

AHEAD

Advancing Health Equity and Diversity

Summaries of UW ICTR AHEAD Pilot Grant Awards, 2014

Four new UW ICTR AHEAD Pilot Grants were awarded for Round 3 in 2014:

Creating Barriers or Raising Opportunities? Race and the Changing Effects of ADHD Diagnosis for Early Literacy

[Jayanti Owens, PhD](#), UW School of Medicine & Public Health | [RWJ Health & Society Scholar](#)

Black children diagnosed with ADHD face more adverse political, family, and school environments relative to white children. This work will explore four key factors (politics, school-based special education, home environment, and insurance/treatment) that may play a role in influencing early achievement.

Pregnancy Ambivalence: A Pathway between Social Disadvantage and Unintended Pregnancy

[Jenny A Higgins, PhD, MPH](#), UW College of Letters and Science | [BIRCWH Scholar](#)

Unintended pregnancy (UP) remains a major health disparity, with half of all U.S. pregnancies either mistimed or unwanted, and with rates worsening among the most socially disadvantaged. The phenomenon of pregnancy ambivalence, or unresolved fertility intentions, has recently emerged as a strong correlate of contraceptive practices. The proposed research uses the National Survey of Family Growth to first assess the prevalence of various dimensions of pregnancy ambivalence among multiple socio-demographic groups (including comparisons by gender), and next, to document associations between these dimensions of pregnancy ambivalence and contraceptive non-use at last sex.

Exploring the Feasibility and Acceptability of a Condensed Mindfulness Curriculum for African American Women: A Pilot Study.

[Angela R Black, PhD](#), UW School of Medicine & Public Health | [Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research Fellow](#)

African American women experience a disproportionate burden of stress-related morbidity and mortality in the United States. Mindfulness-based stress reduction (MBSR) has a positive mental and physical health impact for the general population, but has not been adequately assessed for racially diverse groups and families. The proposed study is designed to explore the feasibility and acceptability of a condensed 4-week mindfulness curriculum implemented among a community-based sample of African American women living in Madison.

Understanding Disparities in Patient Education about Gestational Weight Gain

[Sara Lindberg, PhD, MPH](#), UW School of Medicine & Public Health | [BIRCWH Scholar](#)

Inappropriate gestational weight gain (GWG) increases risk for adverse maternal and neonatal outcomes and is especially common among minority and low-income women. The PI and colleagues previously showed that

implementing a “best practice alert” in the UW Health electronic health record was an effective way to improve GWG patient education. Preliminary data from that pilot study suggest greater rates of GWG patient education for White patients than for Black and Hispanic patients, but that study was not powered to test racial disparities and did not collect data about socioeconomic status. The proposed study addresses these gaps in Madison.