Associate Director of Community Partnerships

Dr. Geeta Basantwal specializes in maternal and child health research and was a recipient of the 2019 Interdisciplinary Research Grant from the National Institute of Justice. A 2018 winner of the National Women's Health Network's Dr. Mildred Brown Legacy Award, she is dedicated to addressing health disparities in women and children. Her research has focused on understanding preeclampsia and preterm birth among women with lupus. Then, she proposed to bring these findings to women and their providers using a mixed methods approach. Her goal is to foster a holistic understanding of the interplay between lupus and pregnancy that will empower women to navigate their health care environments better.

Office of Community Engagement, provided technical assistance in writing this aim, designing the data management plan, and budgeting. The team to develop community-informed interventions and patient engagement materials and worked closely with members of the research team to develop community-informed interventions and patient engagement materials. The team is currently building a data repository called the SOMOS Database, which will allow for robust analysis of community engagement in the context of health disparities. The team is also working on the design of a research course that will focus on how the science of cancer can inform community engagement strategies.

Immediately following the conference, the OCE worked with the Peer Navigators to develop a conference poster that was presented to the public. The team is also working on the development of a new website that will allow for greater access to information and resources.

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RESEARCH PROJECTS

The African American Breast Cancer Peer Navigator program is a collaborative effort between the Office of Community Engagement (OCE) and the Department of Medicine's Office of Community Engagement. The program is designed to prevent and detect melanoma. The team is currently building a data repository called the Wipe Out Melanoma project, which will allow for robust analysis of community engagement in the context of health disparities. The team is also working on the development of a new website that will allow for greater access to information and resources.

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