



Enhancing Research to Address Cancer Health Disparities

**WORKING GROUP
CO-CHAIRS**

Tiffany Wallace, CRCHD - Presenter

James Doroshow, DCTD

Worta McCaskill-Stevens, DCP

*NCI Equity and Inclusion Program
Working Group 1*

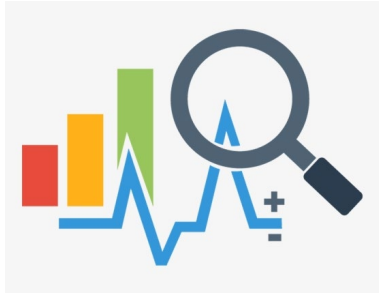
Working Group Purpose and Charge

Develop research recommendations to determine the precursors to cancer disparities and implement research programs to eliminate disparities and promote health equity

- Facilitate both short- and long-term research activities to advance prevention, intervention, and implementation initiatives

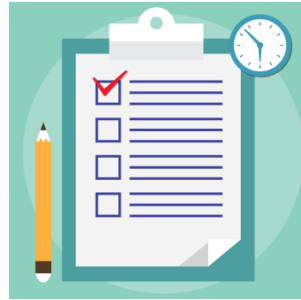
Working Group Goals and Activities

Goal 1



**Landscape Analysis
and Stakeholder
Interactions**

Goal 2



**Develop and
prioritize research
recommendations**

Goal 3



**Promote and
implement
research activities**

Immediate Actions

- **Publish two RFIs seeking stakeholder input on how to 1) enhance cancer disparities research and 2) increase diversity and inclusion in the cancer research workforce**
 - NOT-CA-21-066, deadline June 25, 2021
 - NOT-CA-21-067, deadline July 15, 2021

Note: These RFIs are specific to NCI and distinct from the UNITE Initiative

- **Host a multi-stakeholder summit on “*Increasing Inclusion and Health Equity in Cancer Clinical Research and Clinical Trials*”**
 - Planning underway, more details pending

Immediate Actions

- **NCI Intramural Trainee Awards for Cancer Disparities and Minority Health Research**
 - Awarding both postdoctoral fellowships and research projects with a goal of expanding disparities research within NCI's Intramural Research Program.
- **Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (CUSP2CT)**
 - Designed to implement and evaluate outreach and education interventions to increase referral of racial/ethnic populations to NCI-supported clinical trials.
- **Reissue/re-imagine NCI initiatives focused upon enhancing cancer disparities research**

Ongoing and future activities

■ Landscape analysis, underway

- Extract key information from published reports (i.e., critical gaps, research opportunities, recommendations)
- Identify what overlaps and what is unique to help inform future WG priorities

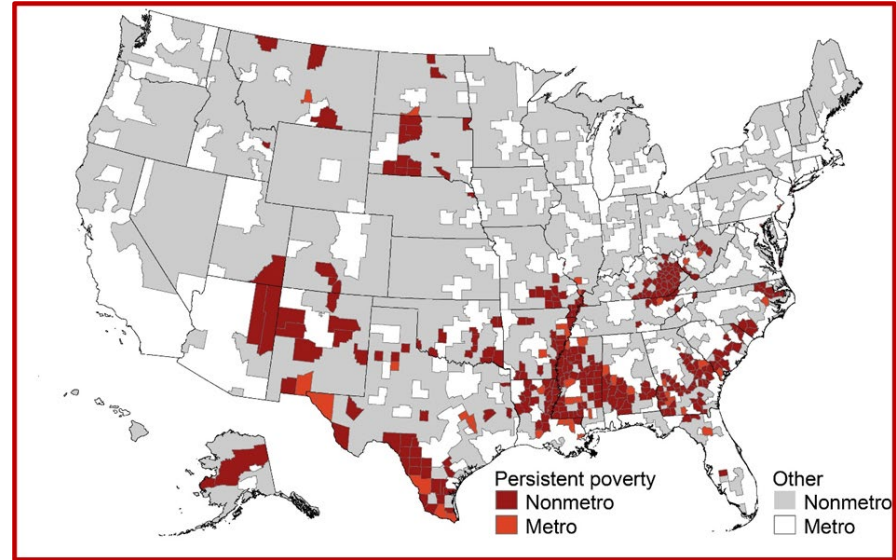
■ Promote and Implement Research Activities

- Conducting a survey and analysis to evaluate telemedicine usage in NCI clinical trials before and after COVID-19
- Soliciting P01 applications proposing cancer control research in persistent poverty areas (***NOT-CA-21-071***)

Persistent Poverty Areas

- **Persistent poverty (PP) area:** a county that has had poverty rates of 20% or more in U.S. Census data from 1980, 1990, and 2000
- Current categorization includes ~10% of U.S. counties
 - most in the rural South
- Working with USDA to expand the definition to the census tract level (*more granular*)
 - each of the 50 states, including District of Columbia, has a PP area

Persistent Poverty Counties, 2015



<https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/county-typology-codes/descriptions-and-maps.aspx#ppov>

Efforts to advance research in Persistent Poverty Counties

- **Administrative Supplements, R01 grants**

- NOT-CA-20-035
- Targeted R01 grants to address cancer control research in “geographically underserved areas”.
- Six awards made in 2020

- **Administrative Supplements, P30 CCSG grants**

- Targeted P30 Cancer Center Support Grants (CCSGs) to advance research in persistent poverty areas
- Awards pending, September 2021

- **Notice of Special Interest (NOSI), P01 grants *(new)***

- NOT-CA-21-071
- Soliciting new P01 applications proposing cancer control research in persistent poverty areas
- Relevant for due dates between September 24, 2021 and May 8, 2023.

Looking ahead

- **Coordinating and synergizing across NCI and NIH**
 - NIH UNITE Initiative
 - Committee N: New research on health disparities, minority health, and health equity
 - NCI Cancer Disparities Activities Committee (CDAC)
 - Open solicitation for new, innovative ideas across NCI

Working Group Members

James Doroshow*	Office of the Director
Worta McCaskill-Stevens*	Division of Cancer Prevention
Tiffany Wallace*	Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
James Alaro	Center for Global Health
Amy Berrington de Gonzalez	Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics
Philip Castle	Division of Cancer Prevention
Becky Chasan	Office of Communications and Public Liaison
Sean Hanlon	Center for Strategic Scientific Initiatives
Richard Little	Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis
Sandra San Miguel	Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
Neeraja Sathyamoorthy	Division of Cancer Biology
Shobha Srinivasan	Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
Anita Tandle	Division of Extramural Activities
Ming Zhao	Small Business Innovation Research

**Co-Chairs*

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