First annual grant program awards announced

An exciting addition for 2008 was the first annual Grants Program of the University Community Partnerships Council. For the first time in UCSF history, the Chancellor’s Office set aside over $100,000 to be granted to partnerships between UCSF and the community. These grants are designed to support collaborative relationships that promote civic engagement, foster community well-being and enhance the environment for research, education, patient care and employment.

In the following year, our grant awardees will make a difference in almost every corner of San Francisco through such diverse initiatives as providing support for cancer patients and survivors, inspiring high school students to become scientists, providing resources for victims of trafficking, and many more exciting programs and projects. UCSF faculty, staff and students will be hard at work with community-based organizations to use their grant award money to change the face of both UCSF and the community. –Amie Vogt

(1) (the photo to the right shows Literacy for Environmental Justice’s (LEJ) environmental service learning the community.

2008 Partnership Grant Awardees…

Cancer Center-Faith Communities Program is a partnership between the Neighborhood Baptist Church and the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. The pilot program will expand and support faith-based community members who are trained and actively engaged in cancer advocacy, education, prevention, and early detection of cancer.

The SFCH Resident’s Seva Project is a partnership between the Bayview Hunters Point Foundation for Community Improvement, Southeast Food Access Working Group and the UCSF Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program at San Francisco General Hospital. Residents from UCSF will work with organizations in Bayview Hunters Point to provide trainings about nutrition and exercise with the goal to improve overall health and increase health consciousness in our community while increasing "community competency" of medical residents.

Health Neighborhoods, Healthy Lives is a partnership between the West Bay Filipino Multi-Service Corporation and Dr. Aimee Ablable-Munsuz. The project will use participatory video-making to investigate the neighborhood level causes of overweight/obesity in the Filipino community. The goals of the program are to increase community awareness encourage community-led solutions to the problem.

The New Generation Health Center Mural Restoration Project is a partnership between the Precita Eyes Muralists Association, Inc. and the UCSF New Generation Health Center. The project will restore the mural at the Mission District location of the New Generation Health Center, providing a space for all program participants to meet each other, enable them to develop their individuality and confidence through creative activities, and to experience unifying, positive social interaction through collaboration.

Partners in Food and Fitness is a partnership between the San Francisco Unified School District School Health Programs and the UCSF Department of Family Health Care Nursing. The project will work with students throughout San Francisco to provide nutrition and physical activity education and promotion. Advanced Practice Pediatric Nursing students from UCSF will provide taste testing of fresh produce, poster displays related to healthy food choices, and interactive lessons related to integrating exercise effectively into one’s lifestyle.

Vivamos Sanas! (Living as Healthy Women) is a partnership between Mujeres de Ambiente Sociales y Activas (MASA) and the UCSF Lesbian Health Resource Center. The project will promote queer Latinas’ health and empowerment by strengthening social supports and fostering leadership development.

Partnership for Health Career Learning at Mission High School is a partnership between St. John’s Educational Threshold, Mission Health Academy and UCSF Medlink. UCSF medical students will engage Mission High School students in health sciences and related careers through medically-related science lessons and individual mentorship.

Biomedical and Health Sciences Internship for High School Students is a partnership between Oasis for Girls and the UCSF Department of Pediatrics. The project will provide students with interest in science opportunities through hands-on exposure to scientific research, and connect students with mentors who will assist in their pursuit of scientific scholarship; and help improve applications for successful college admission among youth who might otherwise have limited assistance with the application process, as well as few educational choices.

T-RAPP Internship is a partnership between the UCSF New Generations Health Center and the Family Service Agency of San Francisco. The program will provide educational outreach for low-income and transitional-age youth by providing paid internships at the New Generations Health Center clinic.

Safe Fishing Project is a partnership between Literacy for Environment Justice and the UCSF Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing (OEHN) Program. The project will contribute to a new strategic initiative among community and environmental justice groups in the Bay and Delta regions to address public health impacts of mercury and other toxins in Bay-Delta fish by reducing exposure and mitigating impacts to health to consumers, especially subsistence fishers.

Health Services for Victims of Trafficking through the Refugee Medical Clinic: Raising Awareness and Assessing Barriers to Care is a partnership between the Newcomer’s Health Program and the Refugee Medical Clinic. UCSF Department of Family and Community Medicine. Serving victims of trafficking and refugees, the program will fund a stipend and project related costs for UCSF medical student, Emily Whichard, to plan and implement a community assessment to collect demographic data on the victims of trafficking population in San Francisco, discern effective and appropriate community linkages, strengthen relationships with these agencies and clarify issues affecting the victims of trafficking and how the Refugee Medical Clinic and Newcomers Health Program can address them.

Southeast Asian Needs Assessment is a partnership between the Vietnamese Youth Development Center and the UCSF Department of Psychiatry. The project will identify the needs among Southeast Asians in the Tenderloin and San Francisco and develop recommendations and guidelines for service enhancement and program development.