

Campus Alberta Health Outcome & Public Health Annual Forum

May 9, 2018

Presenters:

Dr. Cari Egan

(Alberta Health Services)

Dr. Añiela dela Cruz

(University of Calgary)



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www.ribbonrouge.com/listening-campaign/

Who we Are

Co-Leads on the Project Team:

- **Dr. Tanvir Turin Chowdhury** (Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary)
- **Dr. Añiela dela Cruz** (Faculty of Nursing, University of Calgary)
- **Moréniké Oláòşebìkan** (Community Champion and Ribbon Rouge; non-profit organization advocating for HIV prevention and socially just approaches to HIV prevention, Edmonton, AB)
- **Dr. Cari Egan** (Communicable Disease Control, Alberta Health Services, Calgary)
- **Dr. Bukola Salami** (Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta)

Organizing Team Members:

- **Sipiwe Mapfumo**, HIV Community Link (Calgary)
- **Tsion Demeke Abate**, HIV Edmonton (Edmonton)

Background

- Ribbon Rouge Foundation - Community Champion
- HIV/AIDS
 - Stigma
 - Current epidemiological trends in Alberta and Canada
- Experiences within the Alberta African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) Communities
- 2016/2020 STBBI Alberta Operational Strategy and Action Plan
- The work of the *newHITES* Community Based Research Team (de la Cruz et al. since 2001)

Purpose

“Enhancing the health and wellness of all Albertans, including new Canadians and refugees who are living with HIV and Hepatitis, by preventing, eradicating the stigma, and minimizing the impacts of STBBIs like HIV and HCV.”

- **Principles of Population Health Promotion**

- Social determinants of health
- Systems approach (individual, family, community, societal and systems)
- Community engagement
- Strengths-based approach

What we Did

- Brought together community members (champions, leaders, and experienced), 2-3 levels of government, Alberta Health Services, health and social service providers, and academic researchers to work towards culturally sensitive and integrated supports for this population
- Promoted and continued to sustain collaborative relationships
- Identified champions within new immigrant and refugee communities affected by HIV and other STBBIs, as well as within government
- Submitted grant application to the CIHR HIV/AIDS CBR Program (Catalyst)

What Happened

Meeting Date & Location	Number of Participants	Sectors Represented
<p>February 17, 2018 Participants Calgary Public Library Central Branch 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm</p>	<p>14 (from Calgary, Brooks)</p>	<p>Post-Secondary/Academia - 3 Health Services - 1 AIDS Services Organization - 2 Person(s) Living with HIV - Yes Non-Profit Organizations (Other) - 4 Immigrant Settlements Services – 4</p>
<p>February 24, 2018 Participants 10510 – 107 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm</p>	<p>39 (From Calgary, Edmonton & Area)</p>	<p>Post-Secondary/Academia - 2 Health Services - 1 AIDS Services Organization - 3 Person(s) Living with HIV - Yes Non-Profit Organizations (Other) & Community Champions – 21 Private sector - 1 Immigrant Settlements Services – 2 Spiritual Groups/Churches - 2 Government of Alberta - 3 Government of Canada - 2 Consular Staff - 2</p>

Community Engagement & Dialogue

- Community meal and informal engagement
- Introduced the background to the project
- Overview of current related activities in Alberta related to ACB Communities, HIV, stigma, and health of newcomers
- Guided discussion and open dialogue
- New partnerships formed, existing partnerships nurtured and sustained
- Identified key priorities for action

Key Things we Learned

- Migration experiences, settlement experiences, and the experience of living with or being affected by HIV is **complex**
- Need **safe spaces** for people to gather and talk about the issues
 - Physical gathering space
 - Sustained funding for such places
- Must acknowledge **intersections** of
 - Colonialism
 - Racism
 - Discrimination based on gender, sexual identity
 - Social determinants of health (poverty, education, trauma, housing, public and institutional policies)
 - Multi-generational families
 - Gender

Next Steps

- Form an advisory committee comprising immigrants within the ACB communities in Alberta, which will advise the 2016/2020 STBBI Alberta Operational Strategy and Action Plan on matters related to ACB communities and other immigrant communities impacted by HIV and other STBBI
 - Project ideas
 - Seeking funding
- Follow up meeting with participants to discuss proceedings of both meetings.
- Strategize on action plan (e.g., submit joint funding application to CIHR, SSHRC, or other to financially support ongoing work).