

## **Wisconsin Minority Health Program Staff Profiles August 2011**

### **Sarah Covington, BS**—Population Health Intern

Ms. Covington is an MPH student interning with the Minority Health Program this summer. Along with supporting the functions of the Minority Health Program, her main project includes assisting with organizing and compiling data for the Minority Health Report. Sarah holds a BS in Biology from Pitzer College in Claremont, CA. Her background includes work with communities in developing countries. Her interest in global public health was developed through her work as an editor for the international journal, *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine*. She is looking forward to pursuing her career in public health, and has felt welcomed by the various staff members in the Division of Public Health.

### **Ruth DeWeese, BA, BSEd** – Program Assistant

Ms. DeWeese is the first-line contact for the Minority Health Program, and provides administrative, program and fiscal support along with special writing, editing and graphics assignments as needed. She is responsible for logistics and meeting coordination of the Health Disparities Task Force and assists in the planning, development and implementation of its activities. Ruth also provides administrative oversight of grant application, reporting and contracts procedures for the Program's community grants activities. Additionally, Ruth maintains and manages the Program website. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English and a post-baccalaureate degree in Secondary Education—Communication Arts and Literature. She has taught reading to struggling middle schoolers and worked with children with special needs at the middle and high school levels.

### **María M. Flores, BA, MS** – Program and Policy Analyst

Ms. Flores was temporarily assigned on a quarter-time basis to the Minority Health Program in March 2010 as part of her duties as Executive Staff Assistant to Dr. Seth Foldy, State Health Officer and Administrator of the Division of Public Health. During that period she was also assigned to the Wisconsin State Health Plan, *Healthiest Wisconsin 2020*. She transferred 50% time into the position of Minority Health Program & Policy Analyst in May 2011. The other half of her duties include work on the Public Health Infrastructure Grant, including the administration SharePoint sites for the accreditation of the State and local health departments.

Among other duties, María provides liaison with community partners and coordinates interactions between the Minority Health Program and its advisory board, the Minority Health Leadership Council. Her experience includes advocacy and community mobilization for immigration reform statewide, extensive paralegal experience, and managerial experience in child protective services. In her volunteer and work life, María has led the creation of numerous projects including several *Healthiest Wisconsin 2020* products designed to assist partners in linking with the state health plan.

### **Claude Gilmore, MSSW, MHSA** – Advisor

Mr. Gilmore is Youth Policy Director with the Division of Public Health. From July 2009 to April 2010 he served as the interim Minority Health Officer. After this position was filled, Mr. Gilmore graciously offered to serve as an advisor to the Minority Health Officer and as liaison with academic and educational partners.

### **Patricia Guhleman, MS** – Office Director

Ms. Guhleman is Director of the Office of Policy and Practice Alignment (OPPA), which includes the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 state health plan project; Workforce Development and the Minority Health Program.

**Fabienne Ouapou-Lena, MD, MPH – Program Officer**

Dr. Ouapou-Lena is the Minority Health Officer. She has been in this position since April 2010. Dr. Ouapou-Lena is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Minority Health Program. She provides leadership for the planning, development and implementation of the goals and objectives of the program; she initiates and maintains partnerships to foster the mission of the Program; she represents the Minority Health Program in local, regional and national instances. She maintains coordination between the various components of the Program.

**Candace Peterson, Ph.D. - Consultant**

Dr. Peterson is an evaluation consultant for the UW Collaborative Center for Health Equity and the Minority Health Program. She consults with program staff and their community partners on program planning and evaluation for community-based public health initiatives. Candace holds a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration, and a doctoral degree in Adult Education, from the UW-Madison. Her background includes work in community and academic settings in health promotion. She is excited to be a part of the dynamic community health projects funded by the Minority Health Program.

**Nicole Robinson, MSW, MPH –Consultant**

Ms. Robinson assists the Wisconsin Minority Health Program in strategy development, the design and assessment of its community grants program, and providing technical assistance to its Milwaukee-based partnerships. She is currently an Associate Researcher at the Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission and Center for Urban Population Health. A native to Milwaukee, Nicole has extensive experience designing and implementing evaluation, planning, and research projects using mix-method techniques and the latest information technology. She is an experienced trainer and technical assistance provider. Before joining the MHRC, Nicole served as a senior evaluation and organizational development consultant with Mosaica: The Center for Nonprofit Development and Pluralism (Washington, DC). There she managed a variety of local, regional, and national-level evaluation projects focused on a range of issues (e.g., health promotion, civic engagement and advocacy, grant-making, leadership development, and nonprofit capacity building). She received her Bachelor's in Social Work and International Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2002. Nicole earned her Masters in Social Work (MSW) and a Masters in Public Health (MPH) from the University of Michigan- Ann Arbor in 2005.

**Paula Tran Inzeo, MPH—Wisconsin Population Health Service Fellow**

Ms. Inzeo is currently a Wisconsin Population Health Service Fellow focusing on health equity and the social determinants of health. Her placement is at the Wisconsin Division of Public Health (in the Administrator's Office and the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health) and with the Wisconsin Center for Health Equity as a Program/Policy Specialist. She has been working with the Minority Health Program in an effort to coordinate health equity initiatives in Wisconsin. She has a background in social justice work, community engagement, public health program design and evaluation, prevention and intervention science, and consumer health advocacy.