

CREST

June 30, 2023 | Issue 8



Welcome

Welcome to CREST Community!

A quarterly newsletter by the Collaboration for Research Equity, Sustainability, and Trust (CREST) team at Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI).

CREST is comprised of organizations and individuals committed to improving the health and welfare of individuals living in Mattapan, Roxbury, and Dorchester.

Together, we will foster interactions between community-academic partners who share an interest in improving public health.

[Learn more about us](#)

[Apply to be a CREST Member](#)

Congrats Judith!

Judith Thermidor, representative of CSI Support and Development and CREST community partner, has been selected to represent CREST at Tufts CTSI's Steering Committee meetings. She will apply her expertise in research in order to help the committee set priorities and contribute to CTSI's mission of improving clinical care and health through broadly-engaged team science.

Coming Soon: Mental Health Forum

In July, CREST and the Science Communications team will be discussing concern-gatherings. An essential step in the planning and implementation of our Mental Health Forum.
Stay tuned!

Coming Soon: Dialogue Facilitator Training

In July, staff of the Science Communications team will be conducting a training on Reflective Structured Dialogue (RSD) and some of our CREST community partners will be participating. Good luck and we look forward to seeing how you bring the art and science of dialogue into your communities!

News

I LEARN

On June 9th, the CREST and Professional Education teams at Tufts CTSI published a new I LEARN course. It's title, "Community Participation in Research." The purpose of the course is to explain how community residents and community-based organizations can contribute to clinical and translational research and help improve the impact projects have on different populations. Whether you are an academic researcher, clinician, or community member we encourage you to take the course. You can enroll [HERE](#). Also, once you have completed the course, please take the time to fill out the post-course survey. Your feedback is an essential part of making sure that we meet the needs of our constituents.

IUPR Steering Committee Meeting

So long for now! As you may or may not already know, Tufts CTSI has been awarded it's 4th CTSA grant from the National Institute of Health's (NIH) National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS). We are officially in this new 7-year grant cycle as of May 1st . For us, this means that the Integrating Underrepresented Populations in Research (IUPR) team will be fully transitioning to CREST and there will be no more IUPR Steering Committee Meetings in this new grant. For all those that have participated in IUPR Steering Committee Meetings in the past, we thank you for your contributions and encourage you to keep subscribing to our CREST quarterly newsletters and/or to become members of the CREST coalition. This is the best way to continue our dynamic and fruitful partnership. Best wishes!

ADAPT-CREST Co-Learning

On June 13th, the community-academic coalitions ADAPT and CREST had another co-learning session. This time, CREST community partner and representative of CSI Support and Development, Judith Thermidor presented on "Aging Engagement in Clinical Research." Her presentation included a community profile of Blue Ledge Co-Op, talking points on digital inclusion, the value that the CREST coalition brings to Blue Ledge Co-Op, and the successes, challenges, and hopes that the cooperative has for the future. As always, we learn so much from our beloved CREST member Judith and we look forward to seeing her initiatives at Blue Ledge Co-Op come to fruition.

Community Events

Over the last few months, there have been multiple events that CREST community partners have hosted and that we would like to highlight:

Andrew Sharpe, Executive Director of the Authentic Caribbean Foundation (ACF), hosted their 10th Anniversary Caribbean American Heritage Festival. It was held at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston. There were approximately 650 people that gathered to participate in activities showcasing local art, music, food, and achievements that celebrate the Caribbean-American diaspora in Massachusetts.

Arnetta Baty, a community member and partner from Dorchester, has recently hosted two events - one was the Healthy Neighborhood Study Open Garden event. The second was "Community Day" at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Dorchester.



Upcoming Events

Flavors of the Caribbean

TONIGHT! June 30th, the Authentic Caribbean Foundation (ACF), will be hosting "Flavors of the Caribbean" from 6pm-10pm at the Rooftop Terrance, Residence Inn Fenway.

My Caribbean Expo

On July 8th, the Authentic Caribbean Foundation (ACF), will be hosting "My Caribbean Expo" from 11am-7pm at the Rowes Wharf Plaza in downtown Boston.

Quote of the Month:

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots."

-Marcus Garvey

More at Tufts CTSI:

Community-Engaged Informed Consent Training

The Community and Stakeholder Engagement (CSE) and Professional Education (PE) teams have been collaborating on demonstration videos meant to educate investigators on behaviors that are helpful to promote and prevent when having conversations of informed consent with English-speaking and non-English speaking study participants. Check out the manuscript that they published about the project via Cambridge University Press in May by clicking [here](#). These videos are set to be published in April/May of 2024. Stay tuned!

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