

Enhancing *Let's Get Healthy* through Cross-Cultural Research Partnership

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Abstract

Minority populations carry the greatest burden of many chronic diseases in this country and many community organizations develop programs designed to engage very specific populations. Though there are many cross-cutting health concerns, programs are often recreated from scratch for different communities, resulting in increased costs and a reduced opportunity to build on the efforts of others.

This proposal represents a collaboration across three existing and successful community-based organizations—Asian Health & Service Center, the African American Health Coalition, and the Native American Rehabilitation Association—representing distinct minority populations linked with a research partner, Oregon Health & Science University. The initial efforts of our partnership will be to tailor an existing health promotion program, “Let’s Get Healthy!” (“LGH!”), a research and education event that is designed to provide education about individual health and disease risk and serve as the basis for population level research. The purpose is to establish a Cross-Cultural Research Partnership that will enhance the development of culturally competent materials and approaches for “LGH!” The group chose AHSC to spearhead the pilot project—tailoring “LGH!” for the Asian community.

Partners will jointly develop a strategy to allow for community-specific tailoring. The research committee will identify areas within “LGH!” that may be particularly sensitive to one or more community groups, due to historical precedent, stereotyping or other issues; require tailored feedback, either in language, in presentation or in content; and be of specific importance to a community and hence require additional or more detailed data collection.