

**SIROW's Newly Funded Projects
(October 2016 – April 2017)**

Multi-site Examination of the Effectiveness of The Seven Challenges for Adolescents. Funded by The Seven Challenges, \$3,500. November 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017

Multi-site Examination of the Effectiveness of The Seven Challenges for Adolescents examines the effectiveness of The Seven Challenges in order to build evidence for the model. To this end, SIROW will analyze existing data to address two questions. The first is whether adolescent clients of The Seven Challenges improve their behavioral and mental health outcomes (e.g., recidivism; alcohol and other drug use; co-occurring issues) as a result of engaging in The Seven Challenges program. The second is whether the improvements in behavioral and mental health outcomes experienced by adolescent clients of The Seven Challenges program are greater than those experienced by adolescent clients of other substance use treatment programs. Findings from this study will be used to inform the field of substance use treatment regarding the effectiveness of The Seven Challenges and its potential to effectively address substance abuse problems among adolescents across the nation suffering from these problems.

Health and Social Well-Being in Chronically Homeless Women: Tucson and Southern Arizona's Current Risks and Future Opportunities / Establish Your Identity, jointly funded by Making Action Possible, UA College of Management; \$7,500 UNIDAS, Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona; \$5,000. November 1, 2016 – December 31, 2017

Health and Social Well-Being / Establish your Identity – are jointly funded projects. The purpose of this project is to collaborate with Sister José Women's Center (SJWC) in Tucson, AZ to conduct a community needs assessment. To facilitate the process, SIROW and SJWC will utilize a guidebook from *Strengthening Nonprofits: A Capacity Builder's Resource Library, Conducting a Community Assessment*. SJWC is a non-profit serving chronically homeless women in its year-round drop-in day program and an winter overnight shelter (November to March). Women who regularly attend have expressed interest in expanded services at SJWC. The proposed project will allow us to document and evaluate the interests of the women as well as delve further into identifying needs. The needs assessment will be facilitated by a SIROW and SJWC trained team with the intent of: (1) documenting and evaluating the needs of homeless women receiving services at SJWC, and (2) based on the evaluation of the community needs assessment, developing key findings and setting priorities in the creation of an action plan for SJWC. The Establish your Identity will allow SJWC to assist women in obtaining their identification and other official documents (e.g., SSN card, birth certification, etc.).

Mujer Saludable on the US-Mexico Border: A Promotora-led Adaptation and Expansion of a Sexual Health Education Curriculum to Address Reproductive Health Needs in Nogales, Son, MX Funded by the University of California Berkeley, Research Program on Migration and Health (PIMSA) \$30,000 (\$15,000 to SIROW) September 1, 2016 – April 30, 2018

Mujer Saludable on the US-Mexico Border. For this project SIROW and El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF) will form a binational team to examine and address reproductive health needs and access to reproductive health care, specifically as it relates to women's sexual health through the lens of mother-daughter relationships. Together, the partners will use community-based participatory research methods to: (1) collaboratively collect qualitative data to examine reproductive health needs and access to reproductive health care among women living in low-resource communities in Nogales, Son, MX; (2) utilize the collected data and the promotora (i.e., community health worker) model to expand and adapt SIROW's sexual health curriculum *Mujer Saludable*, including emphasizing the mother-daughter relationship; (3) pilot test the adapted *Mujer Saludable-Promotora* curriculum for acceptability and its potential to impact teen pregnancy and increase access to reproductive care across the lifespan; and (4) utilize research findings to inform health policy at the local, state, national, and international levels.

Pima County Safety + Justice Challenge Qualitative Evaluation Phase II Funding
Funded by the Safety + Justice Challenge, MacArthur Foundation; 1.5 million to Pima County; (\$44,346 to SIROW) May 2, 2017 – April 30, 2018

Pima County Safety + Justice Challenge Qualitative Evaluation. Building on past reform efforts, Pima County was awarded \$1.5 million from the Safety + Justice Challenge in 2016 to invest in strategies that will further reduce the average daily jail population over the next three years. The county will seek to safely reduce its jail population through: (1) risk screening for all misdemeanor defendants in order to increase post-booking releases from jail; (2) diverting nonviolent individuals with substance abuse or mental health issues to post-booking treatment instead of jail; (3) enhance an automated call, text, and email court-date reminder system that is expected to reduce failure to appear rates; and (4) provide detention alternatives made possible through electronic monitoring technology. SIROW will work with a Collaborative Working Group of justice system actors and community representatives to conduct a qualitative research study to assess the impact of these strategies from the perspective of inmates and former inmates including what barriers to success they perceive. The study will focus on success in terms of reducing incarceration and racial and ethnic disparities, and perceptions of system fairness.

The Juvenile Justice Initiative – Reducing Burden and Increasing Opportunity. Funded by the Vitalyst Health Foundation (\$124,000) (\$48,000 to SIROW). April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2019.

The Juvenile Justice Initiative – Reducing Burden and Increasing Opportunity is a collaboration between Arizona Legal, Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS), Children’s Action Alliance, and SIROW. The project has two elements focused on juvenile court practices that allow for open hearings, and fines and fees that are routinely imposed in juvenile court in excess of a juvenile’s or their family’s ability to pay. The project intends to: (1) scan national, state, and local resources to bring forward data and common sense best practices and solutions that support greater opportunity for juvenile justice involved youth; (2) utilize existing work groups and relationships with judicial leaders and policy makers to seek prioritization of innovation and change in the juvenile justice system; (3) connect with coalitions and networks that include youth and adults across political, socioeconomic, regional, and ethnic and racial lines to focus on creating change in the juvenile justice system that drives greater opportunity for economic independence and education for young people in Arizona; (4) educate coalition members and the public to create a better understanding of which youth are most adjudicated in the juvenile justice system, the wide disparity in offenses that youth are adjudicated for, the financial costs imposed on youth and families, and the long-term limitations that are created by these practices in Arizona; and (5) recommend specific legislative, policy, and practice changes, educate stakeholders and the public on the needed changes, and act as an accountability mechanism through the implementation of priority recommendations.

The University of Arizona Girls Who Code Club (a weekly club aimed at fostering skill development and interest among girls in computer science and technology) (SIROW/WISE facilitates programming). Internally funded. January 2017 - ongoing.

The University of Arizona Girls Who Code Club addresses the gender gap in computer science and technology by providing targeted programming for 8th-12th grade girls. The club meets once a week for two hours on the University of Arizona campus. Club meetings combine skills-building and relationship-building activities. Participants learn core computer science skills, as well as building relationships with each other and the program facilitators (UA undergraduate students). Club members work collaboratively to design and carry out a community impact project using the skills they have developed. This club is a collaboration with the UA Libraries and utilizes the curriculum and program structure of the national organization, Girls Who Code.