CARE has gone through a major transition over the past two years, and 2018 proved to be transformational for CARE’s work. When CARE began its partnership with Southern Connecticut State University in September of 2016, a major goal included securing funding and resources. The CARE team hunkered down and applied to requests for proposals and grant opportunities. CARE has secured several grants and contracts of varying sizes, including two major sources of funding. The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Community Engagement Award is a 2-year, $250,000 award that supports a research track of our Health Leaders program (See below).

CARE is also the recipient of the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) award through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (award #NU58DP006579). At the forefront of CDC’s efforts to address racial and ethnic disparities in health, REACH strives to prevent and manage chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. If fully funded over its 5-year lifespan, this award will bring over $3.6 million to New Haven. In its first year, CARE is proud to distribute 38% of this funding directly into the community by supporting residents; neighborhood projects; and important local organizations like food pantries, New Haven Healthy Start, Project Access New Haven, and CitySeed. Read more about the strategies and activities of REACH here.

Central to CARE’s work is collaborative partnerships with community organizations and neighborhood groups across New Haven – all of which have worked diligently over years, and in some cases, decades, to improve the health and well-being of our community. CARE’s success is a tribute to our community’s success. The CARE team is grateful to continue our partnerships with our partners.

As we launch our projects over the coming months, you will be hearing much more from CARE. Look for more frequent newsletters and greater activity on social media. Stay tuned for exciting updates!

The New Haven Health Leaders Program

By Sofia I. Morales, MPH, NHHL, 1st Cohort

CARE’s overarching mission is “to improve the health of New Haven residents through leadership, community engagement, and collaborative community-based research.” In alignment with this mission, CARE created the New Haven Health Leadership Program (NHHL), an 8-month program that offers residents of New Haven the opportunity to work in collaboration with Yale investigators on research projects related to health and social issues. Our cohort is composed of 14 individuals, all with unique stories and diverse backgrounds, but with one uniting feature: our commitment to making New Haven a healthier, more equitable city.

(Continued on Page 2)
Through the program we have received training in Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR), Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR), health equity, and social determinants of health. These trainings have been informative and educational, but more importantly, they have emphasized the importance of joining and engaging community members as full and equal partners in all phases of research.

CARE has identified a number of outstanding research projects to match us with, including the Yale Cancer Disparities Firewall Project, the Yale School of Public Health JustHouHS Project, the Yale Hearts Moms study, and several others. We have recently met our matches and are now starting our exciting work. In my case, my research assignment is with the Accountable Health Communities (AHC) program with Yale New Haven Hospital (YNHH).

This program allows patients with Medicare or Medicaid to voluntarily participate in a screening about health-related social needs. One of my tasks will be to create a community advisory board that can provide ongoing input into the larger research agenda and can speak to the hospital-community partnership.

As New Haven Health Leaders, we are developing more equitable and inclusive research: research that is not divorced from the lived experiences of community members, but an integral part of what they see and face every single day. I look forward to the work and am eager to see the impact we will make on the city of New Haven!

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Are You a Leader?

CARE is recruiting its next cohort of New Haven Health Leaders for REACH. Distinct from the current cohort, this cohort will focus on neighborhood engagement (not research focused).

Deadline extended until March 8th!

Learn more and apply today!

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CARE Team Expands

With new funding, CARE has expanded its team! Sharon Taylor, who has worked in a part-time capacity, has transitioned full-time to CARE's Community Engagement Manager. Valen Grandelski, who has provided interim support, has joined as CARE's full-time REACH Project Manager.

Sharon Taylor    Valen Grandelski

Learn about the experience they bring to CARE!

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Contact Us

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