Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention

Facts

- CHIP is a University of Connecticut (UConn) interdisciplinary research center dedicated to the study of health behavior and health behavior change. CHIP researchers design, implement, evaluate, and disseminate theory-based, but highly practical interventions to improve health behaviors in at-risk populations.
- CHIP’s network of multidisciplinary collaborators consists of more than 250 faculty members and research affiliates representing every school and college within the UConn system and nearly 50 outside institutions.
- In addition to obesity, CHIP researchers focus their efforts on a number of core health domains including alcohol and substance use, autism, cancer, complementary and alternative approaches to medicine, diabetes, dissemination and implementation science, exercise science, global health, health communication and marketing, health disparities, HIV/AIDS, sexual risk behavior/ reproductive health, and treatment adherence and retention in care.
- CHIP reached a significant milestone this year of having surpassed $100 million in external funding for its research since the Center’s inception in 2002. At present, CHIP has $48.6 million in active funding across all years.
- With more than 70 (active or completed) research projects in Connecticut, CHIP research on health behavior change is often performed in Connecticut and benefits the people of Connecticut first.
- Internationally, CHIP currently has funded projects or submitted grants to work in Albania, China, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Mozambique, Pakistan, South Africa, and Thailand. Nearly one-third of active CHIP grant funds budgeted for FY14 involved health behavior interventions designed or adapted for other countries.
- This past year, CHIP launched new multidisciplinary research and collaboration in the areas of obesity, cancer, electronic and mobile health (eHealth/mHealth), and public policy-relevant research while continuing to perform extremely strongly in other areas such as HIV/AIDS, exercise science, global health, health communication and marketing, and treatment adherence and retention in care.
- The addition of The Rudd Center as a center-within-a-center in CHIP will allow CHIP to increase its impact on obesity-related public policy and expand significantly CHIP’s multidisciplinary research capacity in obesity overall. This, combined with CHIP recently hiring two new obesity researchers from Brown University, has the Center poised to make UConn a national leader in obesity research.
- Each semester, the CHIP Lecture Series brings nationally and internationally recognized leaders in health behavior change to UConn to inform and strengthen its research endeavors. The CHIP Lecture Series provides a venue for fostering new collaborations, sharing new work in development and late breaking findings, and identifying emerging trends in health behavior change.
- New CHIP collaborations for the coming year involve: Connecticut Children's Medical Center, St. Francis/UConn's Connecticut Institute for Primary Care Innovation, UConn Health’s Department of Psychiatry, UConn School of Engineering, and UConn School of Business.