

# WVPBRN & COMMUNITY NEWS

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the Community Engagement Core of the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute

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## **PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: WVPBRN partners launch pulmonary rehab project**

Chaffee Tommarello, RRT, CPFT, AE-C, from the Grace Anne Dorney Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program at Cabin Creek Health Systems in Dawes, W.Va, is partnering with other WVPBRN sites to conduct a retrospective study of outcomes in patients with chronic lung diseases who follow a pulmonary rehabilitation program. The rural study sites include Cabin Creek Health Systems, New River Health Association, and Boone Memorial Hospital.



Improvements in patients' self-reports of well-being, knowledge of chronic lung disease and its treatment, and ability to exercise will be compared between these small rural facilities and from those previously published from large centers. This data would encourage these services to be utilized in other rural primary care settings.

This WVPBRN approved pilot project is funded by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, West Virginia medical schools and help from the CAMC Research Institute.



## **WVCTSI LEARN Tour makes initial visits**

On Tuesday, June 2, WVCTSI Director, Dr. Sally Hodder kicked off the LEARN Tour to WVPBRN sites by visiting the Shinnston and Fairmont clinics of the Monongahela Valley Association of Health Centers located in Harrison and Marion Counties. The group then traveled to New River Valley on July 1 to visit the clinics comprising New River Health Association followed by WVU's newly relocated Sleeth Family Medicine Clinic on July 2. The WVCTSI group toured the clinics and talked with leaders and care providers there about their successes and challenges, along with their interests in community-based research.

The team was also on the road last week visiting several sites. Stops included the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and the Robert C. Byrd Clinic in Lewisburg, FamilyCare Health Center sites in and around Charleston, Cabin Creek Health Center in Dawes, and Charleston Area Medical Center Family Medicine.

Over the coming months, Hodder plans to crisscross West Virginia and visit the more than 50 clinics that make up the WVPBRN. She will meet with leaders and staff at the sites to learn more about their day-to-day work and discuss how WVCTSI can further support clinics in their community-based research efforts.

Stay up-to-date on the Learn Tour by following #LEARNtour on [Twitter](#).

For more information on the LEARN Tour, visit [WVCTSI LEARN Tour](#).

## **CEO funds Photovoice Project**

Haslyn Hunte, PhD, assistant professor in the West Virginia University School of Public Health, Department of Social and Behavioral Health Sciences, was recently named the Community Engagement and Outreach Small Grant recipient. Dr. Hunte's collaborative project involves the West Virginia Catholic Charities of West Virginia (CCWVa) and the West Virginia Prevention Research Center.

The team will be working with the CCWVa food pantries in Monongalia and Preston Counties to determine facilitators and barriers to obtaining and preparing healthy food choices by using the Photovoice method. Photovoice engages community participants by allowing them to use a camera to identify important aspects of their lives and communities. This process can promote dialogue about these issues and help to generate strategies to address them thus promoting social action.

Participants will be involved in two sessions. The first session will train participants on the camera usages and functions. The second session will focus on analysis, while creating an opportunity for reflection and dialogue of the photos. The photos provide stories and the research will analyze and pull key issues and themes that can be addressed in order to improve the healthier eating habits in the region.

## **CERA proposal accepted for upcoming survey inclusion**

Treah Haggerty, MD, WVU Family Medicine, submitted a proposal to the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's Council of Academic Family Medicine (CAFM) Educational Research Alliance (CERA). Dr. Haggerty is a WVPBRN member, serves on the network planning committee and is a WVCTSI Clinical Research Scholar.

CAFM unifies the voices of academic family medicine and provides opportunities to work with and learn from one another. CERA conducts roughly five surveys per year seeking input from family medicine residency directors, clerkship directors, department chairs and general memberships. Applicants can submit questions they wish to include in those surveys, along with a proposal describing the usefulness of the information collected.

This year, CERA developed its first call for proposals that focused on surveying practice-based research network (PBRN) directors. Dr. Haggerty's proposal included questions designed to assess PBRN productivity and infrastructure. Her proposal was accepted and she will work with another applicant to further refine questions.

Results from this survey will provide insight to internal operations within PBRNs nationally and evaluate the progress of the WVPBRN's current and future productivity.

## **REGISTRATION REMAINS OPEN FOR FALL CONFERENCE EVENTS**

There is still time to register for the West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network and West Virginia Rural Health Conference **October 14-16, 2015** at the Stonewall Resort in Roanoke, W.Va. The WVPBRN activities will occur during the day on October 15, with reception to follow that evening.

For conference registration, visit [23rd Annual WVRHA Conference: Strengthening Rural Health Partnerships](#) brochure or visit the website ([WVRHA](#)) and fill out the registration form. Register for a room by [September 1, 2015](#).

Arrangements can be made to attend the Annual Meeting on October 14 and then travel to the Rural Health Conference on October 15 & 16 if desired. Visit [WVCTSI Annual Meeting](#). Deadline to register is August 21, 2015.

Contact [Jay Mason](#), Program Coordinator at 304-293-9786, for information on accommodations.



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**Have any thoughts/comments/ideas?**

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