



RCMI CENTER FOR HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH

RCHDR - RCMI

Research Center for Health Disparities Research (RCHDR) at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) has been funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) through the Research Centers at Minority Institutions (RCMI) grant since 2017. This multidisciplinary effort aims to build and enhance NCCU's capacity to conduct health disparities research and address the widespread health inequities.

At RCMI, we're not just about research; we're about impact. Through cutting edge research, leveraging collaborations and partnerships and guidance from our communities we're shaping the future of health disparities research.



Dr. Deepak Kumar, MPI
Associate Provost and Dean of Research and Sponsored Programs



Dr. Cherise Harrington, MPI
Associate Professor/Senior Researcher

NEWS

»» SEMINAR RECAP | NCCU RCMI IDC



On February 1st, 2024, the NCCU RCMI Investigator Development Core (IDC) hosted an Alumni Seminar featuring Dr. Nina Smith's discussion on "Exploring Day-to-Day Variation in Black Households: Implications for Health and Well-Being," and Dr. Vijay Sivaraman's presentation on "Air Quality in Durham and Pulmonary Health - is this a Health Disparity?" This seminar fostered meaningful connections among attendees, furthering the mission of the NCCU RCMI IDC to support Early-Stage Investigators in their pursuit of health disparities research.

»» HEALTH AND WELLNESS LOVE FEST

NCCU's Health and Wellness Fair buzzed with activities promoting well-being and addressing health disparities. Attendees engaged in surveys, sampled nutritious foods, learned stress-relief techniques, and enjoyed chair massages. The event also showcased community projects supported by NC CEAL and RCMI.



»» FEBRUARY: HEART HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Three events were held in Halifax County in the communities of Tillery and Scotland Neck. Through engaging presentations, participants learned about crucial statistics, symptoms, and lifestyle modifications essential for maintaining a healthy heart.

Alongside informative discussions, enjoyable activities such as music trivia and heart-healthy bingo proved to be extremely popular, with everyone in the room participating.



»» BLACK HISTORY NIGHT



On February 29th we participated in the Black History Night event at Excelsior Classical Academy (a local K-12 school here in Durham), focusing on stress and its effects on our lives. We shared resources for handling stress and encouraged mental health awareness, emphasizing the importance of seeking help when needed.

The event buzzed with vibrant energy as we distributed balloons, crafts, and crayons, fostering connection and creativity among attendees.

»» INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL



On March 16, NCCU RCMI took part in the inaugural International Food Festival spearheaded by mayor Melissa Elliott. Fresh fruits and vegetables from a food pantry were given out to the community, as well as health educational materials and NCCU swag. Hundreds of community members interacted with the NCCU table.

»» MOBILE FREE PHARMACY



The Mobile Free Pharmacy Event was a success, with approximately 400 pre-orders for medications. Among other volunteers, nursing students helped distribute the medications and answer any questions the attendees had. Screening tests were also performed, utilizing our NCCU mobile unit.

»» BBRI | RCMI RESEARCH SEMINAR

On March 27th, attendees gathered at the BBRI Auditorium for a thought-provoking discussion led by Dr. Zainab Afzal. Dr. Afzal provided valuable insights into the impact of PFAS chemicals on early development.

Throughout the session, Dr. Afzal highlighted the potential risks posed by PFAS, emphasizing their adverse effects on early development in zebrafish.



COMING SOON

- 04/05 - Mobile Free Pharmacy
- 04/06 - Delta Sigma Theta Community Health Event
- 04/10 - Wrap it up Block Party
- 04/13 - Womens Health Awareness Conference
- 04/27 - First Lady's Walk and Health Fair
- 04/27 - Farmers Market
- 04/28 - RCMI Conference



For further information regarding event specifics such as location and hours, please refer to our virtual calendar.

We invite you to connect with us and share your updates, ideas, faculty publications and ongoing research endeavors. Your insights are invaluable to us as we strive to keep our community informed and engaged. Reach out to us today and let's collaborate!



Dr. Claudia Alberico
RCMI Program Manager

rcmi@ncu.edu