

WVPBRN

Community Newsletter

West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network



**DECEMBER 2023
EDITION**

-Design Studio:
Community Research
Series

-Member Spotlight:
Ranjita Misra, PhD

-Project Opportunities

-Network Highlights

-Announcements

WVPBRN DESIGN STUDIO: COMMUNITY RESEARCH SERIES

In November, the WVPBRN's Design Studio began a 4-part series of informational sessions toward establishing opportunities for community-engaged research endeavors in West Virginia. This series will provide resources and materials to help communities obtain funding, design projects, and share information learned from their ideas.

Dr. Emma Morton-Eggleston, Associate Vice President for Community Health Innovation at West Virginia University Eastern Campus, presented the first session in the series last month. Dr. Morton-Eggleston presented information on community-focused funding opportunities. She described where to look for funding opportunities and strategies to choose what funding is right for the community.

The next part of the series will be presented, Friday, **February 2, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.** via Zoom and will focus on the topic of preparing community-focused grant applications. Future topics for 2024 are listed below:



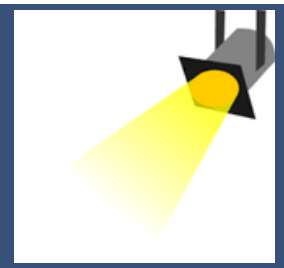
**April 26 - Grant Review
process and tips**

**August 2 - Community
involvement in projects**

November 1 - TBD

Cont. on pg 3

Member Spotlight



RANJITA MISRA, PHD, FASHA, FESG

**Professor and PhD Program Coordinator
School of Public Health, WVU**



Dr. Ranjita Misra is a Professor and PhD Program Director for the West Virginia University School of Public Health, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. She is an epidemiologist and behavioral scientist by training with expertise in health disparity research in rural and medically underserved populations utilizing quantitative and mixed methodologies.

Dr. Misra completed her BS in Food in Nutrition from Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, graduated from Banaras Hindu University with a MS degree in Nutrition, and attained her PhD in Public Health from Old Dominion University. She holds an active certification as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) and is a fellow of the American School Health Association and the National Health Education Honor Society of Eta Sigma Gamma.

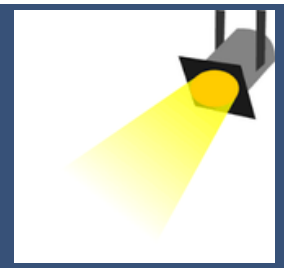
Dr. Misra conducts translational research that includes capacity building (e.g., use of CBPR/patient engagement), epidemiological and behavioral interventions (e.g., clinical and randomized control trails) to address chronic disease prevention and management among rural and medically underserved populations locally and globally to improve health outcomes. She has led multicenter and multi-country/diaspora studies to examine the prevalence and risk factors for diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular disease and multimorbidity among ethnic minority groups (Mexican Americans, African Americans and South Asians) and rural population (Appalachia, India, Mexico) as well as innovative community-academic partnerships to implement interventions. She uses low-cost models (e.g., community health workers, health coaches and health navigators) and Community-Based Participatory Approach (CBPR) to culturally and linguistically tailor evidence-based behavioral interventions. She has been a recipient of external funding as a Principal Investigator from the National Institute of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Resources, and Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

As a valuable and active member of the WVPBRN, she was selected for inclusion in the 2022 CORE Survey and will be conducting a virtual webinar training at the end of January 2024 on best practices for diabetic distress in primary care.

Dr. Misra's outstanding efforts and research activities have been formally recognized, as she has received the WVU Community-Engaged Research Award, Faculty Mentor award, Women in Science and Health (WISH) Award, and MD Anderson's Health Disparities Scholars award, just to name a few.

Outside of work, Dr. Misra enjoys walking/hiking in the trails, travelling, painting (oil) and reading.

Member Spotlight



WVPBRN Webinar Series: January 2024 featuring Dr. Ranjita Misra and her work with the WVPBRN.

SAVE THE DATE

BEST PRACTICES FOR DIABETIC DISTRESS IN PRIMARY CARE

A Virtual Webinar highlighting the research of Dr. Ranjita Misra, PhD Program Director and Professor with West Virginia University's School of Public Health.

ZOOM VIRTUAL EVENT
MON., JANUARY 29TH | 12P - 1P EST

Registration opens soon!



Open Project Opportunities

PATHway Study

The PATHway Study is an IRB-approved multisite multiphase clinical trial, looking to optimize a free, behavioral intervention for adolescents who are at risk of developing major depressive disorder episodes. The project comes from the University of Illinois. Dr. Bri Sheppard is working as the site investigator and partnering with the WVPBRN to help increase the participation and representation of rural populations in the trial.

This project was recently approved by the WVPBRN Protocol Review Committee. Community providers and staff can increase awareness of the study by sharing or posting a letter or brochure with a QR code in their clinic. No direct recruitment efforts are needed on the part of the provider or organization. The study team handles consenting and follow-up once an individual has elected to be contacted. Feel free to hang flyers in hospitals and clinics and/or share them digitally. The target population is at-risk teenagers, ages 13-18; there is no pharmacological or therapeutic intervention involved. This is a great opportunity to link at-risk teens with mental health resources.

If you would like to participate in recruitment and need the flyer, please contact Jen Lukas at jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu to receive additional information about the study. For all other questions, please contact the study team at pathwaystudy@uic.edu or 844-428-7878.

Network Highlights

WVPBRN Design Studio - *cont. from page 1*

For more information on how to join or participate in Design Studio, please contact Jen Lukas, WVPBRN Operations Manager at jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

For anyone who missed the November session or wanted to listen again, please visit the [link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMbSAetjcHU) to the recording <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMbSAetjcHU>

WVPBRN 2024 Annual Retreat: Save the Date

The WVPBRN is already looking ahead to the 2024 Annual Retreat! We are very excited to start to plan this exciting event for the 11th year. Registration will open in early 2024.

If you are interested in serving on the planning team, please contact Jen Lukas, jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.



MAVERICK: Mobile Clinical Trials Unit Tour 2024

The West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute's Mobile Clinical Trials Unit is set to hit the road in Spring 2024. MAVERICK, Mobile Access Vehicle Enhancing Research & Inspiring Community Knowledge, will be making stops around West Virginia to give communities the opportunity to see it in person. To follow MAVERICK on the road, follow us on Instagram. Updates on events will start in January 2024.

If you are interested in having MAVERICK visit, please contact Stacey Whanger at swhanger@hsc.wvu.edu.



[maverick_wvctsi](https://www.instagram.com/maverick_wvctsi)

Network Highlights

2024 Collective Outreach and Research Engagement (CORE) Survey Accepting Applications

The West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network (WVPBRN) rolling out its 7th annual CORE Survey. Similar in design to the nationwide CERA Survey, the CORE Survey is a compilation of survey questions from multiple clinicians and/or investigators relating to a variety of primary care topics in West Virginia. Clinicians and/or investigators may apply to have their questions included in the upcoming survey. The WVPBRN will select the top questions (not to exceed 30 questions total) that are most relevant and of interest to Network members. The WVPBRN will then send the finalized CORE Survey to members and partners in March 2024.

The primary goals of this survey resource are to:

- Reduce the number of surveys members are asked to complete
- Provide mentoring and partnership opportunities between the Network and researchers
- Collect pilot data for upcoming submissions to the Network
- Increase the quality and frequency of published medical research

The selected clinicians and/or investigators for the survey will have exclusive access to their portion of the survey results, within 30 days after the conclusion of the survey. The results are shared with the investigator first to allow for publishing and proposal development. The Network members can access the survey data after 120 days of survey completion. Those selected for the CORE Survey will be asked to present their data at the WVPBRN Annual Retreat at the Stonewall Resort in Roanoke, West Virginia in May 2025.

Applications must be submitted via email, as a single PDF 2-page document, by the close of business (5:00 pm EST) on or before the deadline date of **January 16th, 2024**. For a complete list of submission information, visit the website QR code.

If you are considering submitting a proposal or have questions, feel free to request a consultation. Please contact WVPBRN Research Operations Manager, Jennifer Lukas, at jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

Network Highlights

WVCTSI Project ECHO

Our Programs

- HCV/HIV
- Psychiatry
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Chronic Lung Disease
- Campus Mental Health
- Substance Use Disorder
- Diabetes/PAD Foot Care & Amputation Prevention
- Statewide Antimicrobial Stewardship: OPAT & COPAT

Get in Touch



Announcements

Upcoming Design Studio Sessions:

- February 2, 2024 - ***How to apply for community-focused funding opportunities***

- April 26, 2024 - *Note Date Change

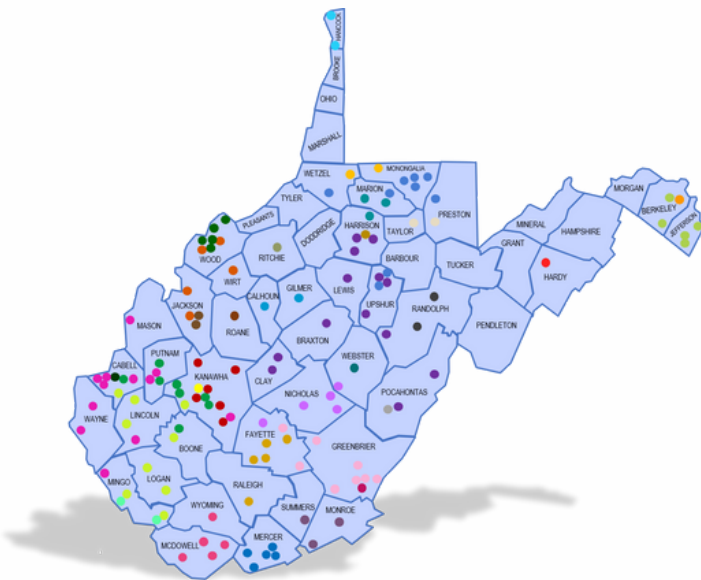
*These sessions are from 12-1 p.m. via Zoom.

Please remember to cite the IDeA CTR support - NIH/NIGMS award number 5U54GM104942-04 in publications and presentations that are in collaboration with the West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network.

Contact us:

Stacey Whanger, MPH
Assistant Director
swhanger@hsc.wvu.edu

Jen Lukas, MPH, CHES
Operations Manager
jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu



Facebook: @wvpbrn

Twitter: @wvpbrn

Webpage: bit.ly/WVCTSI-WVPBRN

