

Public Health Institute (PHI) – Center for Wellness and Nutrition (CWN)

PHI CWN explores innovative strategies and solutions that increase youth engagement, including Youth-Led Participatory Action Research (YPAR) to empower youth from vulnerable communities to lead, own, and change the conversation around improving nutrition and physical activity, and transform the communities where they live.

Specific Activities Include:

- Facilitate Youth Engagement Initiative Advisory and Partnership Meetings and identify collaborative opportunities to maximize UCCE internal partnerships, share successes, challenges, and lessons learned.
- Coordinate regional training opportunities for staff and volunteers from UC CalFresh projects. This includes regional in-person trainings and recorded webinars.
- Host a peer-led training opportunity for high school aged youth engaged in UC CalFresh projects to convene, learn, and share strategies with peers.
- Provide ongoing technical assistance to program sites via phone, e-mail, and in-person to conduct strategy-specific assistance as needed.
- Create Accomplishment Briefs for 4-6 pilot projects.

Staff Participating in these Activities:

Amy DeLisio Brings twelve years of experience working on nutrition education and obesity prevention initiatives that target low resource communities and communities of color. Amy provides leadership and strategic direction to the project and builds strategic, sustainable collaborations and advancement of policy, systems, and environmental change efforts.

Katherine Hawksworth Brings ten years of experience working on school and community nutrition and physical activity policies and provides training facilitation and resource development, including technical assistance and support.

Metria Munyan Brings ten years of experience working on youth projects and SNAP-Ed funding and provides overall coordination to the project including facilitation of trainings, meetings, site visits, and youth peer-led training opportunities. Provides ongoing technical assistance to program sites.

Jesse Tedrick Brings eight years of experience working on developmentally appropriate youth projects and contributes to the coordination and facilitation of trainings, meetings, site visits, and youth peer-led training opportunities. Provides ongoing technical assistance to program sites.

Brown Miller Communications (Mike Miller & Paula Hamilton) Bring more than thirty years of experience as a strategic communicator and award-winning journalist. Facilitate and contribute to the coordination of the Youth Engagement Initiative Advisory Meetings. Draft accomplishment briefs for pilot projects.

UC Davis Center for Regional Change (CRC)

The CRC is pleased to collaborate with UC CalFresh, ANR and PHI to support youth engagement focused on youth leadership development, nutrition education, and nutrition and physical activity policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change.

Specific Activities Include:

- Provide training to support youth-led PSE intervention strategies and two types of uses of CRC's mapping resources: (1) supporting county-based staff use to inform their assessment/planning/development activities, and (2) building county-based staff capacity to support young people's use in the context of youth engagement strategies.
- Collaborate with county-based advisors, supervisors and educators to document emerging youth engagement strategies and curricula in ways that can support future efforts to reproduce these strategies.
- Provide ongoing technical assistance to program sites via phone, e-mail, and in-person to conduct strategy-specific assistance as needed.
- Inform overall strategy development as a thought partner.

Staff Participating in these Activities:

Nancy Erbstein (UCD Department of Human Ecology) brings over twenty-five years of field-building expertise in youth engagement in community change to foster youth, institutional and community development, and leads CRC's work on youth use of mapping.

Brandon Louie (CRC Community Engagement Coordinator) brings over ten years of experience in youth leadership and development, YPAR and international agricultural development. His work has included engagement of young people in urban affordable housing, rural villages and migrant farmworker communities. His MS thesis project entailed documenting emerging curricula for a youth promotores program in West Sacramento. Provides coordination, facilitation, and ongoing technical assistance support to the program.