

*The University has a US registered Institutional Review Board and a Federal-wide Assurance for Human Subjects. The University is a candidate for accreditation under the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. In addition the College of Health Sciences continues its quest for quality improvement through its membership in the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER).*

**For More Information**

To learn more about CHSR and how to we may be able to work with you, please contact:

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We invite you to explore our web site for more information about the CHSR at the American University of Armenia:

<http://www.aua.am>



***Center for Health  
Services Research  
and Development***



American University of Armenia  
College of Health Sciences  
Yerevan  
Republic of Armenia  
2002

### **Background**

The Center for Health Services Research and Development (CHSR) is an applied research center located within the College of Health Sciences (CHS) at the American University of Armenia (AUA). It was established in 1995 to respond to the research and development needs in the multi-disciplinary field of public health in Armenia. Also, located within the CHS is the Master of Public Health Program affiliated with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The CHSR offers practical experience with the research process and program development for CHS graduates and students while providing service to Armenia and the region.

A long-term effort of the CHSR is the Garo Meghriyan Eye Institute for Preventive Ophthalmology (GMEIPO), a research and development institute dedicated to the prevention of blindness and the development of accessible and affordable ophthalmic services in Armenia. The GMEIPO is located at the AUA Center, 9 Alex Manukian Street, Yerevan.

Other clinical initiatives under the CHSR include: 1) the operation of the AUA Health Clinic, a nurse managed, health promotion clinic serving the AUA community; and 2) a collaborative project between the University and Nork Marash Medical Center to develop and implement quality improvement initiatives.

A new addition to the CHSR is the School of Health Care Management and Administration of the Ministry of Health. Its mission is to improve the health of the population by providing continuing education courses to practitioners located out in the Regions. The School has a capable cadre of professional staff who is responsible for assessing, maintaining, and updating the medical skills and practices of the country's health care providers.

### **Missions and Objectives**

The research staff within the CHSR offers expertise to support the existing health infrastructure and the development of quality health services in public and private healthcare sectors. The guiding principles of the center are to:

- Provide supervised field training in research and program development for students enrolled in the AUA Master of Public Health Program;
- Serve as a venue for linkages among the Ministry of Health, humanitarian organizations, and other institutions and agencies;
- Respond to request for technical assistance from local Armenian ministries and research institutes;
- Support programmatic development of health services in conjunction with the Armenian ministries within the Regions; and
- Respond to the request for technical assistance from international organizations interested in the implementation and evaluation of health programs within the country.

### **Contracting Organizations**

Examples of the many organizations who have contracted contracting with the CHSR for services or have collaborated on projects are:

- Armenian Medical International Committee
- Armenian National Center for AIDS Control and Prevention
- Armenian Social Transition Project (PADCO/Abt)
- American International Health Alliance
- American International Red Cross
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)
- Georgetown University Institute for Reproductive Health
- University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing
- JHU/ Population Communication Services
- Jinishian Memorial Program
- UMCOR
- UNICEF

### **Examples of Projects**

#### **Health Behaviors:**

- School Health Project—Substance Abuse(2000)
- Household Health Survey—Sevan (2000)
- Household Health Survey—Armavir (2001)
- Educational Materials Development (PADCO/Abt)---2002)

#### **Infectious Diseases:**

- Caretakers' Knowledge of ARI & Diarrheal Diseases (1997)
- National AIDS Bulletin (1997)
- Case Management Study: Respiratory Infections (1997)
- Hepatitis B Vaccination Strategy (2000)
- Malaria: Training & Surveillance (2002)

#### **Program/Program Evaluation**

- AMIC Health Project Database Development (2002)
- Infant Mortality Review & Surveillance (1999)
- World Summit for Children Report (2000)
- Quality Improvement AUA/Nork Marash Medical Center Collaborative Initiative-JCAHO Standards (2000)
- Vision Screening Program, Armavir Health Fair (2002)
- E-learning in Public Health (2002)

#### **Maternal Child Health**

- National Infant Nutrition Survey (1997)
- Evaluation of Pregnancy Education (1997)
- Visual Screening Program (Disadvantaged Children) (2000)

#### **Reproductive Health**

- Qualitative Research Study on Reproductive Health (1999)
- Qualitative Evaluation of "Facts for Life" (1999)
- Evaluation Green Path Campaign for Reproductive Health (2000)