Name: Advancing Evidence-Based Health Policy in Wisconsin: Translating Research into Practice

Principal Investigator: Thomas Oliver, PhD

Phone/ Email: 608-262-6731/troliver@wisc.edu

Department: Population Health Sciences

Program: Targeted

Grant Duration: 10-01-2006 to 12-31-2009 (39 months)

Expenditures: $133,913 (90%)

Use of Funds (Taxonomy): Applied Public Health Research

Research Keywords: Health Policy, Evidence, Policy Makers, Knowledge Transfer, Decision Making

Description: Decisions regarding state health policy affect every resident of the state. The Advancing Evidence-Based Health Policy project seeks to make sure that legislators and decision leaders have access to current, non-partisan, high quality evidence when forming health policy. The project also engages UW faculty research and teaching activities in topical issues of state public policy.

Contributions/Results: Since its launch in 2007, this project has established itself as an educational resource for decision-leaders in public and private sector public health and health care policy and practice.

The project has produced 20 programs — with more than 900 participants — on health topics ranging from infant mortality to nursing workforce to pay-for-performance. Program evaluations show increase in participant knowledge and high perceived value. Project briefings have stimulated legislative activity relating to the HPV vaccine, infant mortality, alcohol abuse, and health care quality.

Met Objectives: Project complete.

Timeline for Application of Results: Less than three years

New Partnerships or Collaborations: This program is a partnership between the UW Population Health Institute, the LaFollette School of Public Affairs, and the Wisconsin Joint Legislative Council. New partnerships have been formed with the UW School of Nursing, the Medical College of Wisconsin Injury Research Center, the UW Department of Family Medicine and Practice, and the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research - Community Academic Partnerships core.

Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind): $83,279

Dissemination: The project team maintains a website through the UW Population Health Institute, http://uwphi.pophealth.wisc.edu/healthPolicy/ebhpp.htm. This website stores all project materials and projects.

Additional Funding: The MERC renewed this project, pledging $156,000 over three years.