Community Engagement



Monica L. Baskin, PhD

- Community Engagement Core Director
- Professor, Division of Preventive Medicine



To develop and implement an infrastructure for sustainable bi-directional communication between residents of the affected area and UAB to build capacity for collaborative endeavors to address environmental health issues

Soumya Niranjan, PhD

 Assistant Professor, Health Services Administration



2. To identify and develop tools and resources to assist communities impacted by hazardous substances to address community-driven priorities to reduce exposure and protect health

Sharonda Hardy, MEd

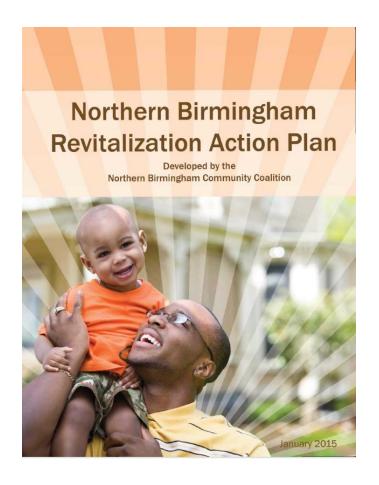
 Program Director II, Divisic of Preventive Medicine



3. To implement evidence-based prevention/intervention activities to reduce exposure and protect the health of residents impacted by hazardous substances



Community Engagement





12 Member Community Advisory Board

- Community Representatives for North Birmingham/Collegeville area
- Provide input and assistance on recruitment, promotional messages, and engagement materials
- Provide input into research questions, study design, and data interpretation
- Work with academia partners to ensure adherence to all components of community-based participatory research
- Promote trust in the community
- Participate in bi-directional (two way) learning



Progress on Year 1 Core Activities

CE Core Activities	Objectives	Progress
University-Community Partnership Committee	 Identify community members and establish schedule for quarterly meetings Oversight of all CE Core activities Support bi-directional communication 	 12 member CAB established Multiple meetings (2 smaller group; 1 full CAB) Next Steps: Further engage local leaders (additional neighborhood presidents, city councilman)
Town Hall Meetings	 Establish forum for bi-directional communication Engender trust Improve environmental health literacy Increase understanding of exposure Foster community capacity Identify study participants 	 Delayed due to COVID pandemic Next Steps: Planning for December 2020 virtual meeting Focus on COVID-19 and flu risk reduction Describe the link between COVID-19, flu and lung health Provide update on the SRC
Needs Assessment / Asset Identification	 Identify perceived priority needs Identify existing assets 	 Collected stakeholder feedback on needs and assets (CAB, local leaders) Need to review findings from preliminary research Need to address multiple current challenges Counseling related to illness and death related to COVID-19 and systemic racism Limited access to healthcare Identified community assets FQHC within the community Local resources for mental health counseling/support History of civic and environmental justice Next Steps: Implement community needs survey Dec/Jan 2020; Developing a periodical documenting community stories



Other Activities

Promote public safety (social distancing, masking, testing, navigation to care)





