

2019 Annual Report



**BETTER HEALTH FOR KENTUCKY
TOGETHER**

IHI IS DRIVING CHANGE

The Institute for Health Innovation (IHI) at NKU pioneers solutions to the health challenges facing northern Kentucky. We drive change that directly addresses urgent unmet health needs.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is a real privilege for me to write this letter about the first year of the Institute for Health Innovation here at Northern Kentucky University and to reflect on what we have started together.

As you will see in the pages that follow, we had a banner initial year—we received more than \$1.7 million in external funding, which we used to help Owen County devise a plan for improved and expanded support services for Substance Use Disorder, to start a support group for caregivers of children diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, to bring more than 800 students from the northern Kentucky region to visit the IHI and engage in hands-on health-related activities and to help promote health innovation and entrepreneurship in our region. We are also supporting nine NKU Faculty Fellows and helped sponsor events on HIV/AIDS, student homelessness, youth arrestees tried as adults, poverty prevention and a pop-up clothes closet for our students.

We charged ourselves to “pioneer solutions to the health challenges facing northern Kentucky,” and we do that by linking with the community and working together to devise innovative solutions. In this regard, to say that I have been gratified in the response others have shown to our ideas and initiatives is a ridiculous understatement. Not only have Carolyn, Lauren, Nancy and Amanda (and soon Marissa) been warmly welcomed into the NKU community, we found comrades-in-arms, willing volunteers, faculty eager to step up, staff generous with their time and talents—and lots of wonderful partners both at NKU and in the greater northern Kentucky community. It is easy to do this work with so much support and encouragement!

Next year promises to be even more productive—we anticipate (fingers crossed!) more grant funding that will allow us to implement the amazing ideas our community partners came up with, rapid advances in health entrepreneurship and innovation and more future NKU students coming through the IHI on their way to successful health careers. Stay tuned as well for our Geek Your Health programs on and off campus, more IHI Faculty Fellows and high-profile events on campus—including a symposium on suicide awareness and prevention and a visit from astronaut Shannon Walker.

It is trite to say that none of this could be possible without your generous support, but it is true. The IHI team simply could not do its work without vast teams of people coming together to help. We thank you; I thank you. And I look forward to all we can do next year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valerie Hardcastle".

Valerie Hardcastle
Executive Director



Who We Are



Board Members

Internal Advisory Board

- Sue Ott Rowlands, *Provost*
- Mike Hales, *VP for Finance*
- Kevin Kirby, *Dean, College of Informatics*
- Dale Stephenson, *Dean, College of Health and Human Services*
- Diana McGill, *Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*
- Samantha Langley, *Vice Provost GERO*
- Gary Ozanich, *Faculty Representative*
- Adam Caswell, *Associate VP for Alumni and Government Relations*



Staff

- Valerie Hardcastle, *St. Elizabeth Healthcare Executive Director of the Institute for Health Innovation, Vice President for Health Innovation*
- Carolyn Noe, *Program Director*
- Lauren Jennings, *Event Coordinator*
- Amanda Andrews, *Program Assistant*
- Nancy Costello, *Program Director for HRSA-RCORP Grant*



Donors

- St. Elizabeth Healthcare
- Eva & Oakley Farris
- The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
- AmeriSource Bergen

What We Do



Linking Community

Building on NKU's rich tradition of community engagement, the IHI seizes the opportunity to work with communities to change and improve lives by addressing population health challenges. The Institute believes we can solve the biggest, most important health challenges facing our communities by engaging with the people directly impacted.



Working Together

The Institute's focus on working together is a key piece of NKU's commitment to forging partnerships to address population health initiatives. When we come together, we can uncover groundbreaking solutions to our society's most challenging population health problems.



Innovative Solutions

Working with our campus and community partners, we are making investments in health entrepreneurship, innovation and education. We encourage our community to envision the future of health care and help us transform what we do to better equip, empower, and most importantly, inspire health workers of tomorrow.



Awards, Grants and Donations Received

Teen Science Café Small Grant: \$3,000

RISE Grant: \$103,900

HRSA Planning Grant: \$200,000

i6 Grant: \$1,462,000

Summertime Kids Grant: \$1,000

St. Elizabeth Healthcare Donation: \$150,000

Revenue and Expenses FY' 19

Revenues, Gains and Other Support

Grants	\$1,769,900
Contributions	\$150,000
Program Revenue	\$300
Central Funding	\$525,371

Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support \$2,445,571

Expenses

Compensation	\$638,032
Operating	\$30,255
Faculty Fellows	\$22,345
Travel	\$5,400
Grant Expenses	\$365,802

Total Expenses \$1,003,384



Program Highlights

Chronic Illness

“Where Community Matters!”

Just an hour’s drive from Northern Kentucky University lies Owen County, Kentucky. With more than 10,000 residents, Owen County is a rural area with numerous lakes, streams and rolling ridges. Owen County also has one of the highest rates of Opioid Use Disorder in the northern Kentucky region. To address this issue, a consortium of community organizations, schools and health care providers have formed the Owen County Collaborative Addiction Treatment Initiative (OCCATI), with NKU taking the lead.

OCCATI is focused on developing a strategic plan for essential evidence-based early intervention and treatment for new substance users as well as shrinking the behavioral and medical health care gaps in the 8-county northern Kentucky region for those seeking treatment and support for substance use disorders. Starting in May 2019, Owen County High School students can participate in Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), an evidence-based practice used to identify, reduce and prevent problematic use, abuse and dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs.

Media Coverage

3 Ways NKU’s Innovation Institute is Impacting Healthcare. *Health Leaders*. 16 November 2018. healthleadersmedia.com/innovation/3-ways-nkus-innovation-institute-impacting-healthcare

“NKU’s Institute for Health Innovation gets \$200k grant to expand opioid interventions in Owen County.” *Northern Kentucky Tribune*. 17 November 2018. nkytribune.com/2018/11/nkus-institute-for-health-innovation-gets-200k-grant-to-expand-opioid-interventions-in-owen-county/

Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit

For four days, more than 3,000 decision-makers and allied professionals share strategies, embrace innovation and learn about what is working in prevention and treatment of drug abuse. A platinum sponsor of the 2019 Summit, we shared our ongoing work in two presentations:



- Supporting children diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) and their caregivers
- Early Detection of Substance Use Disorder among Youth: Integrating SBIRT into Rural Public Schools

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Support Group

The IHI initiated a support group for the caregivers of children diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome to discuss opportunities for awareness and advocacy of NAS in the northern Kentucky region. A product of these initiative is an invitation to devise NAS training for all prospective foster families in the Commonwealth.



A Global Perspective on the HIV/AIDS Pandemic

As the inaugural speaker in a series on global health sponsored by the IHI and College of Arts and Sciences and the Dorothy Westerman Hermann Symposium Endowment. Dr. Jason Blackard presented on the current state of HIV in the United States and then contrasted that with countries in sub-Saharan Africa including Senegal, Uganda, Botswana and South Africa.

Social Determinants of Health



Refine Your Design Pop-up Thrift Shop

In February 2019 alone, the campus food pantry, FUEL NKU, logged 500 client visits. With that many students struggling to meet needs as basic as food, we knew NKU students are also struggling to meet other, urgent basic needs, like affordable clothing. Especially as our students approach graduation, success in interviews and jobs can be boosted by the right interview outfit or a professional wardrobe.

The Refine Your Design Pop-up Thrift Shop offered free clothing to NKU students on May 1. More than 100 students shopped for professional wear that included donated suits, dresses, ties, shoes, shirts and pants. The pop-up shop was organized by the Institute for Health Innovation and co-sponsored by Chase College of Law, FUEL NKU, Haile/US Bank College of Business, LGBTQ Programs & Services and Parents Attending College.

Think Tank: When All Give, All Gain: Improving the Odds to Overcome Vulnerability and Prevent Poverty

In October, the Institute for Health Innovation co-sponsored NKU's fall Think Tank. Stakeholders from across northern Kentucky examined the far-reaching issue of poverty in our region, shared programs currently in place to address it and considered how we can work across the community to provide solutions that help those impacted by poverty overcome it.



Youth Tried as Adults

On May 3, the IHI, in collaboration with the Chase College of Law and the Weaver Institute for Law and Psychiatry at the University of Cincinnati, hosted a day-long symposium on psychological, neurological, political, legal and policy perspectives on when and why youth should be tried as adults and what the outcomes are. CLE and CEU credit was available.

"When Should Young People Be Charged As Adults?" 2 May 2019. Cincinnati Public Radio. wvxu.org/post/when-should-young-people-be-charged-adults#stream/0



Future Health Leaders

Middle School Health Careers Exploration

During NKU's spring break, 400 middle school students explored a variety of health careers. Each student met health professionals from social workers to cardiologists in four sessions over the course of the day.



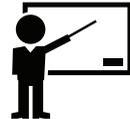
82%
of student participants said they learned about a new health career—something other than a doctor or nurse.

Simulation Center Field Trips

Since fall 2019, more than 500 students visited the Health Innovation Center for a full day of health care programming—including a visit to the St. Elizabeth Simulation Center, Radiology Lab and a tour of NKU's campus and new Health Innovation Center.

93%

of teachers rated the program as valuable or highly valuable to their students.



Teen Health Science Café

High school students talked with local scientists and engineers about current cutting-edge ideas in science and technology over food and refreshments. A core group of youth leaders, with the committed mentorship of an adult, plan and run the café themselves. Students gain a new understanding of the basic science they learned in school, gain a real-world perspective of what health-related science is, how it is carried out and its enormous impact.



100%
of the attending students rated the content good or excellent and 97% of students rated the activities good or excellent. The program also reinforced or increased interest in a health career for 87.5% of students.



Innovation



i6 Challenge Grant

The IHI is the principal investigator for the Northern Kentucky Health Innovation Initiative (NKY-HII), funded by a \$1.4M investment, including a \$730,000 i6 Challenge grant from U.S. Department of Commerce.

The goal of NKU-HII is to create jobs and attract companies and talent in the health innovation sector to the 8-county northern Kentucky region. By aligning the region's top economic development, health care, university and startup accelerator assets, the NKY-HII will stimulate and commercialize health innovation.

RISE Grant

KY Innovation's RISE program awarded the northern Kentucky region funds to establish several innovation clusters in northern Kentucky: informatics, health, logistics and advanced manufacturing. NKU will leverage its expertise from the College of Informatics and the Institute of Health Innovation to support the grant's focus areas. Once established, the innovation clusters will drive the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem in the broader region.

Media Coverage

"Federal Funds to Boost Health Entrepreneurship in Northern Kentucky." *River City News*. 18 December 2018. rcnky.com/articles/2018/12/18/federal-funds-boost-health-entrepreneurship-northern-kentucky

"New grant promises healthier future for innovations." 17 January 2019. *NKY Thrives*. nkythrive.com/features/innovationgrant.aspx





Awarded \$22,345 to Nine IHI Faculty Fellows

As part of our initiatives to enhance health innovation, we offer two bi-annual funding opportunities for NKU faculty through the IHI Faculty Fellows program. The Seed Grants provide support for faculty research, scholarship, creative endeavors, or teaching efforts in health, health literacy, health care and the social determinants of health. The Branch Awards provide support for faculty in moving from discussion of interdisciplinary collaboration to action, which will heighten their professional visibility or the impact of NKU in the fields of health, health literacy, healthcare, or the social determinants of health. In 2018-19, we awarded \$22,345 to nine IHI Faculty Fellows:

- **CHRISTINE PERDAN CURRAN** for Collaborative Analysis Framework to Enhance Community Engagement in Chemical Risk Assessment Decision-Making for Contaminated Site Development
- **CORRIE DANIELEY** for Yoga and Meditation for Actors: Helping Manage Performance Anxiety and Stress
- **SUK-HEE KIM** for Health Innovation in Brain Aging (HIBA): Protective Factors of Cognitive Impairment
- **DANIELLE MCDONALD, MARCOS MISIS, JAE-SEUNG LEE** for The Butler County Probate Court's Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program
- **GABRIEL SANDERS** for Assessing Free-Living, Daily Physical Activity, Sleep and Mood Behavior in Overweight and Non-Overweight College Adults
- **DAVID TATAW** for Northern Kentucky Health Careers Ladder Program (HCLP)
- **MARK WASICSKO** for Incorporation of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) in the NKU Fundamentals of Mindfulness Micro Credential

Vision for the Year Ahead

Community Outreach:

- MHA and NKU co-develop a college-credit hybrid microcredential for Kentucky certification to be a Peer Support Specialist.
- Host a Suicide and Mental Health Awareness symposium for families and students.
- Newly developed OCCATI strategic plan in collaboration with St. Elizabeth Healthcare and multiple community partners implemented.

E&I:

- Continue work in supporting health innovation through regional partnerships and the RISE and i6 awards.

NKU:

- Continue homelessness and clothes closet initiatives.
- Continue efforts in preventing homelessness among NKU students by developing a plan to provide housing for opportunity youth.
- Continue IHI Faculty Fellows program for an additional eight faculty
- Sponsor Future of Work symposium and intensive workshop for NKU faculty and regional businesses.
- Sponsor two additional educational programs.

Pipeline:

- Expand K-12 programs.
- Double the participation in our K-12 programs by increasing the number of Middle School Health Careers Exploration and Simulation Center Field Trip dates.
- Add two Teen Health Science Café sites at Owen County High School and Pendleton County High School.

Events:

- Develop strategy to recruit more off-campus vendors.

This publication was prepared by Northern Kentucky University and printed with state funds (KRS 57.375). Northern Kentucky University is committed to building a diverse faculty and staff for employment and promotion to ensure the highest quality of work force and to foster an environment that embraces the broad range of human diversity.

The university is committed to equal employment opportunity, affirmative action, and eliminating discrimination. This commitment is consistent with an intellectual community that celebrates individual differences and diversity, as well as a matter of law.

Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited. The university will provide equal opportunity to all employees in regard to salaries, promotions, benefits and working conditions and will monitor these areas to ensure that any differences which may exist are the result of bona fide policies and procedures and are not the result of illegal discrimination. MC190521



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