Southwest Institute for Research on Women
(SIROW)

CALENDAR YEAR REPORT
2021

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
University of Arizona
I. Introduction:

The University of Arizona - Southwest Institute for Research on Women (UArizona-SIROW) was founded in 1979 as a regional research and resource institute. SIROW’s region includes Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Wyoming, Utah, and northwestern Mexico. SIROW’s mission is to develop, conduct, and disseminate collaborative outreach, education, intervention, and research projects of importance to diverse groups. Since 1979, SIROW has worked collaboratively with UArizona colleges, other institutions of higher education, K-12 schools, Native American tribes, governmental agencies, and community-based organizations. SIROW’s projects have primarily focused on health and wellness, legal issues, education, employment, women’s history, and the arts.

II. Current Profile:

SIROW works in partnership with the Department of Gender and Women’s Studies and is housed in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Josephine Korchmaros is the Director of SIROW and Ms. Claudia Powell is SIROW’s Associate Director. SIROW is supported by its business office, which includes a full time Business Manager Senior and a full time Administrative Support Assistant. Between 30% and 100% of these administrative positions are funded by UArizona as well as a small percent of salary costs for a few lead researchers at SIROW. The majority of SIROW personnel are fully funded by external grants and contracts.

SIROW continues to engage in activities in support of its 5-Year Strategic Plan (2019 – 2023). The Strategic Plan Map includes 4 pillars: (1) Advance projects to address social inequalities and group-based disparities; (2) Promote SIROW as a premier innovative resource and research center; (3) Contribute SIROW expertise as an innovative resource; and (4) Engage allies and build collaborative relationships. (See SIROW Strategic Plan at https://sirow.arizona.edu/strategic-plan.)

As noted in SIROW’s Strategic Plan, SIROW contributes to a more just and equitable society for all. SIROW and its partners help to make positive social changes at individual, familial, community, and structural levels by:

- challenging the status quo;
- facilitating the voices of those who experience disparity;
- working with diverse groups of female-, male-, and transgender-identified individuals; and
- seeking innovative methods based on research, best practices, and theory to improve conditions and contexts.

SIROW faculty, staff, and students, along with its partners, work locally, nationally, and globally to effect positive social change. Taking a holistic approach to well-being, SIROW’s interdisciplinary and intersectional community-based research and action projects focus on addressing correlated and co-occurring social and public health issues in the areas of:

- health and wellness (e.g., relationship and sexual health, substance misuse, mental health, and homelessness);
- legal issues (e.g., adult and juvenile justice, legal advocacy, domestic violence, and immigration);
- education and employment (e.g., literacy, leadership, access, equity, and workforce development); and
- women’s history and the arts (e.g., representation of women, diversity of voices, and oral history).
SIROW’s work is guided by its values of respect, collaboration, strength-based approaches, appreciation of diversity, investment in community, and passion for a more equitable world. Based on these values, SIROW shares its unique expertise in:

- research methodology;
- program design, implementation, and program evaluation;
- collaborative partnerships to increase community capacity, infrastructure, and advocacy; and
- training, technical assistance, and workforce development.

For 2021, SIROW’s vision, mission and goals include:

**SIROW’s Vision:** A society in which the wellbeing of women and families is paramount, resulting in their equity, empowerment, and prosperity.

**SIROW’s Mission:** Develop, conduct, and disseminate collaborative outreach, education, intervention, and research projects of importance to diverse groups.

**Goals:**

1. Engage in collaborative feminist research on topics pertinent to the lives of girls, women, and families;
2. Develop and conduct outreach, education, service, research, and trainings with regard to mental and physical health, sexuality, legal matters, education, workforce, equity, diversity, and other issues;
3. Address social inequalities and group-based disparities;
4. Examine and support women’s contribution to literature, the arts, and Southwest heritage;
5. Advocate for women and families by linking researchers with community organizations and policy makers;
6. Identify, illuminate, and disseminate research on girls, women, families, and gender differences.

SIROW has a dedicated, committed, and diverse group of experienced researchers, scholars, activists, students, and direct service staff who maintain its vision, mission and goals. SIROW has a long history of fostering community collaborations and networks across the region and throughout the United States, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches. Opportunities stemming from the implementation of SIROW’s mission include: (1) external funding for research grants and contracts particularly given the multi-disciplinary nature of the SIROW work; (2) partnerships with businesses and fundraising opportunities primarily for SIROW’s Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) program; (3) connections with university students given SIROW’s community engagement activities; and (4) additional opportunities stemming from its regional network with institutions of higher education in the Southwest and the U.S.-Mexico border region.

As in past years, SIROW is not technically a teaching unit. Notably, however, in 2020 SIROW submitted a proposal to offer a master’s degree titled “Program Design and Evaluation” that was approved in 2021. During this calendar year, SIROW faculty immersed themselves in creating courses, obtaining formal UArizona approvals for courses, and developing/engaging in outreach and student recruiting activities. Enrollment of the first cohort of students will occur in fall 2022.

This online graduate level education program will be offered through Arizona Online. It is a program in research for social change. Students will learn and practice the execution, application, and translation of research to address the most pressing challenges impacting our local and global communities. Students will be immersed in the process of identifying, understanding, and researching key problems of our time
with a focus on creating viable, sustainable solutions and examining evidence of the impact. This 30-credit degree program includes five required foundation courses, three additional required courses, and a choice of two elective courses inclusive of four cross cutting themes: (1) structural focus; (2) community engagement; (3) ethics; and (4) social justice.

In 2021, SIROW faculty and researchers continued to contribute to teaching in other ways, including: presentations/teaching in classrooms, student forums, and symposiums; hiring and supervising graduate and undergraduate students on internally and externally-funded projects; serving on student committees; and providing independent study/internships and volunteer experience for students. SIROW’s effort to engage students in participatory learning aligns with UArizona’s student engagement focus. SIROW staff also conduct trainings, workshops, and webinars that engage a wider audience – some of whom are students.

With regard to research, scholarship, and creative expression, SIROW has a wide array of projects and programs; most funded through external grants and contracts – approximately 2.6 million in 2021. Diversity in funding entities allows SIROW to respond with flexibility to changes in national, state, and local priorities. SIROW researchers have contributed to the advancement of knowledge in research, scholarship, and creative expression through professional publications, professional and community presentations, workshop/trainings, webinars/podcasts, technical reports, program-specific manuals, and film and videos.

Outreach is central to SIROW’s mission. Many of SIROW’s projects include action components in which action-based research and services are delivered in communities located in southern Arizona and more distally - including internationally. SIROW’s work focuses on diverse populations and groups - often involving people who are marginalized, experience disparities, and are underserved; and, to the extent possible, incorporates a non-hierarchical approach. SIROW has two off-campus research sites in Tucson that allow for easy accessibility for community members and research and/or program participants. In addition, SIROW partners with community agencies and SIROW’s outreach, intervention, and evaluation work is sometimes facilitated at these community-based program sites.

III. 2021 SIROW Accomplishments:

SIROW’s 2021 accomplishments were numerous and actualized within each of four pillars that are articulated in SIROW’s 2019-2023 Strategic Plan. The four strategic pillars include: 

Pillar 1: Advance projects to address social inequalities and group-based disparities;

Pillar 2: Promote SIROW as a premier innovative resource and research center;

Pillar 3: Contribute SIROW expertise as an innovative resource; and

Pillar 4: Engage allies and build collaborative relationships.

Pillar 1: Advance projects to address social inequalities and group-based disparities

SIROW researchers oversaw numerous projects and programs that address social inequalities and group-based disparities. Many of these projects and programs include advocacy components, service delivery, program evaluation, and research to better understand the life circumstance of women, girls, sexual minorities, and people from race/ethnic minority groups. Moreover, much of SIROW’s work addresses inequities experienced by low-income individuals and families, people who use drugs, are unstably-housed/homeless, involved in the adult and juvenile justice system, have reduced opportunities/greater burdens, and who may be health compromised.
Externally and internally-funded SIROW projects are listed in the Project Abstract section of this report. Many of these projects are ongoing and mostly supported by external funds. SIROW continues to broaden its funding base to include new public and governmental funders and private foundations. Projects that were newly awarded in 2021 through external funding include:

1. Supporting Data-Informed Approaches to Access and Workforce Development
2. Access to Syringes at Pharmacies (ASAP)
3. COVID as a Window of Opportunity to Improve the System of medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in Arizona
4. Laying the Groundwork: Index Validation and Preliminary Evidence of AZ MOUD Provider Policy Implementation during COVID
5. Family Justice
6. Building Capacity in Data Science through Biodiversity, Conservation, and General Education
7. We Bee Scientists
8. IMPACT (Improving Medication Adherence with Pharmacist and Community Health Worker Team)
9. Pima County Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Program - Nuevo Camino (New Path)
10. School Gardens as Sites of Resilience
11. Digital Technology to Support Adherence to Hypertension Medications for Older Adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment

**Pillar 2: Promote SIROW as a premier innovative resource and research center**

During 2021, the SIROW Director, Associate Director, and lead researchers continued to standardize many of SIROW products and outputs as part of its holistic marketing strategy and for easy identification of its materials. As previously noted, SIROW researchers promote its work through numerous professional publications, professional and community presentations, workshop/trainings, webinars/podcasts, technical reports, email-news blasts, program-specific manuals, and film and videos. Notably, SIROW is frequently called upon to provide expertise either in person (orally) or through written technical reports and other written materials. SIROW’s community newsletter, *The SIROW Voice*, reports on SIROW projects that keeps its community partners informed, while its twice annual *SIROW Regional Voice* highlights the work of Gender and Women’s Studies programs and research institutes in the Southwest. This dissemination of resources and research findings contribute to SIROW’s far-reaching presence and visibility.

To further increase SIROW’s visibility beyond the local/state level, SIROW continues to sponsor and facilitate the annual *Regional Gender and Women’s Studies Summit Meeting*, which took place virtually on January 28th and 29th, 2021. In addition, SIROW hosted four shorter virtual meetings throughout the year including: (1) Merging and Unit Administration Part 1; (2) Merging and Unit Administration Part 2; (3) COVID Related Issues with Students, Staff, and Administrators Part 1, and (4) COVID Related Issues with Students, Staff, and Administrators Part 2. These activities allow SIROW to situate itself as a premier resource and research center while also providing leadership at the regional level. SIROW’s sponsorship of the annual International Women’s and Children’s Health and Gender Group Conference and leadership on its Planning Committee demonstrates SIROW’s visibility beyond the local community to the international level. In 2021, this conference took place virtually (due to COVID restrictions) on June 18th. Moreover, in 2021, SIROW continued its collaboration and work with UArizona - College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) initiative “UArizona-SBS Binational (US/Mexico) Webinar Series” on Human Rights for Vulnerable Population [on] both sides of the Border.
SIROW’s reach was substantial from the local to the state, regional, national and international levels. As evidenced in the project abstracts, multiple projects were located in different areas of the U.S. and/or had reach to individuals across the U.S. and a few had international reach as well.

**Pillar 3: Contribute SIROW expertise as an innovative resource**

SIROW is an innovative resource for UArizona faculty and students though involvement in classroom presentations, student forums, and symposiums; hiring and supervising graduate research assistants on state and externally-funded projects; serving on student committees; and providing internships and volunteer experience for students. In addition, many of the funded research and service grants are focused on enhancing education for underserved groups at UArizona, as well as within community colleges, K-12 public, charter, and alternative schools. An example of such a project is *WISE*’s program The Bio/Diversity Project. This project is a student engagement and professional develop initiative focused on supporting STEM student persistence and workforce development in the environmental sciences (broadly understood). UArizona students have the opportunity to participate in a for-credit internship program where they gain professional skills by working collaboratively to develop and deliver culturally-responsive and place-based environmental science lessons in local schools.

As in previous years, SIROW provided funding for undergraduate and graduate students as well as staff positions for students. In particular, the *WISE* program offered internships during both spring and fall semesters and SIROW’s collaboration with the UArizona’s Honor College, the Graduate College’s Peace Corps Coverdell Fellows program, and other colleges continues with their students engaged in SIROW projects.

SIROW’s major areas of expertise include gender, health, family, sexuality, education, employment, adult and juvenile justice, immigration, public policy, cultural diversity, history, and other issues that impact diverse groups within the U.S.-Mexico border area and beyond. Multidisciplinary theoretical perspectives with the utilization of both qualitative and quantitative methods drive research activities. SIROW is known for utilizing selected research methods that are typically driven by approaches congruent with the lives of women and under-represented groups such as feminist methods, participatory action research, decolonizing approaches, and social ecology. SIROW is a leader in program design using logic models that are driven by these theoretical perspectives and that help to guide the project goals and objectives and evaluation that are specific to the project design.

Being a premier research and resource institute, SIROW pays close attention to policy agendas and assisting and informing public, private, and UArizona leaders with critical data and information to advance their decision making. As noted in the contribution of lead SIROW researchers in a later section of this report, lead SIROW researchers (and other staff) chair and/or serve on a number of committees and boards that have influence on communities.

**Pillar 4: Engage allies and build collaborative relationships**

SIROW projects build a foundation upon which UArizona can advance its expanded land-grant vision. SIROW develops and conducts interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research that focuses on the needs and concerns of girls, women, and families in the southwestern U.S. and U.S.-Mexico border region. Collaborations are in place with several UArizona colleges, departments within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and other UArizona departments, centers, and institutes. As noted above, SIROW collaborates with community-based agencies, health departments, tribal governments, criminal justice institutions, institutions of higher education, school districts, numerous K-12 schools, and other entities.
SIROW engages allies and builds collaborative relationships directly through its internally- and externally-funded projects and programs as well as through networks of individuals and agencies connected with members of SIROW’s Community Advisory Board, the WISE Advisory Board, and through SIROW’s Southwest Regional partners. Allies and collaborative relationships are sustained and continue to grow at the local, state, national, and international levels. In additional to its 34 regional academic partners, for 2021-2022 year, SIROW also collaborated with 68 Arizona-based community agencies, 6 other community collaborators (outside of Arizona), 43 UArizona department/college/unit partners, and 19 other partners.

SIROW has two community-based research sites in Tucson: (1) SIROW Central (near First Avenue and Prince Street), and (2) Silverlake Park (near Park Ave and 34th Street). SIROW Central primarily houses research and program staff who conduct work in the field. SIROW’s Silverlake Park community-based site primarily serves LGBTQSA individuals by providing a number of services, supports, and resources as well as evaluation activities for this population. Both the SIROW Central and Silverlake Park sites are fully operational and provide easy access for participants, allies, and community-based partners. Most of the off-campus projects are collaborative with community partners and involve diverse populations.

On-campus projects and, specifically, programs offered through SIROW’s WISE program provide unique collaborations with both UArizona and community partners as well as UArizona students. Across all on- and off-campus SIROW projects, a diverse workforce assists in creating and maintaining existing partnerships. SIROW’s workforce includes several classifications of personnel (faculty, academic professionals, classified staff, and students). A snapshot taken of SIROW personnel in October, 2021 includes a total of 40 full and part-time employees (not including student interns, volunteers, consultants, or subcontracting agency staff). SIROW personnel vary in age, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and other diversity indicators. As in previous years, retention of SIROW personnel was excellent.

IV. SIROW 2021 Externally Funded Projects:

1. Project CHANGE (Careers, Harassment, and Gender Nontraditional Education) Arizona Department of Education (ADE) - Non-traditional Recruitment and Retention for Secondary Schools

Funded by ADE, October 2007 – September 2022; $60,000 annually.

SIROW offers Project CHANGE to Arizona secondary schools in partnership with the ADE. The program provides gender equity and nontraditional (NT) career education workshops, training, and classes statewide to both secondary school educators and students. Services include: (1) providing Career and Technical Education (CTE) professional development opportunities and resources to secondary school educators in Arizona; (2) coordinating nontraditional events with other partners that provide opportunities for students to participate in nontraditional academic, technological, and vocational experiences; and (3) providing information and workshops to schools and students that will increase enrollment in CTE courses that lead to nontraditional careers.

The pedagogical techniques employed include: (1) administration of in-person NT CTE recruitment and retention workshops and seminars, and (2) administration of two online Distance-Learning courses that are entitled “ADE NT 101” and “ADE NT 102.” SIROW assists middle and high school teachers, counselors, and CTE directors in increasing enrollment in NT CTE classes throughout the state. In conjunction with ADE requirements, SIROW serves as the statewide coordinator of information on both gender equity and NT CTE employment and training opportunities.
2. Unsheltered Point in Time Count (Everyone Counts)

Funded by the City of Tucson; October 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 ($7,500); April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 ($20,000).

This purpose of this project is to conduct the annual unsheltered Point in Time Count of people experiencing homelessness in Pima County. The goals of this project are to: a) meet HUD compliance requirements related to annual enumeration of people experiencing homelessness during the last 10 days of January, and b) gather data regarding the prevalence and characteristics of unsheltered homelessness in Pima County for the purposes of informing local planning and funding. The 2021 “street count” portion of the annual PIT Count was canceled due to the ongoing pandemic. As a result, SIROW researchers developed a statistical estimation of the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Pima County in 2021.

3. Bridges to Wellness (B-Well)


Bridges to Wellness is an infrastructure and capacity-building project to deliver and sustain prevention services to reduce the onset of substance abuse (SA), HIV, and Viral Hepatitis (VH) among system-involved minority youth ages 13-17 in Tucson and Sells, Arizona. B-Well is a collaboration between SIROW, Intermountain Centers for Human Development, the Pima County Health Department, and the Pima County Community Prevention Coalition. Four project goals include: (1) completion of a needs assessment and strategic plan; (2) mobilization and capacity building to address identified prevention needs; (3) implementation of prevention strategies and programs; and (4) evaluation of program processes and outcomes to assess performance and project impact on behavioral health disparities. The Intermountain infrastructure/capacity-building component includes: a Train-the-Trainer model to train youth professionals to deliver prevention services; developing policies for successful implementation; integrating Intermountain staff into B-Well service delivery; and embedding B-Well project services into existing Intermountain services. Community infrastructure development and capacity-building includes collaborating and coordinating with the Community Prevention Coalition as key stakeholders and working to increase protective factors in the community through direct and indirect environmental prevention, outreach activities, and social marketing. The prevention component for youth utilizes a Cognitive Behavioral and Motivational Interviewing approach, combining small group evidence-based curricula; individual prevention planning; SA screening; HIV and VH counseling and testing; and active linkages to additional services.

4. Spectrum: A Culturally-responsive, LGBTQ+ Affirming Continuum of HIV Prevention and Education Services, Expanded Substance Use and Co-occurring Disorder Treatment and a Myriad of Supportive Services

Funded by SAMHSA; October 1, 2017 - September 29, 2022. $2,499,875.

The purpose of Spectrum is to provide HIV prevention and education services (including HIV and Hepatitis testing and counseling) and to expand and enhance substance use and co-occurring disorder screening, referral to treatment, and outreach and pretreatment services for LGBTQ+ identified youth and young adults (primarily ages 13-24) from elevated-risk multi-ethnic communities, primarily, Latino, African American, and Native American. This project utilizes an existing collaboration including SIROW, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), and Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health
(Devereux). The primary target population includes youth who might not be identified as having substance abuse and related behavioral health problems or receive needed interventions in culturally responsive ways. Spectrum will enhance and expand the continuum of services for participants. All participants will receive the either the SIROW Health Education for Youth (SIROW HEY) curriculum or the SIROW Sexual Health Education-Queer (SIROW SHE-Q), facilitated by staff from the SAAF, Devereux, and SIROW.

5. **The Bio/Diversity Project Leadership/Mentoring Program**

Funded by the UArizona Green Fund, August, 2020 – July, 2021. $54,000.

The Bio/Diversity Project Leadership/Mentoring Program extends the work of The Bio/Diversity Project by piloting a structured leadership development program for students from groups underrepresented in the environmental sciences and environmental science workforce (e.g., women, people of color, first generation college students). Through this program, a small cohort of undergraduate students participate in monthly workshops and one-on-one and group mentoring in order to gain the skills necessary to develop their own community-based action projects.


Funded by SAMHSA; September 30, 2018 – September 29, 2021. $1,475,316 ($278,067 SIROW subcontract from Pima County).

U-MATTER (Unified Medication Assisted Treatment Targeted Engagement Response) project is a coordinated effort of Pima County, Tucson Police Department, CODAC Health, Recovery, and Wellness, Inc. (CODAC), Pretrial Services of Arizona Superior Court in Pima County, and SIROW. It is focused on identifying, engaging, and retaining individuals with opioid use disorder in comprehensive medication assisted treatment and recovery support services and facilitating these individuals’ long-term recovery. U-MATTER will enhance and expand access to medication assisted treatment services for adults in Pima County, AZ with an opioid use disorder by increasing capacity and infrastructure to 1) identify and connect adults with opioid use disorder who are appropriate for medication assisted treatment to existing comprehensive medication assisted treatment and related recovery support services; and 2) provide ongoing peer support in the community to support retention and re-engagement in medication assisted treatment. To reach these goals, U-MATTER will implement a law enforcement/behavioral health co-located co-responder model to expand community outreach, screening, assessment, and active linkage to comprehensive medication assisted treatment and recovery support services.

7. **Project Lifeline**

Initially funded by SAMHSA; September 30, 2018 – September 29, 2021. $306,000 ($60,951 to SIROW and UArizona -SIROW match = $41,319).

Second SAMHSA grant to continue Project Lifeline; September 30, 2021 – September 29, 2024. $306,000 ($60,489 to SIROW and UArizona -SIROW match = $40,809).

Project Lifeline is a comprehensive suicide prevention strategy to reduce the incidence of suicide, suicide attempts, and their related risk factors such as alcohol and other drug (AOD) misuse/abuse among students at the UArizona with a special emphasis on high-risk student populations, such as LGBTQ students and veterans. In collaboration with a wide variety of campus and community partners, UArizona Campus Health Services’ and SIROW’s Project Lifeline will address the following objectives: (1) Increase collaboration among campus departments and the Tucson community to address student mental and behavioral health needs; (2) Increase knowledge and willingness of students and campus personnel
(gatekeepers) to respond effectively to students with mental health and behavioral health problems that can lead to school failure, such as depression, substance abuse, and suicidal thoughts and attempts; (3) Increase students who are screened and assessed for mental health and substance use disorders; (4) Increase awareness of campus and community resources that can identify, assess, and treat mental health and behavioral health problems; (5) Increase help seeking for mental health and behavioral health problems; (6) Decrease suicide attempts and related risk factors; and (7) Institutionalize effective program components and disseminate information at local, state, and national levels.

8. **Dragonfly Community Center Supportive Services for Homeless Individuals and Families**

Funded by SAMHSA, November, 2018 - November, 2023. $2,000,000 ($384,984 SIROW subcontract from Amity Foundation).

The Dragonfly Community Center Supportive Services for Homeless Individuals and Families is a collaboration between Amity Foundation and the Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW) with Amity Foundation’s Dragonfly program providing services and SIROW serving as the external evaluator for the overall project. The project aims to serve homeless individuals living in or referred to our transitional housing community. The project’s overarching goal is to expand Intensive Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment services to serve more homeless individuals and families in Pima County, Arizona. A total of 350 adult individuals will be enrolled in the project over the 5-year grant period. The evidenced-based practices embedded within an array of services include (1) Modified Therapeutic Community for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders, (2) Seeking Safety to address trauma, and (3) Strength-based Case Management to assist with providing helpful and appropriate services. Evaluation activities include obtaining baseline and six-month follow-up assessments from enrolled participants, data feedback meetings to improve participant services, and dissemination of findings more broadly.

9. **University of Arizona Gender Based Violence Consortium Grant Program Evaluation**

Funded by the UArizona Gender Based Violence Consortium, January, 2019 – ongoing. $65,297.

The mission of the UArizona Gender Based Violence Consortium is to bring together interdisciplinary, cutting-edge interventions on gender-based violence in order to foster synergy between research, pedagogy, outreach, service, and student engagement both on and off campus. The Consortium serves as a research and resource center for UArizona faculty, students, and staff by providing seed funding for innovative research and programming, building partnerships on and off-campus to develop, implement, and evaluate science-based interventions to address gender-based violence and by providing academic opportunities and resources for students, faculty, and staff. SIROW provides support to the consortium by providing evaluation support to the Innovation Award grantees by assisting in innovative evaluation design, data dissemination strategies, and developing future projects.

10. **Safe Haven: A Program Providing MAT, OUD Assessment, Assessment of Co-occurring Disorders, and Recovery Support Services**


The overall purpose of Safe Haven is to enhance and expand access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) services for adults with an opioid use disorder (OUD) seeking or receiving MAT in Springfield, MA. Safe Haven will increase capacity and infrastructure to provide MAT and recovery support services to adults with OUD seeking or receiving MAT, including to those of historically underserved groups, with an emphasis on Hispanic individuals including Spanish-speaking refugees and first-generation
immigrants. Safe Haven will also work to improve adult well-being, decrease opioid misuse and related risk behavior, and promote retention in services by providing comprehensive, evidence-based MAT and recovery support services to adults with OUD seeking or receiving MAT, with an emphasis on Hispanic individuals. The Safe Haven project team will utilize ongoing monitoring and evaluation to inform ongoing quality improvement and to assess impact of the project on behavioral health disparities related to access, engagement, and retention in MAT; health-related treatment and services; substance use; mental health, as well as related outcomes, such as vocational engagement or development of social networks.

11. Turning the Tide

Funded by SAMHSA, May, 2019 – September, 2022. $2.5 million ($188,358 SIROW subcontract from Terros Health, Inc.).

Terros Health Inc.’s Turning the Tide (T3) serves Hispanic/Latino and African American males ages 18-24 who are at high risk of HIV. Services are provided throughout Maricopa County, Arizona and will include outreach, testing, community education about substance use, and HIV prevention and the delivery of Many Men, Many Voices (3MV). T3 also promotes increased coordination among providers to facilitate access to services and resources. Infection will be reduced by increasing knowledge about prevention and testing. Access to care is increased through coordinated and strategic internal and external procedures and increase advocacy related to health disparities. T3 contributes to the Coordinated National Response through strengthening relationships at the community, county, and state level. Activities include completion of a community needs assessment, outreach to engage individuals in testing, community education workshops about the relationship between substance use and HIV, information sharing at community events, and the delivery of the evidence-based curriculum, Many Men, Many Voices. SIROW conducts the evaluation for the T3 project.

12. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project


The SIROW Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) serves the Tucson Pima Collaboration to End Homelessness, which includes non-profit agencies, government entities, businesses, and community members experiencing homelessness. The project focuses on youth homelessness with significant coordination and support to the TPCH Collaborative Applicant, Youth Action Committee, Homeless Youth Subcommittee, and youth-serving entities. This project contributes to the planning requirements of the FY 2019 YHDP planning grant including the development and implementation of a coordinated community plan to prevent and end youth homelessness and participation in the A Way Home America Grand Challenge initiative with key aims of: (1) increasing youth voice and leadership within the local youth homelessness response system, and (2) improving equity and opportunity as it is experienced by youth of color and LGBTQ+ youth. SIROW’s role on the project is to provide administrative leadership and staffing to the Tucson/Pima County YHDP/AWHA Grand Challenge, participating in YHDP Operations Team and all YHDP initiatives, and to ensure timely completion of all activities outlined in the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness and the AWHA Grand Challenge Aims. The LGBTQ+ Equity Project is a subcomponent of YHDP. It strives to advance LGBTQ+ equity through individual, organizational, and systems-level change by providing education and tools to enhance providers' capacity to serve and meet the needs of LGBTQ+ young people. The
first phase of the project consisted of the development of eight pre-recorded training modules and a Companion Resource and Reflection Guide. During the second phase of the project, SIROW will provide technical assistance to four community organizations and their staff through live training sessions. The goal of the training sessions is for employees across all sectors of the organization to enhance their skills and confidence providing affirming care to LGBTQ+ clients through in-depth analysis, reflection, and discussion of the module content.

**Racial Equity in Housing** is a subcomponent of YHDP. The goal of this component of the initiative was to provide a racial equity plan to encourage organizations to begin actively rejecting the role that racial, ethnic, and cultural discrimination may play in their organizations. To accomplish this task, we identified six local leaders who are committed to racial justice and who work in a multitude of capacities to actively address structural inequalities. In partnership with one another, these leaders utilized their lived experiences and expertise on local social service organizations to examine the various ways in which White supremacy continues to permeate social service organizations and to develop a call-to-action for community-based organizations that provides strategies to begin to dismantle some of these systems, policies and practices.

13. **PharmNet: Strengthening the Safety Net for Overdose and HIV/HCV Prevention through Indiana's Network of Pharmacies**

Funded by Indiana University, August, 2019 – June, 2021. $59,525. This project was extended to December 31, 2022 and awarded an additional $30,400.

PharmNet is a randomized cluster study to test a pharmacy-based intervention to reduce opioid misuse and overdose among pharmacy patients in Indiana. The project is based on years of feasibility research conducted by Meyerson and her team at Indiana University Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (prior to coming to UofA in 2019). The project is a partnership with Indiana community harm reduction partner Indiana Recovery Alliance, local pharmacies and the Indiana Pharmacists Association. PharmNet is a multi-component intervention involving patient-driven opioid misuse and syringe use risk screening at the pharmacy, pharmacy consultation and service provision involving naloxone and syringe dispensing, and referral to community services for addiction treatment, health screening for HIV and HCV, and other services as required.

14. **The Lighthouse Project**


The Lighthouse Project is designed to link homeless, transitional age youth and young adults who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning and their Straight Allies (LGBTQ+) to a trauma-informed system of care that includes linkages to permanent supportive housing and primary health care, case management services, substance abuse and mental health treatment and a wide array of recovery support services. Initially the Lighthouse Project was a collaboration between the University of Arizona-Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW), the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), and CODAC Health, Recovery and Wellness, Inc. However, as a result of changes in the provision of programming and services, the current collaborators on the Lighthouse Project include the UArizona-Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW), the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), and Our Family Services. will partner to serve LGBTQ+-identified, transitional age youth and young adults, including those who are veterans, in Southern Arizona, from diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds, with a specific focus on those between the ages of 18 and 35 who are chronically homeless. The goals of
this project are: (1) to provide ongoing outreach to a minimum of 300 individuals annually and screening to a minimum of 100 LGBTQ+ homeless young adults each year; (2) to annually enroll 60 individuals into needs-based, trauma-informed services, including case management, mental health and substance abuse treatment and recovery support services; (3) to develop and implement a coordinated, comprehensive, trauma-informed System of Care for chronically homeless young adults that is sensitive to and focused on the specific needs of those who identify as LGBTQ+; and (4) to evaluate all project activities to examine the impact of the intervention for participants and the longitudinal improvements to the System of Care.

15. Examining Public Information Campaigns as a Strategy of Border Enforcement

Funded by the National Science Foundation – Geography and Spatial Sciences, September, 2019 – October, 2022. $393,408.

This project examines the development, implementation, and geography of public information campaigns (PICs) as a strategy of border enforcement. Managing the transnational flow of people is one of the greatest challenges facing nation-states in the 21st century, requiring governments to negotiate complex issues of sovereignty, national security, and human safety and wellbeing. PICs present a potentially promising approach to regulating transnational mobility as they are often less expensive and easier to implement than traditional enforcement strategies. However, little is known about the use of PICs as a strategy of border enforcement. This project contributes to research in the field of political geography by producing new empirical data on an under-examined enforcement mechanism, while also contributing to theoretical understandings of how nation-states govern. The findings from this project will have implications for national security, ensuring that border enforcement efforts are effective, economically efficient, and safe. The dissemination plan, including a publicly available website and StoryMap, will enable public engagement and science communication while also providing easily accessible information for migration research and education. Engagement of graduate research assistants within the project team will also promote the development and training of a diverse and competitive workforce in the geographical sciences.

16. Earth Conservation Internship Program

Funded by National Forest Foundation, (SIROW subcontract is from donor funds to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, September 2019 – June 2020 ($2,500); September 2020 – June 2021 ($3,000); September 2021 – June 2022 ($5,000).

The Earth Conservation Internship program is a 3-day experiential education program for high school students in the Tucson metro area. Through this program, staff from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, National Forest, and Arizona Conservation Corp engage youth in a range of activities related to environmental science topics and careers and outdoor recreation. WISE conducts the evaluation of program activities in order to assess the degree to which participation in the program influences science identity, motivation, and self-efficacy; interest in environmental careers and pathways; environmental attitudes; and knowledge of and interest in lead organizations (Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, National Forest, Arizona Conservation Corp).

17. Health Home Hope (H3) Project

Funded by SAMHSA; November, 2019 – November, 2023. $2.5 million ($141,750 SIROW subcontract from El Rio Health).

The purpose of the Health Home Hope (H3) Project is to end the cycle of homelessness for households currently experiencing long term unsheltered homelessness in Tucson and Pima County through the
expansion, integration, and coordination of local community behavioral health, physical health and housing support systems. H3 provides behavioral health and other recovery-oriented services to those experiencing long-term unsheltered homelessness through: (1) intensive street outreach; (2) navigation designed to rapidly connect individuals with substance use disorder and or co-occurring disorders to mainstream treatment and recovery services including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT); and (3) coordinate housing and services that support sustained recovery and wellness within permanent housing. The population of focus is unsheltered homeless households in Pima County experiencing substance use disorders and chronic health conditions, including single adults, youth and families. SIROW conducts evaluation for this project.

18. Comprehensive Evaluation of an Innovative Collaborative Response to the Opioid Epidemic


This project examines the feasibility, acceptability, implementation, and effectiveness of an innovative law enforcement/behavioral health peer support co-responder deflection model to address misuse of opioids and other substances—the Deflection Program. The Deflection Program aims to expand access to substance use treatment, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for people with opioid use disorder (OUD), by 1) identifying and connecting adults with substance use disorders (SUDs) to appropriate treatment and 2) providing ongoing peer support in the community to support retention and re-engagement in MAT. Under the Deflection Program, police officers and co-responding peer support specialists identify and connect individuals with substance use problems who are willing to consider treatment to a treatment provider in lieu of arresting them. Clinic staff assess and enroll the individuals in appropriate evidence-based treatment. This research project assesses feasibility and acceptability of the Deflection Program in terms of support for the program among police officers, behavioral health staff, and community members, as well as amount of outreach efforts, number of deflections, and number of people engaged and retained in substance use treatment. We examine implementation of the Deflection Program via an evaluation of how partners collaborate to implement the program. Utilizing a rigorous research design, we also examine the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of the Deflection Program in addressing substance use and related problems, including criminal activity and opioid-related overdoses and deaths. This research project advances the fields of law enforcement and behavioral health, informs policy change, and advances the fight against the opioid epidemic.

19. Tucson Bee Collaborative

Funded by the Agnese Nelms Haury Program, January 2020 - June 2022. $110,325 ($10,000 to SIROW).

The Tucson Bee Collaborative is a partnership effort to increase awareness of Tucson’s exceptional bee diversity, and to empower future scientists by engaging them in research activities. Researchers, faculty, and staff from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Pima Community College, the UArizona, Flowing Wells High School, and Sunnyside High school work with citizens and students to collect and document bee species from the region. This enables researchers and conservationists to monitor and address population changes. Educators are further working to build robust educational curriculum that will train and empower future scientists through course-based research experiences at both the high school and undergraduate levels. WISE conducts process and outcomes evaluation related to the educational aspects of the effort.

20. Computer Science Retention and Graduation Diagnostics

Funded by the Center for Inclusive Computing via the UArizona Department of Computer Science, January, 2020 – December, 2022. $60,000 ($7,200 to SIROW).
The Computer Science Retention and Graduation Diagnostics project aims to better understand persistence and retention trends among female and under-represented minority students at the UArizona in order to inform the development of interventions capable of address these disparities. Persistence and retention trends are analyzed across the three-course introductory sequence. WISE supports the data collection and analysis components of the project.

21. Improving Hypertension Medication Adherence for Older Adults

Funded by the National Institutes of Health, February, 2020 – December, 2024. $3,092,027 ($99,963 to SIROW).

The major goal of this project is to advance and test Medication Education, Decision Support, Reminding, and Monitoring System 2.0 (MEDSReM-2), a theory-based technology-enhanced comprehensive self-management system that supports hypertension medication adherence and blood pressure management for non-adherent older adults. This project employs an evidence-based, multidimensional approach aiming to increase levels of perceived competence and autonomy, higher and sustained medication adherence, and improved blood pressure levels for older adults (≥ 65 years) who self-manage at least one hypertension medication and who do not adhere to their medication regimens. This project employs an app-based intervention with customized, cue-driven associative processes, relevant education and decision support (what to do after a missed dose), and promotion of competence and autonomy to motivate individuals to engage in the intervention, thereby sustaining its effectiveness over time.

22. Sex University (Sex U) Pilot Study

Funded by the UArizona Consortium on Gender-based Violence, April, 2020 – March, 2023. $25,000.

Bridging two social justice issues, the Sex University (Sex U) Pilot Study will use sexuality education as an innovative strategy for preventing sexual violence. Aimed at first year students who are involved in Greek organizations, the project will adapt a comprehensive sexuality education program using sexual ethics and rights-based approaches. Sex U will be packaged into an institute where participants will learn, build skills, discuss, reflect, and have fun. The efficacy of Sex U for preventing sexual violence will be tested using an experimental design. Participants who engage in the program are expected to demonstrate increased knowledge of relationship “red flags”; increased confidence negotiating consent and asserting personal boundaries; improved sexual communication skills; and the ability to articulate human rights as a motive for consent. Given positive outcomes, the pilot study’s final objective will involve exploring options for scaling up Sex U to broader adoption by the Greek community and other University entities.


Funded by the National Science Foundation, September, 2020 – June, 2021. $1,000,000 ($7,300 to SIROW).

The NSF Convergence Accelerator supports use-inspired, team-based, multidisciplinary efforts that address challenges of national importance and will produce deliverables of value to society in the near future. The broader impact and potential societal benefit of this Convergence Accelerator Phase I project is to utilize artificial intelligence methods such as machine learning (ML) to achieve better water management outcomes that directly benefit society by developing the ability to better plan for and manage extreme events through improved hydrologic forecasting. HydroFrame-ML is motivated by, and structured around, applied solutions for water management planning and decision making. This project brings together the most physically rigorous national scale groundwater simulations developed through HydroFrame with national leaders in Earth Systems Modeling and water management. By providing end-
to-end workflows combining state of groundwater science with operational management tools, HydroFrame-ML will advance both large-scale water management as well as our understanding of how human operations and groundwater interact in extreme events. WISE/SIROW supports the education and broadening participation components of this project, which focus on increasing engagement with Machine Learning and supporting the adoption of the developed technology among groups traditionally marginalized in computer science and geosciences.


Funded by the Flinn Foundation via the UAri zona Office of Societal Impacts and College of Science, September, 2020 – August, 2023, $181,000 ($83,000 to SIROW).

Arizona’s Science, Engineering, and Math Scholars (ASEMS) Program works to foster persistence and success among students from groups traditionally under-represented in STEM fields by providing a holistic suite of student services including: 1) culturally-responsive and asset-based advising and mentorship; 2) structured learning communities; 3) research and internship experiences; and 4) additional support services (e.g., scholarships, tutoring). ASEM S currently supports over 400 students annual through a number of different programs that serve particular populations of students (e.g., community college transfer, veterans, low-income, first generation college students, under-represented minorities) and that are funded through different funding mechanisms (e.g., short-term institutional funding; federal grants; private foundations; individual donors). Data indicates that ASEM S is highly successful at fostering student success, with ASEM S student persistence and graduation rates being significantly higher than their non-ASEMS participating comparison groups. This project aims to better understand ASEM S best practice; develop a strategy to scale these practices to serve more UAri zona students; and evaluate the impact of these efforts. WISE supports the research and evaluation aspects of the project.

25. Imagine Your STEM Future

Funded by Raytheon Technologies, September, 2020 - on going. $20,000 annually.

The Imagine Your STEM Future (IYSF) program aims to increase interest, engagement, and persistence in STEM fields among girls and young women by providing hands-on engagement and mentoring to girls at Desert View High School. Mentors from the UAri zona and Raytheon are trained to engage and support students in hands-on STEM activities and reflections and discussions surrounding STEM pathways and personal development. WISE oversees program implementation and evaluation.

26. Youth Care

Funded by Our Family Services, Inc., October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022. $150,574.

Our Family Services Youth Care project aims to reduce youth homelessness by providing housing, navigation services, linkages to mental health and substance abuse treatment services. Youth Care is part the Tucson Pima Collaboration to End Homelessness Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project which includes non-profit agencies, government entities, businesses, and youth experiencing homelessness. The project will focus on youth homelessness with significant coordination and support to the Homeless Youth Coalition, Youth Action Committee, Homeless Youth Subcommittee, and youth-serving entities.

27. Supporting Data-Informed Approaches to Access and Workforce Development

Supporting Data-Informed Approaches to Access and Workforce Development is a project aimed at developing a statistical model for assessing variability in STEM student outcomes across groups traditionally underrepresented in STEM fields (e.g., women, under-represented minorities, first generation college students, and students from low-income households). The model developed will enable stakeholders at the University of Arizona and in the community better understand the challenges different groups of students face in persisting and succeeding in STEM fields.

28. Access to Syringes at Pharmacies (ASAP)

Funded by the National Institutes on Drug Abuse, April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2023. $153,500.

ASAP (Access to Syringes at Pharmacies) develops and tests a pharmacy-based intervention to increase non-stigmatized syringe sales in community pharmacies located in 3 Arizona counties with high rates of hepatitis C and HIV (Pima, Maricopa, and Mohave). This 2-year project involves collaborative intervention with pharmacy staff and beta testing of the resulting intervention. The project emerged from a SIROW-led study of pharmacy-based syringe purchase experiences among people who inject drugs in Arizona and Indiana. Collaborators include the UArizona College of Pharmacy, the Arizona Pharmacy Association, University of Kentucky College of Public Health, Phoenix Community Consulting, and the Indiana University School of Public Health. A related study (funded to a partner) also conducts syringe buy studies (secret shopper) to set the baseline for syringe sales in these pharmacies and to test fidelity to the intervention.

29. COVID as a Window of Opportunity to Improve the System of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in Arizona

Funded by grants from the Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts, April 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022 ($230,357) and the Vitalyst Health Foundation, April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2024 ($175,000).

This policy impact study measures the degree to which Arizona providers of methadone and buprenorphine (suboxone, etc.) implement the temporary federal policies to expand access to MOUD (medication for opioid use disorder) during COVID as well as factors predicting this implementation. This is accomplished through an interview study with 131 people across Arizona who were on MOUD during COVID and a statewide MOUD provider survey documenting implemented accommodations before COVID, during the Arizona shut down and at the time of survey “current.” A final component uses Evidence Ambassadors to convey evidence-based communication to advance policy and practice to improve MOUD access in Arizona. A tribal collaboration component is developing a collaborative MOUD research agenda with tribal partners for future funding. The study is a community-based participatory and action project as it was brought to SIROW collaborators from community partners, collectively developed and implemented. Collaborators include the Arizona statewide Drug Policy Research and Advocacy Board (DPRAB), UArizona College of Public Health, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Sonoran Prevention Works, and Southwest Recovery Alliance.

**Hepatitis C Among People Who Use Drugs in Arizona:** The Hep C study is a substudy of the COVID as a Window of Opportunity to Improve the System of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in Arizona study. This substudy is an epidemiologic study of community-based screening for hepatitis C (HCV) among people who use drugs in Arizona. It will demonstrate the outcomes of public health investment in community-based screening for HCV. This study includes a secondary analysis of screening outcomes by a statewide harm reduction partner (Sonoran Prevention Works) and a secondary analysis of interview data from 131 people on MOUD in Arizona. Collaborators include the Sonoran Prevention Works, the Arizona statewide Drug Policy Research and Advocacy Board (DPRAB), the Southwest Recovery Alliance and the Arizona statewide hepatitis C free coalition.
30. Laying the Groundwork: Index Validation and Preliminary Evidence of AZ MOUD Provider Policy Implementation during COVID

Funded by University of Arizona SBSRI Faculty Small Grant, April 1, 2021-August 31, 2022. $5,000.

COVID-19 intensified structural inequalities experienced by people using medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD). The historically inequitable MOUD system, characterized by maldistribution and treatment policies requiring daily visits to access medication, contributed to the historic increases in U.S. opioid-related overdoses and overdose deaths. Temporary MOUD policy changes enacted during COVID-19 removed some access-to-care barriers. Understanding the implementation of these changes and their health impact will clarify whether they are beneficial and should become permanent. This SBSRI-proposed study is a first vital step toward extramurally funded, multi-state studies, as it will establish preliminary findings measuring the implementation and of temporarily allowed MOUD access policies during COVID. With SBSRI funding, we will survey a representative sample (N=500) of Arizona MOUD providers to a) measure implementation of federally approved COVID-19 MOUD access policies, b) examine multilevel factors predicting implementation variation, and in so doing c) validate our team-developed instrument: the MOUD Access Policy Implementation Index (MAPI).

31. Family Justice

Funded by the Pima County Behavioral Health Department, September 1, 2021 - February 28, 2022. $15,000.

The Pima County Behavioral Health Department (PCBH) contracts with several local organizations that provide discretionary and legally mandated support services for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. These organizations have partnered with Pima County to build the Pima County Domestic Violence Coalition, a partnership of providers focused on efficient use of resources to better serve victims and survivors. The Coalition has partnered with SIROW to create a needs assessment designed to study community services at a systems-level. The purpose of the needs assessment is to 1) identify barriers and facilitators to seeking service; 2) use data to gain visibility on how to close service gaps and guide sustainable policy decisions; 3) research potential community-level benefits and risks associated with different service models (e.g. centralized vs. scattered-site models); and 4) establish quality improvement measures at a systems-level and create an ongoing feedback loop to ensure services are accessible, equitable, and responsive to community needs.

32. Building Capacity in Data Science through Biodiversity, Conservation, and General Education

Funded by the National Science Foundation Harnessing the Data Revolution Program, September 2021 - August 2024. $867,145. SIROW portion = $117,000

Solving environmental challenges relies heavily on computer science and statistical skills applied to large data sets. However, these knowledge, skills, and abilities are not evenly distributed across colleges, students, or faculty in the United States. This project works to transform environmental education by creating, implementing, and evaluating a data science training program for undergraduate students who are interested in conservation and management in urban and wild areas. Faculty from both the University of Arizona and Lewis and Clark College co-teach a foundational data science course that utilizes public data and addresses pressing environmental concerns relevant to student interests and identities. Exceptional students subsequently participate in a more focused cooperative course as data science interns for conservation stakeholders. Professional development workshops in data science education for instructional faculty, some of whom work in institutions serving primarily low-income students and students of color, prepare faculty to implement data science educational modules at their respective
institutions. These critical resources and pathways allow broad communities to harness the data revolution. The workforce demand for data analysts and data scientists exceeds the current capacity for higher education to produce this skilled workforce. The overall goal of this project is development of scalable, portable data science education that can be readily incorporated into existing programs concentrating on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), with a focus on ecology, biodiversity, and conservation. The project achieves this goal by creating multiple curricular data science on-ramps for a broad range of students early in their undergraduate training, through general education courses and foundational major courses using inclusive and expansive pedagogy techniques more common in liberal arts education. WISE conducts process and outcomes evaluation for the project.

33. We Bee Scientists

Funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, September 2021 - August 2024. $206,992. SIROW portion = $15,000.

We Bee Scientists engages K-6 students in the Flowing Wells Unified School District in place- and project-based learning about bees, our most important group of pollinators. During this three-year effort, partners from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and Flowing Wells Unified School District will co-create curriculum and activities aligned with the AZ Science Standards. The program will introduce students to real-world science and simultaneously benefit pollinators and the local communities that depend on them. WISE conducts outcome evaluation on the educator professional development and collaboration components of the project.

34. IMPACT (Improving Medication Adherence with Pharmacist and Community Health Worker Team)

Funded by the National Institutes of Health, September, 2021 – June, 2026. $2,745,779 ($218,337 to SIROW).

The goal of this project is to test the effectiveness of an innovative, culturally-tailored, coordinated care intervention derived from previous research (RxHL Study, 1R01HL120907) and existing pilot medication therapy management program at the research site. Building on an ecosocial framework of chronic disease self-management, the IMPaCT intervention by pharmacist-community health worker team will identify and address individual, clinical, social-cultural and structural barriers to medication adherence among low income minority patients with hypertension, polypharmacy use and nonadherence.

35. Pima County Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Program - Nuevo Camino (New Path)

Funded by SAMHSA, September, 2021 – September, 2026. $2,845,000 ($525,800 SIROW subcontract from Intermountain Centers for Human Development).

The overall purpose of Pima County Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Program - Nuevo Camino is to enhance and expand a system of care providing comprehensive treatment, early intervention, and recovery support services for adolescents and transitional aged youth (ages 12-21) who have substance use disorders and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders and their families/primary caregivers. SU involved adolescents and their families will have access to system of care of SU treatment, mental health treatment, tobacco prevention and cessation programming; healthy behavior-related skills education; and recovery support services, including community connections and referrals. Together, these components will support youth and their families in cultivating the information, motivation, and behavioral skills to plan for and pursue a substance free and healthy future.
36. School Gardens as Sites of Resilience

Funded by the National Science Foundation, September, 2021 – August, 2022. $175,070 ($6,000 to SIROW).

This project examines whether school gardens foster enduring resilience in the face of severe, dislocating challenges, such as experienced during the pandemic. The return-to-school provides a unique opportunity to collect ephemeral quantitative and qualitative data on whether access to a school garden, despite the vicissitudes experienced in learning and living during the previous school year’s COVID-19 quarantine, might help to build more resilient children and communities. This project is a quasi-experimental study with four elementary Title I schools that will determine the relationships between garden-based learning and resilience. We hypothesize that learning gardens in schools can produce significant positive effects on the development of resilience in children.

37. Digital Technology to Support Adherence to Hypertension Medications for Older Adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment

Funded by the National Institutes of Health, December, 2021 – November, 2024. $2,500,000 ($57,300 to SIROW).

This project will adapt an existing hypertension medication self-management system to develop Medication Education, Decision Support, Reminding, and Monitoring Memory (MEDSReM-M) to meet the needs and abilities of people with mild cognitive impairment. Facilitators and barriers for use of MEDSReM will be identified by interviewing people with mild cognitive impairment and their care partners, after they are shown the self-management system to guide the development of MEDSReM-M. Then using heuristic evaluations and cognitive walkthroughs, and through iterative usability testing with people with mild cognitive impairment, we will test, redesign, and optimize the system for people with mild cognitive impairment. We will then conduct a randomized controlled trial to test the effects of MEDSReM-M relative to a standardized educational control group on outcomes including adherence to hypertension medications, blood pressure, self-determination (competence and autonomy), and technology acceptance. This project will result in a digital health intervention system that has the potential to reduce cognitive decline associated with cardiovascular risks, save healthcare dollars, and promote autonomy and quality of life in people with mild cognitive impairment.

V. SIROW 2021 Selected Internally Funded Projects:

1. Women in Science and Engineering (WISE)

The Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) program within SIROW works to increase interest and diversity in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by providing a number of community and campus outreach programs. While most of WISE’s work is supported by external grants and donations, internal funding during 2021 helped support several WISE projects such as Girls Who Code, which provides free a weekly coding class to girls in grades 6-12 facilitated by university-level students. Additionally, internal funding was used to supplement grant funding for The Bio/Diversity Project, an environmental-science focused outreach and student engagement program. The WISE Director and staff also offer trainings and presentations across campus to support inclusive teaching practices and the success of students from groups historically marginalized in STEM. For example, WISE provides an annual training as part of the College of Science Teaching Assistant Training program and hosts the Launching Your Career Symposium—a professional development and networking symposium specifically designed for women in STEM. WISE also engages in institutional research to inform institutional, college, and departmental-level policies and programs. The primary funding of the
WISE Director’s salary is provided by the UArizona College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, College of Science, and College of Engineering with additional support provided by other UArizona units. During 2021, financial support was provided by the UArizona Department of Environmental Science, the School of Geography and Development, the Honors College, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, UArizona Extension, and the Office of Societal Impacts. The majority of WISE operational costs annually are secured through internal and external grants and donations (individual and corporate). Additional projects funded internally by WISE include:

**Launching Your Career Symposium** is funded by WISE at $20,000 annually. This project started in January 2021 and is ongoing. The Launching Your Career Symposium is an annual professional development and networking event targeting women in STEM students and early career professionals. Through a series of interactive workshops and panels, participants gain the skills and relationships that will help them successfully persist through their STEM journeys and into the workforce. WISE oversees all aspects of the program. The primary funder of this project is industry partner WL Gore and Associates.

**Women in STEM Mentorship Program** is funded by WISE at $20,000 annually. This project started in August 2020 and is ongoing. The Women in STEM Mentorship Program provides University of Arizona graduate and undergraduate STEM students an opportunity to learn from the valuable experiences and wisdom of STEM professionals, faculty, and staff. The program takes a holistic approach to the mentorship process valuing not only a student’s STEM experiences, but also their entire background and identity as a whole. This program aims to create diverse, inclusive, and supportive mentoring relationships that foster the retention and success of women in STEM. University of Arizona graduate and undergraduate student (mentees) are matched with faculty, staff, and industry associates (mentors) based on their goals, career interests, and background. The mentor/mentee pairs meet once a month at their convenience to have conversations regarding their STEM trajectory. These conversations could include discussions about research, coursework, life post-graduation, how to navigate their respective fields, as well as looking for opportunities for career development. The program provides a platform for networking and fostering community between women in STEM at the University of Arizona. Mentors and mentees are provided with training in order to help foster the development of meaningful and impactful mentor/mentee relationships. WISE oversees all aspects of the program. The primary funder for this program is Raytheon Missile Systems.

2. **Binational Border Education in Prison Initiatives Project**

This project (August 2020 – June 2022) is a binational collaboration between SIROW, University of Sonora (UNISON), and other partners in Mexico. This project is focused on improving the prison system by developing educational opportunities to support the engagement of people who are incarcerated in personal development and change as well as to develop marketable skills.

3. **Housing Insecurity Indicators and Potential Homelessness Estimates for Arizona and Pima County**

This SIROW funded project (September 2020 – April 29, 2022) is a component of Pima County’s Task Force on Preventing Evictions and Homelessness, which convened in the Fall of 2020. SIROW began providing updated reports on levels of housing insecurity and potential homelessness in both Arizona and Pima County. These reports rely on data from the Census Household Pulse Survey experimental data series, which released new data every two weeks. Released reports provide near real time (within two weeks) information on levels of housing insecurity and financial strain among households in Arizona.
during the pandemic and pandemic-induced recession. These reports have been used by local government agencies and non-profit organizations to both gauge the local level of financial strain and to advocate for extensions to eviction moratoriums and expanded support for struggling renters.

4. Pima County Landlord Survey

This SIROW funded project (November 2020 – March 2021) was initiated in response to the unprecedented strain placed on landlords in Pima County by the current recession. The Pima County’s Ending Poverty Now Program collaborated with researchers at SIROW to develop and field a survey of landlords in Pima County. The primary goals of this survey were to assess the extent of financial strain and rental debts experienced by landlords in Pima County, to inquire about their responses to missed payments and knowledge of available supports, and to provide useful information to landlords to, ideally, help mitigate these strains.

5. Sister Jose Women’s Center Pilot Evaluation


In response to the need to better understand the short- and long-term outcomes of day shelter programing for women experiencing homelessness, Penny Buckley, Sister Jose Women’s Center (SJWC) Program Manager, is collaborating with researchers at SIROW to engage in a pilot evaluation of SJWC services. The primary goals of the evaluation are to assess the quantity and duration of engagement in services, level of satisfaction in services, and impact of services in the lives of unaccompanied women experiencing homelessness. Findings will be utilized to enhance and expand services and develop a more rigorous evaluation.


SIROW and the Law Department at the University of Sonora (UNISON) are developing a binational (US-MX) interdisciplinary research team focusing on human rights of, health needs of, and access to care for returnees or people in transit in the United States-México borderlands. SIROW and UNISON have vast research experience on migrant health issues (e.g., women and mixed-status families, migrant agricultural workers and indigenous populations of México). The binational team will: 1) Identify non-profit community centers/health clinics that serve migrant communities; and 2) Rely on qualitative and quantitative exploration of both offers and barriers to meet public and private health needs, patterns of search and demand for care and the social integration of mobile persons, with a focus on chronic, infectious or emerging diseases related to return migration.

VI. Scholarly Publications – 2021 Published


Williams, J.M. & Tolbert. S. (2021, February). ‘They have a lot more freedom than they realize’: Science education as a space for radical openness.” *Cultural Studies of Science Education*. 
VII. Selected Other Products - 2021:

**Bentele, K.G.** (2020-2022). Housing Insecurity Indicators and Potential Homelessness Estimates for Arizona and Pima County. (Reports 1 through 30 provided as Census HPS data are released) Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona, Southwest Institute for Research on Women.


VIII. Professional Presentations 2021:

*Not included are many University unit presentations, University classroom presentations, community presentations/trainings and other dissemination activities given the large number of these activities. See individual vitas for additional information. Selected entries only.


Bentele, K.G. (2021, November). Quick Update on Housing Insecurity, Evictions, and Rental Assistance in Pima County. Tucson Tenants Union Listening Session.


IX: Awards, Honors, Achievements, Outreach and Service for Lead Researchers (Selected)

In 2021, SIROW personnel received awards and honors and have provided an array of outreach and services, such as providing information on funding sources, connecting scholars with their peers, responding to requests for information from students and community members, and disseminating information to various audiences. Below is a selected list of honors, awards, outreach, and services provided by select SIROW researchers.

Rosi Andrade
● Member, Directiva (Board of Directors), Sowing the Seeds Mesa, Tucson, Arizona
● Member, Human Subjects Departmental Review Chair, SIROW and Gender & Women’s Studies, The University of Arizona
- Member, SIROW Community Advisory Board
- Member, SIROW Steering Committee
- Vice President, Board of Directors, Compass Affordable Housing, Tucson, Arizona

Keith Bentele
- Consultant, Pima County Department of Community and Workforce Development
- Member, Pima County Women’s Employment Initiative working group
- Member, Pima County Eviction Prevention working group
- Member, Tucson Eviction Response
- Member, American Sociological Association
- Member, Political Sociology Section of ASA
- Member, Scholars Strategy Network
- Reviewer, Professional journal articles

Corrie Brinley
- Co-Chair, OUTReach—University of Arizona LGBTQ Faculty and Staff Council
- Member, Society for Research on Adolescence
- Member, University of Arizona LGBTQ Community Council
- Member, Southwest Institute for Research on Women Steering Committee
- Member, CHOICES Re-entry Services Workgroup

Jo Korchmaros
- Chair, SIROW Software and Data Management Committee
- Member, Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center Community Relations Council (CRC) Outstanding Student Achievement Awards Committee
- Member, Collaboration Group (CODAC Health, Wellness & Recovery)
- Member, Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center Community Relations Council
- Member, Pima County Community Prevention Coalition
- Member, SIROW Steering Committee
- Member, SIROW Community Advisory Board
- Member, Women in Science and Engineering Advisory Board
- Member, Women’s Studies Advisory Council
- Reviewer, Professional journal articles

Beth Meyerson
- Director, Graduate Studies, SIROW
- Member, Statewide Hepatitis C Elimination Advisory Group, Arizona Department of Health Services
- Member, International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI)
- Member, National Board of Directors, Lambda Legal. Co-Chair, Racial Equity, Accountability, Accessibility and Inclusion (REAAIDI) Committee
- Member, Prevent Workgroup for the Arizona HIV/HCV/STD Integrated Plan. Arizona Department of Health Services
- Member, Statewide Hepatitis C Elimination Advisory Group, Arizona Department of Health Services
- Member, International Network on Hepatitis in Substance Users (INHSU)
- Member, eIRB Project Champion, Human Subjects Protection Program (HSPP), UArizona, eIRB
- Member, Substance Abuse Translational Research Network (SATRN), Arizona State University
- Member, Community Impact Committee, Women’s Foundation of Southern Arizona
● Member of the Board, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) and Member of the Public Police Committee
● Member of the Board, American Sexuality Transmitted Disease Association (ASTDA)
● Reviewer, Professional journal publications

Claudia Powell
● Chair, Data Committee, University of Arizona Social and Behavioral Sciences Diversity and Inclusion Committee
● Chair, Tucson-Pima Collaboration to End Homelessness Executive Board
● Chair, Pima County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board
● Member, SIROW Steering Committee
● Member, SIROW - Community Advisory Board
● Member, UArizona- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Diversity and Inclusion Committee
● Member, UArizona Social and Behavioral Sciences Strategic Planning Committee
● Member, Pina County’s MAMA Project Advisory Board
● Member, UArizona Frances McClelland Institute Youth Development and Resilience Research Initiative
● Member, National Healthcare for Homeless Council Member
● Member, UArizona Frances McClelland Institute Youth Development and Resilience Research Initiative
● Member, Pima County Domestic Violence Task Force
● Reviewer, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant reviewer
● Reviewer, American Public Health Association abstract reviews

Sally Stevens
● Member, UArizona-Francis McClelland Institute Advisory Committee
● Member, SIROW Steering Committee

Jill Williams
● Convener, UArizona STEM Outcomes Working Group
● Member, SIROW Steering Committee
● Member, SIROW Advisory Board
● Member, Women in Science and Engineering Advisory Board
● Member, UArizona-Diversity in STEM Working Group
● Member, UArizona Student Data Network
● Member, UArizona Diversity in STEM Working Group
● Reviewer, UArizona-Research, Innovation, and Impact proposal reviewer
● Distinguished Alumnx Award, University of Cincinnati, Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies