

Community Core: Latina Immigrant HIV and Substance Abuse Prevention Intervention Program

Patria Rojas, PhD, MPH, MSW

Center for Substance Use and HIV/AIDS Research
on Latinos in the United States (C-SALUD)

Florida International University



C-SALUD Structure (P-20)

Administrative Core

Dr. Mario De La Rosa, Principal Investigator (PI)

Research Core

Dr. Mario De La Rosa

Research Education Training Core

Dr. Dillon, Dr. Trepka

Community Partnership Core

Dr. Rojas



Community Partnership Core

- A five year academic-community partnership action plan focused on reducing substance abuse and HIV risk behaviors among Latina immigrants.
- Based on a CBPR approach.



Community Core Aims

- Establishing innovative partnership between academic institutions and community groups/organizations for the purpose of improving the health status of Latinos leading to a reduction or elimination of HIV and substance abuse health disparities confronting Latinos.
- Increasing the number of researchers and professionals who are committed to eliminating HIV and substance abuse health disparities among Latinos.



Community Core Specific Goals

- Conduct a Community Assessment.
- Develop a community program action plan for preventing HIV and substance abuse among Latina immigrants through a CAB.
- Increase Latina/o immigrants' capacity to respond to the HIV epidemic at the local level by providing them with necessary skills to educate and empower other women in the community as well as to obtain funding for future research endeavors.
- Involve adult and young community members (ages 14-17) in a substance abuse and HIV prevention intervention program.



Training Core: Specific Aims

- Provides extensive training and technical support to faculty and PhD students, and FIU, in conducting substance abuse and HIV/AIDS research.
- Foster the development of faculty members and graduate students participating in the NIMHD-C-SALUD to help them become independently funded substance abuse and HIV/AIDS researchers.
- Provide training and support to community leaders to help them locate funding for substance abuse and HIV/AIDS prevention.



Inter-core activities: Training and Community Core

- One PhD student has been working with the CBO and assisted on the creation of community gatekeepers questionnaire.
- PhD students have been assigned to attend the CAB monthly meetings.
- PhD students will participate in focus groups facilitation
- Two community leaders will receive training on grant writing and participate in a publishable manuscript



How are the Training Core and Community Core Significant?

Educational

- It fills a significant gap in doctoral programs at FIU by attracting Latino and non-Latino men and women to pursue doctoral studies and provides them with quality research education and training on of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse.
- It provides training and mentoring to junior faculty at FIU who are highly motivated to reduce and eliminate Latino health disparities.

Public Health

- Center's research and community outreach activities focus on the Miami-Dade area -- 65% Latino residents and 51% immigrant.
- Center is working toward the development of effective culturally relevant prevention and intervention techniques to address HIV/AIDS, a serious health concern among Latinos in Miami-Dade.



Thanks!

Contact Information:

patria.rojas@fiu.edu

<http://crusada.fiu.edu>



Thank You!



FIU

FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



CRUSADA

Florida International University