

Ira Stollak MA MPH
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Port Angeles, WA 98362
907-351-0378 (cell)
irastollak1777@gmail.com

SKILL SETS

Design and implementation of effective evidence-based health, environmental and human services programs
Curriculum design and facilitation of training utilizing participatory learner empowerment methods
Designing for Behavior Change – training, facilitation, and implementation
Care Groups – training, facilitation, and implementation
Project and grant management: work planning, continuous quality improvement, supportive supervision
Mediation and Conflict Resolution – formally trained mediator
Monitoring and Evaluation- including KPC surveys, Mid-term and Final Project Evaluations
Formative and Operational research, qualitative and quantitative, Barrier Analysis
Strategic Planning, SWOT Analysis, Appreciative Inquiry
Contract and Grant Management (including USAID, PEPFAR/CDC, USDOL, USDOE)

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in Spanish and French; reading knowledge of Portuguese

EDUCATION

M.P.H., International Health, 2006
School of Public Health and Community Medicine
University of Washington; Seattle, WA

M.A., Comparative Literature, 1971
University of California, Santa Cruz; Santa Cruz, CA

B.A., English, Anthropology, 1969.
Columbia College, Columbia University; New York, NY

AWARDS/HONORS

Puget Sound Partners for Global Health Research Grant, University of Washington, 2006.
Phi Beta Kappa. Columbia College, Columbia University. 1969.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CONSULTANCIES

Curamericas Global, Raleigh NC (2013- current) –Program coordination of Guatemala Maternal/Child Health projects and grants, including backstopping USAID CSHGP – project design, grant writing, grant management, fiscal management, monitoring and evaluation, operational and formative research, supervision of student interns, partnership building, staff training and capacity-building (including DBC), training and implementation of Care Groups, dissemination of results/reporting to donors and stakeholders.

Mercy Corps, Portland, OR (2014) - Regional training, in Spanish, for Guatemalan NGO staff engaged in food security and nutrition in the Designing for Behavior Change methodology.

Carolina for Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya (2013) – Training of Carolina for Kibera staff in the Designing for Behavior Change methodology.

Food for the Hungry, Washington DC (2013) - Regional training, in Spanish, for Guatemalan NGO staff engaged in food security and nutrition in the Designing for Behavior Change methodology.

Curamericas Global, Raleigh NC (2013) - Development and drafting of organizational transition plan under new leadership.

Curamericas Global, Raleigh NC (2012) - Trained HQ staff of Curamericas Global in Designing for Behavior Change Methodology.

Mangrove Action Project, Port Angeles, WA (2012-2013) – Project design, strategic planning, grant writing, partnership development, and formative research for NGO working to conserve and restore mangrove ecosystems in partnership with mangrove communities.

Curamericas Global, Raleigh, NC (2012) – Trained staff of in-country NGO partner for CSHGP, Curamericas-Guatemala, in Spanish, in Designing for Behavior Change methodology.

Curamericas Global, Raleigh, NC (2012) - Designed and implemented 600-sample baseline KPC survey for USAID CSHGP in Guatemala; designed survey instrument and translated into Spanish; created sampling frame and executed sample selection conformant to requirements of operational research design; trained – in Spanish – cadres of interviewers from Chuj, Akateka, and Qu’anjobal Mayan communities; oversaw survey implementation and quality control; designed tabulation instruments and oversaw survey tabulation; oversaw data entry; analyzed data and captured analysis, conclusions, and recommendations in KPC Survey Report.

Mangrove Action Project, Port Angeles, WA (2012) - Researched funding sources and wrote proposals, concept papers, and letters of interest for environmental projects for mangrove ecosystem restoration, mangrove environmental education, community-based tourism, and mangrove-based sustainable livelihoods. Created detailed implementation plans, results frameworks and logical frameworks and M & E plans; wrote annual reports for completed projects. Designed and conducted formative research. Wrote organizational Annual Reports, Impact Statement, Case Statement, funding appeal letters, and other development documents.

Curamericas Global, Raleigh, NC (2011) - Review, critique, and editing of grant proposals.

Punto de Encuentro de la Comunidad, Chetumal, Mexico (2006): design of HIV intervention for long haul truckers.

Dangriga HIV/AIDS Society (2003-2004), Dangriga, Belize: organizational capacity building and strategic planning.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

CURAMERICAS GLOBAL, INC.

318 W. Millbrook, Suite 105

Raleigh, NC 27609

907-510-8787

Senior Program Specialist (2008-2010)

Responsible for: project development and proposal writing; partnership development; field-based assessments of project feasibility and project partner capacity; developing stakeholder buy-in and negotiating memorandums of understanding; USAID Detailed Implementation Plans; backstopping and contract management; and in-field partner capacity-building. Executed all aspects of project backstopping, including: monitoring and evaluation, budgeting and financial management, capacity-building and training (including training-of-trainers),

troubleshooting, formative and operational research, and reporting to funders (including USAID and PEPFAR/CDC), stakeholders, and the Curamericas Global Board. Trained Liberia CSHGP field-staff in Designing for Behavior Change and Care Group methodologies and oversaw implementation of Barrier Analysis and Care Groups.

Planned and wrote successful proposal for CSHGP, funded by USAID at \$1.75 million, for a community-based Maternal and Child Health project in Ganta Liberia. Planned and wrote successful PEPFAR proposal funded by PEPFAR (and administered by CDC) for \$2.1 million for community-based HIV prevention in Haiti.

Led organizational strategic planning process for Curamericas Global, coordinating staff/Board work teams, and overseeing final drafting of new organizational Strategic Plan. Led project development and grant-writing team. Oversaw in-house staff capacity-building.

ALASKA CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH, ALASKA'S AHEC (ACRH)
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE

Diplomacy Building, Ste 404; 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508-4614
907-786-6591

Lead Researcher (2006-2007)

Led research unit of ACRH, whose mission is advocacy, workforce development, and research to resolve the health disparities of Alaska's rural communities. Performed qualitative and quantitative health workforce research, including a comprehensive Health Workforce Vacancy Study of the entire Alaska health workforce, producing a detailed report disseminated to Alaska stakeholders and state legislators. Data used for statewide workforce planning and to advocate for federal health workforce development resources.

Executed the monitoring and evaluation of two health projects, the Frontier Extended Stay Clinic (FESC) Demonstration Project and the Recruitment and Retention of Alaska Natives in Nursing (RRANN) project. Produced reports for both project grantees, SEARHC (a Native Health Corporation) and the University of Alaska, Anchorage School of Nursing.

PUNTO DE ENCUENTRO DE LA COMUNIDAD, A.C. (PECAC)

78 Tomás Garrido, Chetumal, Quintana Roo 77000, Mexico
52 983 837-5873

Formative research and HIV intervention design (2006)

Assisted PECAC in the design of an HIV intervention targeting truckers and members of their sexual and social networks.

PEACE CORPS

PO Box 487, Belize City, Belize
501 (Belize) 223-1681

Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV), HIV/AIDS Prevention & Education (2002-2004)

HIV/AIDS Prevention/Education specialist in Stann Creek District, impoverished multi-ethnic and multi-lingual rural region severely impacted by a generalizing HIV epidemic.

NORTHWEST WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (formerly Northwest Services Council)

PO Box 2009, Bellingham, WA 98227
360-671-1660

Area Manager (1976 - 2001)/AmeriCorps Program Director (1997-2001)

1) Designed and administered innovative award-winning competency-based workforce development programs for at-risk youth. Managed multiple projects for the regional office of a large non-profit. Area served was the

Olympic Peninsula, Washington, a rural region with high poverty and substantial Native American and Hispanic minorities.

- Wrote successful proposals and secured competitive grants and contracts totaling \$12 million for projects with 6-figure budgets that entirely funded regional operations for 25 years.
- Established community coalitions and nurtured long-standing working partnerships with private sector businesses, social and health service providers, colleges, K-12 school districts, labor unions, four Indian tribes, and units of local government.
- Performed all aspects of grant/contract management.
- Performed all aspects of budgeting and fiscal management.
- Designed and coordinated monitoring and evaluation system and reported to grantors and stakeholders.
- Recruited, selected, trained, supervised and developed staff spread over three regional offices.
- Innovative instructional design and facilitation for program beneficiaries and for staff development.

Accomplishments included:

- Consistently met or surpassed program outcome objectives; consistently satisfied or exceeded all contracted deliverables and output objectives, especially targeted beneficiary service levels and cost per beneficiary.
- Over a 25-year period all audits passed with no findings, no questioned costs, and no cost over-runs.
- Received Presidential Award in 1994 from President Clinton and several “Bravo” awards from the U.S. Dept. of Labor for program achievements.

2) Successfully launched a new AmeriCorps program for tutoring and mentoring at-risk youth in K-12 schools.

Accomplishments included:

- Raised 50% of program operating costs from annual community fundraising campaign, corporate sponsorship, foundation donors, complementary grants, stakeholder in-kind contributions, and stakeholder fees for services.
- Managed recruitment, selection, retention, discipline, and training of 20 to 35 AmeriCorps volunteers spread over an extensive geographic territory.
- Designed and coordinated extensive pre-service and in-service training of AmeriCorps volunteers.
- Consistently met or exceeded program outcome objectives.

3) Mobilized and coordinated first regional Olympic School-to-Work Consortium of seven school districts, writing and managing Consortium grants and coordinating the regional strategic planning and implementation of programs to help youth transition from school to work. Executed career fair attended by over 1,000 students.

Designed and administered innovative award-winning competency-based workforce development programs for at-risk youth. Managed multiple projects for the regional office of a large non-profit. Area served was the Olympic Peninsula, Washington, a rural region with high poverty and substantial Native American and Hispanic minorities.

Successfully launched a new AmeriCorps program for tutoring and mentoring at-risk youth in K-12 schools.

Mobilized and coordinated first regional Olympic School-to-Work Consortium of seven school districts, writing and managing Consortium grants and coordinating the regional strategic planning and implementation of programs to help youth transition from school to work.

PENINSULA COLLEGE

1502 E Lauridsen Blvd. Port Angeles, WA 98362; 360-452-9277

Adjunct English Instructor (1992- 2002)

Designed curricula for and taught evening adult education courses in English Composition, Introduction to Literature, Creative Writing, and Literary Magazine Production. Oversaw design, editing, and marketing of art

and literary magazine. Coordinated community art/photography/writing contest and public readings and exhibitions.

RESEARCH

2013- Ongoing. Case Study, Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Mario Valdez, Ing. Karin Rivas ad Dr. Henry Perry, funded by TRACtion Project, implemented by URC, LLC under contract with USAID. Embedded Case Study of Casa Materna project of Curamericas Guatemala, culturally-adapted strategically-located maternal clinics serving indigenous Maya population.

2012- Ongoing. Operational Research, “Community-Based Impact-Oriented Child Survival in Huehuetenango, Guatemala”. Co-Principle Investigator with Dr. Henry Perry and Dr. Mario Valdez. The research aims to examine the use of CBIO and Care Groups together as a unified approach in order to capitalize on the strengths of each methodology and to determine if the weaknesses of each methodology that have been identified in the literature when used independently can be ameliorated by using the strategies together.

2006 - Master’s Thesis, Master in Public Health, University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine, Seattle, Washington.

Conducted original investigation of HIV risk and social capital of truck drivers on the Mexico/Belize border. Secured both Mexican and U.S. Human Subjects approvals. Developed research site. Managed project budget. Trained and coordinated research team. Used combined qualitative and quantitative methodology (in-depth key informant interviews, focus groups). Findings included qualitative descriptions of trucker social capital and HIV risk behavior and statistically significant associations of HIV risk behavior with demographic and work-related covariates. The study contributes to the *Poblaciones Moviles* project of Mexico and the seven countries of Central America, created to confront the regional spread of HIV.

OTHER SKILLS AND TRAINING

- Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher, Epi-Info, Win-Pepi, and STATA 8.0
- Formal training in Designing for Behavior Change Framework, TOPS Project of USAID
- Formal training in Care Group implementation, TOPS Project of USAID
- Formal training in Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Peninsula Dispute Resolution Center
- Pedagogical training at Columbia Teacher’s College, 1969

REFERENCES

Henry Perry MD MPH
Founder and Board member, Curamericas Global
Johns Hopkins University
410 377-0421
443 797-5202 (cell)
heperry@jhspu.edu

Andrew Herrera
Interim Executive Director
Curamericas Global, Inc.
919 510-8787
andrew@curamericas.org

Mary DeCoster MPH
Senior Specialist for Social & Behavioral Change
(SBC) of the TOPS Project
Food for the Hungry
919-357-4697
mdcoster@fh.org

Ms. Gay Dubigk
Executive Director
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Council
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