Fall 2020 Newsletter

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CSAAH Compliments!

Congratulations to CSAAH’s very own Dr. Chau Trinh-Shevrin, for her promotion from Associate Professor to Professor in the Departments of Population Health and...
Congratulations to Dr. Nadia Islam, for being awarded tenure at NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Department of Population Health!

Sending a warm and heartfelt congratulations to CSAAH’s MD Taher, who just celebrated his 10 year anniversary at NYU!
CSAAH's Pilot Project Program supports postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty and early stage investigators at NYU Grossman School of Medicine in conducting pilot research and generating preliminary findings on Asian American health and health disparities. Meet our Cycle 4 (2020-2021) awardees and learn a bit about their projects below:

Erin Rogers, DrPH

Project Title: Estimating the prevalence of, and preferences for assistance with, comorbid tobacco use and food insecurity among racial/ethnic minority cancer survivors living in New York

Jeannette M. Beasley, PhD

Project Title: Validating a dietary screener adapted for Asian Americans
Vanessa Rodriguez, EdD
Project Title: Examining educators' social emotional learning, competency, and mental health to inform wellness promotion strategies development: reducing mental health disparities in Asian American educators

Paroma Mitra, MD and Supriya Misra, ScD
Project Title: Identifying structural and cultural influences on the experiences of U.S. South Asians with severe mental illnesses to promote recovery and reintegration
Chan Wang, PhD
Project Title: Identifying the role of microbiome in health disparity in obesity by a novel microbial causal mediation analytic tool

Rebecca Anthopolos, DrPH
Project Title: Identifying and characterizing latent risk groups of cardiometabolic risk factors associated with type 2 Diabetes Mellitus among Asian Americans
Obesity Solutions, Using Systems Applications to Inform Obesity Solutions: A Workshop. This one-day workshop, held on September 16, 2020, aimed to present real-world examples of how systems-thinking can be applied when developing and implementing obesity prevention and treatment research. Systems thinking is a public health approach that considers the influence and impact of various factors (social, racial, economic, and physical) when developing health programs or interventions to address population and community health. Relatedly, NASEM workshop presentations highlighted perspectives from communities, businesses, and policymakers and the session wrapped with an expert panel to discuss next steps needed to make progress in the field. Congratulations, Dr. Yi!

DREAM Virtual Workshops

In partnership with IndiaHome, a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of the larger South Asian senior citizen immigrant community in New York City, the Diabetes Research, Education, and Action for Minorities (DREAM) project team at CSAAH has been hosting virtual (web-based) health education workshops and dance exercise workshops!

On August 12th, 2020, community health workers Sabiha Sultana and MD Jalal Uddin led a health education session on diabetes and healthy living, presented in Bengali.

On August 27th, 2020, CSAAH staff member Sadia Mohaimin led a culturally-tailored low impact dance workshop, presented virtually, in Bengali. We look
DREAM and CHeRI Team Web-based Curricula

CSAAH’s Diabetes Research, Education, and Action for Minorities (DREAM) and Chinese American Health Research Initiative (CHeRI) research teams continue to support our community members and local partners as we work remotely. Both the DREAM and CHeRI health education curricula sessions have shifted to virtual (Zoom) presentations, as well as phone-based sessions. Check out a few screenshots of our team in action in the photos below as they present from home!
Subscribe to our CSAAH YouTube Channel!

Visit our CSAAH YouTube Channel here: https://bit.ly/3mpIAw9

Check out some of our recent video playlists below:

  See a selection of community informational presentations from our CSAAH team and guest speakers about COVID-19.

  Learn more about CSAAH's research and community partnership work through our Digital Stories clips.

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**Continuing to Support our Communities**

**MD Taher**, CSAAH research coordinator and team member with the NYU Community Service Plan project, has been coordinating and hosting food tables and delivering groceries to local communities in need in Queens, NY. CSAAH's **Mannun Haq** has also been supporting community food tables hosting and providing direct assistance to community members.
"Sounds of Chinatown"
CSAAH is pleased to announce that we were selected to receive a 2020 AARP Community Challenge grant in August 2020. We are one of 184 grantees selected from across all 50 states, Washington D.C, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to receive this funding award.

**Sounds of Chinatown** grew out of a community-led initiative and is focused on Chinatown’s sounds and noises. This project aims to bring together Chinatown community members of all ages in order to:
- Share noise-related neighborhood experiences and concerns,
- Consider noise data-sharing and use of noise data,
- Talk through culturally-relevant strategies to reduce and address noise sources, and
- Create or strengthen pathways to increase civic engagement within the community.

CSAAH is partnering with Chung Pak LDC, Immigrant Social Services (ISS), researchers from NYU Tandon’s Center for Urban Science and Progress (CUSP), and local individual and community partners in Manhattan’s Chinatown to document the past and present sounds and noises of Chinatown, and are hard at work developing our **Sounds of Chinatown** website. We hope these activities will draw attention to noise as a key health concern affecting community health. Our team is developing self-guided "Sound Walks," to encourage community members to explore the acoustic environment of Chinatown. Our team is also developing an interactive, web-based community Story Map and a submission process to invite individuals to record and share their experiences and responses to the sounds of Chinatown. Our goal with this work is to gather and share data on noise in urban environments and to find culturally relevant and hands-on community participatory ways to address and to reduce noise pollution, while also thinking about this unique neighborhood in a different way.
neighborhoods, towns, cities and counties across the country to become great places for residents of all ages.

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**South Asian Young Adult Health Survey**

Dr. Sahnah Lim and the South Asian Young Adult Advisory Board developed an anonymous web-based survey over the summer to understand the health of South Asian young adults in and around New York City (NYC) -- specifically related to sexual violence and mental health. This survey was created in response after several young adult survivors from the South Asian community in NYC spoke out on social media about their past experiences with sexual abuse.

The survey tool assesses a variety of facets related to sexual abuse, such as attitudes, perception, frequency and mental health outcomes. Research and data on these topics is critical, as it helps to inform future funding, programs, resource allocation, and policy changes specifically for the South Asian community. Results from this study, along with other Gender Equity related studies led by Dr. Lim at CSAAH, will be shared at a virtual community listening session planned for **Tuesday, November 17th from 6:30PM - 8:00PM.**

Please email sadia.mohaimin@nyulangone.org if you are interested in staying updated on the upcoming listening session or follow @NYU_CSAAH on Twitter!

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**CDC COVID-19 Rapid Response Projects with APIAHF**
Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AA and NH&PI) response to the COVID-19 pandemic. APIAHF is leading two Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded projects aimed at addressing COVID-19 health disparities:

- **The Forging Asian & Pacific Islander Community Partnerships for Rapid Response to COVID-19** project is leveraging partnerships with national organizations that serve Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NH&PI). Participating partner organizations are working together in analyzing COVID-19 data to understand how the pandemic is affecting AA and NH&PI communities. This collaborative team will also work to develop community-facing COVID-19 health education materials related to testing, how/where to access testing, how to respond to test results, and more to support developing programs and services. Health education material information will be based on the CDC’s COVID-19 resources and recommendations. Project partners include: CSAAH, the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA), the Coalition for Asian American Children + Families (CACF), the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA), and the Pacific Islander Center of Primary Care Excellence (PI-CoPCE).

- **Project Firstline** aims to support the national Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander healthcare workforce using CDC-developed Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) training curricula and resources. This project looks to specifically strengthen IPC training for a broader range of AA and NH&PI health workers working at the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, including nurses and related care providers, nursing home staff, visiting nurse service (VNS) staff, patient navigators, home health aides, community health workers, hospital desk staff or supervisors, or program and administrative staff and other health care personnel, in addition to doctors and clinicians. With APIAHF as the lead, project partners include: CSAAH, the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA), Na Limahana o Lonopuha (NLOL) with Papa Ola Lōkahi as sponsor, and the Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNAAF).

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**Systems to Understand Nutrition, Diet and Active Living Opportunities in Adults 50+ (SUNDIAL)**

CSAAH is excited to begin work on our Systems to Understand Nutrition, Diet and Active Living Opportunities in Adults 50+ (SUNDIAL) project, funded as a supplement to our U54 Center Grant from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. This work will expand our existing research on Alzheimer’s disease and its related dementias through new participatory systems science and implementation science research. Project goals look to identify achievable ways to improve lifestyle behaviors to prevent or slow cognitive decline in mid to older aged Chinese and Mexican adults.

Research activities for the SUNDIAL project include: conducting formative research to understand the current landscape of evidence-based approaches, policies and programs, and lifestyle behaviors in mid to older-aged Chinese and Mexican adults.
There is a critical need to develop, test and put into action culturally appropriate population-level approaches with a potential to prevent or slow cognitive decline. SUNDIAL represents a great opportunity to build community capacity, move forward the science of participatory methods, and ultimately move the needle on reducing Alzheimer’s disease and its related dementias disparities for diverse communities.

### NYS Health Insurance Enrollment

Need help applying for health insurance? Our certified navigators are here to help, at no cost to you! If you are in need of health insurance enrollment assistance or know of someone who would like assistance enrolling for coverage, please contact us. CSAAH health insurance navigators speak English, Bengali, Urdu, Hindi and Punjabi! Check out the flyer below for more information.

Due to coronavirus (COVID-19), thousands of people in New York City may have lost their jobs and health insurance. Do you or someone you know need help applying for health insurance through NY State of Health Marketplace? Eligible individuals without coverage can apply for Qualified Health Plans through NY State of Health through January 31, 2021. If eligible for Medicaid, Essential Plan and Child Health Plus – they can enroll anytime of the year!

**Open Enrollment starts Nov. 1, 2020 and ends Jan. 31, 2021**

Our certified Navigators are here to help, at no cost to you! They can answer your health insurance related questions and refer you to sign up for unemployment insurance.

Our Navigators enroll clients into all plans! Let your family and friends know!

For assistance, call today:

- 347.271.2018—Murshedah Ahmed
- 347.712.0632—Sabiha Sultana (Bengali, English, Hindi)
- 646.877.4305 OR 646.501.3496—Sidra Zafar (Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu, English)

A reminder that there is NO COST for COVID-19 Testing across Medicaid, Child Health Plus, Essential Plan, and Qualified Health Plans.

### SAVE THE DATE: Health Disparities Symposium

Registration for NYU Langone’s 6th Annual Health Disparities Symposium is open! This year’s event will be held virtually over the course of the week of October 13th, 2020. The symposium will also feature a series of engaging talks from inspiring leaders addressing health disparities and advancing health equity!
the François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, FXB Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and former New York City Commissioner of Health from 2014 to 2018. Continuing medical and nursing education (CME/CNE) credits will be available to participants.

For additional information about the event, including learning objectives, agenda, and speaker bios, please visit: bit.ly/hdd2020

To register for this FREE virtual event, please visit: bit.ly/registerhdd2020
Impact of COVID-19 in NYC Communities - Mount Sinai Survey

CSAAH is one of several partners working with researchers at Mount Sinai Health System to understand the impact of COVID-19 on New York City (NYC) communities. Black, Latinx, Asian, immigrant and other groups in NYC have been hit harder by COVID-19 than others, and its effects will be with us for a long time. This is one of
Survey researchers have set a goal to ask 10,000 people aged 18 years or older who live in NYC to complete a 15-minute voluntary survey. Survey responses will educate policymakers, community-based organizations, and healthcare providers to get resources to those that need them most. To take the survey, please visit the website: is.gd/nycovid OR text COVID to 90407.

To learn more, visit the SPEAK UP on COVID-19 website: https://www.speakuponcovid.org

> Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhumane.”
> - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

> VISIT is.gd/nycovid or
> TEXT COVID to 90407
> to be a part of the fight for change.

Black, Latinx, Asian, immigrant, and other groups in NYC have been hit harder by COVID-19 than others, and its effects will be with us for a long time.

It's time to speak up for change.

Why a survey? We need data to be able to make change to eliminate health disparities in our communities. Your survey responses will educate policymakers, community-based organizations, and healthcare providers to get resources to those that need them most.

Do your part. Take the survey.

VISIT is.gd/nycovid

The data we collect is not ours, it's yours. Visit: www.SpeakUpOnCovid.org to interact with the data & get resources.

*Reminder to Complete the 2020 Census!*
There is still time to complete your Census form and be counted! The Census takes place once every **TEN** years. It only takes a few minutes to respond to the Census survey to support our communities and to be seen! If you have not yet completed it, click the link below to complete your Census survey today! [https://my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)

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**New CSAAH Publications**


6. Feldman JM, Conderino S, Islam NS, Thorpe LE. Subgroup Variation and Neighborhood Social Gradients-an Analysis of Hypertension and Diabetes...


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