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The ANALA Collaborative: UMass Boston's Asian American, Native American, Latin@ and African Diaspora Institutes

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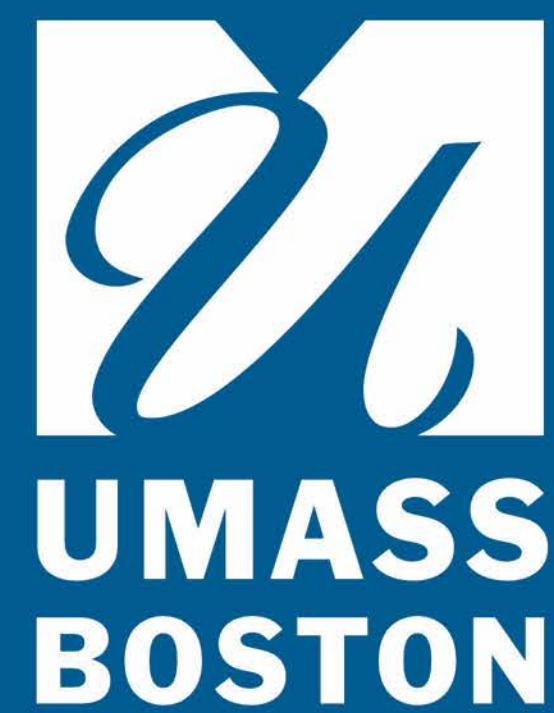
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The ANALA Collaborative:

UMass Boston's Asian American, Native American, Latin@ and African Diaspora Institutes

Introducing ANALA

The ANALA Collaborative is the newly-formed umbrella for the four UMass Boston racial and ethnic institutes. This year, with help from a team from the College of Management's Emerging Leaders Program, we have come together to form ANALA in recognition of the area's increasing racial and ethnic diversity and the need for majority-minority communities to work together toward common goals. While each of the four institutes will retain its separate identity and programs, we will also place greater emphasis on collaborative efforts in the service of our common mission and vision.

Our Collective Mission

To provide in-depth research, community engagement, and thought leadership to shape and support the public's understanding of the evolving racial and ethnic diversities in Boston, Massachusetts, New England, and beyond.

Our Common Vision

To advance social, economic and cultural understanding, opportunities and equity for racial and ethnic communities through research, education and public service.

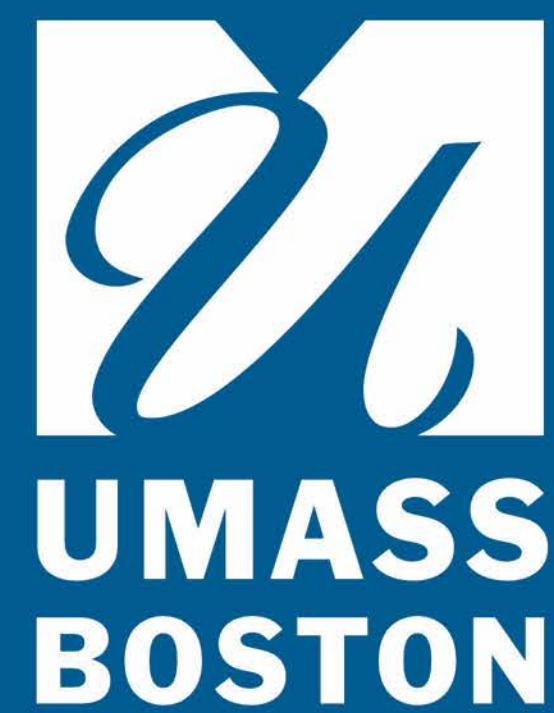
Community-based Organizations Sustainability Project

ANALA is conducting research regarding the grassroots community-based organizations (CBOs) that are critical resources for the Latin@, African diaspora, Asian American and Native American communities we serve. Using both quantitative and qualitative methods, we aim to tell the stories of these CBOs: the challenges they face to remain viable in times of economic hardship, the lessons learned by those managing to thrive, and what they need to be sustainable and maximize effectiveness. This research will inform efforts to support such organizations, and help them make the greatest possible impact on the communities they serve.

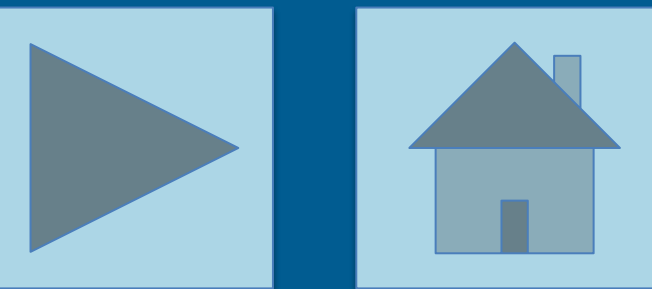
View Institute Projects



Contact Us



Honoring, Strengthening and Empowering Native Women: Addressing Violence Against Native Women in Massachusetts, Institute for New England Native American Studies



Goals

1. To gather and disseminate credible information
2. To contribute to developing solutions that offer Native women and girls the hope of living free from violence and fear
3. To build relationships and collaborations that make such solutions possible

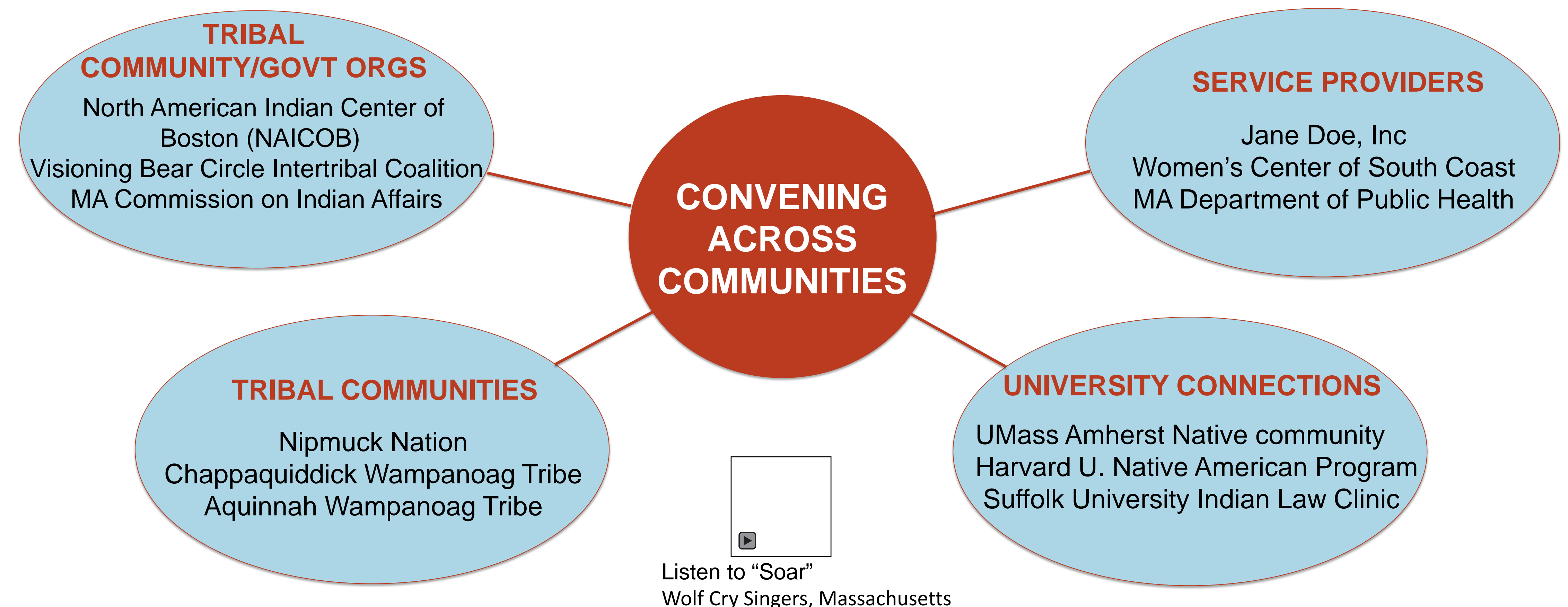
Context

Massachusetts is home to approximately 50,000 Native Americans. There is a lack of data and underreporting of sexual and domestic violence. A 2013 report by the National Congress of American Indians found that Native women are:

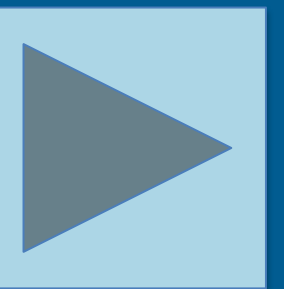
- 2.5 times as likely to experience violent crimes;
- At least 2x as likely to experience rape/sexual assault compared to all other women in U.S.
- Murdered at a rate more than ten times the national average (on some reservations)

Approach

UMass Boston's **Institute for New England Native American Studies** (INENAS) is leading research built through the collaborative participation of Native tribal and community leaders and mainstream sexual assault/domestic violence service providers across Massachusetts. Surveys and focus groups with these diverse stakeholders informed the research.



Honoring, Strengthening and Empowering Native Women: Addressing Violence Against Native Women in Massachusetts, Institute for New England Native American Studies



Background

3 existing research projects informed our work:

- A 2013 national report by the National Congress of American Indians Policy Center
- Amnesty International's 2007 human rights report, *Maze of injustice: The failure to protect indigenous women from sexual violence in the USA*
- Collaborative research, "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren," between INENAS and NAICOB that revealed nearly 90% of participating families had been disrupted by domestic violence.

→ INENAS' motivation was based on anecdotal evidence and extrapolation from national figures primarily drawn from the experience of reservations in the western part of the US.

Methods

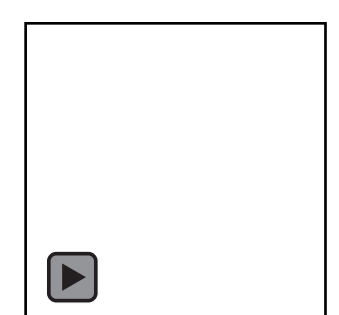
Survey research aimed at gathering preliminary data about the nature and extent of domestic and sexual violence, and services and resources available to Native women.

- Conducted between 2013-14 by email, face-to-face, or phone interviews;
- Included closed and open-ended questions;
- Assisted by NAICOB and Jane Doe, Inc;
- Surveyed 14 Native tribal and community leaders;
- Surveyed more than 50 professionals from service providers;
- Only 3 responses from agencies that provided services to Native American women.

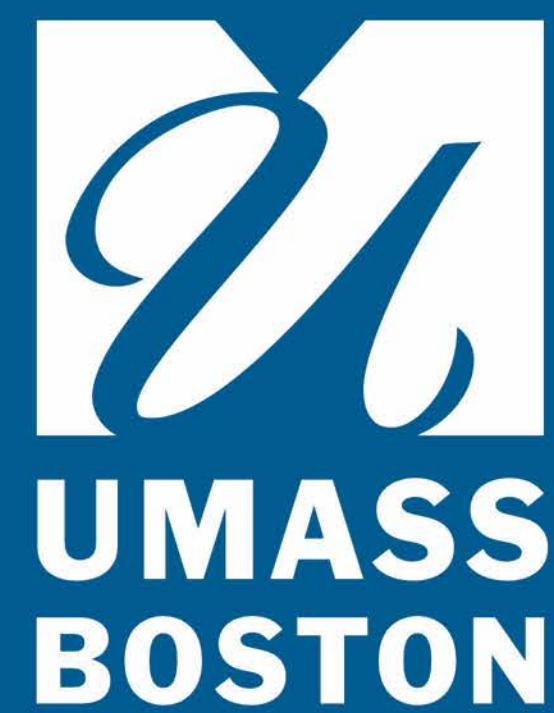
Focus groups aimed at gathering information and catalyzing discussion about the problem of violence against Native women across Massachusetts.

- First-ever convening between tribes and providers;
- 22 attendees: 9 tribes/Native organizations and 4 service/advocacy organizations;
- Open-ended questions promoted in-depth reflection and dialogue.

'A Commemorative Art Installation for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women of Canada and the USA.'



Listen to "Hear Me, The Gift of Song" Wolf Cry Singers, Massachusetts



Honoring, Strengthening and Empowering Native Women: Addressing Violence Against Native Women in Massachusetts, Institute for New England Native American Studies



Outcomes

1. Beginning the conversation: Started a long overdue and powerful conversation about violence against women in Massachusetts Native communities.

2. Documenting the need with data: Substantiated and described the scope of the statewide problem, improved understanding of origins and nuances, strategically crafted solutions and resources.

3. Linking tribal and Native community organizations with service providers: Planted the seeds for developing critical new relationships between service providers and Native communities.

4. Developing a roadmap for the future: Produced report with recommendations to inform continued development of culturally competent research and evidenced-based interventions.

5. Building an ongoing UMass Boston team: Galvanized an interdisciplinary team, including personnel from INENAS, the College of Public and Community Service, ORSP, Sociology, and the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, that is committed to pursuing the report's recommendations.

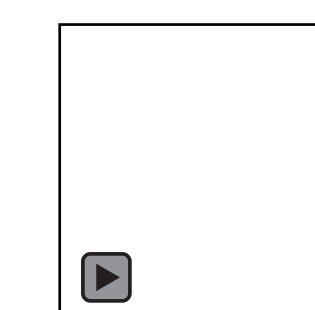
6. Educating future practitioners: Provided internship for graduate student in Gender, Leadership, and Public Policy program, who will now bring her cultural competence vis a vis Native communities into future work in the domestic violence/sexual assault field.

Next Steps

Refine Report: Finalize report of findings and recommendations to post publically and distribute to practitioners and policymakers.

Dissemination: Hold a series of roundtables in the areas of the state with highest Native American populations and by building on the networks of cross-community organizations, to pursue solutions and preventative strategies.

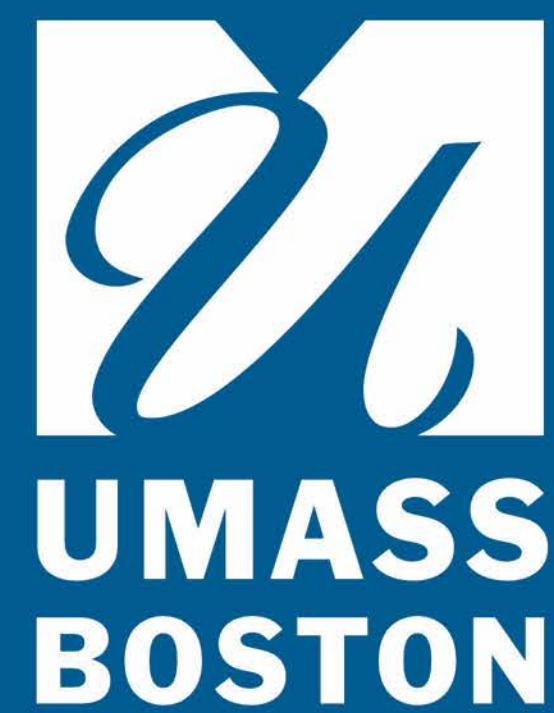
Facilitate connections: Between tribes and service providers to increase access to services for Native women and increase cultural competence among providers.



Listen to "Amazing Grace"
Wolf Cry Singers, Massachusetts



Images of beaded moccasin vamps courtesy
of Walking With Our Sisters (www.wwos.ca)



The Greater Boston Cultural Convening (GBCC), The William Monroe Trotter Institute



About

In May 2014, the Trotter Institute held a two-day gathering of artists and nonprofit arts administrators in theater, dance, film, visual arts, sculpture, photography, painting, and more. Boston's arts profile is top-heavy, with several recognized arts institutions, but art in the community is not well-supported.

Context

The importance of art is gaining ground in the place-based arena where neighborhood art increases community capital. Access to and availability of art and its range and diversity differentiates cities that are desirable from those that have little attraction for new residents. Richard Florida has written extensively about the creative class and its role in urban revitalization.

Partners

Strand Theater (location of GBCC)
Massachusetts Artists Leader Coalition (MALC)
UMass Boston's Trotter Institute



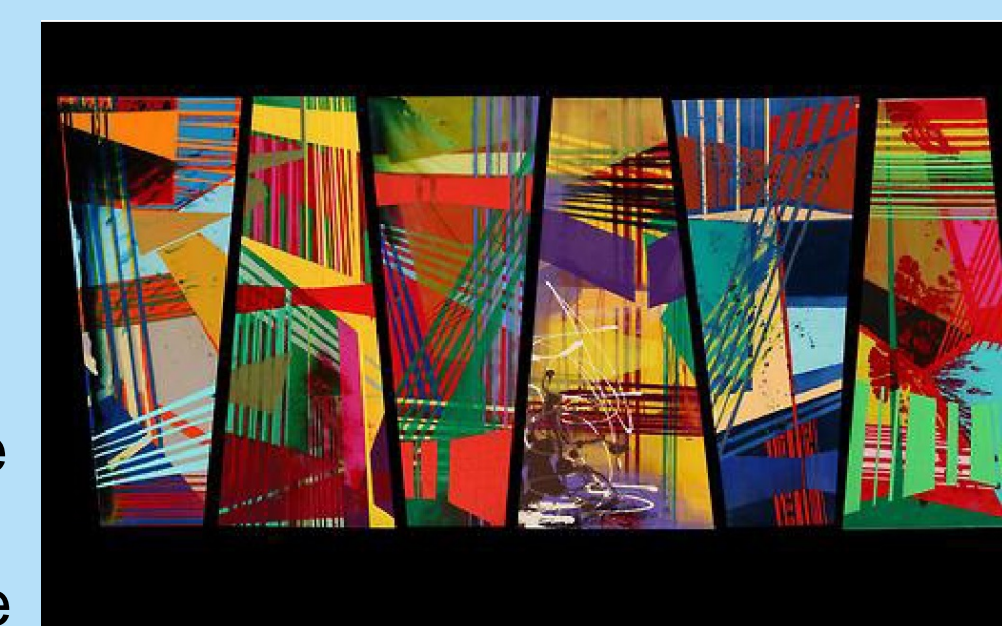
Cultural Convening Panelists

Approaches

- Promoted a cultural equity theme
- Extended the conversation around art as a tool for social justice
- Used arts training as an evidence-based approach to youth empowerment
- Promoted the joy of creativity (idea development from thought to product)



Trotter Director, Barbara Lewis (far left) with artist Destiny Palmer, whose painting is pictured on the right.



Traditions Remixed

Results

- ✓ 694 people participated
- ✓ Recorded the 2-day public conversation
- ✓ Developed GBCC Report based on recordings
- ✓ Documented concerns of local artists, their visions for the future, and how to strengthen the arts sector in Boston
- ✓ One recommendation was to build Boston as a city known for the diversity of its arts (modeled after Chicago)
- ✓ Shortly after the GBCC, Mayor Walsh created a cabinet position for a cultural czar, and Julie Burros was hired out of Chicago with a mandate to increase Boston's cultural capital
- ✓ GBCC report became part of curriculum for an Honors College course that Mayor Walsh requested on the future of the Strand Theater
- ✓ UMass Boston will now offer an annual course on municipal issues in Boston



About

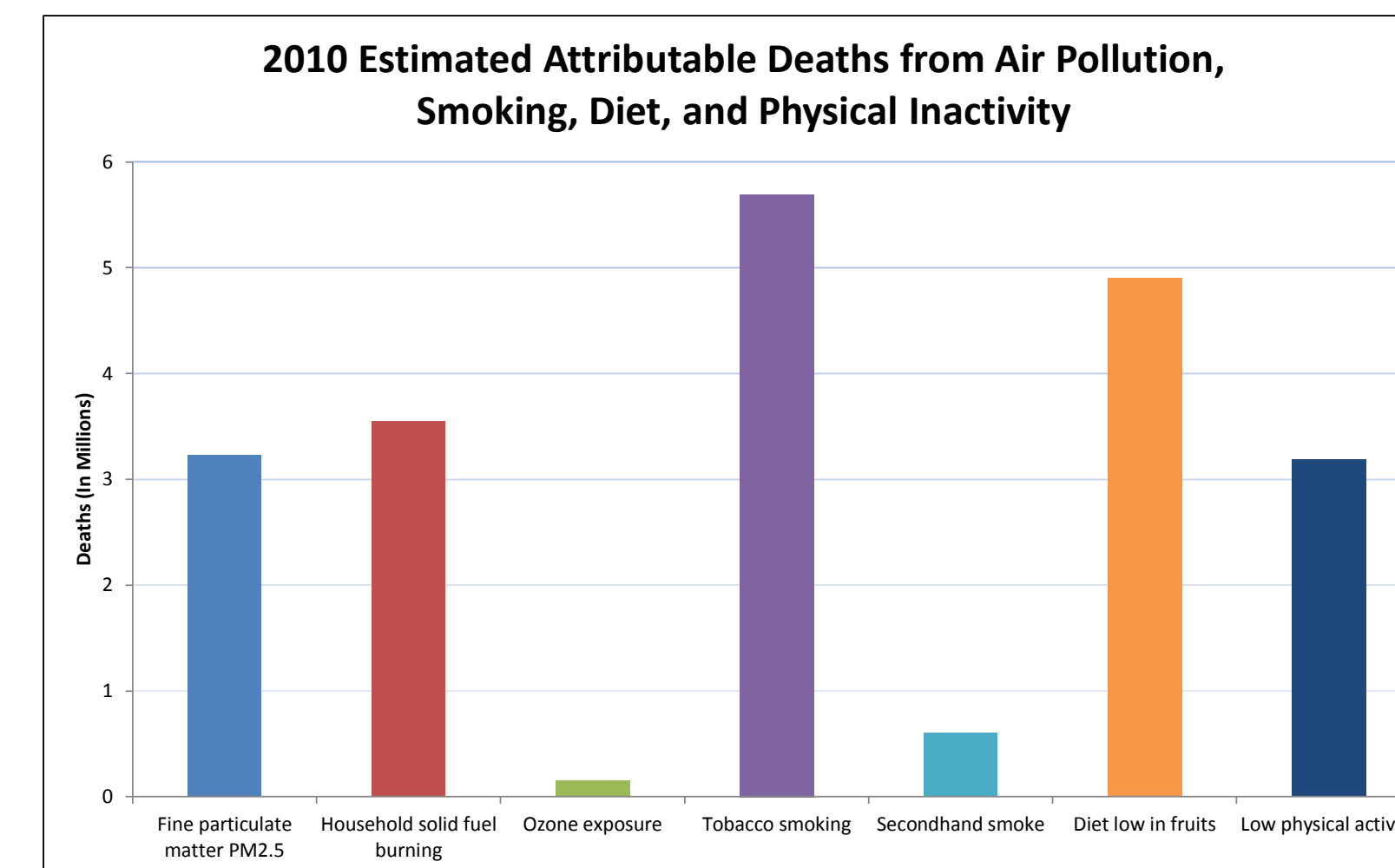
Particulate matter (PM) is a leading cause of mortality/morbidity worldwide. Ambient PM (< 2.5 microns in diameter) causes an estimated 3.2 million deaths a year. Chinatown has high levels of pollution because of congestion and its proximity to 2 major highways.

This NIH funded project is led by a multi-university team of principal investigators: Carolyn Wong (UMass Boston), Georges Grinstein (UMass Lowell), and Doug Brugge (Tufts). The data were collected by the Community Assessment of Freeway Exposure and Health (CAFEH), an umbrella of five community participatory projects.

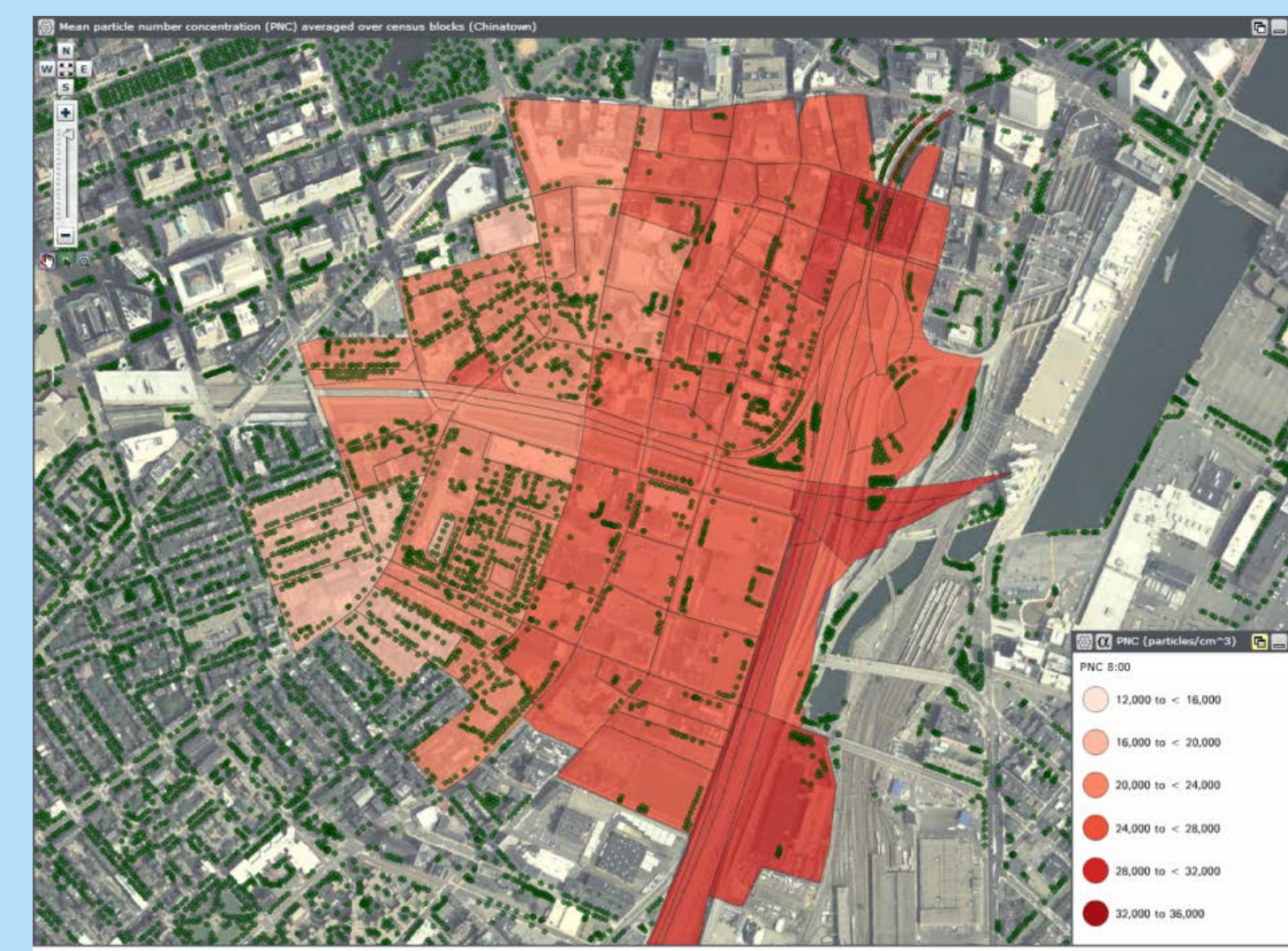
Goals

- Educate about highway pollution and how to communicate health information for civic engagement and environmental advocacy in culturally appropriate ways.
- Engage high school youth, adult English learners, and Chinatown immigrant residents in co-learning.
- Develop and test effectiveness of interactive maps as an educational tool.

Global Burden of Disease 2010



Lim et al. A comparative risk assessment of burden of disease and injury attributable to 67 risk factors and risk factor clusters in 21 regions, 1990–2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010. *Lancet* 2012; 380: 2224–60.



Legend shows levels of 2011 Annual mean of Particle Number (PNC) Concentration.
Map created by Kat Galkina in WEAVE (Web-based Analysis and Visualization Environment)

Invisible pollution levels are high near highways. In Chinatown, youth play sports next to the I – 93 ramp. Trees are scarce.



Community Education

Teach communication and civic skills to collaborate inter-generationally about solutions at **three levels**:

1. *Individual-level behavior*: Plan times to exercise vigorously when pollution levels are lower.
2. *Community-level solutions*: Redesign built environment when possible. Improve filtration and ventilation in buildings. Locate recreational and green space away from most congested traffic, tree barriers.
3. *National-level regulation*: Advocate for federal regulation of vehicular emissions and appropriate design of cars.

Partners

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center
Boston Chinatown Residents Association
UMass Boston
UMass Lowell
Tufts University

Por Ahí Dicen: Promoting Puerto Rican Mother-Child Communication about Sexuality and Sexual Health Protection, Gastón Institute



PROJECT AIMS

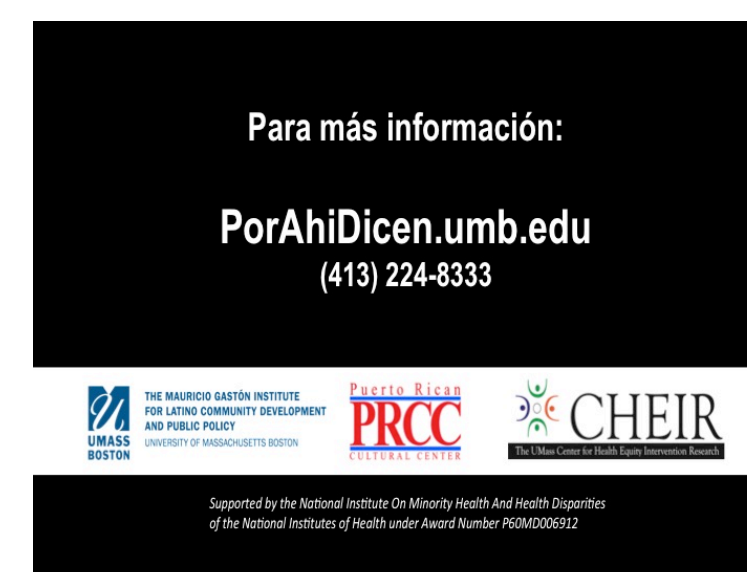
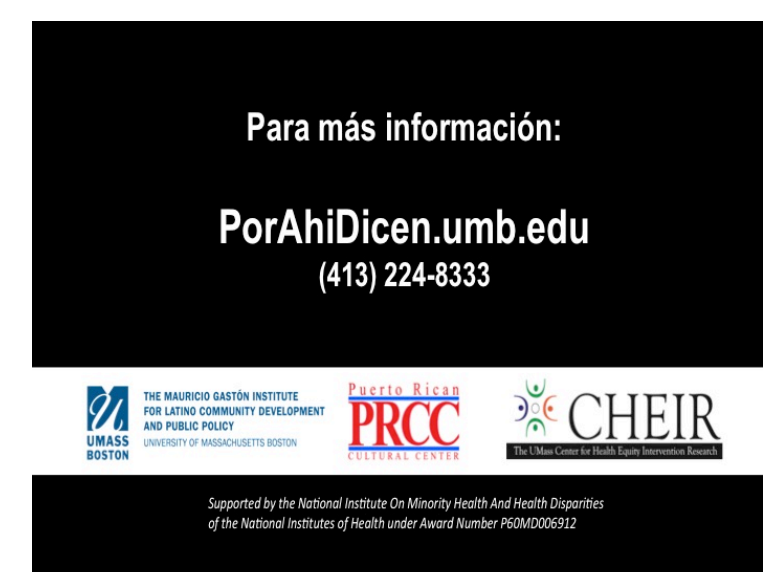
1. Develop a theory-based, culturally responsive, Spanish media campaign to target Puerto Rican mother-child communication about sexuality and sexual health protection.
2. Implement and evaluate the effectiveness of the media campaign on Puerto Rican mothers' outcome expectations, self-efficacy, and mother-child communication regarding sexuality and sexual health protection.

The Spanish Media Campaign

CARDS



TELEVISION PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (PSA)



BUS BANNER



NEWSPAPER INSERT



RADIO PSAs



GASTÓN INSTITUTE

- Transfer of skills and experiences among students and community residents
- Increased capacity to translate research methods from the classroom to the field
- Build methods to enhance the validity of data and the applicability of data to promote health equity

PRCC

- Trained six community residents in basic research tools and field work methods
- Leadership Development Training for Community Advisory Committee Members
- Increased capacity to work with academic researchers and to seek opportunities for future projects

PorAhiDicen.umb.edu

A research project between the Gastón Institute and the Puerto Rican Cultural Center in Springfield (PRCC)

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Contact the ANALA Collaborative

