



## Community Grant Outcome Report

**Name:** Staying Healthy as a Hmong Woman: Building Capacity to Address Cancer Disparities (Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv Ntawm Pojniam Hmoob Lub Neej)

**Grantee:** House of Peace Community Center, Milwaukee WI

**Contact Name; phone; email:** Beth Peterman RN, MSN; 608-263-4901; bpeterman@uwm.edu

**Academic Partner:** Sarah Esmond MS, Administrative Director, Collaborative Center for Health Equity

**Program:** Development

**Grant Duration:** 04/01/2008 to 05/31/2009 (14 months)

**Expenditures:** \$49,136 (97%)

**Use of Funds:** Evaluation

► **Description:** Hmong and other Southeast Asian women face increased risk for breast and cervical cancers. This project sought to convene a consortium of community stakeholders and investigate preventive health issues within the Hmong community in Milwaukee. Secondly, this group sought to learn more about existing knowledge and attitudes toward cancer prevention and treatment. The project aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of current community and outreach efforts in reducing barriers to obtaining preventive health care.

► **Results:** A consortium of 14 members – representing social service agencies, health clinics, churches and statewide education organizations – held six meetings. As the project progressed, Hmong community representatives played a more assertive role in these meetings, elaborating strategies to engage Hmong women for cancer screenings; becoming community educators themselves; and pledging time for future efforts.

The project hosted a series Community Dialog Groups, attended by 46 Hmong women in all. These sessions focused on level of acculturation, health care seeking behavior, and barriers to screening and care. Community members who participated in the efforts offered positive feedback about the initial programming.

► **Met Objectives:** Project complete

► **Baseline Progress on State Health Plan**

**Objectives:** This project addressed the priority,

social and economic factors that influence health but the objectives were not measured.

► **Academic Partner Role:** Consultation and evaluation. Representatives of UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee were involved in the project and collaborated to support the project evaluation.

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$800

► **Dissemination:** The consortium held six meetings, and provided summaries of the findings to the women who participated in the project. The staff reported findings in *"Cancer and Health Screening Experiences: Hmong Women in the Milwaukee Area Staying Healthy as a Hmong Woman: Building Capacity to Address Cancer Disparities"*.

► **Sustained:** The consortium was selected to the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute's 2009 Community Teams Program. This will ensure the group continues its work as it develops plans for an implementation. The group has secured a \$5,000.00 award from the WI Well Women Program at the WI Department of Health to support future programming. The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation awarded \$28,041 grant will allow the project team to collect baseline data on cervical cancer referrals and develop an intervention program to address identified barriers to accessing cancer screening and other preventive care for Hmong women in Milwaukee.