



Models FOR THE Nation

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Building on Success: A Year of New Growth and Future Opportunities

The Office on Women's Health has declared FY2004 a year of transformation for the CoE and CCOE programs. As the programs look to the future, a close look back to the accomplishments is in order. For the last issue of *Models for the Nation*, all National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health were invited to share what the CoE designation has meant to their organization. What emerged from these submissions is a story about how the CoEs are changing the public health approach to women's health.



In 2004 at least three new CoEs will be funded to carry on this rich legacy. Moreover, a CoE demonstration site will be funded in an effort to geographically diversify the model to Region VIII rural areas.

Read on to learn more about what the CoE designation means to each CoE. It is a powerful story in the making as the CoEs seek to solidify the CoE model:

Unique Features of a CoE

- An integrated model for the delivery of clinical health care services to women with an emphasis on prevention and early detection of diseases and conditions.
- A multidisciplinary research agenda focused on women's health issues.
- Coordination between clinical services in academic centers and surrounding communities.
- Educational programs and materials for the general public and health care professionals on women's health.
- The integration of a women's health focus into medical school curriculum.
- Efforts to foster the recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in academic medical careers.
- Networking within the community to form alliances with business groups, consumer groups, scientific organizations, and public policy leaders.
- Evaluating to assess project process, outcomes, effectiveness, and impact.
- Integration of all these core features into a comprehensive, coordinated system of care for women.



In Their Words...

CoEs Share What the CoE Designation Means to Them

For the staff at the Centers of Excellence, the mission is personal. Tracy Schneider, MPH, Project Coordinator at Boston University Medical Center CoE, put it this way:

As a project coordinator for the Boston University Center of Excellence for four years, the CoE designation has come to mean countless things to me. The CoE is about compassion and dedication. The CoE is about improving standards of comprehensive care to all women. The CoE is about continuing research and seeking better health outcomes. The CoE is about a fabulous team of multidisciplinary experts and community members from Boston that are linked to a larger team of experts and community members across the National CoEs and CCOEs. The CoE is an example of the power of one and the power of many, to change the health of women around the corner and

around the U.S. The CoE designation is a guarantee that you will work with dedicated and compassionate and tireless people who continue to find ways to improve the health and wellness of women. The CoE means that the woman I met two days ago at our outreach event, who admitted to us that she did not have health insurance and also admitted that she has not had a mammogram in over 30 years is going to get health insurance and will receive screenings and health services. The CoE means that I can feel proud about witnessing this progress, even if it is one woman at a time. The CoE is a mix of satisfaction and disappointment, satisfaction to help one but disappointment that there is still so much more to do!

BOSTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER CoE

Center Director: Karen Freund, M.D., M.P.H.

First funded in 1997

On an institutional level, the CoE has allowed us to bring together and develop clinical, research, leadership, outreach, and educational resources to improve the health of the women we serve. The CoE has also allowed us to develop a network of colleagues across the country who share our vision, goals, and dedication of advancing women's health. We have learned much along the way about our assumptions, particularly that there is not a one-shoe-fits-all model of women's health, and that we need to be aware of and take into account regional, cultural, and ethnic variations as we develop all aspects of our program.

BROWN UNIVERSITY/WOMEN & INFANTS HOSPITAL CoE

Center Director: Maureen G. Phipps, M.D., M.P.H.

First funded in 2003

The Brown University/Women & Infants Hospital National Center of Excellence is a network of academic and community partners working together to improve health and health care for all women in Rhode Island. The excitement and energy going forward with the CoE designation has been incredible. One of the wonderful things is the inclusiveness of the program; the more people who find out about the CoE, the more people who want to be involved. Each key component—clinical care, research, community outreach, professional education, and leadership development—has a working

group or advisory group comprised of members from across the entire Brown University community as well as other academic and community partners. These groups have been working towards improving communication and developing innovative programs in women's health. Leading up to May, all of the CoE component/groups worked together on programs and initiatives in celebration of National Women's Health Week, May 9-15. Across the University and Hospital campuses and across our state, the CoE held clinical screenings, community education programs, and professional education activities. National Women's Health Week also marked the grand opening of our new Women's Health Resource Center!



UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA CoE

Center Director: Marietta Anthony, Ph.D.
First funded in 2003

The designation of a National Center of Excellence in Women's Health has had a tremendous impact in helping us achieve our goal of improving women's health. This designation has given us widespread recognition, enthusiasm, and support. People at all levels recognize our CoE with the result that doors have opened and meaningful discussions occurred on how we can all contribute to improving women's health. Instead of us knocking on doors to ask for help, people are coming to us to ask what they can provide. Excitement from people in different disciplines and environments is building as more people join this effort. Additionally, there is an increased awareness of the importance of a focus on women's health. At a translational research seminar, a prostate cancer expert expressed concern about clinical trials being conducted solely at the VA and the resultant lack of data on women. We are now seen as contributing to the overall good of the institution. There is a common vision that we are making a difference and building a better system.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES CoE

Center Director: Janet Pregler, M.D.
First funded in 1997

The CoE designation has enabled women's health to advance within the UCLA community as well as in the greater Los Angeles area. The designation brought forth *opportunity and ability*—to bridge territorial issues traditionally present in the academic setting and integrate clinical care, research, education, and outreach in many meaningful ways; to leverage funding from other sources which furthers our programs; to establish community partnerships and create culturally appropriate outreach programming that serves to educate the diverse population of females in the greater Los Angeles area; to continue research into crucial topics that impact women's health and well-being; to address needed reform in the advancement of female faculty; to continue to attract distinguished clinical and research faculty to practice and teach at our institution; and to advance the education of our future physicians by revising our medical school curriculum to more fully incorporate gender-based differences and comprehensive women's health care. The designation provided our institution with the distinction of being recognized as an international, national, and local leader in women's health, and our programs have served as the model for replication by others in both academic and community settings. The beneficiaries of our designation as a National Center of Excellence in Women's Health have been our institution, our staff and faculty, and above all, the girls and women in our greater Los Angeles community. As one woman wrote, "Again, I say thank you for being there for me when I was in need." The Center of Excellence designation made it possible for us to be there.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO CoE

Center Director: Nancy Milliken, M.D.
First funded in 1996

The National Center of Excellence designation and model, combined with strong institutional leadership and vision are critical factors in the success of the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE). These elements

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provide a solid foundation upon which we build our strategic plan for long-term institutional change and the promotion of women's health at UCSF. Since its designation in 1996, the UCSF CoE has refined its conceptual model for transforming the traditional Academic Medical Center into a dynamic multi-disciplinary academic health care system focused on the needs of women, and has made major advances in its goal of implementing a one-stop-shopping concept in women's health.

The CoE made great strides when women's health was named one of the UCSF campus priorities for funding, space, and resource allocation by the School of Medicine, the UCSF Medical Center, the Chancellor, and the UCSF Foundation. Reflecting the importance of women's health at the University of California institutional level, two University of California CoE campuses were invited to speak to the University of California Regents. UCSF CoE Director Dr. Nancy Milliken and UCLA CoE Director, Dr. Janet Pregler along with two community partners, collaboratively briefed the Regents on the CoE model and the importance of women's health. As a result, Women's Health Research was designated by the Office of the President as one of the five research priorities for the University of California system. The partnership with the UCLA CoE on State and Regents initiatives has been very rewarding, and has led to collaborations with the State of California Office of Women's Health.

Most recently, Nancy Milliken was named Vice Dean of the School of Medicine. As vice dean, Milliken will assist School of Medicine leaders and faculty in program development including strategic and long-range planning; integration of multidisciplinary initiatives; resource development and fund-raising; diversity and campus life initiatives; and community relations. As Director of the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, Dr. Milliken has realized the potential that comes from the integration of programs across missions, departments, and within communities. She will apply her experience and knowledge gained at the UCSF CoE to the entire UCSF School of Medicine.



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL CoE

Center Director: JudyAnn Bigby, M.D.

First funded in 1998

The Center of Excellence designation has fostered inter-institutional and interdisciplinary collaboration at Harvard Medical School among women's health champions including clinicians, educators, and researchers. These linkages have historically been difficult to make and maintain within Harvard's complex and geographically expansive environment of 18 affiliated institutions. The Center of Excellence designation created a formal opportunity to bring together faculty from eight of these institutions to participate on a wide variety of initiatives in the five programmatic areas outlined by the Office on Women's Health—clinical care, research, professional education, outreach, and career advancement of women.

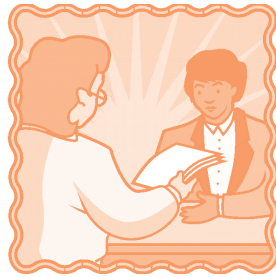
The Center of Excellence's neutrality provides a forum for leaders of similar programs to come together to share ideas and engage in joint projects while breaking down barriers that have precluded collaboration in the past. For example, directors of the primary care internal medicine residency programs from three major Harvard hospitals have come together to survey the women's health content of their curricula and to implement common curricular changes. The HMS Fund for Women's Health is another Center of Excellence program that has had a significant impact. The HMS Fund provides seed grants to women's health researchers at Harvard, and requires inter-institutional collaboration as an award criterion. More than 90 researchers have collaborated on 26 projects as a result of this program. The awards also have created valuable professional linkages, helped to advance the careers of junior and minority faculty, and have benefited the field of women's health through presentations at scientific meetings and published reports. One of the earliest achievements of the Center of Excellence was the

**Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress; working
together is success.**

—Anonymous

designation of women's health as a curricular theme for Harvard medical students. The Center of Excellence has led the effort to identify core components of a women's health curriculum, assess the status of women's health in the curriculum, and recommend and implement necessary change.

The Center of Excellence designation has reduced duplication of efforts; increased benchmarking; and encouraged creative and diverse thinking, programming, and research within and external to Harvard. In addition to these expected benefits, collaboration has created unexpected but welcomed outcomes such as the development of mentoring and other collegial relationships, a vital part of our academic leadership mission.



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO CoE

Center Director: Stacie Geller, Ph.D.

First funded in 1998

At the University of Illinois at Chicago, the CoE designation has made it easier to bring people together to work on issues related to women's health. While there had long been a strong core group of faculty and staff working on women's health, the designation gave the group additional legitimacy in the eyes of university administrators. As a consequence, the university administration has provided permanent financial support that contributes to the sustainability of the CoE and continued growth in the area of women's health. The designation and its funding enabled us to expand our efforts and provide some support for faculty and staff. The funding allows us to hold roundtable discussions and seminars that have increased the likelihood of interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration. As a result of the designation and *Beyond Parity: Transforming Academic Medicine Through Women's Leadership*, a conference sponsored by the Office on Women's Health and organized by the CoE at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the dean of the College of Medicine has established a committee for faculty advancement in academic medicine. Being a Center of Excellence has aided in attracting research funding from federal and state

agencies. Finally, the designation has brought University of Illinois at Chicago recognition as a state and national leader in women's health.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY CoE

Center Director: Rose S. Fife, M.D.

First funded in 1997

Prior to our 1997 designation as a National CoE, neither Indiana University nor its School of Medicine had an established and recognized program devoted entirely to women's health across the life span. Our CoE designation has been the impetus behind many women's health directives not previously in place: 1) the education component has successfully integrated domestic violence education into the medical school curriculum, as well as a monthly lecture series open to the public; 2) the research component has provided pilot project funds to women's health faculty researchers; 3) the clinical component has integrated women health care across the life span into our public safety net/primary teaching hospital; 4) the leadership component has linked mentors with mentees, and has forged a strong relationship with the American Medical Women's Association Student chapter; 5) through community outreach, we are helping women learn to take easy but important steps toward good health for themselves and their families. The designation has also helped us leverage funds via grants and gifts, allowing us to support our mission, goals, and objectives.

MAGEE WOMENS HOSPITAL CoE

Center Director: Sharon Hillier, Ph.D.

First funded in 1996

Magee Womens Hospital's designation as a CoE and its leadership role in defining benchmarks for women's health has been a catalyst to impact the delivery of services to women throughout the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), an integrated regional health delivery system of 19 hospitals. The CoE has reinforced the credibility of women's health in the medical curriculum at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. This has resulted in the area of concentration in women's health becoming the most popular choice of medical students. Commitment to our areas of concentration in women with disabilities, adolescents, and minority health have resulted in the development of

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programs including the Comprehensive Center for Women with Physical Disabilities, the African American Womancare Program, and on-site office for the Center for Minority Health. The most intangible, but perhaps the most important impact of having a CoE at Magee Womens Hospital, has been that it provided a venue for a powerful group of like-minded women to share laughter, respect, and a shared passion for women's health.

MCP HAHNEMANN UNIVERSITY CoE (doing business as Drexel University)

Center Director: Ana E. Núñez, M.D.

First funded in 1996

As one of the six vanguard Centers of Excellence designated in 1996, the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership (IWHL) at Drexel University College of Medicine (DUCOM) built upon its 150-year institutional commitment to women and continues advancing health care for women. Since receiving this designation, the IWHL at DUCOM has not only maintained our commitment to women through research, clinical care, education, leadership and community outreach, despite name changes and institutional change, but advanced the number of researchers conducting research on women's health issues; clinical care services provided to women; training and intervention programs to translate research into practice; rigorous and innovative educational programs in women's health curriculum; new women leaders through innovative leadership programs; and, newly established community partnerships and community outreach programs. The Institute has remained dedicated to its mission of providing local, regional, and national leadership in medical education, sex and gender based research, faculty leadership development, innovative clinical care, and successful community outreach to help women lead healthier lives. We have worked to increase investment in sex and gender research throughout Drexel University's main campus, College of Nursing and Health Professions, School of Public Health, and College of Medicine, and promote opportunities for discovery and collaboration. Our



Joining Forces to Advancing Sex and Gender Research Competition garnered a large audience of researchers from basic, clinical, behavioral science, and health policy who identified new synergy within their work and in expanding the sex and gender research agenda. Additionally, new resources were invested from the University to promote this agenda.

IWHL's Women's Health Education Program remains at the forefront in the development of culturally competent women's health professional training through the development of innovative case-based modules, such as *Healthy Women, Healthy Lives*, in seminars and health professional training experiences such as the Women's Health Pathway. Community participatory research is enhanced by the CoE status in recruitment efforts within the community through our health outreach programming.

Our nationally recognized *Conversations in Women's Health*TM and community health programs as well as our novel leadership program has positioned the Institute as a vehicle for advocacy for women's health concerns as well as the development of women faculty. The designation as a National Center of Excellence in Women's Health provides increased opportunities for collaboration and allows the IWHL to more effectively utilize its position as a clearinghouse of women's health—clinical care, research, education, advocacy, community outreach and leadership—activities to positively impact the lives of women.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH SYSTEM CoE

Center Director: Margaret Punch, M.D.

First funded in 1997

The CoE designation at the University of Michigan has helped us bring together clinicians and researchers in ways that cross departmental lines. We have successfully begun several clinical initiatives, which might not have otherwise taken place. These include a women's heart program, a women's health physical therapy group and our extensive depression and abuse prevention programs. The CoE model is being adapted for use in the development of the new University of Michigan Depression Center and in developing a men's health program. Our Women's Health Registry has brought women from our community more opportunities to

participate in the research into women's health and made it easier for researchers to find appropriate subjects in a timely manner. The overall growth in women's health research has also been impressive and we have been successful in gaining entry to the top tier of women's health rankings in *US News & World Report*. Our success has helped convince the University that it is now time for a new facility and we are beginning work on a new, \$370 million children's and women's facility.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CoE

Center Director: Nancy C. Raymond, M.D.
First funded in 2003

The designation as a National Center of Excellence in Women's Health represents a formal commitment at the University of Minnesota to collaborate, integrate and coordinate women's health care services throughout the University and between the University and its affiliate hospitals and community partners. With many excellent women's health programs already in place at the University, the Center of Excellence facilitates the coordinated effort to continue improvements and disseminate the best of the University health system—research, clinical trial opportunities, superbly trained professionals—to metro, rural, immigrant, and underserved communities statewide.

As a Center of Excellence, we are building a wide network to improve the physical, mental, and social well-being of Minnesota women. The designation has helped us leverage resources to address the needs of women, especially those who are traditionally underserved. Since women manage the health of the family, improvement in women's health in Minnesota will strengthen family and community health.

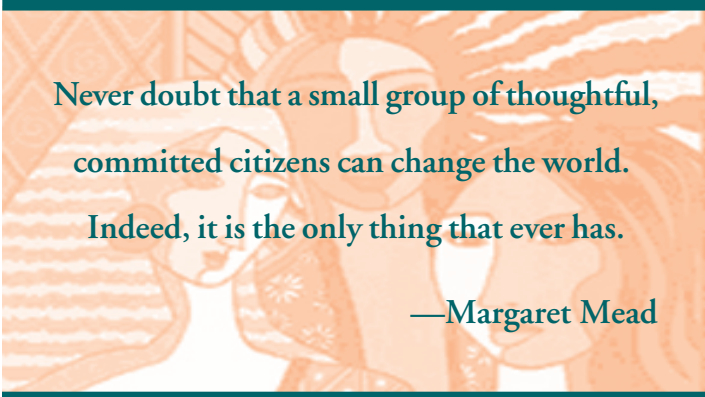
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER CoE

Center Director: Annette K. Low, M.D.
First funded in 2003

Gaining the designation as a National Center of Excellence (CoE) was a tremendous boost for the women's health program here at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Being part of the National CoE family gave our program greater recognition and validity. Institutional support has been strengthened—both by the contractual commitments, as well as the recognition of the potential and value of our CoE for the institution. Specifically, being a CoE has enhanced our position with our institution's administrators in our requests for resources. With additional resources, we will be able to increase our capacity and breadth in the CoE clinical services. We have recently submitted grants to address diabetes and obesity in Delta women, with our partners from the Delta communities.

Since our CoE designation, many of our faculty members have found it easier to negotiate with their respective department or division level leaders to include CoE activities as part of their academic commitment, and to be allowed more time to commit to the CoE. This would not have been possible without the CoE giving legitimacy and validity to women's health initiatives on campus. We have been able to recruit new faculty members to our CoE, primarily due to the CoE reputation. We have also been successful in recruiting partners for health screenings. At our first National Women's Check Up Day health fair at UMMC—over 400 women were provided with health screenings and education materials for a large number of health conditions. Access to OWH and health materials has been invaluable in all our outreach and education efforts.

Leadership initiatives are propelled further along than expected, with the CoE designation serving as a door-opening step. Many of the key leaders from the Vice Chancellor's and Deans' offices are active CoE core members, so the CoE leadership agenda is well entrenched in our institutional plans. Funding opportunities have increased, as many funding agencies and grant foundations respond favorably to our CoE primarily due to the infrastructure that comes with being a CoE.



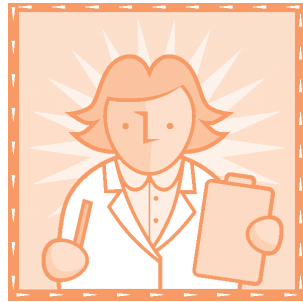
Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,
committed citizens can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

—Margaret Mead

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Increased visibility as a CoE also will help us raise awareness for women's health issues, strengthen the cohesive, multidisciplinary networks we have in place, and help promote enduring partnerships with the community. We have found the CoE designation to have an impact for women in the community as well. The women we encounter in our outreach initiatives perceive the affiliation with a renowned national program as a positive thing. This is especially of importance in light of the many negative health statistics reported for our state—women have commented that having a program such as our CoE means there is hope for women's health and their future in Mississippi.



OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCES UNIVERSITY CoE

Center Director: Michelle Berlin, M.D., M.P.H.
First funded in 2003

The Oregon Health & Science University Center of Excellence in Women's Health (OHSU CoE) is an integral part of both the University overall and the OHSU Center for Women's Health (CWH). The Center for Women's Health has been a recognized entity within OHSU since its inception as a "center without walls" in 1997 through a unique collaboration with community leaders. The CWH now crosses multiple disciplines, schools and institutes, with the mission of fostering research, public policy analysis, education, and clinical care models for diseases unique to women, more common in women, or with presentations or treatments that are different in women. With a permanent director and a new clinical site in 2001, the CWH rapidly expanded its community outreach, research, and clinical programs. The OHSU CoE has enabled us to focus on leveraging our clinical and research programs to increase our rural presence, expand our public policy capabilities and assure that diversity among women students, trainees, and leaders within OHSU and throughout our region continues to grow.

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO CoE

Center Director: Delia M. Camacho, Ph.D.
First funded in 1998

Since its designation as a Center of Excellence in 1998, the uniqueness of the University of Puerto Rico CoE model is that its approach is based on the campus' strong public health tradition, its broad range of disciplines, the variety of available resources, and community alliances. Most of the CoE's information dissemination and educational activities are done through collaboration and linkages with other programs and organizations.

The CoE's clinical services have expanded to include Family Planning through Title X, nutrition, and psychology services, as well as services for women survivors of sexual and domestic violence. The one-stop-shopping model was developed upon designation as a CoE and has permitted our Women's Health Center to integrate its various components.

A major strength of our outreach and consumer education activities has been the very successful educational program *MujerES* which is an example of leveraging of funds derived from designation as a CoE. This comprehensive educational program for both consumers and health professionals was made possible by an unrestricted educational grant from a private donor.

Institutional and community partnerships, networking, and collaborative efforts resulting from CoE designation have allowed the CoE to identify specific women's health needs, develop programs to address those needs, and to develop a network for consultation and referrals to a variety of services women may need. The CoE designation has helped our CoE strengthen its partnerships with local organizations and has contributed to expand them to international arenas.

The University of Puerto Rico CoE's participation with most schools on the Medical Sciences Campus (MSC) is high and the MSC level of incorporation of females in both faculty and leadership positions is above average when compared to other institutions nationwide. However, as a minority institution, there is still much room for improvement. The Center has continued to develop its leadership plan for campus women by collaborating with the UPR School of Medicine Hispanic Center of Excellence

(HCoE) initiatives that focus on the need of Hispanic minorities. Their faculty development program incorporates training and mentoring in primary care, teaching, and research skills. The majority of participants in the educational activities are junior faculty females.

TULANE AND XAVIER UNIVERSITIES OF LOUISIANA CoE (TUXCOE)

Center Director: Jeanette H. Magnus, M.D., Ph.D.
First funded in 1998

The 1998 Federal designation of the Tulane Xavier Women’s Center as a National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health (TUXCOE) has been of immeasurable value to the continued development, institutionalization and success at both Tulane and Xavier Universities. Though our wide-ranging programs speak for themselves, the CoE title has undeniably helped to increase recognition of TUXCOE at every level—city, state, and region. As a result, TUXCOE has been able to leverage support from a myriad of sources, including our own

academic institutions, community collaborators, funding agencies, researchers, lawmakers, patients, and students. Another asset of the CoE designation is the increased visibility and strength of the Tulane and Xavier partnership. Founded in 1975, this partnership has grown from an informal association into an alliance that profoundly affects the economic, educational and community development of the City of New Orleans, the state of Louisiana and the nation. From research, to clinical services, health education, and professional and leadership development, the TUXCOE institutional collaboration provides students, staff, faculty, administration and community partners with a genuinely unique opportunity in addressing women’s health.

In addition to a nationally recognized title, the CoE designation provides us with access to a national network of women’s health expertise in our sister CoEs. Throughout our nearly six years as a CoE, TUXCOE has closely collaborated with and drawn inspiration from other CoEs for brainstorming, guidance and scholarship across all cores.

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Today’s health care consumers really do want “one-stop shopping.”

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE CoE

Center Director: Emily Y. Wong, M.D., M.H.A.,
F.A.C.P.

First funded in 1998

The University of Washington CoE serves to improve the health of minority and underserved women through leadership in clinical care, outreach, education, and research. The CoE designation has helped the University of Washington Women's Health program to achieve a new level of integration across multiple disciplines such as OBGYN, internal medicine, and the Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy. We have been able to engage in collaborative efforts with particular success in the areas of leadership and community outreach. We are especially proud of our Rural/Underserved Student Educator Program, which provides women's health education and outreach through students and community doctors, to multiple sites across the five-state region that is served by University of Washington School of Medicine. The CoE has found the network of resources across the CoE/CCOE program to be particularly valuable in engaging the interest of our stakeholders, and in garnering regional support. Through the Office on Women's Health and CoE program, we have been able to institutionalize leadership development efforts that will serve to promote the health of women in the region for generations to come.



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON CoE

Center Director: Molly Carnes, M.D., M.S.

First funded in 1998

The CoE was the tipping point for academic programs in women's health at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to the CoE, there was a strong clinical program in women's health but the academic efforts in education and research were fragmented and uncoordinated. The CoE provided the opportunity to coalesce women's health into a visible, credible, multidisciplinary academic enterprise. Around the core structure of the CoE we established the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Women's Health Research which now has an annual budget of over

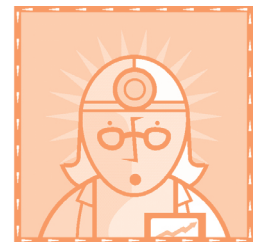
\$1.5 million of predominantly extramural research funding including the Research Coordinating Center for all academic and community Centers of Excellence. The CoE also formalized the relationship between women's health and the development of women academic leaders. This laid the groundwork for establishing the Women in Science and Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI) with funds from the National Science Foundation. The CoE has encouraged us to strive for a new model of academic-community partnership and was a major force in leading us to embed issues of diversity in all our activities. The CoE efforts helped provide a platform for the successful application for an EXPORT Center for minority health and health disparities with a focus on maternal child health.

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY CoE

Center Director: Susan G. Kornstein, M.D.

First funded in 2003

The Virginia Commonwealth University's nationally recognized multidisciplinary Women's Health Center was established in 1993, with the creation of the VCU Institute for Women's Health (IWH) in 1999. In October 2003, IWH received the designation as a National Center of Excellence. This designation creates a unique synergy in the greater Richmond community and the state, highlighting the need for integrated health care systems for women. The CoE designation provides a framework for us to build innovative services, initiatives, and partnerships with a common goal of improving the mental and physical health of diverse women across the life span. The CoE designation means fostering new alliances with community partners, building new working relationships with diverse women leaders, creating new outreach activities for underserved and minority communities, engaging in new dialogues, and deepening the institutional commitment to women's health. The VCU CoE designation has become the catalyst for forward momentum and a guiding force towards change in the area of multidisciplinary women's health services within the university and across Virginia. Linkage to our sister CoEs and the support of the Office on Women's Health means to us a collaboration sure to succeed.





NATIONAL CENTERS OF
EXCELLENCE
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

Resources

CoE Contact Information:

University of Arizona
1501 N. Campbell Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85724
(520) 626-0218
(520) 626-7382 (fax)

Boston University Medical Center
720 Harrison Avenue, Suite 1108
Boston, MA 02118
(617) 638-8035
(617) 638-8026 (fax)
<http://www.bmc.org/coewh/>

Brown University/Women & Infants Hospital
101 Dudley Street
Providence, RI 02905
(401) 274-1122
(401) 276-7863 (fax)

University of California, Los Angeles
Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health
Education and Resource Center
100 UCLA Medical Plaza Drive, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90095-7075
(800) 825-2631
(310) 794-9039
(310) 267-1585 (fax)
<http://womenshealth.med.ucla.edu/>

University of California, San Francisco
2356 Sutter - Box 1694
San Francisco, CA 94143-1694
(415) 353-7481
(415) 353-9580 (fax)
<http://itsa.ucsf.edu/-ucsfcoe/>

Harvard Medical School
Division of Women's Health
Neville House
75 Francis Street
Neville House, Room 116
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 732-5759
(617) 264-6309 (fax)
<http://www.hmcnet.harvard.edu/coe/>

University of Illinois at Chicago
820 South Wood Street
Chicago, Illinois 60612
(312) 355-0467
(312) 996-4238 (fax)
<http://www.uic.edu/orgs/womenshealth/>

Indiana University School of Medicine
Indiana Cancer Pavilion
535 Barnhill Drive, RT-150
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 274-2754
(317) 274-2785 (fax)
<http://www.iupui.edu/~womenhlt/>

Magee Womens Hospital of UPMC
University of Pittsburgh
300 Halket Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3180
(412) 641-1141
(412) 641-1133 (fax)
<http://www.magee.edu/cewh2.htm>

MCP Hahnemann University (doing business as Drexel University)
Institute for Women's Health
The Gatehouse
MCP Hospital
3300 Henry Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19129
(215) 842-7041
(215) 843-7946 (fax)
<http://www.auhs.edu/institutes/iwh/coe.html>

University of Michigan Health System
Women's Health Program
1342 Taubman Center
(Level One)
1500 E. Medical Center Drive, Room L-4000
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0276
(734) 764-8123
(734) 647-9727 (fax)
<http://www.med.umich.edu/whrc/ctr.excel.html>

University of Minnesota
420 Delaware Street, SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
(612) 626-1125
(612) 626-4911 (fax)

University of Mississippi
2500 N. State Street
Jackson, MS 39216
(601) 984-5660
(601) 815-3282 (fax)

Oregon Health & Sciences University
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road, UHN 50
Portland, OR 97239
(503) 494-4480
(503) 494-3111 (fax)

University of Puerto Rico
Medical Sciences Campus
P.O. Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067
(787) 758-2525 ext. 1368/1360
(787) 753-0090 (fax)
<http://www.rcm.upr.edu/2k1whc/>

Tulane and Xavier Universities of Louisiana
Tulane University School of Public Health
and Tropical Medicine
143 S. Liberty (SL-29)
New Orleans, LA 70112
(877) 588-5100
(504) 988-4657 (fax)
<http://www.tucoe.tulane.edu>

University of Washington, Seattle
4245 Roosevelt Way NE
Campus Box 354765
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 598-8991
(206) 598-8957 (fax)
<http://depts.washington.edu/~uw98coe/>

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Meriter Hospital-Park/6 West
202 South Park Street
Madison, WI 53715
(608) 267-5566
(608) 267-5577 (fax)
<http://www.womenshealth.wisc.edu/>

Virginia Commonwealth University
9000 Stony Point Parkway
Richmond, VA 23235
(804) 327-8864
(804) 327-8865 (fax)

Additional Women's Health Information and Resources:

National Women's Health Information Center
Office on Women's Health
Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, D.C.
800-994-WOMAN
888-220-5446 (TDD)
<http://www.4woman.gov/>

CoE Home Page:
<http://www.4woman.gov/coe>

OFFICE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NATIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

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