

Community-Based Participatory Research Program Seed Grants

Community-Academic Partnerships to Improve Community Health:

Uptown Immigrant and Refugee Senior Center

Steve Brunton, Chinese Mutual Aid Association, and Margaret Gadon, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Madelyn Iris, Associate Professor of Psychiatry/Preventive Medicine/Anthropology, Feinberg School of Medicine

The Uptown Immigrant and Refugee Senior Center community-based participatory research project will establish a working partnership between the Chinese Mutual Aid Association (CMAA) and two academic partners from Northwestern University, Dr. Margaret Gadon and Dr. Madelyn Iris to guide the planning and assess the impact of a Senior Center on the self-efficacy and self-reported mental health status of elderly clients of CMAA. During the course of the project, additional partners will be recruited including members of Uptown's elderly immigrant/refugee community, professionals engaged in serving Uptown's elderly and/or immigrant/refugee community, funders committed to serving Chicago's elderly and/or immigrant/refugee community, Uptown business owners and operators, and nonprofit agencies that serve Uptown's elderly and/or immigrant/refugee community. The partnership-building phase of this project funded by a Seed Grant from the Community-Engaged Research Center will enable a viable partnership among academic and community-based partners to continue serving the interests of elderly immigrants and refugees in Uptown for years to come.