

Southwest Institute for Research on Women

Summer 2016

Community Research News

Dear SIROW Colleagues,

As a collaborative research institute, SIROW conducts action-based projects on issues of importance to women, families, and others with a focus on culture, equity, and empowerment. Most of SIROW's projects have a research component that tracks the process, outcomes, and impact of the programs offered. In this way, SIROW supports and evaluates programs offered by our collaborators as well as our own programs and activities. While SIROW's projects are typically local and state-based, our efforts on the national and international levels have increased substantially in recent years.

In this issue of SIROW's Community News, we highlight several projects – from newly funded projects to those that are in their final year of funding. One of our newly funded projects is our Women in the Arizona Department of Transportation Workforce Project, an evaluation project funded by the Arizona Department of Transportation (page 3).

Updates with regard to several of SIROW's ongoing projects include: (1) The ANCHOR Project, which serves lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer identified (LGBTQ) young adults (page 1, 4); (2) Developing a Sustainable Seafood Industry in Burma, for which SIROW focus is on gender issues and monitoring and evaluation (page 2); (3) The iSTEM Project, which works to get 3rd-8th grade Native American students excited about science-related topics (page 3); (4) Ili Uusim Hiapsi, which serves Pascua Yaqui children ages birth to eight years and their families (page 7); (5) The Volunteer Telephone Continuing Care Project that evaluates the effectiveness of volunteers' telephone support on reducing substance use and increasing pro-recovery involvement among adolescents (page 8); (6) Project Change, a state-wide project that offers presentations and workshops on the role gender plays in education and career choice (page 5); and (7) the Women in Science and Engineering Program, a University of Arizona program that supports women and girls in STEM disciplines (page 6).

Also highlighted is one of SIROW's projects that concludes this summer after five years of funding, The National Cross-Site Evaluation of Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Future (JDC/RF). Findings from this cross-site evaluation have illuminated the benefits of JDC/RF programs and informs on, among other outcomes, who is best served in JDC/RF and the critical components of JDC/RF programs.

Please visit the SIROW website at <http://sirow.arizona.edu>. As always, I welcome your feedback and your suggestions!

Sally Stevens, PhD
Executive Director
UA-SIROW

The ANCHOR Project: Empowerment, Stability, and Community-Building for LGBTQ Young Adults

The ANCHOR Project is a program that provides supportive services and opportunities to LGBTQ-identified young adults. The three-year SAMHSA-funded grant is a collaboration between UA-SIROW, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), and CODAC's Living Out Loud Health and Wellness Center. The ANCHOR Project's three-pronged approach is reflected in its goals: empowerment, community-building, and stability. We are proud to report exciting achievements in each of these areas over the past year. (continued page 4)



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University of Arizona's Dr. Kevin Fitzsimmons (UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences International Agriculture Programs and Department of Soil, Water, and Environmental Science) and Dr. Josephine Korchmaros (SIROW) in front of the Laboratory of Aquatic Bioscience Seafood Safety at the University of Yangon's Department of Zoology in Myanmar.

SIROW Continues to Address Gender Issues in Myanmar

SIROW continues to play a key role in the project *Developing a Sustainable Seafood Industry for Burma* (also known as Myanmar). This project aims to improve the capacity and infrastructure of Myanmar's sustainable seafood and fishery industry. It is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and led by Dr. Kevin Fitzsimmons, Director of the University of Arizona's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences International Programs. The project is a collaboration of numerous institutions from the private and public sector, including the University of Yangon and Patheingyi University, both in Myanmar, Auburn University in the U.S., and several private partners and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Dr. Josephine Korchmaros (SIROW's Director of Research Methods and Statistics) is on the project team to ensure gender equality in both the process and benefits of the project. She has traveled to Myanmar to ensure that women's views in Myanmar are represented in the project's decision-making process. She and the project team are utilizing multiple strategies to facilitate women's participation and engagement in project activities. She is also assisting with the monitoring and evaluation component of the project, which seeks to improve the project's implementation and activities, and assess its impacts.

While Dr. Korchmaros was in Myanmar, the project team hosted the opening and dedication of the USAID-funded Laboratory of Aquatic Bioscience Seafood Safety at the University of Yangon's Department of Zoology. About 100 people attended the dedication, including industry and university leaders, faculty, students, USAID representatives, and members of the project team. Women from all of these areas were well represented at the dedication. This strong representation of women reflects the project's successful efforts to engage women in its activities and in the Myanmar seafood and aquaculture industry.

SIROW is excited to be a part of such a timely multidisciplinary effort to strengthen Myanmar's capacity for economic development and sustainability!

For more information about the project, please contact Dr. Korchmaros at jkorch@email.arizona.edu or follow the project on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=myanmar%20sustainable%20seafood> and at <https://www.facebook.com/usembassy.rangoon/posts/1067310203350798>.



Industry leaders, University leaders, faculty, students, USAID representatives, and members of the project team at the opening and dedication of the Laboratory of Aquatic Bioscience Seafood Safety at the University of Yangon's Department of Zoology.

SIROW Announces New Research Project on Women in the Transportation Workforce

Researchers at the Southwest Institute for Research on Women were recently funded to conduct a two-year project (May 2016 — April 2018) “Women in the Arizona Department of Transportation Workforce” (W-ADOT-W). Data indicates that women are underrepresented in the transportation industry workforce, both in the U.S. as a whole and Arizona in particular. However, little data exist to explain this gender disparity. The W-ADOT-W project aims to conduct research to better understand why this underrepresentation exists and identify high priority workplace issues for women. Specifically, the project will: (1) examine issues concerning recruitment, retention and promotion of women; (2) examine workplace climate and job satisfaction among women in the transportation industry; (3) identify potential strategies that may be utilized to address these issues; and (4) assist the transportation industry in efforts to comply with federal requirements to build and maintain a diverse workforce. The W-ADOT-W research team will complete a literature review; examine relevant ADOT transportation policies and practices; engage ADOT employees in qualitative (in-person interviews) and quantitative (online survey) research; and complete a comprehensive report of the research findings and recommendations. The SIROW research team looks forward to working with ADOT over the next two years and to contributing new knowledge to the important issue of gender equity in the transportation industry’s workforce.



ADOT SIROW staff include (left to right) Monica Davis, Rosi Andrade, Sally Stevens, Candace Black, and Tamara Sargus.

Year Four of the iSTEM Project: 2015-2016 at Lawrence Intermediate School

The iSTEM Project’s overarching goal is to get students excited about science-related topics, and encourage them to continue engaging in science education.

The 2015-2016 academic year was an exciting year for this National Science Foundation-funded project. During the year, iSTEM focused its efforts on students in the 3rd through 8th grades at Lawrence Intermediate School.



iSTEM incorporated a new teaching model, welcoming three University of Arizona SIROW iSTEM Guides, who worked with 45 students on science-related activities at lunchtime and during the Saturday field trips. Guides provided refreshing new perspectives on the weekly activities, which covered topics including solar energy, health, ecology, physics, and astronomy. Periodic Saturday field trips included trips to the UA Germ Lab, the UA Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium, UA Science-Engineering Library, Pima Air and Space Museum, Saguaro National Park West, and Reid Park Zoo.

Mentors and mentees from the Strength Building Partners Mentoring Program were encouraged to participate in the iSTEM Project and join the iSTEM Guides for the in-school and field trip activities.



iSTEM looks forward to an exciting 2016-2017 academic year!

For more information contact
Dr. Rosi Andrade
at rosia@email.arizona.edu.

(continued from page 1)

Empowerment

The ANCHOR Action Alliance, or A3, is the ANCHOR Project's participant advisory board. A3 members have made significant contributions to the program, including selecting monthly themes and hosting corresponding activities, designing the ANCHOR Project t-shirt, cultivating a garden, and providing input on important decisions regarding the ANCHOR space. A3 has been a fantastic way to promote ownership, foster leadership, and ascertain participants' needs and interests. In this way, it has enhanced the whole project's relevance and effectiveness.

In January 2016, ANCHOR Project staff and participants attended Creating Change, a national conference that focuses on equity, social justice, and dignity for LGBTQ people. This year's conference was hosted in Chicago, IL. We were thrilled to send two dedicated participants to this transformational and empowering event.

Community Building

Over the past year, the ANCHOR Project hosted a number of community outreach events. Our Halloween party's Ghost Ship theme was brought to life through the vision and hard work of ANCHOR Project participants. Two ice cream socials drew our largest crowds of community members, who learned about the ANCHOR Project and socialized together in an affirming environment. The screening of the award-winning documentary Transgender Tuesdays provided an opportunity to spark a community dialogue about healthcare needs and access for transgender people.

Stability: Housing, Education and Employment

Hard work and advocacy by the ANCHOR Project's Housing Consultant, Peer Support Specialist, and Recovery Coach resulted in housing improvements for 19 unstably housed or homeless participants.

Over the past few months, ANCHOR's Housing Consultant developed standards of care that ensure inclusive and non-discriminatory access to shelters for all clients seeking housing assistance, including those who are transgender and gender non-conforming. The standards were recently adopted by Pima County's Continuum of Care and are backed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

This August, a participant will be representing the ANCHOR Project at the SAMHSA Grantee Meeting in Washington D.C., where they will speak about their lived experiences with housing instability.

In collaboration with the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA), Expert Global Solutions, and the Alliance Fund, our Education and Employment Resource Specialist coordinated the TRANS*FORM Employment Expo, a two-part employer/employee resource event featuring over 20 local trans-friendly employers. This was one of just three transgender job fairs that have been hosted nationwide.

Additionally, 88% of participants who made more than one appointment with our Education and Employment Resource Specialist accomplished at least one of their education or employment goals.

Currently, 99 participants are enrolled in the ANCHOR Project. We look forward to another year working alongside Tucson's LGBTQ young adult community.



The ANCHOR Project staff team celebrates all forms of gender expression on one of their monthly skirt days. ANCHOR staff from left to right: Jackson Wray - Youth Outreach Specialist, Claudia Powell - Project Director, Jeri Alexander - Research Technician, Ian Ellasante - Program and Evaluation Coordinator, John Roldan - Housing Consultant, Paul Miller - Recovery Coach, Courtney Waters - Health Educator, and Sami Gardner - Education and Employment Resource Specialist.

Project CHANGE reaches 11,000 Arizona students and educators

Project CHANGE (Career, Harassment, And Nontraditional Gender Education) aims to increase gender nontraditional recruitment and retention in secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in Arizona, as well as to promote healthy and safe learning environments in Arizona schools. School districts throughout the state provide free CTE programs to students to prepare them for the workforce. The programs cover a wide range of industries, including Bioscience Technologies, Construction, Graphic and Web Design, Cosmetology/Aesthetics, Hospitality Management, Early Childhood Education, and Engineering. Young women are the minority in many CTE programs. Project CHANGE works to help students understand why ideas of gender may limit what they believe they can do, and to empower them to make CTE choices regardless of gender stereotypes.

Senior Instructional Specialist Allison Dumka and Gender Equity Specialist Tim Wernette travel to school districts to discuss gender equity issues related to career development and opportunities. They provide presentations on topics related to gender-based discrimination and harassment in schools and in the workforce, including preventing and addressing online sexual harassment and bullying.

This fiscal year, Project CHANGE reached over 11,000 participants through presentations. Additionally, Project CHANGE presented at the Arizona State Counselors' Association annual conference, reaching 200 Arizona counselors. Project CHANGE also serves on the Career Development Advisory Board of Phoenix Metro Tech High School.

Doug Allan, CTE Director of Flagstaff Unified School District, shared what Project CHANGE has meant to his district: "These presentations were a distinct benefit to our youngest high school students this school year. Project CHANGE's presentation was very informative and really helped our students understand their career options. We look forward to expanding our relationship with SIROW to include more schools and students next year. We continue to appreciate all of their time and efforts on our behalf!"

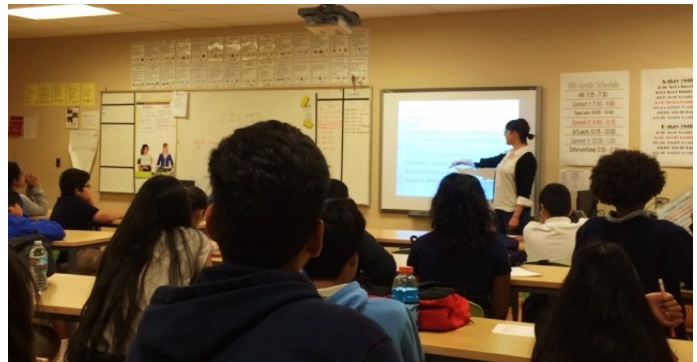
If you are interested in Project CHANGE presentations,

more information is available at:

<http://goo.gl/GQhGhV>

Project CHANGE can also be found on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/projectchangeazizona/>

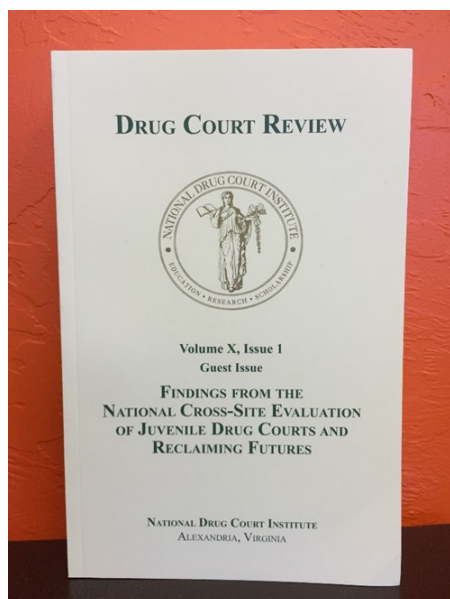


SIROW staff member Allison Dumka presents to 7th grade students on gender and nontraditional careers at Pendergast Elementary School in Phoenix.

SIROW Leads Evaluation of National Cross-Site Evaluation of Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Futures and Guest Edits Drug Court Review Issue

SIROW is pleased to announce the publication of the newest issue of Drug Court Review, Findings from the National Cross-Site Evaluation of Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Futures, guest edited by SIROW's own Sally Stevens, Josephine Korchmaros, and Alison Greene.

This guest issue presents recent findings from the National Cross-Site Evaluation of Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Futures (JDC/RF National Evaluation). SIROW led the evaluation, in collaboration with Chestnut Health Systems and Carnevale Associates, LLC. It was funded by the Department of Justice - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) through an inter-agency agreement with the Library of Congress and by OJJDP. Its purpose was to evaluate the combined effects of the Juvenile Drug Court: Strategies in Practice and Reclaiming Futures models to identify the factors, elements, and services that perform best with respect to juvenile drug court system and client outcomes and cost-effectiveness. The Juvenile Drug Court: Strategies in Practice are 16 strategies that were developed to serve as a framework for planning, implementing, and operating a juvenile drug court with the focus on providing appropriate, individualized substance abuse treatment for adolescents involved in the justice system who have substance abuse problems. (continued page 6)



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Reclaiming Futures is a systems change approach to juvenile justice focused on increasing and improving adolescent substance use treatment as well as improving the way communities intervene with youth. This guest issue is devoted to reporting the results of this comprehensive evaluation.

The issue contains articles on the following five topics:

- (1) an overview of the two models, Juvenile Drug Court: Strategies in Practice and Reclaiming Futures models,
- (2) the process of integrating the two models,
- (3) the client characteristics of those served in the JDC/RF National Evaluation,
- (4) analysis of the critical components of the JDC/RF model, and
- (5) the importance of community engagement.

In addition, the issue includes two commentaries that discuss policy and program implications and how the research findings can guide the future of federal, state, and local efforts to respond to and address the needs of youth in recovery from substance use issues .

The SIROW researchers who co-authored articles for this guest issue include Monica Davis, Alison Greene, Katie Haverly, Josephine Korchmaros, Sally Stevens, Kendra Thompson-Dyck, Elizabeth Valdez, and Megan Wright. For more information, please contact Monica Davis at midavis@email.arizona.edu.

The Women in Science and Engineering Program (WISE) Works to Increase Interest and Diversity in Environmental Science

During Spring 2016, the UA Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Program partnered with the National Park Service, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, the UA Community and School Garden Program, and schools throughout the Tucson Unified School District to get young people excited about environmental science. Through the Schoolyard Biodiversity Inventories Program, partner organizations trained TUSD teachers and UA students on the basic science behind biodiversity, reasons why it is crucial for ecological and human health, and how to complete biodiversity inventories using an online application called iNaturalist. UA students then worked with teachers to complete biodiversity inventories with students at 8 Tucson area schools.

Using digital cameras, smart phones and tablets, students ranging from third grade through high school, worked in teams to collect photographic data on the different species inhabiting their schoolyards. Data was then uploaded to iNaturalist where scientists and specialists from around the world help the students identify unknown species.

The inventories were carried out as part of a national initiative to document biodiversity throughout the country in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. As of April, there have already been 18,000 observations uploaded documenting the great biodiversity that characterizes our country and over 2,300 of those observations are from here in Tucson.

The program's goals are to increase student knowledge of the importance of biodiversity, expose them to environmental science careers, and motivate them to think about these fields as they move throughout their educational journeys. While the environmental sciences aren't often focused on in discussions of diversity in STEM fields, women, Latino/as, and Native Americans are underrepresented in environmental science majors at the University of Arizona and in the local environmental science workforce. We hope that by exposing students to innovative educational opportunities that challenge them to see their everyday environments as sites of scientific inquiry and discovery, we can help diversify the environmental sciences.

SIROW sends special thanks to the UA Institute of the Environment and National Park Service for funding this project.





SIROW Evaluation Team Collaborates with Pascua Yaqui Tribal Partners

Ili Uusim Hiapsi (IUH) ~ Hearts of the Little Children is a five year program funded by SAMHSA's Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health). In partnership with the Sewa Uusim Community Partnership, Tribal Head Start program, Centered Spirit Mental Health Agency, Tribal Health Services Department, and SIROW, IUH has the unique opportunity to enhance the existing health, behavioral health, and social service systems for young Pascua Yaqui children and their families. Approaching the end of this project's fourth year, SIROW has enrolled 152 Yaqui families (479 individuals) into the IUH evaluation.

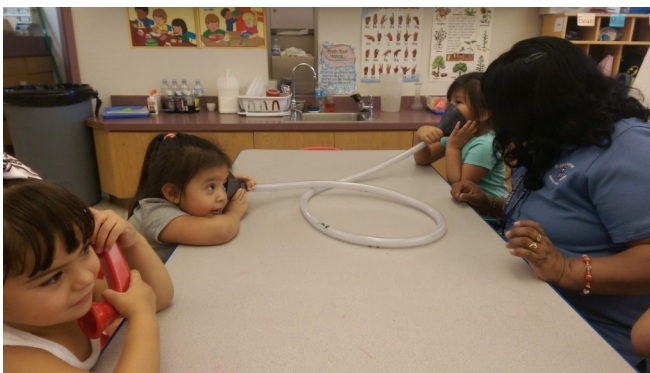
The IUH evaluation seeks to measure both child and family outcomes over time by collecting data at intake and every six months thereafter, using a number of data collection tools. The measures will be used to capture change over time following participation (or not participating) in IUH programs, in order to determine the impact of programming.

In an effort to reach the primary program goal for children to be thriving in safe, supportive environments and entering school ready to meet or exceed developmental milestones, IUH, in collaboration with its partners, offers the Pascua Yaqui community a variety of family-focused programs and engaging events. A prime example is the Young Child Summer Enrichment Program. This program exemplifies the effective collaboration between the Sewa Uusim Mental Health Program and the tribe's Head Start program, ~ Ili Uusim Mahtawapo (IUM). For the last three years, the Summer Enrichment Program has offered the Pascua Yaqui community five weeks of educational activities during the summer months for children ages three to seven. Children participate in a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) component, facilitated by IUM staff, and a Pascua Yaqui culture, arts, and language component, facilitated by IUH staff. Additionally, two Sewa Uusim mental health clinicians provide daily on-site observation and consultation to summer program teachers and support staff in an effort to en-

hance social emotional wellness in classrooms and groups. The early childhood mental health support provided by IUH and Sewa Uusim creates opportunities to assess children and their families for additional services and support that may benefit children's ongoing classroom experience. Children and families in need of additional supports or services are referred to appropriate providers.

The SIROW evaluation team, together with our IUH partners, will be sharing information about the Summer Enrichment program at this year's Annual First Things First Summit in Phoenix in a presentation entitled "Pascua Yaqui Culture, STEM, and Summertime—Collaborating for Social Emotional Wellness." The team will also present "Reducing Parental Stress With Community-Based Evaluation and Cultural Education on the Pascua Yaqui Reservation," which reviews findings on parental stress and acculturation factors, and programming that IUH has developed to support parents and caregivers in the community.

For more information about Ili Uusim Hiapsi, please contact Corrie Brinley at cbrinley@email.arizona.edu.



SIROW Celebrates Youth Accomplishments in the Volunteer Telephone Continuing Care Project

The Volunteer Telephone Continuing Care (VTCC) project is a five year study evaluating the effectiveness of volunteers' telephone support services in reducing substance use relapse and substance-related problems, as well as increasing involvement with pro-recovery peers and activities among adolescents who have been discharged from residential treatment.

As SIROW enters the final year of VTCC, research staff have been impressed by the accomplishments of many adolescent participants in the program. Michael Ketterling is one such youth who has made remarkable strides in the past 18 months.

Since he was young, Michael was involved with the child welfare system and lived in several out-of-home placements. During his teen years, Michael was also involved in the juvenile justice system.

In spite of these obstacles, Michael set goals for himself and remained focused. He enrolled in Pima Vocational High School and graduated six months early. He also completed the Youth Achieving Resource Development Skills (YARDS) program, which provides vocational training in desert landscape maintenance for youth in Pima County. In addition to working towards his goal of enrolling at Pima Community College to study business management, Michael is currently employed, working one full-time and one part-time job.

In April of 2016, Michael was awarded the prestigious Pima Foundation for Youth Award in recognition of the positive changes he has made for himself, his family, and his community. The Pima Foundation for Youth is a joint venture between the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) and community stakeholders to recognize the outstanding achievements of youth who have made significant progress as successful members of their community despite facing adversity. Michael received a plaque from the Foundation as well as a certificate of appreciation and recognition signed by Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. Additionally, Michael is eligible to receive a \$500 scholarship.

SIROW research staff thoroughly enjoyed working with Michael on VTCC over the past 18 months. VTCC required Michael to keep staff apprised of his whereabouts and contact information on a weekly basis, and he demonstrated that he is consistently responsible, reliable, and diligent. Michael has also provided valuable feedback on telephone support services, which will contribute towards our goal of improving adolescent service delivery. VTCC is proud of Michael's accomplishments and contribution to the program.

As SIROW researchers and staff, we are continually impressed by the resilience, strength, and perseverance we are privileged to witness amongst the youth with whom we work. VTCC research staff and SIROW wish Michael, and all of the VTCC youth, success and happiness in all their future endeavors!



Participant Michael Ketterling with his Pima Foundation for Youth award.



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