Hey Community Engagers,

This past week, Sara Miller led the 2011 Community Engagement pilot grantee orientation Webinar held on January 18 and 19, with support from Molly Van Rheen, Dee Smyth, and Montelle Tamez, to cover the topics of fiscal and reporting requirements, IRB issues, and release of funds. All six joint pilot projects and three partnership development projects were represented by an academic researcher and community partner at the orientation. Hopefully, you'll be able to meet this vibrant group at the PACT Open House on April 14th.

We were delighted to learn that the Ethnic Studies Department is presenting, as part of the Spring 2011 American Indian Speaker Series, Mr. John Emhoolah, Kiowa Leader [and our very own PACT Council member]: Kiowa & Colorado History. John’s talk is open to the public, students, faculty, and staff on January 26, 2011, 11:00am, University of Colorado Denver campus, North Classroom 1408. Plan to attend if you can.


Focus on PACT Communities - Kaiser Permanente Colorado
Kaiser Permanent Colorado (KPCO) is an integrated health care delivery system operated by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and the Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., which together have provided comprehensive health care to Kaiser Permanente Colorado members since July 1, 1969. It is Colorado’s oldest and largest group-practice health care organization, with 524,518 members in the six-county Denver/Boulder metropolitan area and Southern Colorado service areas. In 2009, KPCO directed more than $78.8 million to community benefit programs to improve the health of all Coloradans. The Medical Financial Assistance program provided $15 million in free or reduced care to low-income patients in Kaiser medical offices, partner hospitals, and some safety net clinics. Kaiser also sponsors educational theatre programs and interactive workshops for children emphasizing healthy eating and active living. More than 1.5 million audience members have been entertained and educated by Kaiser Permanente Colorado’s Educational Theatre Program presentations since 1985.

The Kaiser Permanente Colorado Institute for Health Research (IHR) publishes and disseminates epidemiologic, behavioral, and health services research to improve the health and medical care of Kaiser Permanente members and the communities it serves. The organization has a specific focus on conducting research that can be translated into clinical practice, health promotion, and policies to influence the health of individuals and populations. Currently, the IHR’s staff of over 120 is working on
more than 160 epidemiological, clinical, behavioral, community, and health services research projects. Now in its 19th year of operation, the IHR is responsible for many landmark findings. Among the most notable are recent studies about vaccine safety and vaccine refusal, home blood pressure monitoring and research that identified life-saving practices for heart attack patients in the Emergency Room. Teams of investigators collaborate on major research projects with national partners including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccine Safety Datalink, the HMO Research Network, and the NIH Cardiovascular Research Network and the Cancer Research Network. Learn more at http://kpco-ihr.org.

Have a great weekend!
Jack Westfall