

# Christa Myers, MPH

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Christa David Art**  
***Full-time fine artist***

*September 2016 - Present*  
*New York, NY*

Christa David is mixed media artist, writer and researcher. Fusing the mediums of painting, collage and assemblage, her work examines themes of faith, power, politics and identity.

**New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**  
***Founding Senior Director of Policy, Planning and Performance***  
***Center for Health Equity (CHE)***

*June 2015 - Sept 2016*  
*New York, NY*

- Directed, coordinated and managed the work of the Policy, Planning and Performance unit through three subordinate team Directors.
- Worked collaboratively with CHE Senior Leadership and DOHMH Agency Leadership to develop a legislative and regulatory agenda focused on decreasing health inequities and promoting health equity.
- Set strategic direction for all CHE research and evaluation efforts including the Neighborhood Health Action Centers located in East and Central Harlem, North and Central Brooklyn and South Bronx.
- Developed and implemented a performance and reporting system to monitor CHE's efficiency and effectiveness in achieving its short, medium and long term goals.
- Provided consultation across the Agency and to other city-agencies on measuring health inequities and evaluating placed-based initiatives.
- Co-Principal investigator: *Harlem Health Advocacy Partners (formerly Community Health Worker Initiative)* – an evaluation to assess the impact of individual- and community-level interventions to support improved health outcomes for individuals having or at risk for diabetes, hypertension or asthma.

**New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**  
***Senior Director of Research, Evaluation and Planning***  
***District Public Health Offices***

*September 2012 - Present*  
*New York, NY*

- Supervised research, evaluation and planning efforts of all three District Public Health Offices (renamed Neighborhood Health Action Centers in 2016) located in East and Central Harlem, North and Central Brooklyn and South Bronx.
- Planned and developed research and evaluation work between District Public Health Offices, other Health Department Bureaus and Divisions and community organizations.
- Designed and implemented neighborhood-level research projects and prepared reports of findings for Agency and community stakeholders.
- Directed the writing of grant proposals and engaged Health Department and community partners whenever possible.
- Co-Principal investigator on two large-scale evaluations: 1) We All Want Healthy Children Campaign - an evaluation of a community-wide education campaign that sought to better understand local community organizations' attitudes about food and beverage marketing to children; 2) *Harlem Health Advocacy Partners (formerly Community Health Worker Initiative)* – an evaluation to assess the impact of individual- and community-level interventions to support improved health outcomes for individuals having or at risk for diabetes, hypertension or asthma.
- Provided consultation on health equity-related projects across the Bureaus and Divisions of the Health Department.
- Member of multiple Agency analytic and programmatic work groups (Asthma Prevention Workgroup, Early Childhood Development Workgroup, Data Visualization Workgroup, and Data Task Force.)

**Long Island University**  
***Adjunct Assistant Professor***

*September 2012-December 2013*  
*Brooklyn, NY*

- Developed and taught graduate-level course on principles of epidemiology which incorporated innovative tools like infographic-making software to enhance basic epidemiology and public health communication principles.

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- Coached students on achieving learning objectives and developing critical thinking skills.
- Graded assignments and advised students on skill and career development.

## **New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene** **Acting Director, Community Epidemiology Unit**

*July 2011-January 2012*  
*New York, NY*

- Supervised Community Epi Unit (staff and interns), including staff development, project management and review of deliverables.
- Managed non-peer review publication process for four Agency publication series: *NYC Vital Signs*, *Epi Data Briefs*, *Epi Research Reports*, and *Health Disparities in New York*.
- Implemented and managed communication strategy for the Bureau, including increasing usability and visibility of website.
- Served as key member on multiple Agency analytic and programmatic work groups (Area-Based Poverty Workgroup, Health Disparities Workgroup (co-lead), District Public Health Offices Workgroup, and Data Task Force).
- Collaborated and fostered relationships with community stakeholders.

## **New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene** **Epidemiologist/Analyst**

*November 2006-September 2012*  
*New York, NY*

- Lead analyst and editor of the Health Department's publication series that focused on health disparities in New York City.
- Reviewed and summarized relevant health disparities literature.
- Developed analytic plans and authored first three reports (1). *Health Disparities in Life Expectancy and Mortality*, 2). *Health Disparities in Breast, Colorectal, and Cervical Cancers*, 3). *Health Disparities in Cardiovascular Disease*.
- Supported and guided analysts working on health disparities reports and health disparities related analyses throughout the Agency.
- Used SAS and SUDAAN statistical programs to analyze quantitative health data in response to internal and external data requests. Performed quality checks on statistical analyses completed by other analysts.
- Supervised and directed public health research graduate fellows.
- Managed and directed the graphic design work of the internal and external consultants who created our publications and collateral.
- Managed the production and distribution of the Bureau's health reports including *Vital Signs*, *Epi Data Briefs*, *Epi Research Reports*, *Health Disparities Reports* and other special reports which are targeted at public health professionals, policy makers and the lay public.
- Developed and presented health data focused workshops and presentations for Agency stakeholders, including city legislators, hospital administrators/clinicians, advocacy groups, and community-based organizations.
- Maintained existing community relationships and formed new collaborative partnerships that increased the awareness and usage of health resources available in the Bureau of Epidemiology Services and on the bureau's website.
- Managed updates to Bureau's website – My Community's Health which requires basic html coding.

## **ProEdit Japan** **Freelance Medical Editor**

*October 2006-November 2007*  
*Newport Beach, CA*

Edited abstracts and peer reviewed manuscripts originally translated from Japanese to English with the aim of correcting grammatical errors. Revised any technical terms and raised the general overall language to meet the style of the intended academic journal.

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## **Harlem Health Promotion Center/Project STAY** **Program Coordinator and Development Assistant**

May 2005 – November 2006  
New York, NY

- Managed data collection, data entry, and reporting protocols for the New York State Department of Health's Uniform Reporting System for Services to Assist Youth Project (Project STAY).
- Assisted with development of Project STAY's evaluation plan and risk assessment tool for screening high-risk teens for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, through urine and saliva-based testing.
- Developed user friendly, low-literacy HIV/STI prevention, and health promotion materials (print and web-based) specifically tailored to Black and Latino youth generally serviced at Project STAY's health facility.
- Conducted a scan of all youth organizations in Harlem (a neighborhood in upper Manhattan) and assessed each organization's computer and internet access. Information from this community scan was used as content for the Harlem Health Promotion Center's website and resource guide.

## **Center for Bioethics/Columbia University** **Graduate Research Assistant**

October 2004 – May 2005  
New York, NY

- Conceptualized and organized a university forum titled *Race, Genetics & Medicine: Is Race a Social Construct or a Factor for Optimal Prescribing of Medication?*— conducted an extensive review of the literature, developed forum objectives, secured panelists, designed evaluation tools and analyzed data, assembled educational materials, and reserved forum location as well as catering and audiovisual equipment.
- Edited grant proposals and articles submitted for peer-reviewed publication.
- Created and maintained databases to track website activity and participation at the Center's monthly events.
- Assisted with other administrative tasks as needed – answered phones, photocopied, and filed.

## **Herbert Irving Cancer Center/Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital** **Community Outreach Coordinator**

May 2003 – August 2004  
New York, NY

### ***Study of Tamoxifen and Raloxifene for the Prevention of Breast Cancer (STAR)***

- Implemented educational programs for racial and ethnic minority women designed to increase their knowledge about breast cancer and the clinical trial process.
- Maintained existing community relationships and formed new relationships in the community that led to opportunities to educate minority women about STAR and ultimately enroll these women in the STAR trial.
- Coordinated programs and strategies necessary to increase the compliance of racial and ethnic minority women in STAR.
- Submitted monthly progress reports to the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project (NSABP) Operations Center detailing monthly outreach activities that related to the scope of work indicated above.
- Facilitated monthly meetings with STAR research assistant, data manager, and clinical nurse.
- Attended out-of-state bi-annual NSABP conferences.
- Updated and maintained patient database using Microsoft Access.

## **Legal Outreach, Inc.**

### **Executive Assistant/Summer Law Institute (SLI) Recruiter**

September 2001 – May 2003  
New York, NY

- Compiled data for and edited annual report outlining the activities and finances of the organization.
- Processed and maintained all accounts payable using FUNDEZ 2000 money management software.
- Managed and edited bi-annual newsletter, which included developing newsletter theme, story concepts, selecting student writers, and designing layout using Microsoft Publisher.
- Coordinated the summer S.A.T. preparation course in conjunction with the Princeton Review Foundation.
- Assisted with general office duties – answering phones, filing, creating program schedules for students, making space reservation request through Columbia and Brooklyn Law Schools, and troubleshooting all computer-related problems.

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## **(SLI Recruiter)**

- Coordinated annual recruitment efforts for the SLI's at Columbia & Brooklyn Law schools, which included developing a strategic plan to target middle schools in Manhattan and Brooklyn that educated the Legal Outreach's targeted student population.
- Made on-site presentations to principals, teachers, parents, and students.
- Created and updated information packets for principles/guidance counselors, students, and parents.
- Coordinated group interview sessions where students engaged in various age-appropriate activities designed to provide staff with a general assessment of the students' communication, analytical, and reasoning skills.
- Created and maintained applicant database using Access and Excel programs.

## **PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

### *(Peer reviewed)*

Day S, Hinterland K, **Myers C**, Harris T, Konty K. "A school-level proxy measure for individual-level poverty using school-level eligibility for free and reduced price meals." *Journal of School Health* (forthcoming).

Yi S, Elfassy T, Gupta L, Hershman **Myers C**, Kerker B. "Nativity, Language Spoken at Home, Length of Time in the United States, and Race/Ethnicity: Associations with Self-Reported Hypertension." *American Journal of Hypertension*. 2014 Feb;27(2):237-244.

Grann VR, Jacobson JS, Troxel AB, Hershman D, Karp J, **Myers C**, Neuget AL. "Barriers to Minority Participation in Breast Carcinoma Prevention Trials." *Cancer*. 2005; 104:374-379.

### *(Official)*

**Myers C**, Walters S, Perez-Rivera B. "Preventing and Treating Childhood Asthma in NYC." New York City Department of Health, NYC Vital Signs 2012.

Gupta L, Hinterland K, **Myers C**, Kerker, B. "Overweight and Obesity among Public High School Students in New York City." New York City Department of Health, NYC Vital Signs 2012.

**Myers C**, Olson EC, Kerker B, Thorpe L, Greene C, Farley T. "Reducing Health Disparities in New York City: Health Disparities in Life Expectancy and Death." New York: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 2010.

**Myers C**, Hakenewerth A, Olson EC, Kerker B, Krauskopf M, Tavares A, Perlman S, Greene C, Farley T. "Reducing Health Disparities in New York City: Health Disparities in Breast, Colorectal and Cervical Cancers." New York: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 2011.

**Myers C**, Olson EC, Ramaswamy C, Kerker B. "Breast Cancer Screening Among New York City Women." New York City Department of Health, NYC Vital Signs 2008.

### *(Presentations)*

Eniola FE, **Myers C**, Huang C, Fox-Pascal J, Drackett E, Hayes R. Effects of an Integrated Pest Management Intervention on Asthma Health Outcomes for children (0-17 years) enrolled in an Asthma Management Program [abstract]. In: Proceedings of 141st Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association. 2013 November 2-6<sup>th</sup> Boston, MA.

Eniola FE, **Myers C**, Huang C, Fox-Pascal J, Drackett E, Hayes R. Socio-environmental Predictors of Outcomes among East Harlem Children (0-17 years) Enrolled in an Asthma Management Program [abstract]. In: Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the National Association of County and City Health Officials. 2013 July 10<sup>th</sup> Dallas, TX.

Noyes P, Robinson K, Pierre J, **Myers C**, Maybank KA. Active transportation to school in three New York City low-income neighborhoods: Exploring individual, family, school and neighborhood associated factors [abstract]. In: Proceedings of 141st Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association. 2013 November 2-6<sup>th</sup> Boston, MA.

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**Myers C**, Corey C, Olson EC, Kerker B, Greene C. Unpacking Health Disparities: Mortality inequality among Hispanic subgroups in New York City, 2007-2009. Abstract presented at the 2011 Northeast Epidemiology Conference.

Noyes P, Robinson K, Pierre J, **Myers C**, Maybank KA. Active transportation to school in three New York City low-income neighborhoods: Exploring individual, family, school and neighborhood associated factors [abstract]. In: Proceedings of 141st Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association. 2013 November 2-6<sup>th</sup> Boston, MA.

## EDUCATION & SKILLS

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Mailman School of Public Health**

*New York, NY*

Master of Public Health, May 2006

*Concentration: History of Medicine & Public Health, Ethics, Policy and Society*

*Thesis: Twentieth Century Racial Perceptions of Hypertension and Heart Failure: Bidil and the Rac(ing) of Medicine*

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Columbia College**

*New York, NY*

Bachelor of Arts, May 2001

*Concentration: Pre-medical Studies & African-American Studies*

### Fellowships & Scholarships

Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women Scholarship (2004 & 2005), Phoenix Fellowship (2004), Estrin Scholar (1997-2001), King's Crown Leadership Award (2000-2001)

### Skills and Languages

*Data Analysis & Management:* Proficient in SAS, SUDAAN, ArcGIS, Microsoft Excel & Access

*Design:* Proficient in Microsoft Word, Publisher & PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator, basic HTML & CSS

*Computer & Social Media:* Proficient in MAC and PC systems and software, social media communications and analytics (Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, Google Analytics, Wordpress and Squarespace)