

# Institute for Faith and Public Health Leadership Aligning Perspectives to Eliminate Health Inequities

*Presented by*

**UIC School of Public Health – Mid-America Public Health Training Center (MAPHTC)**

**and**

**The Center for Faith and Community Health Transformation**

## Project Goal

The Institute for Faith and Public Health Leadership equips faith and public health leaders to work together more effectively to improve the health of their communities. This series brings together faith and public health approaches to guide the vision of community health transformation. Practitioners will learn how to identify and utilize the unique assets that both disciplines use to eliminate the root causes of health inequities – the preventable and unjust differences in health status based on the social conditions in which people live.



This Institute will give participants the opportunity to:

- Pause and listen to the rich wisdom found both in our faith traditions and in the voice of public health that speaks to social justice
- Utilize the spiritual practices of our faith traditions to reflect on and find sustenance for this challenging work
- Align what we know and do more intentionally and creatively to address these root causes
- Provide tools and resources to analyze the needs and assets for creating community-level interventions
- Identify key strategies to mobilize around the root causes that create and sustain health disparities
- Expand networks to accomplish work collaboratively and effectively

## How

Each participant will be joined in the effort by their team. Teams must be formed prior to applying and are built from both faith and public health leaders from the same community with shared objectives for health improvement in that community. The Institute is structured as a series of seven full-day workshops for group learning. Each workshop in the series is separated by two to four weeks allowing time for individual reflection and team action. As a driver for both reflection and action, each session will have homework related to that week's theme to follow-up on before the next session. This will facilitate the team's engagement with the overall concepts of the institute and help develop skills to move the team project forward.

## What

Teams will explore topics that are foundational to developing more coordinated faith and public health partnerships that address the root causes of health inequities. Teams will work together during the class and outside the class to develop a collaborative strategy around their topic of mutual interest. Some example topics include:

- HIV/AIDS and STIs
- Emergency Preparedness
- Chronic Disease
- Food Access
- Violence Prevention
- Environmental Health
- Health Care Advocacy
- Other (i.e. Mental Health, Maternal Child Health, etc.)

## Beyond the Institute

Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion at the final session. Participants will also have the opportunity to access on-going leadership development opportunities through The Center for Faith and Community Health Transformation and the MidAmerica Center for Public Health Practice, such as:

- Mentoring of future participants
- Preparation for developing and sustaining initiatives with faith communities
- Specialized training around specific health topics or intervention methods
- Partnership development and networking

## LOGISTICS

**Location** (tentative) – The Institute will be held at:

### **UIC School of Public Health**

1603 W. Taylor Street  
Chicago, IL 60612-4394

**Time** – Workshop sessions are scheduled from 9:00AM to 4:00PM central time. Time in the afternoon will be allotted to group planning.

The Institute dates are:

March 20<sup>th</sup>: Session 1 – Introduction and Health Inequity  
April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Session 2 – Language and Interfaith Engagement  
April 17<sup>th</sup>: Session 3 – Assessment within Faith and Public Health  
May 15<sup>th</sup>: Session 4 – Gifts: Unique Capacities of Faith and Public Health  
June 12<sup>th</sup>: Session 5 – Advocacy/Witnessing  
July 17<sup>th</sup>: Session 6 – Collaboration  
August 7<sup>th</sup>: Session 7 – Close/Sending Forth

### **Cost**

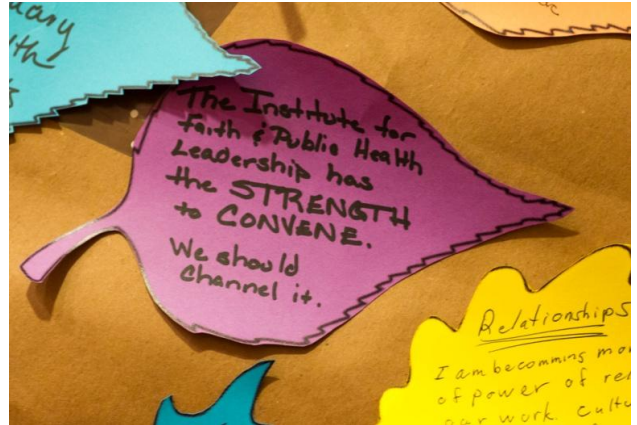
\$200 per person if application is submitted before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
\$250 per person if application is submitted on or later than January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.  
The fee includes workshop materials and lunch for each session.

### **Institute Links**

Informational link: <http://www.midamericacph.com/fph/> and <http://vimeo.com/51093080>

### **Questions**

Please contact Rani Saxena at [rmishra@uic.edu](mailto:rmishra@uic.edu) or 312.996.7919



During sessions participants were encouraged to write reactions on leaves and add them to the 'wisdom tree.' Here someone acknowledges an asset: the strength to convene.