



Director's Report

65th Meeting of the **National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities**

February 2, 2024

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.

**Director, National Institute on
Minority Health and Health Disparities**

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NIH National Institute
on Minority Health
and Health Disparities

NIH Leadership Update

17th NIH Director Confirmed

Monica M. Bertagnolli, M.D.

- Confirmed on a bipartisan basis by the U.S. Senate on November 7, 2023
- First surgeon and second woman to hold the position
- Previously served as National Cancer Institute Director since October 2022



Dr. Bertagnolli's Vision

- To bring more members of the public into the research enterprise as our partners in discovery
- NIH research encompasses the laboratory, the clinic, and the community
- Importance of data analytics applied to data that includes everyone, and apply new discoveries rapidly and equitably in clinical care
- Harness the power of artificial intelligence to advance research
- Protect early career investigators



NIH Immunotherapy Pioneer Honored

Steven A. Rosenberg, M.D., Ph.D.
National Cancer Institute, Chief of Surgery

- Awarded the **National Medal of Technology and Innovation** by the President on October 24, 2023
- Honored for transforming the way we treat cancer using immunotherapy and the first scientist to use genetically engineered immune cells, known as CAR T cells



National Cancer Institute Director

W. Kimryn Rathmell, M.D., Ph.D.

- Joined NIH on December 18, 2023
- Kidney cancer expert and influential leader in cancer research
- Served as Chair, Department of Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee, and as Physician-in-Chief



NIH Deputy Director for Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives

Tara A. Schwetz, Ph.D.

- Appointed as the Director of the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives in the NIH Office of the Director
- Served as NIH Acting Principal Deputy Director from December 2021–November 2023 and NIH Associate Deputy Director from January 2019–December 2021
- Co-Chair of RADx-UP Initiative in 2020



People with Disabilities Designated as a Population With Health Disparities

- Announced on September 26, 2023
- Designation made in consultation with Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Director Robert Otto Valdez, Ph.D.
- Notice of funding [opportunity](#) on research in people with disabilities



"This designation recognizes the importance and need for research advances to improve our understanding of the complexities leading to disparate health outcomes and multilevel interventions."

*NIMHD Director
Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.*



NIH Launches RADx Tribal Data Repository

- Goal is to support responsible data storage, sharing and access with respect for Tribal sovereignty
- Repository will include RADx data for researchers interested in working with data provided by American Indian/Alaska Native research participants to better understand and address impact of COVID-19
- Project will be led by Stanford University in partnership with the [Native Biodata Consortium](#)
- Selection of awardee resulted from input sought from Tribal consultations in [May 2020](#) and [July 2021](#)

[Read NIMHD Director's Message](#)



Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS)

ComPASS is a community-led research program to study ways to address structural factors within communities that affect health—safe spaces, healthy food, economic opportunities, transportation, housing, and quality health care

Partnerships with academic researchers

- 25 awards to community organizations and one coordinating center at Drexel, totaling \$171 million over 5 years
- Will enable research into solutions that promote health equity to create lasting change in U.S. communities



NIMHD Updates



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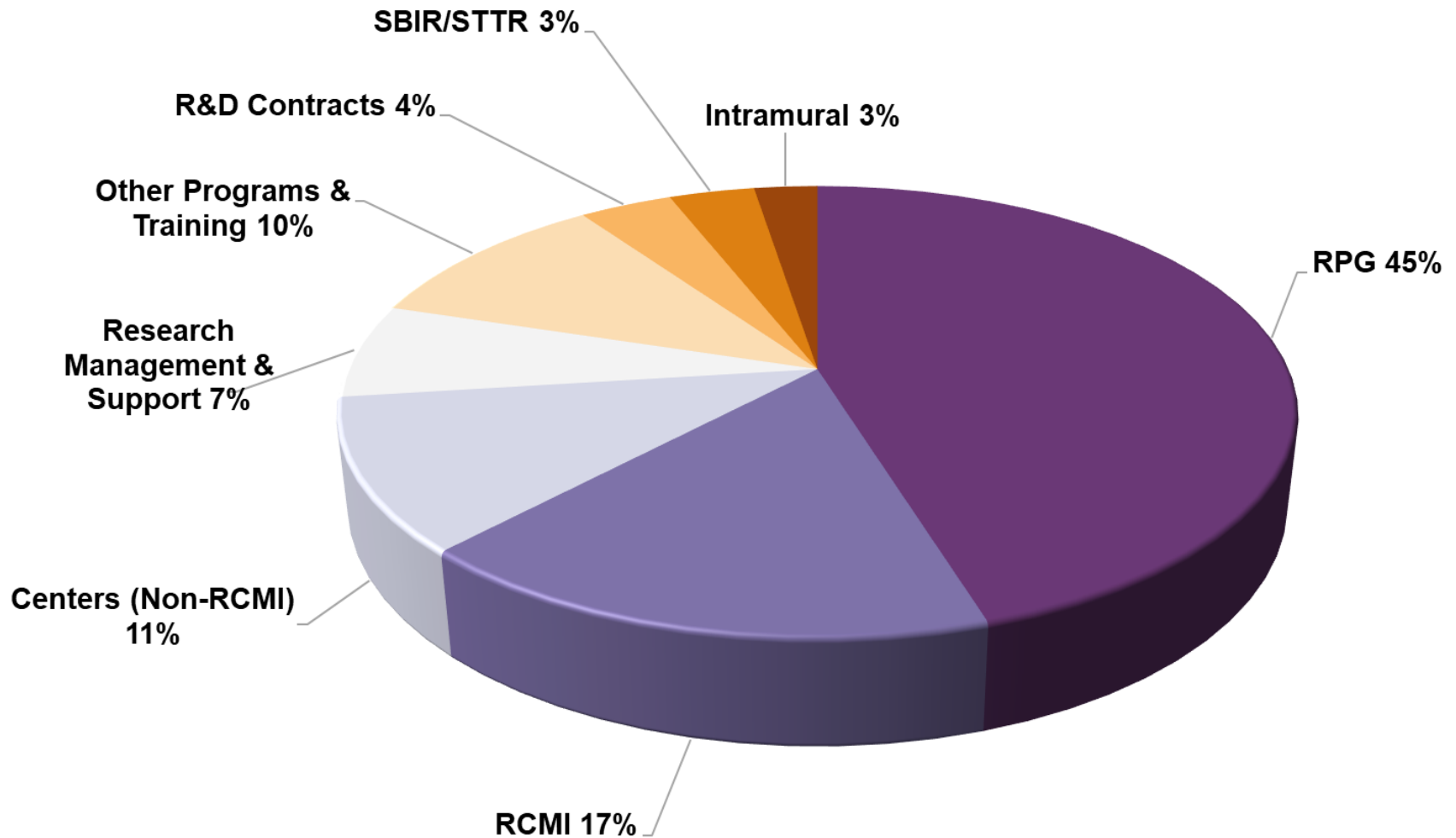


NIMHD Appropriations FY18-FY23

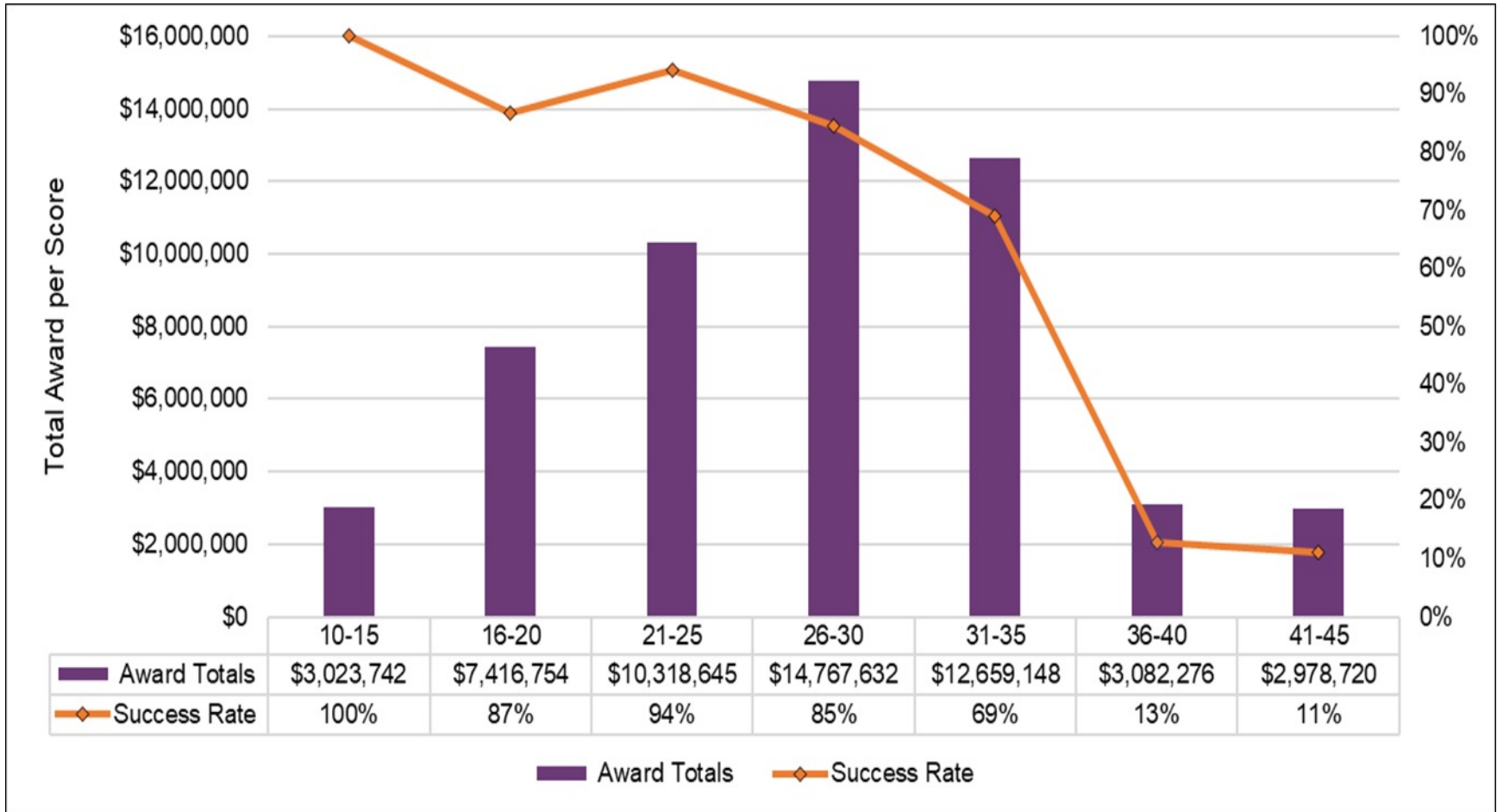
NIMHD Appropriations by Fiscal Year



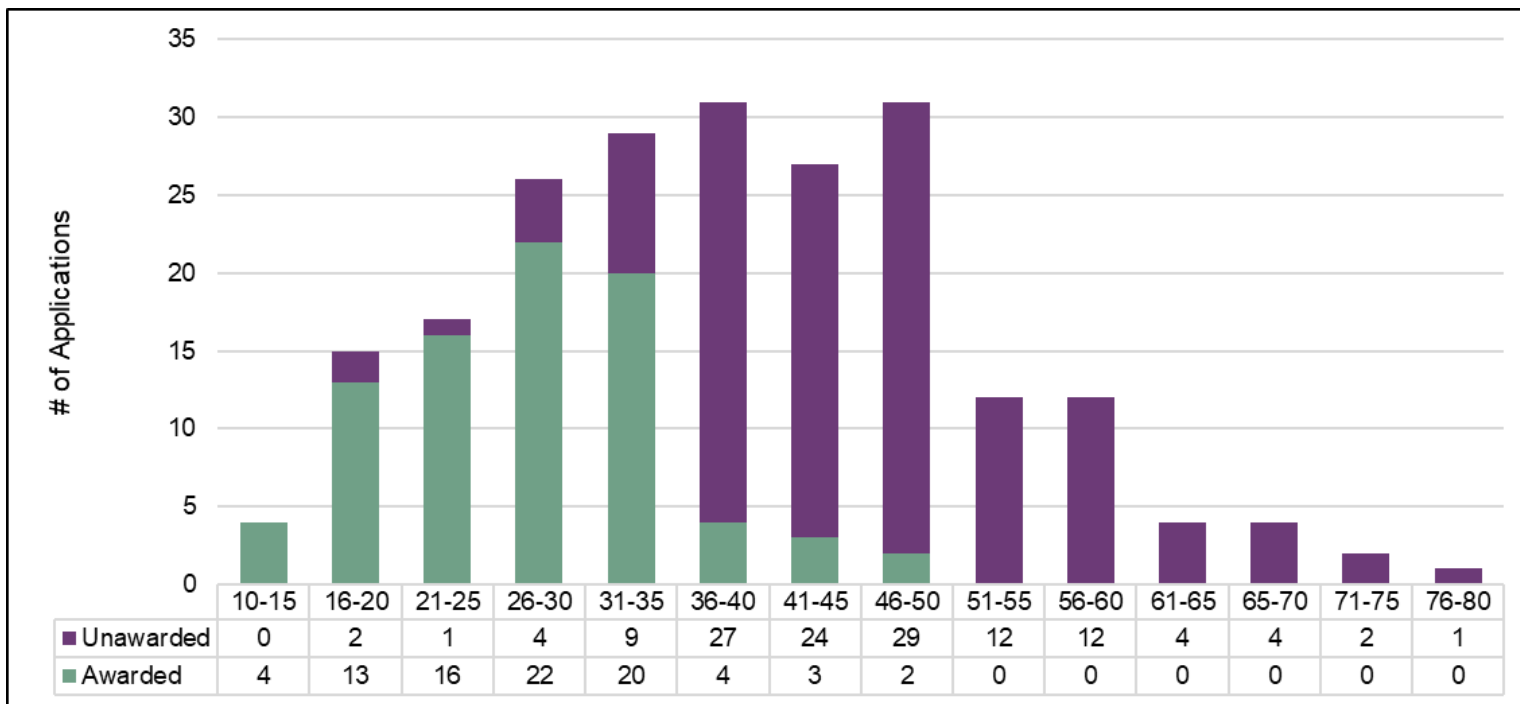
FY 23 Funding Distribution



NIMHD FY 23 R01 Awards



NIMHD FY 23 R01 Scoring Profiles



R01 Success Rates (2019 - 2023)

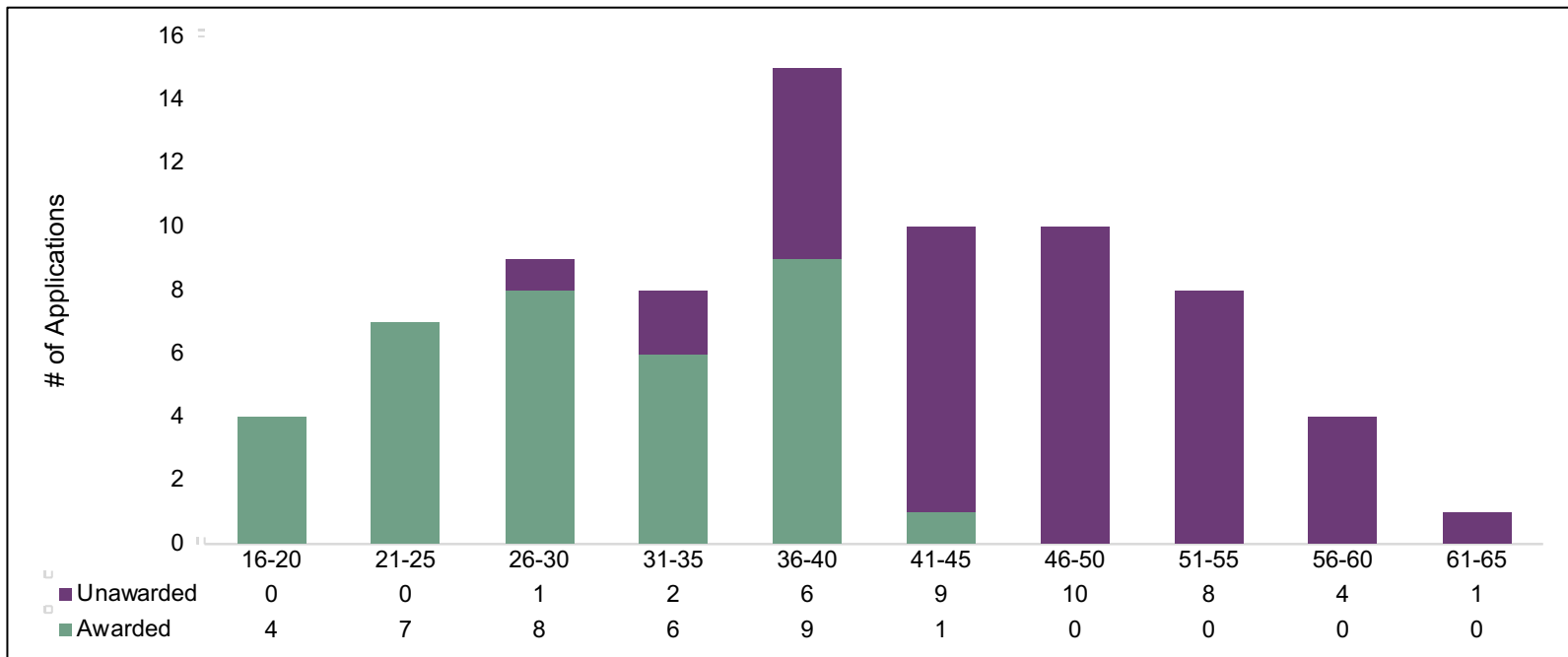
FY	Total Applications	Awarded	Success Rate	Award Totals
2023	468	84	17.9%	\$ 56,500,000
2022	546	100	18.3%	\$ 68,430,203
2021	494	64	13.0%	\$ 40,084,074
2020	437	42	9.6%	\$ 23,063,286
2019	394	41	10.4%	\$ 23,848,018



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NIMHD FY 23 R21 Scoring Profiles

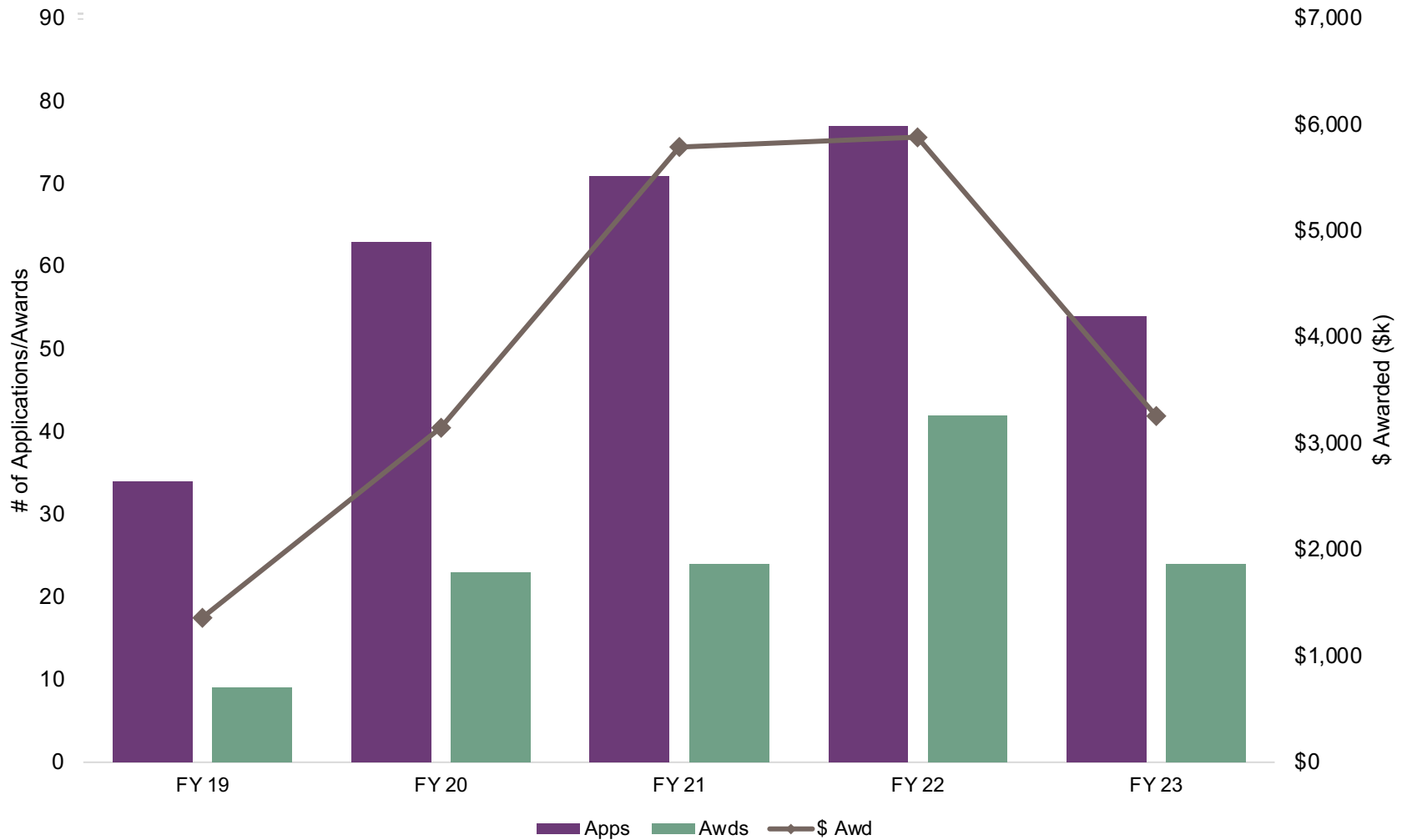


R21 Success Rates (2019 - 2023)

FY	Total Applications	Awarded	Success Rate	Award Totals
2023	162	35	21.6%	\$ 8,034,902
2022	209	30	14.4%	\$ 7,269,224
2021	244	18	7.4%	\$ 4,115,312
2020	296	17	5.7%	\$ 2,664,265
2019	292	13	4.5%	\$ 2,871,400



Career Development Awards–K



Other Funding Accomplishments

- 81 Loan Repayment Awards
- \$56M for Multiple Chronic Diseases Centers
- Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) award that supports 21 CEAL Teams plus Community Engagement for Climate Health
- \$12M through the John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Program
- Provided funding in partnerships with NIDDK for the APOLLO Clinical Centers and with NHLBI for the Epidemiological Cohort Study among Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders
- Funded 6 new awards through the Understanding and Addressing Misinformation notice of funding opportunity



Legislative Updates

October 27, 2023: Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) visited the NIH campus to review building and facilities concerns.

NIMHD Deputy Director Monica Webb Hopper, Ph.D., NHLBI Director Gary Gibbons, M.D., and NIDDK Deputy Director Gregory G. Germino, M.D., briefed Senator Cardin on **health disparities research at NIH.**



NIMHD Leadership Engagements

September 2023

- National Academies
- Research!America
- Duke Research Forum
- Partnership for Public Service



October 2023

- Meharry Medical College and Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance
- Vanderbilt Medical Center
- University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health's 75th Anniversary



American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, November 12-15, 2023

NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Presence

- NIH CEAL held its first in-person annual meeting for the CEAL Teams to discuss research outcomes, community engagement activities, successes, and its impact over the past year
 - Over 30 presentations and events, including CEAL symposium and AJPH sponsored session highlighting 4 papers

NIMHD Presence

- Presentations on NIMHD intramural research, RADx-UP
- Promote workforce development
- Meet NIMHD experts
- Share resources and training opportunities



Panel on Economic Burden of Health Inequity

APHA presentation, ***Economic Burden of Health Inequity: A Social Justice Issue and Economic Imperative***, discussed results and implications of JAMA paper

- Thomas A. LaVeist, Ph.D., Dean and Weatherhead Presidential Chair in Health Equity, Tulane University
- Darrell J. Gaskin, Ph.D., Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D., Director, NIMHD
- Dora L. Hughes, M.D., M.P.H., Chief Medical Officer CMS Innovation Center
- Michelle Gourdine, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, CVS Caremark



Pictured R to L: Drs. Dora L. Hughes, Darrell J. Gaskin, Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, and Michelle Gourdine

LaVeist, T., Pérez-Stable, E., et al., [JAMA](#). 2023.

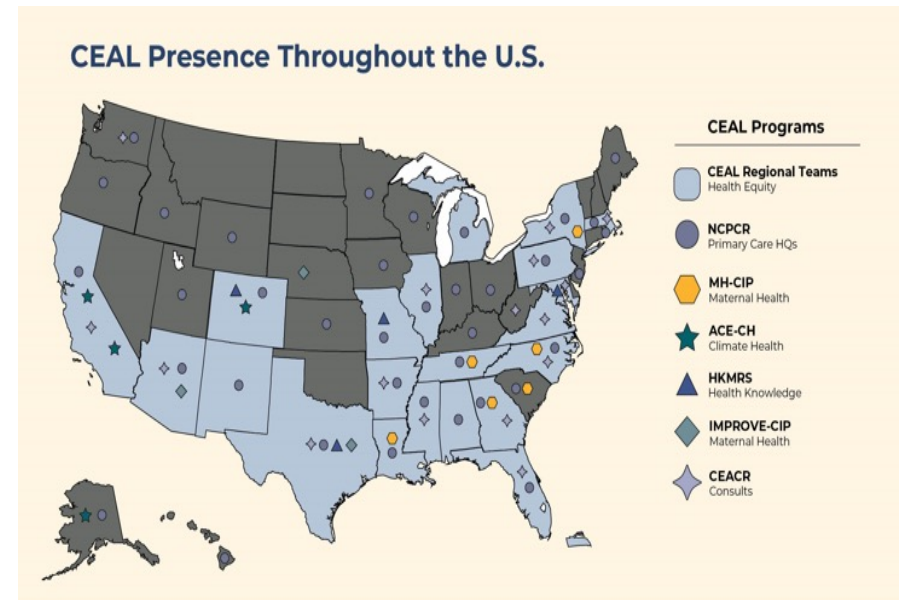


NIH CEAL Broadens Scope of Research

NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) is a research network designed to work with communities and community-based organizations to identify promising engagement and outreach practices that communicate trustworthy, science-based information to communities experiencing health disparities.

- **Expanding programs to include:**

- Maternal health
- Climate health
- Community-engaged primary care research
- AIAN-NHPI Enrichment Initiative
- Health Knowledge Monitoring and Response System



- **CEAL has a new look:**

- New URL: ceal.nih.gov
- New website for researchers and health practitioners: nihceal.org

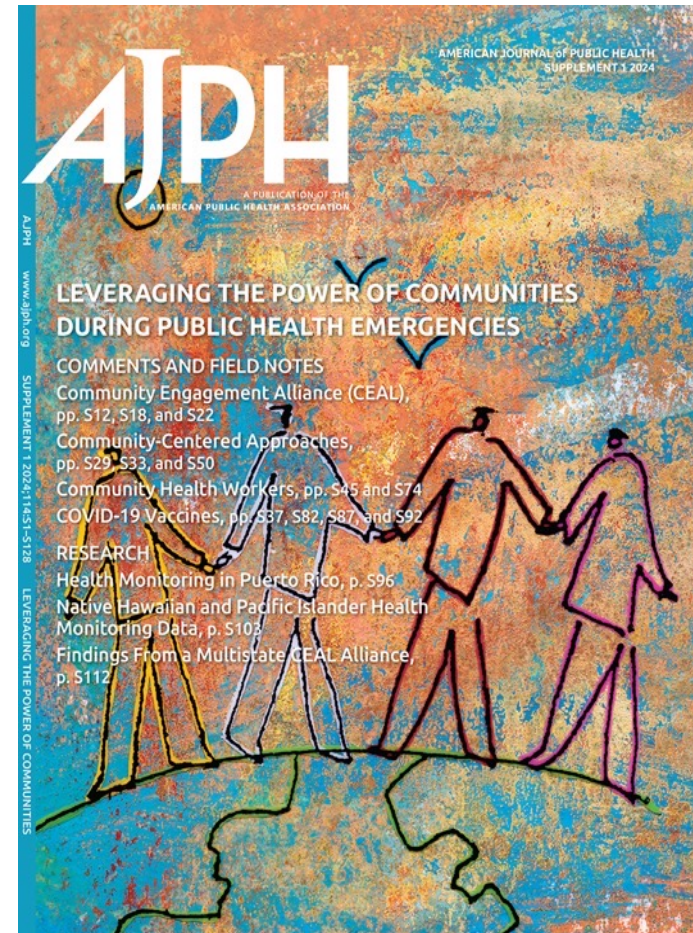


American Journal of Public Health Special Issue

Leveraging the Power of Communities in Public Health: A Sustainable Model for Health Equity

- CEAL Supplemental Issue published on January 11, 2024, and it includes 27 articles highlighting the **community-engaged research** conducted by CEAL teams.
- Focus on the **science of community-engaged research** in documenting, understanding, and intervening to **reduce COVID-19-related health disparities**.
- Special editorial, ***Harnessing the Power of Community Engaged Research***, by NHLBI Director Gary H. Gibbons, M.D., and NIMHD Director Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.

[American Journal of Public Health](#), 114(S1), S1-S128



Science Advances



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Perceived Unfair Treatment Due to Race or Ethnicity

In health care visits over the past 3 years, have you ever felt that a doctor, health care provider, or other staff treated you unfairly or with disrespect because of your race or ethnic background?

American Indian & Alaska Native	12%
African American	18%
Asian	10%
Latino/a	11%
White	3%

Kaiser Family Foundation Survey on Racism, Discrimination, and Health, December 2023



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Cultural Sensitivity and Tailoring: Lessons Learned and Refinements

When to apply group targeting or individual tailoring on ethno-cultural factors:

- 1 **When sufficient variability that can be measured or messaged exists for a construct within a population.**
- 2 **When communication values, norms, and preferences that influence message delivery, engagement, and effectiveness vary within the population.**
- 3 **Collect quantitative calibration data to determine whether sufficient variability exists in the psychosocial determinants or communication values or preferences.**
- 4 **Look at frequency distributions of key variables to decide how many audience segments or individually tailored message variants to create.**
- 5 **Consider whether the size of the subpopulation who would receive a unique message variant warrants the resources needed for that level of tailoring.**
- 6 **Consider whether the importance of messages communicated only with small populations warrant the resources needed for that level of targeting or tailoring.**
- 7 **Determine whether distinct messages can be realistically created based on the number of message variants identified through the previous recommendations.**

Griffith, D.M., Webb Hooper, M., et al., [Annu Rev Public Health](#). 2023.



Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Vs. General Health Education for Smoking Cessation

- Randomized controlled trial compared efficacy of group cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to general health education for smoking cessation
- Black/African American (39%), Latino/Hispanic (29%), White (32%) adults (N=347)
- **CBT led to greater abstinence at 12-months follow-up overall and within racial and ethnic groups.**
- **Black/African American participants less likely than White participants to quit, as were persons with lower education and income.**
- **Socioeconomic status positively predicted abstinence among racial and ethnic minority participants, but not White participants.**
- ✓ *Group CBT is efficacious across racial and ethnic groups.*
- ✓ *Tobacco interventions should target racial and ethnic disparities via intersectional and culturally specific approaches.*

Grant No. P30CA240139

Webb Hooper, M., et al., [Psychol Addict Behav.](#) 2023



Positive Parenting Practices May Help Slow Biological Aging

- Study examined if positive parenting interventions could buffer biological age acceleration associated with exposure to early-life adversity in children with developmental delays.
- 62 children (71% Latino; mean age 36 months; 71% boys) randomized to a parent-child interaction therapy or to receive usual community referral.
- **Children with developmental delays and more adversity exposure showed reduction of biological aging with more positive parenting practices.**
- ✓ *Positive parenting may promote resiliency, slow biological age acceleration, and potentially mitigate poor mental and physical health outcomes in children.*



Does Discrimination Impact Responses to Food and Obesity Risk?

- Evaluated neuroimages in response to food cues and analysis of fecal metabolites.
- 107 diverse participants (18–54 years) from Los Angeles community (N=50 high discrimination; N=57 low discrimination)
- ***Higher racial discrimination is linked to:***
 - **Increased reactivity to unhealthy foods**
 - **Compromised frontal processes involved in self-regulatory responses to unhealthy foods**
 - **Increased glutamate-pathway metabolites involved in oxidative stress and inflammatory responses**
- ✓ ***Discrimination may contribute to enhanced food-cue reactivity and brain–gut–microbiome disruptions that can promote unhealthy eating behaviors, leading to increased risk for obesity.***

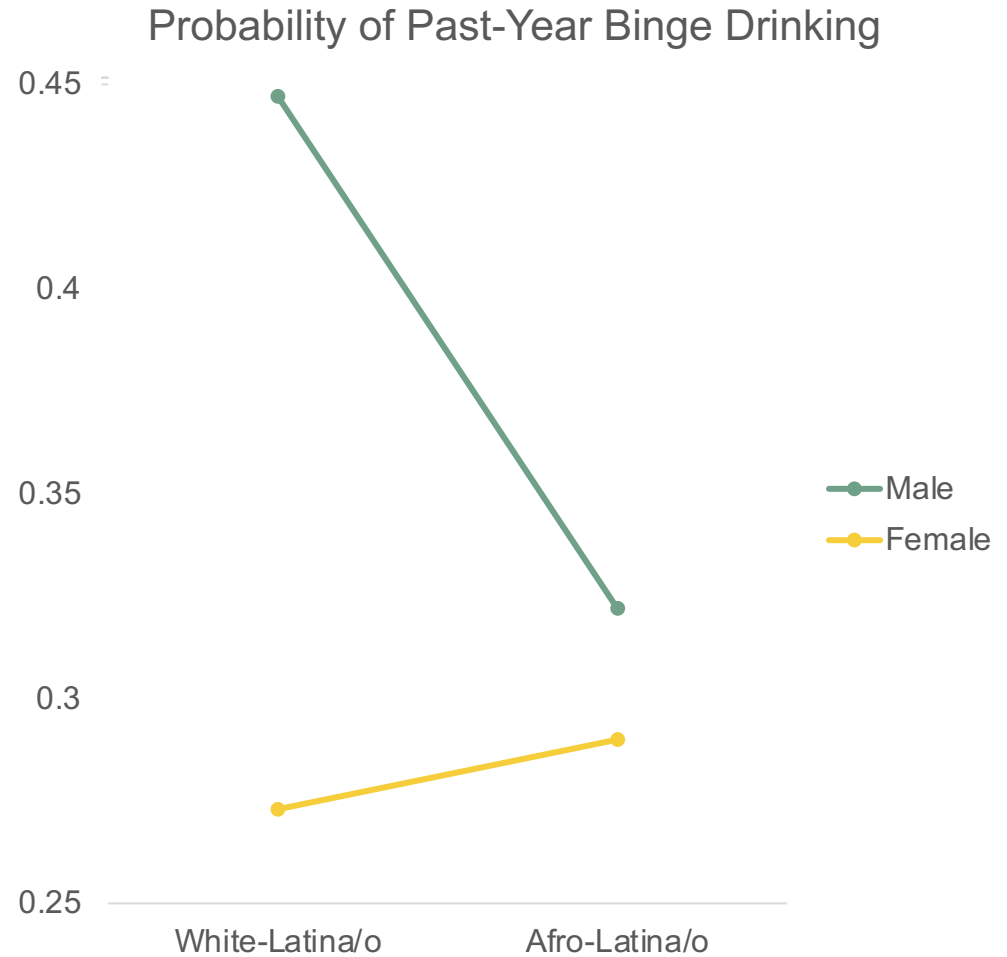
Grant No. R01MD015904

Zhang, X., et al., [Nature Mental Health](#). 2023.



Binge Drinking Among Latinos by Race and Sex: National Health Interview Survey

- Sample size 9,415
- Afro-Latina women were more likely to binge drink than White Latina women
- Afro-Latino men were less likely to binge drink than White Latino men
- ✓ ***Important to consider intersectionality in behavioral/mental health interventions among Latinos.***



Grant No. [K08MD015289](#)

Figuerero, V., et al., [J. Racial Ethn Health Disparities](#). 2023.



Does Neighborhood Cohesion Buffer Food Insecurity and Type 2 Diabetes?

- 2013–2018 National Health Interview Survey data on 23,478 Latinos analyzed to test whether neighborhood cohesion moderates the association between food security status and type 2 diabetes
 - Latinos with low food security had **two times the odds** of having diabetes compared to those who were food secure
 - Latinos reporting high levels of neighborhood cohesion had 0.86 odds to have diabetes
 - Food security status was associated with diabetes and neighborhood cohesion did not moderate the association
- ✓ *Neighborhood cohesion may be a community-level resource used as a coping mechanism when food-insecure*

Grant No. R01MD015186

Osborn, B., et al., [Journal of Rac and Ethc Hth Disp.](#) 2023.



An Evidence-Based Treatment for Suicidal Behaviors Among Latino Youth

- Evaluated the acceptability and efficacy of a socio-cognitive behavioral therapy for suicidal behaviors (SCBT-SB) and the feasibility of conducting randomized controlled trial (RCT) vs. treatment as usual.
- Pilot RCT conducted with 46 Latino/Hispanic teens 13–17 years. Target outcomes were suicidal ideation, suicide attempts, and depressive or internalizing symptoms.
- **SCBT-SB was acceptable and an RCT feasible to implement with diverse Latino/Hispanic families.**
- **Within group analyses showed reductions over time for each group in suicidal ideation and depressive and internalizing symptoms.**

✓ *SCBT-SB has potential as psychosocial treatment for depressive or internalizing symptoms, and suicide attempts in Latino/Hispanic youth.*

Grant No. R01MD013907

Duarté-Vélez, Y., et al., [Child Psyc Hum Dev](#). 2022.



Pilot Digital Intervention for Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

Implementing Safety Protocols for Intervention Research Using Digital Platforms



Deleting Evidence of Involvement in Digital Intervention

Implementing Strategies to Ensure Personal Safety

Ensure Safe and Effective Remote Data Collection

Asking Survivors about a Safe Time to Talk or Text

Using Code Words

Providing information about Resources and Checking in

Preferable Safe Medium to Access the Digital Intervention

Preferable Apps for Intervention Phone Calls or Text

- Despite digital interventions, there was **need for team member support** on the web/app and text interventions.

✓ *Being an immigrant and intimate partner violence survivor makes it necessary to design interventions that account for safety strategies and culturally specific ones.*

Grant No. R01MD013863

Sabri, B. et al., [J Family Violence](#). 2022.



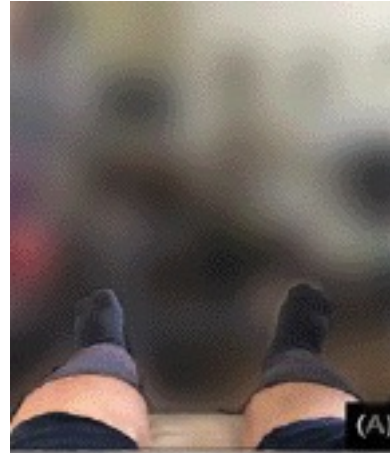
A Photo-Based Communication Intervention with 14 Older Diverse Adults

Patient-clinician photo-sharing:

- **Enhanced communication**
- **Influenced clinical recommendations**
- **Strengthened patient-clinician connection**

Intervention could be a way to:

- *Enable clinicians and patients work together to create care plans that consider the context of patients lives*
- *Assess previously hidden factors that affect how patients manage multiple chronic conditions*



Grant No. K23MD015089

Jih, J., et al., [J Am Geriatr Soc.](#) 2023.



A Decade of Tweets: Visualizing Racial Sentiments Toward U.S. Minoritized Groups

- Study examined geographic and temporal trends in sentiments toward racial and ethnic minoritized groups in the U.S.
- Randomly sampled 55,844,310 publicly available tweets from Jan 1, 2011, to Dec 31, 2021, using one or more 90 race-related keywords
- Support Vector Machine, a supervised machine learning model, used for sentiment analysis
- **16.5% increase in negative sentiments for tweets referencing racial and ethnic minority groups at the national level**
- **Tweets referencing Black and Middle Eastern people had the highest negative sentiments compared with all other groups**
- **Unique sentiment patterns for different groups reflecting specific race-related events salient for each group**

Grant No. R01MD015716

Nguyen., et al., [Epidemiology](#). 2024.



Siblings of Latino Sexual Minority Men Willing to Promote HIV PrEP

- Study examined whether siblings of Latino sexual minority men can be engaged in HIV PrEP promotion to their brothers
- Data: (1) Surveys (2) Dyadic interviews with Latino sexual minority men and their siblings (3) Focus groups with siblings only
- 31 sibling pairs were interviewed; 20 siblings enrolled in focus groups
- Dyadic interviews: LSMM
 - **22 (71%) would take PrEP to make their sibling worry less**
 - **23 (74%) requested a PrEP referral after the interview**
- Focus Groups: Siblings
 - **19 (95%) would take PrEP to help their brother get started**

✓ *Siblings can motivate their brothers who are sexual minority men to use PrEP and can be engaged in HIV PrEP promotion.*



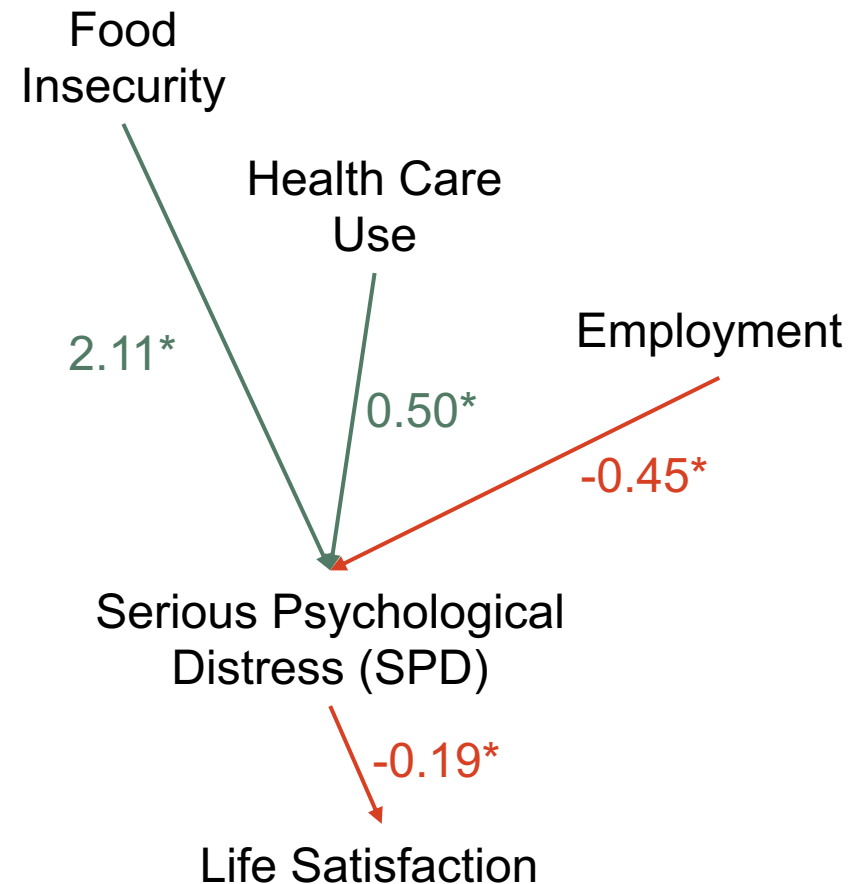
Is the Mediating Role of Rumination Age Dependent in Racial Discrimination?

- Study examined the association of racial discrimination, internalizing concerns, and rumination among Black youth, and the role of age
- 158 Black early-adolescent youth (Mean age= 11.6 years; 53% female) recruited from a community sample
- **Racial discrimination was directly and indirectly associated with internalizing concerns through rumination.**
- **Indirect effects of racial discrimination on depressive symptoms were most pronounced among older ruminating adolescents.**
- **Rumination is a developmentally sensitive pathway by which racial discrimination harms mental health.**
- ✓ *Coping responses to racial discrimination may be age dependent. Need for interventions that provide healthy and effective coping strategies for Black youth in response to racism during transition to adolescence.*



Social Needs Influencing Life Satisfaction Through Mental Health Among Immigrants

- Examined relationships btw social needs, serious psychological distress, and life satisfaction among 4,320 U.S. immigrants ≥ 18 years
- 2021 National Health Interview Survey data on U.S. immigrants
- **Food insecurity and health care use in the past year increased psychological distress, while employment decreased it**
- **Increased psychological distress associated with less life satisfaction**
- ✓ *Need to improve social needs and mental health among immigrants*



ZIA-MD000015

Adzrago, D., Williams, F., [SSM - Population Health](#). 2023.



Social Concerns Related to Subsequent Cannabis Use Among Youth

- Do changes in concerns for police brutality, societal discrimination, and school shootings relate to subsequent cannabis use among Hispanic and White youth?
- Higher proportion of Hispanic youth than White youth report consistently high concern for police brutality and societal discrimination.
- Concerns for police brutality and societal discrimination, even decreased, were associated with youth cannabis use, only among Hispanic youth.

Changes in societal concern among Hispanic youth (Ref: consistently low)	Adjusted odds ratios for subsequent past-30-day use	
	Hispanic youth	White youth
Police Brutality		
Decreased	1.41	1.48
Increased	1.29	1.89*
Consistently High	1.69*	1.66*
Discrimination		
Decreased	1.85*	1.42
Increased	1.36	1.46
Consistently High	1.63*	1.65*

ZIA-MD000006 Hacker K, ... Choi K. [J Racial Ethnic Health Disparities](#). 2023.

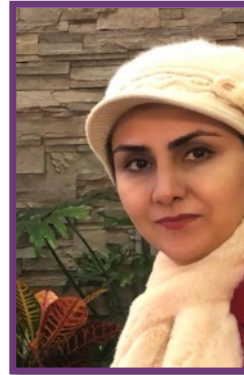


APHA 2023 Engagement DIR Fellows and Staff

- **9 fellows and PIs** attended APHA from DIR presenting 5 NIH-related presentations in:
 - Tobacco control and prevention
 - Stigma, discrimination, vulnerable populations
 - Social determinants of health and physical activity
 - Psychosocial experiences and associated health outcomes among immigrants, refugees, and displaced populations



2024 William G. Coleman Jr., Ph.D. Research Innovation Awardees



Photos

Top L to R: Drs. Jennifer T. Smith, Oliver Wilson, Maryam Hashemian, Jamie Murkey

Bottom L to R: Drs. Kristen Hamilton-Moseley, Abhinav Saurabh, Rachel Zajdel



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NIMHD Vacancy Announcements

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Discussion



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