

## **The Center for Research on Health Disparities...**

provides leadership for the development and advancement of comprehensive, culturally sensitive, community-based participatory research that improves health outcomes and enhances quality of life. The Center links faculty, students, and community members to advance research on the complex causes of health disparities and strategies to eliminate these disparities, focusing primarily on obesity as a major contributing factor to many chronic health conditions. In working to accomplish our goals, the Center draws on the support of and collaboration among individual and institutional partners.

The Center is an outgrowth of the EXPORT Center project, a collaborative partnership between Clemson University's College of Health, Education, and Human Development, and Voorhees College's Center of Excellence in Rural and Minority Health. The EXPORT Center is made possible through an Excellence in Partnerships for Community Outreach, Research on Health Disparities, and Training (EXPORT) grant from the National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

For more information on programs and activities, please contact The Center for Research on Health Disparities at the address below.

Clemson University  
College of Health, Education, and Human Development  
407 Edwards Hall  
Box 340712  
Clemson, South Carolina 29634-0712

Telephone: (864) 656-0779

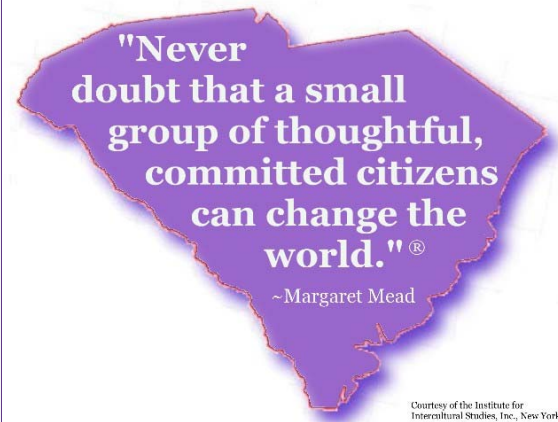
Fax: (864) 656-0769

Web site: [www.clemson.edu/healthdisparities](http://www.clemson.edu/healthdisparities)

*The Center for Research on Health Disparities is funded in part by Grant Number 1P20MD000539-01, from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health. The contents of this brochure are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of National Institutes of Health.*

09/19/07

# **Center for Research on Health Disparities**



**CLEMSON**  
UNIVERSITY

# Center for Research on Health Disparities at Clemson University

## Our Mission...

is to provide leadership in the development, advancement, and dissemination of research on rural, racial and ethnic minority health and health disparities.

## Our Vision...

is to be an exemplar in the conduct of research designed to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health and healthcare.

## Our Goals...

- Develop organizational infrastructure that supports the Center's mission and vision.
- Conduct, facilitate, and coordinate transdisciplinary, health disparities research.
- Create a certificate program in Health Disparities Studies.
- Increase the number of underrepresented racial/ethnic minority students and pre-tenure faculty engaged in health disparities research.
- Increase the visibility of the Center.



## Our Research Focus...

In recognizing obesity as a major contributing factor to many health disparity conditions (e.g., cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, mental health) and as complicated by ecological disparities (e.g., across policy, community, and individual levels), the Center targets obesity through prevention, intervention, and management research. The Center focuses its research on the interactions between obesity and physiological factors and psychosocial factors; and the implication on chronic and acute illness. These interactions exist within multiple systems—individual, family, community, institutional, economic, behavioral, cultural, social, environmental, and political—which serve as the contexts for the Center's research. The Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) approach guides the Center's activities to eliminate health disparities across the lifespan.

## Our Guiding Principles...

- The Center capitalizes on the strength of a collaborative partnership between Clemson University, a land-grant university, and Voorhees College, an historically Black college (HBCU).
- The research goal is improved quality of life, including positive health outcomes for South Carolinians with especial focus on rural, racial and ethnic minority populations.
- The research is guided by the principles of the Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) model and lifespan, develop mental approaches.
- Research teams are comprised of students, faculty, and other researchers from diverse backgrounds and disciplines, working together to promote interdisciplinary research and scholarship.
- Research is translational, conducted in collaboration with community members, and applied in the community for improved health outcomes.