

Atlanta Global Research & Education Collaborative (AGREC)

AY 2020-21: Funded projects
Award range: \$5,000 - \$15,000



Project title: *Savings Lives in the Refugee Community: A Cultural and Linguistic Adaptation of Stop the Bleed*

Abstract: A person can bleed to death very quickly; in fact, if hemorrhage is not stopped, a person can bleed to death in just five minutes. There are, however, simple bleeding control techniques that can be applied by anyone who is trained in them. Stop the Bleed (STB) is a 90-minute course to train lay people in recommended response and bleeding control protocol that can save someone's life while awaiting first responders; over 1 million individuals have been trained in STB. Unfortunately, some of our most vulnerable communities who are affected by trauma do not have access to this critical training as it is only available in English and Spanish. We propose to adapt and deliver the STB curriculum so that it is culturally and linguistically appropriate for three language groups which comprise a majority of refugee residents in Clarkston, Georgia by modifying both program content and program delivery.

Co-PIs:

- Mary Helen O'Connor, Courtesy Faculty, School of Public Health, Georgia State University and Director, Center for Community Engagement, Perimeter College
- Randi Nicole Smith, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Assistant Professor of Public Health, Emory University and Trauma Surgeon at Grady Memorial Hospital

Team Member(s):

- Iris Feinberg, Research Assistant Professor, College of Education & Human Development and Associate Director, Adult Literacy Research Center, Georgia State University
- Deepika Koganti, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Emory University and Trauma Surgeon at Grady Memorial Hospital

Community partner(s):

- Omar Shekhey, Executive Director, Somali American Community Center
- Lekshmi Kumar, Medical Director, Grady Emergency Medical Services

Project title: *Water quality monitoring network for highly impacted urban headwaters in metro Atlanta (GA)*

Abstract: To address the global issue of water quality degradation from cities, our proposed project will build upon relationships between Spelman College Georgia State University (GSU), NGOs, and community-based metro Atlanta. The funding would be used to develop a community-based water quality monitoring network in watersheds totaling 300 square-miles of

highly urbanized and densely populated headwaters of two rivers in metro Atlanta, providing greater regulatory effectiveness, better relations between impacted communities and watersheds, and new opportunities to improve both watershed and public health. The Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, American Rivers, and the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance will assist with creating a system whereby students at Spelman and GSU will process water quality samples routinely collected by community members of the South River Watershed Alliance, Flint Riverkeeper, and ECO-Action.

Co-PIs:

- Richard Milligan, Assistant Professor of Geosciences, Georgia State University; and Na'Taki Osborne Jelks, Assistant Professor of Environmental and Health Sciences, Spelman College

Team Member(s):

- Christine Stauber, Associate Professor of Environmental Health, Georgia State University

Community partner(s):

- Jackie Echols, Board President, South River Watershed Alliance
- Darryl Haddock, Environmental Education Director/Proctor Creek Ambassador, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance

Project title: *Advancing a Community-Based Participatory Research Model for Metropolitan Regional Immigrant Integration and Receptivity through the One Region Initiative*

Abstract: The Atlanta metropolitan area is a growing new destination for immigrants and refugees, and new policies and practices in Atlanta communities are needed for effective integration of immigrants and refugees. In this project, we propose to collaborate with Welcoming America and their One Region Initiative in Atlanta to a) create a community-based participatory research (CBPR) tool for the implementation of the welcoming plan developed by the One Region Initiative Partners; b) to evaluate the welcoming plan developed by local community partners; c) conduct a workshop in spring 2021 with invited practitioners and researchers from around the region to examine the key; d) evaluate the transferability and scalability of this project to other regions. The themes of the One Region plan are: 1) Civic Engagement; 2) Government Leadership; 3) Safe Communities; 4) Connected Communities; 5) Equitable Access; 6) Economic Development; and 7) Education.

Co-PIs:

- Allen Hyde, Assistant Professor, School of History and Sociology, Georgia Tech
- Cathy Liu, Professor and Department Chair, Department of Public Management and Policy, Georgia State University

Team Member(s):

- Paul McDaniel, Associate Professor of Geography, Kennesaw State University
- Darlene Rodriguez, Associate Professor of Social Work and Human Services, Kennesaw State University

Community partner(s):

- Jordyne Krumroy, Regional Manager, Welcoming America
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Project title: *The Global Communities Internship Program*

Abstract: The Global Communities Internship Program is a community-partnered, student-focused program that engages two distinct cohorts of students and three partner organizations in a program that: 1) deepens students' global learning in a local context; 2) amplifies partner assets and builds capacity for refugee-, immigrant-, and new-American-facing organizations in metro Atlanta; and 3) forges cross-institutional ties among the five collaborating higher education institutions. Engaging community partners with deep roots in Clarkston, Georgia, and a history of successful collaborations with Emory provides a basis for a mutually beneficial program, and the unique wedding of a service-learning course with an internship program provides continuity for these partners. This structure also gives spring semester student-participants a chance to build materials for the cohort of summer interns, and summer interns the opportunity to focus on carefully-scoped partner-identified priority projects.

Co-PIs:

- Ruth Yow, Service Learning and Partnerships Specialist/Faculty, Georgia Tech
- Philip Ojo, Professor of French, Agnes Scott College

Team Member(s):

- Johannes Kleiner, Associate Director, Civic and Community Engagement, Emory University
- Kenja McCray, Associate Professor of History, Atlanta Metropolitan State College
- Monty Whitney, Director, Bonner Office of Community Service, Morehouse College

Community partner(s):

- Amber McCorkle, Director of Education & Programs, Clarkston Community Center Foundation Inc.
- Whitney Morgan-Jackson, Evening ESL Program Supervisor, Georgia Piedmont Technical College

Project title: *Atlanta-area migrant communities and climate change: characterizing drivers of migration, exposure risks, and health vulnerabilities*

Abstract: Migration of populations from Latin America to the United States has been increasing over the past few decades for a variety of reasons including conflict, economic stress and climate change. While political and socioeconomic factors have long been thought of as the biggest drivers for migration, climate change-related factors are becoming increasingly recognized. Through this project, we seek to better understand and quantify the role and risks of climate change in and for Atlanta-area migrant communities, especially those from Central and South America. We will accomplish this objective by working with an interdisciplinary team comprised of experts in the fields of immigrant/migrant health, anthropology, and infectious diseases to conduct a comprehensive survey and needs assessment of immigrants in collaboration with the Cosmo Health Center, with the ultimate goal to define strategies to screen for and mitigate climate-associated health risk in these communities.

Co-PIs:

- Cassandra White, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Georgia State University

- Rebecca P. Philipsborn, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Emory University

Team Member(s):

- Jessica K Fairley, Associate Professor of Medicine and Global Health, Emory University

Community partner(s):

- Amitha Sampath, Associate Medical Director, CPACS / Cosmo Health Center
 - Alexis Nikusi, CPACS / Cosmo Health Center
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Project title: *Growing Intercultural Competence for Peace and Mediation: Piloting an Atlanta-Based Global Community of Practice for Hyperlocal Case Studies and Education*

Abstract: The proposed project aims to contribute to peace education by growing intercultural competence and strengthening linguistic diversity. To do so, the project proposes to leverage case study methodology into the foreign language (FL) classroom. Case studies are commonly used in fields such as business, diplomacy, political science. We plan to present authentic issues of intercultural misunderstanding and challenges due to communication and culture to students, collected via interviews from individuals in the local community in the Atlanta area (for- and non-profit global organizations and enterprises) and implement those cases in the FL classroom. Such a method will not only enhance intercultural understanding and communicative competence but prepare our students for life in a global context while grounded at home. Furthermore, community of practice focusing on intercultural competence by bridging the education sector with the local community.

Co-PIs:

- Hyoun-A Joo, Assistant Professor of German, Georgia Tech
- Barbara Drescher, Acting Director of German Studies, Agnes Scott College

Team Member(s):

- Dr. Volker Franke, Professor of Conflict Management, Kennesaw State University
- Dr. Britta Kallin, Associate Professor of German, Georgia Tech
- Dr. Annika Orich, Assistant Professor of German, Georgia Tech
- Dr. Jenny Strakovsky, Associate Director of Graduate Studies & Career Education, Georgia Tech

Community partner(s):

- Volker Franke, Chairman & Founder, TRENDS Global
- Lina Tuschling, Member, TRENDS Global