FINAL CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
PODIUM AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

EXTENDED DEADLINE: August 27, 2017

THE CARIBBEAN EXPLORATORY NIMHD RESEARCH CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

10TH ANNUAL HEALTH DISPARITIES INSTITUTE

“Increasing Health Equity and Improving Health Outcomes for Marginalized Families and Communities: Focus on Health Literacy, Climate Change, and Health Policy”

OCTOBER 18-20, 2017

ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
The organizing committee invites the submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentations. Authors are invited to submit abstracts describing original biomedical, psychosocial, and behavioral research; evidence-based practice models; and evidence-based policies.

Abstracts are categorized in broad thematic areas. Please note that reviewers have the authority to reassign categories as necessary and score abstracts according to criteria for a Research Abstract, Policy Abstract, or Clinical Practice Abstract.

1.0 Health Outcomes
   1.1 Women’s health
   1.2 Men’s health
   1.3 Children and adolescents
   1.4 Marginalized families and communities
   1.5 Other

2.0 Climate Change
   2.1 Healthcare systems and practices
   2.2 Environmental health
   2.3 Other

3.0 Health Equity
   3.1 At risk children and youth
   3.2 Marginalized families and communities

4.0 Health Literacy

5.0 Policy
   5.1 Social determinants of health
   5.2 Social ecological model and health disparities
   5.3 Other

6.0 Capacity Building
   6.1 Increase minority students participating in health disparities research
   6.2 Increase minority faculty participating in health disparities research
   6.3 Expanded use of Community-Based Participatory Research in health disparities research
   6.4 Other

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Abstracts will be accepted via electronic submission only. It is the author's/authors' responsibility to ensure that the posted guidelines and instructions are followed. Abstracts that do not conform to official guidelines will not be accepted.

- 200-250 word count. Abstracts exceeding 250 words may be truncated.
- Define all abbreviations the first time they appear in the abstract.
- Avoid formulas.
- Do not include references, credits, or mention of grant support.
- Single space all typing; no space between title and body or between paragraphs.
- Indent each paragraph with a tab.
- Abstracts must be formatted as a Microsoft Word document. Font size should be 12 point Times New Roman or Arial. Please indicate if abstract is for an oral presentation or poster display.
- Proofread the abstract carefully before submitting.
ALL RESEARCH abstracts must be organized using the following format:

- **TITLE** (Upper-case letters) maximum 60 characters
- **AUTHOR(S)** (Upper/Lower-case letters)
  - Presenting author must be listed first (upper-case letters)
  - For each author, include first and second initial and last name, and highest degree (one only). Separate author name from degree with comma; separate authors with semi-colon.
  
  Example: PF Thomas, PhD; AP Smith, MN; GW Scott, DrPH

- **AFFILIATION(S)** (do not list header)
  - List institution(s) where work was performed. Present affiliation information in a new line immediately following author line and include author initials following affiliation.
  
  Example 1: PF Thomas, PhD; AP Smith, MN; GW Scott, DrPH
  
  University of the Virgin Islands; (PFT, APS)

  Example 2: PF Thomas, PhD; AP Smith, MN; GW Scott, DrPH, Virgin Islands

  Department of Health (GWS).

- **INTRODUCTION** (Header in upper-case letters)
  - Explain the importance of the research or activity to include objectives, goals and purpose and/or problem.
  - Describe the importance of the research question to increasing health equity for marginalized families and communities.

- **METHODS**
  - Briefly explain the design, setting, procedures
  - Describe sampling methodology and sample
  - Describe data analysis techniques

- **RESULTS/EXPECTED RESULTS**
  - Describe findings resulting from analysis of data.
  - Describe the outcome/impact of practice models and/or policy implementation.

- **DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS**
  - Compare results to prior research findings, hypothesis testing, or similar projects or activities.
  - Provide recommendations and implications for future research, practice and/or policy development related to environmental, health literacy, and policy issues impacting health disparities in marginalized families and communities.
  
  - Link recommendations to climate change, health literacy, or policy issues that will promote health equity and improve health outcomes for marginalized families and communities.

- **MENTION OF GRANT SUPPORT** (where applicable)
  - Authors should not include information on grant support in submitted abstracts.
ALL POLICY abstracts must be organized using the following format:

Policy abstracts should contain a brief description of the problem/issue to be considered, the key factors underlying the issue, and the recommendations for moving forward. There should be a clear link to the Institute theme.

**TITLE** (upper-case letters) maximum 60 characters

**AUTHOR(S)** (upper-lower case letters) who have significantly contributed to the work; optimal limit 5-10

- Presenting author must be listed first (upper-case letters)
- For each author, include first and second initials and last name. Separate authors with semi-colon.
  
  **Example:** RC Green; BM Brown

**AFFILIATION(S)**

List institution(s) where work was performed. Present affiliation information with author initials following each corresponding affiliation.

**Example:**

University of the Virgin Islands (FCJ); High Road Research Institute (AFH, KGW)

**PROBLEM/ISSUE TO BE CONSIDERED** (header in upper-case letters)

**UNDERLYING ISSUE/KEY FACTORS** (header in upper-case letters)

**RECOMMENDATIONS** (header in upper-case letters)

**MENTION OF GRANT SUPPORT** (where applicable)

Authors should not include information on grant support in submitted abstracts.

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ALL CLINICAL PRACTICE abstracts must be organized using the following format:

**TITLE** (upper-case letters) maximum 60 characters

**AUTHOR(S)** (upper-lower case letters) who have significantly contributed to the work; optimal limit 5-10

- Presenting author must be listed first (upper-case letters)
- For each author, include first and second initial and last name. Separate authors with semi-colon.
  
  **Example:** RC Green; BM Brown

**AFFILIATION(S)**

List institution(s) where work was performed. Present affiliation information with author initials following each corresponding affiliation.

**Example:**

University of the Virgin Islands (FCJ); High Road Research Institute (AFH, KGW)

**PURPOSE** (header in upper-case letters)

- Explain the importance of the activity to include objectives, goals and purpose.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

- Describe the problem/issue to be considered, the key factors underlying the issue.
- Give information on the best practice guidelines used to address the problem/issue and protocols used to incorporate these guidelines into practice.
- Address implications and recommendations for clinical practice moving forward.
- Describe how project is linked to the Institute theme.

**MENTION OF GRANT SUPPORT** (where applicable)

- Authors should not include information on grant support in submitted abstracts.
EXTENDED DEADLINE
All abstracts must be received no later than 11:59 PM, Atlantic Standard Time Aug 27, 2017. No corrections will be allowed.

ELIGIBILITY
Abstracts should represent research, clinical practice, education/training activities, community-based programs or policy development/analysis addressing the reduction of health disparities and/or the increase of health equity to improve health outcomes for marginalized families and communities.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Abstracts will be accepted via electronic submission at http://cerc.uvi.edu. A drop down menu will be available for posting abstracts.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
All abstract submissions will receive immediate notification of receipt. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 48 hours, please call the Caribbean Exploratory Research Center at (340) 693-1178.

REVIEW CRITERIA
Abstracts will be evaluated by peer review and accepted using the following criteria:

- Importance and relevance of topic
- Innovation and contribution to knowledge base
- Clarity and completeness: overall quality, research design, purpose and objectives, theoretical and/or applied focus, research/activity methods, findings, and potential practical application
- Potential contributions to science/society

NOTE: Selected abstracts will be presented during Concurrent Sessions or as poster presentations during poster sessions.

ABSTRACT ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES

- Decision letters, along with presentation instructions, will be emailed to the presenter during the period September 6-15, 2017.
- Presenters must notify organizers that they will attend the conference by September 18, 2017.
- Authors of the accepted poster abstracts will be asked to prepare and bring posters with them. Oral presentations of paper abstracts should not exceed 15 minutes.
- PRESENTERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN EXPENSES. Abstracts accepted for presentation will be published in the Institute Proceedings on the CERC web site - http://cerc.uvi.edu.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- Abstract is prepared as instructed (no more than 250 words) in Word (no pdf or pictures, please)
- Abstract is submitted online via http://cerc.uvi.edu by 11:59 PM AST AUGUST 27, 2017
- For inquiries contact CERCAbstracts@uvi.edu or call 340-693-1178 if acknowledgment of receipt not received within two business days.
- Abstract notification timeframe: Sept. 6 – Sept. 15, 2017 via email from CERCAbstracts@uvi.edu
- Register to attend the Institute via http://cerc.uvi.edu.