets the needs of communities in the catchment area. The supplement will focus on the implementation of "Family Eats," an online child obesity prevention program for families of Black/African American children that has been shown to produce improvements in the home food environment, but has not yet been implemented in a community setting. The supplement project will explore the acceptability and appropriateness of the existing Family Eats intervention for the target community, and then develop an implementation strategy to support future implementation of the intervention by community-based organizations. A community advisory board established for the Family Eats intervention will review the existing intervention to identify any needed modifications to the content, structure, or delivery format, and will provide input on potential implementation strategies. The research team will then conduct surveys and interviews with a panel of community stakeholders in order to assess the acceptability, appropriateness, and feasibility of the refined Family Eats intervention and the proposed implementation strategy.

Institution: Harvard/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project Contact(s): Karen Emmons, Bekka Lee, Shoba Ramandhan, Caroline Dunn, and Nora Mueller

Project Title: A National Evaluation of the use of Evidence-Based Interventions in Community Outreach and Engagement

Program Overview:

This supplement proposes to conduct a three-part mixed methods study of NCI-funded Comprehensive Cancer Centers to understand use of EBIs in COE programs and identify best practices. Project activities will include (1) a quantitative portfolio analysis using NIH Reporter to evaluate the level of implementation science expertise at each cancer center and its integration with the COE program, (2) interviews with each cancer center's COE Director to learn about program structure, the strategies/resources used for community engagement, and EBI implementation, and (3) interviews with a sample of COE partners to understand the community perspective on each cancer center's approach to implementation of EBIs.

Institution: New York University Langone Medical Center

Project Contact(s): Chau Trinh-Shevrin, Stella Yi, and Rienna Russo

Project Title: Focus on Obesity Reduction and Tools for Immigrant Families and Youth (FORTIFY)

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to elucidate best practices in participatory approaches for engaging community partners and patient populations around developing, adapting, implementing, and evaluating existing evidence-based interventions (EBI) to meet the needs of the communities served by the cancer center. A secondary aim is to assess the value of integrating implementation science, systems science, and cultural adaptation with community-engaged approaches to identify and adapt cancer prevention and control EBIs for cancer disparity populations. The supplement will use a case-study approach to review past initiatives and assess the process by which the cancer center engages community partners in adapting, implementing, and evaluating the effectiveness of EBIs and identify community engagement best practices for achieving cancer equity. The team will then explore whether a participatory group-modeling and systems science approach can strengthen community engagement and fortify campus-community collaborations to successfully identify, adapt, and implement EBIs to meet community needs for cancer prevention.

Institution: University of California at Los Angeles

Project Contact(s): Alison Herman, Bernadett Leggis, and Sylvia Lopez

Project Title: Adapting e-cigarette prevention programming to reach the Latinx community

Program Overview:

This supplement seeks to address a significant need in the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center's catchment area of Los Angeles County: culturally and linguistically appropriate e-cigarette programming for the Spanish-speaking Latinx community that will prevent/reduce e-cigarette use among youth and empower parents to address vaping with their children. The UCLA Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) team will work with Visión y Compromiso, a long-standing community partner that has a 20-year history of capacity building with promotores, in order to adapt and implement e-cigarette prevention programming for predominantly low-income Latinx communities. The project will be guided by the literature and a Project Advisory Committee comprised of cancer center researchers, promotores, tobacco control leaders, and community residents. The first part of the project will entail adapting numerous high-quality, recently developed resources, including components of the Stanford Tobacco Prevention Toolkit, the California Department of Public Health's Flavors Hook Kids campaign, and the American Lung Association's Vaping Conversation Guide, to create a training curriculum for promotores as well as resources to support their e-cigarette prevention activities in the community. These efforts will be informed by focus groups with promotores and residents from the target communities. Once the materials have been finalized, they will be used to train approximately 100 promotores to deliver the e-cigarette intervention to the community through a series of community sessions. Feedback on the program from both the promotores and community attendees will be sought after these sessions.

Institution: University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Project Contact(s): Ernie Hawk, Ruth Rechis, Michael Walsh, Katy Oestman, and Stacie Scruggs

Project Title: Be Well Communities™: A Model for Cancer Prevention & Control in Underserved Communities

Program Overview:

Be Well Communities works with community-based organizations to build their capacity to deliver and evaluate EBIs, creates strong community linkages, advances professional and policy changes, establishes an active health coalition, and creates a transition and sustainability plan with the community. The supplement project proposes to deploy this model in a high-need, high-capacity community (Acres Homes) to further test and refine this approach to expanding evidence-based impact in real-world settings. The "community assessment" phase of the project has already been completed, and the supplement will support the "planning" phase of the project, which consists of three aims. The first aim is to convene community stakeholders to share results of the community assessment, develop a common agenda, and facilitate strong community partnerships. The second aim is to provide support and capacity building to community-based organizations in Acres Homes and to select EBIs that are mission-aligned and cancer prevention-focused. The third aim is to develop a Community Action Plan with residents, local healthcare institutions, and other stakeholders that describes which EBIs are to be implemented, how/when/by whom they are to be implemented, and what metrics will be used to evaluate the success of the implementation effort.

Institution: University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute

Project Contact(s): David Wetter, Melissa Hall, Heather Haley, and Janna Gordon

Project Title: Partnerships to Advance the Adoption of Evidence-Based Interventions in Rural/Frontier States

Program Overview:

The goal of this supplement is to collaborate with cancer control and community health center leadership in Montana to improve cancer survivorship efforts in underserved populations and low resource healthcare settings across the state. The project team is using the MAP-IT program planning framework to guide their efforts to build partnerships in Montana and have already begun the work of mobilizing key community partners and assessing community needs/priorities. Based on this formative work, the proposed project will focus on assisting partners with identifying and selecting EBIs to address areas of need as well as developing and implementing Project ECHO (a telementoring intervention) as a platform for disseminating EBIs, best practices, evaluation measures, and existing resources to primary care settings. Planned activities include reviewing and selecting EBIs to address issues faced by cancer survivors in Montana, finalizing Project ECHO infrastructure, developing process and outcome metrics, implementing the Project ECHO curriculum, recruiting health systems/providers to engage with Project ECHO, and evaluating project processes and outcomes.

Institution: Yale University School of Medicine

Project Contact(s): Beth Jones, Sakinah Suttiratana, and Jose DeJesus

Project Title: Implementing Fit Kit Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Screening in High Risk Populations

Program Overview:

This supplement project proposes to conduct a pilot implementation trial that tests the unique and additive value of incorporating multiple evidence-based strategies for increasing colorectal cancer screening via FIT Kits at a federally qualified health center, while also evaluating the success of implementing these approaches using the RE-AIM model. The trial will compare: (1) medical reminders alone, (2) medical reminders + small group education, (3) medical reminders + education regarding social determinants of health and a one-size-fits-all link to services, and (4) medical reminders + SDOH screening with personalized navigation and tailored resources. The team will evaluate the additive value of these components on completion rates of colorectal cancer screening in approximately 1,600 patients who are overdue for testing and assess the success of the implementation process in the FQHC setting. Evaluation outcomes include implementation acceptability and feasibility, colorectal cancer screening rates by any method, and engagement of community stakeholders (FQHC providers, staff, and patients) throughout the project.