



“Florida should be leading the efforts around disparities - HERI might be the effort to get us where we need to be.”

- 2013 Summit Participant

The following staff operate HERI:

- B. Lee Green, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center: *Director, Administrative Core*
- Folakemi Odedina, PhD, University of Florida: *Director, Research Core*
- Cynthia Harris, PhD, DABT, Florida A&M University: *Director, Education & Training Core*
- Penny A. Ralston, PhD, Florida State University: *HERI Finance & Operations*
- Angela Adams, PharmD, Central Florida Pharmacy Council: *Director, Community Engagement Core*



Desiree Rivers, PhD

For more information, visit FLHERI.org

Contact Desiree Rivers, PhD,

Program Director

813-974-2140

info@FLHERI.org



These higher education institutions and community organizations participated in the development of a health disparities initiative in Florida, starting with the Health Disparities Research (HDR) Agenda for Florida and continuing with the establishment of HERI.

- Bethune-Cookman University
- Duval County Health Department
- Edward Waters College
- Florida A&M University
- Florida Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease
- Florida Department of Health
- Florida International University
- Florida State University
- Hispanic Services Council
- Moffitt Cancer Center
- 100 Black Men
- University of Central Florida
- University of Florida
- University of Florida-Jacksonville
- University of Miami
- University of North Florida
- University of South Florida
- YMCA of Florida's First Coast

The Honorable Joseph “Joe” Gibbons, Former Florida House of Representatives District 100, championed the establishment of HERI.

We are grateful for his leadership.



2013 - 14
FINAL REPORT

FLORIDA HEALTH EQUITY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ABOUT FLORIDA HERI

To better understand health disparities and develop approaches to promote health equity in the state, the Florida Department of Health, including the Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) and the Office of Minority Health, convened a group of more than 30 scholars and community stakeholders to develop the Health Disparities Research (HDR) Agenda for Florida.

Florida's Health Equity Research Institute (HERI) was established in 2013 to implement the recommendations from the HDR Agenda through proactive collaborations among academic institutions, health care providers, government organizations, community-based organizations and funding organizations. Thus far, 17 universities and community organizations are affiliated with HERI. Under the leadership of Florida State University, (*Penny Ralston, PhD*), HERI was approved by the Board of Governors.

During Year 1, HERI achieved all of the stated goals and objectives. Because of this success, HERI was awarded \$400,000 for an additional year to continue the work started in Year 1.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Under the leadership of Cynthia Harris, PhD, Director:

- Administered Florida Alliance HERI Signature Programs

Florida Alliance HERI Student Symposium:

- In 2014, 22 high school students, 117 undergraduate students and 82 faculty/staff/community representatives participated

Florida Alliance HERI Student Scholars:

- In 2014, 15 students, the largest cohort of Student Scholars, completed the summer research internship

Florida Alliance HERI Faculty Scholars:

- A pilot Faculty Scholars Program (FSP) is being developed to build capacity in health disparities research with junior investigators in partnership with senior investigators and community representatives.



RESEARCH

Under the leadership of Folakemi Odedina, PhD, Director:

- Worked with a 7-member Research sub-committee and Solix, Inc., the research vendor, to develop the HERI funded, Multidisciplinary, Multi-institutional, and Community-based (MMC) Pilot Grants Program and assisted with the HERI evaluation to collect data from HERI investigators on state, Federal and other grant funding
- Selected 10 Steering Committee Members representing 7 universities (UM, UF, FSU, USE, EWC, BCU, FAMU) and the FDOH

HERI funded, MMC Pilot Grants:

- Eight submissions
- Two \$50,000 grant awards

Latarsha Chisholm, PhD: Assistant Professor, Health Management and Informatics, University of Central Florida

- Culture Change Adoption In Low-Performing Nursing Homes: Who are the Adopters?



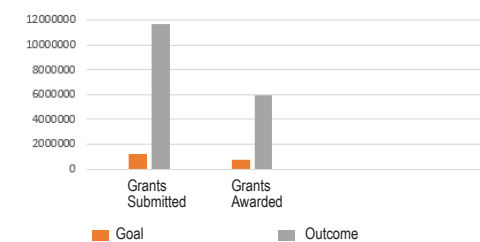
R. Renee Reams, PhD: Professor of Biochemistry, Medicinal Chemistry Section Chair, College of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, Florida A&M University

- Understanding Mechanisms of Increased ABCD3 Expression in AA Prostate Patients

State, Federal and Other Funding Sources of HERI Investigators:

- 11 MMC grants submitted (\$11.6M)
- 6 MMC grants awarded (\$5.9M)

External Multidisciplinary, Multi-institutional, Community-based (MMC) Grants Submitted & Funded, 2013-14



Florida Board of Governors evaluation criteria:
1:3 ratio of appropriated funds for grants submitted
1:2 ratio of appropriated funds for grants awarded



ADMINISTRATIVE

Under the leadership of B. Lee Green, PhD, Director:



- Selected 10 Steering Committee Members representing 7 universities (UM, UF, FSU, USE, EWC, BCU, FAMU) and the FDOH
- Held quarterly meetings and established Communications, Evaluation, Governance, Operations and Research sub-committees
- Planned and implemented a statewide HERI Summit attended by 123 faculty, students, clinicians and community representatives
- Designed the Florida HERI logo and website, and developed a Year One Progress Report and a Year One Evaluation Report



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Under the leadership of Angela Adams, PharmD, Director:

- Selected 15 Community Leadership Board members from 13 communities representing ethnic/racial, economic, and geographical diversity in Florida
- Actively participated in the Communications, Evaluation, Governance, Operations and Research sub-committees with the Steering Committee
- Advised the development of HERI community-based research and education and training activities

