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**A Message from our Leadership Team:**

As we welcome back students, staff and faculty here on the UCLA campus, we renew our commitment to lead and advance strategies for enhancing health equity. We begin our Fall newsletter with an especially warm welcome for our newest member, Dr. Lindsay du Plessis. You can learn more about Dr. du Plessis' role and research interests as you read on. We look forward to introducing her to many of you at upcoming events.

This time of year also means it is time for our Annual Health Equity Symposium. You will find details below, along with activities related to Liver and Breast cancer awareness month, and more!

With gratitude,  
*Roshan Bastani, Beth Glenn, Alison Herrmann, Foisade May, and Sylvia Lopez*

**Center News**

**Welcome Dr. Lindsay du Plessis**



Our Center is thrilled to announce Lindsay du Plessis, DrPH, MPH, has joined us as a Research Scientist. In this role, Dr. du Plessis will actively contribute to research projects and community engagement activities at our Center. Her research interests are in developing programs and health promotion strategies for low-income groups, racial and ethnic minorities, and other marginalized communities. Dr. du Plessis is the mother of a new 3-month old girl. She is also a breast cancer survivor, and says her own lived experience will inform her work as she strives to address health disparities, collaborate with community partners, and implement intervention and prevention strategies that will empower and improve outcomes among vulnerable communities.

**23rd Annual Health Equity Symposium:  
Advancing Anti-Racism and Health Equity in a Lingering Pandemic**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Virtual Symposium (on Zoom)**  
**November 3 and 4, 2021**  
**12pm – 1:30pm PST both days**



The 23rd Annual UCLA Health Equity Symposium will explore methods to identify and dismantle structural racism and improve the social, economic and ecological conditions that contribute to health disparities amidst the lingering challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During two noontime sessions, speakers will provide real-life examples of efforts to advance anti-racism and improve health in diverse groups. They will also share lessons learned about how to achieve these goals with practical relevance for health care providers, public health practitioners and community-based organizations.

[Registration link coming soon!](#)

**Liver Cancer Awareness Month**

**Hep B Free Liver Hub Project**

**Hep B Free-LA** is an essential resource for viral hepatitis screening and liver disease education in the greater Los Angeles area, particularly in the metro LA (SPA 4) region. To help make liver specialty services more accessible for the San Gabriel Valley's (SPA 3) medically underserved communities, Hep B Free-LA is creating a liver disease "hub", working with the California Liver Research Institute (CLRI), located in Pasadena.



Over the next few months, CLRI will educate providers and staff at nearby community health centers that serve low income, often monolingual communities on liver screening. ChapCare and Herald Christian Health Center, two federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), will serve as collaborators and hosts for community screenings for viral hepatitis and non alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). Follow-up care for patients at both FQHCs will be available at Hep B Free-LA, and CLRI. We are honored that this work is supported, in part, by one of our Center's Community Seed Grants.

**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**



**CALIFORNIA HEALTH COLLABORATIVE**  
changing lives by integrating health and wellness  
Every Woman Counts

**Every Woman Counts Breast Cancer Workshops**

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Every Woman Counts is scheduling free virtual health education workshops and 1-on-1 education for team members and constituents on breast and cervical cancer detection and prevention.

Classes can be scheduled 7 days a week, including evening hours, and can be requested in most languages.

Contact 310-775-1276 or [jmetz@healthcollaborative.org](mailto:jmetz@healthcollaborative.org) to schedule a workshop.

**Vision y Compromiso Annual Conference**



**"Promotores United In Hope And Love Toward a Healthy And Dignified Life"**

Promotores, leaders, community workers, and their allies are invited to attend the **Vision y Compromiso** 19th Annual Conference, October 7 – 9. This free, virtual event will provide an opportunity to learn, network, and celebrate the important work and contributions that promotores make to their communities. Through plenaries and diverse workshops, participants will hear from national and international experts, strengthen their work, and recharge their passion for social justice.

[Register Here](#)

**SmartAir LA App Update**



**SmartAirLA** has launched a new web-based tool - [www.fightasthma.info](http://www.fightasthma.info) - to empower asthma patients to protect themselves from asthma emergencies.

Asthma patients can use it to find the right plan for their symptoms, detect indoor triggers, get tips to improve their indoor environment, and receive referrals for asthma home visits. Partners include Esperanza Community Housing, St John's Well Child and Family Center, and Chinatown Service Center.

Contact Ray Cheung, SmartAirLA Executive Director, for more information:  
[ray.cheung@smartairla.org](mailto:ray.cheung@smartairla.org)