



Medical Education and Research Grant Outcome Report

Name: Recruitment of Middle-Aged African-Americans for Studies of Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease

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Department: Medicine

Program: Targeted

Grant Duration: 07-01-2008 to 08-31-2009 (14 months)

Expenditures: \$90,000 (100%)

Use of Funds (Taxonomy): Clinical Research

Research Keywords: Alzheimer's Disease, African-Americans, Prevention, Health Disparities

► **Description:** This project sought to expand recruitment and testing of adult children of African-American Alzheimer's patients as part of the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention (WRAP). In doing so, a secondary goal was to develop a program for outreach to minority communities that are generally underrepresented in medical research. Underrepresentation had led to a perception that the state's researchers are uninterested in improving health outcomes in the African-American community.

► **Contributions/Results:** The project recruited 22 African-American participants into WRAP, surpassing the goal of 20 set in the initial grant proposal. Another 10 individuals had expressed a willingness to enroll and had initiated the screening process.

The Milwaukee Alzheimer's Prevention Program launched its efforts with hiring of staff. It entered into a partnership with Milwaukee Health Services, a provider of primary care to African Americans in the city. WRAP research activities have been conducted in accessible community locations with parking and food provided to ensure a welcoming atmosphere.

The group plans to expand its outreach efforts with small question-and-answer sessions with potential volunteers.

► **Met Objectives:** Project complete

► **Timeline for Application of Results:** Unknown.

► **New Partnerships or Collaborations:** This project focused on community engagement, leading to a number of new partnerships. A Collaborative agreement with Milwaukee Health Services as well as a series of brown bag lunches with the Cream City Medical Society helped engage physicians. The project also convened a Community Advisory Council, comprised of caregivers and professionals in Milwaukee. This group may also serve as research ambassadors.

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$451,522

► **Dissemination:** None

► **Additional Funding:** MERC has renewed funding for this program in collaboration with the UW Center for Urban Population Health and the UW Institute for Clinical and Translational research, providing \$219,543 over the next three years.