

## **SYPHILIS ELIMINATION PROJECT**

Principal Investigator: Jeffrey P. Mayer, Ph.D.

Funding: CDC/Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

As part of CDC's national campaign to eradicate syphilis in the U.S., the School of Public Health is collaborating with the City of St. Louis Department of Health and several community-based organizations to conduct quantitative and qualitative assessments of high-risk populations, and to develop and evaluate health communication materials for use in outreach campaigns. Surveys and in-depth interviews are conducted at a range of settings, including correctional facilities, drug treatment centers, and sexually transmitted disease clinics.

## **EVERY VISIT COUNTS**

Co-PI: J.P. Mayer, PhD

Co-PI: W.J. Keenan, MD

Project Director: C. Hoeman, RN MPA

Research Associate: Rebecca Selove, PhD

Funding: March of Dimes

This project's goal is to increase prenatal care utilization at a community health center serving East St. Louis. The intervention program includes print materials, one-on-one counseling, computer-delivered education, a video, and incentives. Intervention messages and themes were developed from a prior postpartum survey (n=2,200) and focus groups. The quasi-experimental evaluation compares prenatal care utilization at the intervention health center with similar clinics that will receive the program after the demonstration is concluded.

## **PRENATAL CARE UTILIZATION IN SAINT LOUIS**

Co-PI: J. Mayer, PhD

Co-PI: T. Leet, PhD

Funding: The Danforth Foundation; United Way of Greater Saint Louis

This project is examining temporal trends in prenatal care utilization during the past decade in the 230 zip codes comprising the metropolitan Saint Louis region. Using the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index (APNCU), some improvement in the percent of women obtaining adequate or better care was noted in more than 90% of all zip codes in the region. Moreover, while in 1991-93 only seven zip codes in the region had met the HP2010 Objective for prenatal care, by 2000-02, sixty zip codes had met the objective, more than one-quarter of all zip codes in the region. An additional 113 zip codes were 'closing-in' on the HP2010 objective. On-going work seeks to determine if

demographic, clinical and behavioral variables available in vital records differ by utilization.

## **ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ASSESSMENT PROJECT**

Principal Investigator: Jeffrey P. Mayer, Ph.D.

Funding: St. Louis County Department of Health

Employing repeat surveys of the workforce of the Saint Louis County Department of Health, this project seeks to develop feasible, reliable and valid measures of performance of the ten essential services of public health. In addition, the project includes assessments of the public health workforce competencies developed by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice. Assessments of the public health workforce can assist in monitoring progress towards Healthy People Year 2010 Objective 23-8, and can prompt greater integration of the essential services into practice.