

Caren L. Bacon

EDUCATION

Masters of Public Health, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO.

Graduated December 2004. Joint concentration in Behavioral Science/Health Education and Epidemiology

Bachelors of Science, Bradley University, Peoria, IL.

Graduated December 2001. Major: Psychology, Minor: Health

PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERIENCE

Research Specialist (October 2006-current)

Institute of Public Policy, University of Missouri at Columbia – Columbia, MO

Coordinated and conduct evaluation activities in variety of topic areas including substance abuse, domestic violence, arthritis, and obesity prevention

- Designed and conducted evaluations for community level organizations, statewide programs, and state government agencies
- Developed materials for and conducted needs and resource assessments

Epidemiology Specialist (November 2004–October 2006)

Bureau of Health Informatics, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services-Jefferson City, MO

Coordinated surveillance and evaluation activities for the Missouri Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (11/2004-current) and the Missouri Arthritis and Osteoporosis Program (11/2004-7/1/2006)

- Prepared notification of study and Institutional Review Board paperwork, reports for technical and lay audiences, and presentations for both technical and lay audiences
- Developed and reviewed surveys for data collection, developed databases for data entry, maintained databases, and conducted qualitative and quantitative analysis using Word, SAS, SPSS, Access, and Excel
- Responded to program and public data request
- Developed measurable objectives for strategic plan outcomes, assessed the effectiveness of programs implemented by MDPCP and MAOP

Intern (May 2004–September 2004)

Prevention Research Center, Saint Louis University School of Public Health- St. Louis, MO

Epidemiological study looking at the association between the perception of racism and health determinants

- Reviewed literature
- Analyzed dataset using SPSS
- Prepared manuscript

Graduate Research Assistantship (May 2002–August 2004)

Summer Intern (May 2000–August 2000 and May 2001–August 2001)

Health Communication Research Laboratory, Saint Louis University School of Public Health- St. Louis, MO

“PRISM (Prevention Research in Small Market Media)”: A five-year translation and dissemination project that seeks to apply media advocacy and tailored health communication principles to promote chronic disease prevention in four mid-size Missouri communities.

- Reviewed television news broadcasts, radio news broadcast, and newspapers for inclusion of related stories; conducted content analyses of newspaper, television, and radio news stories; scanned or digitized included stories
- Prepared and sent media monitoring packages to community media observers
- Trained new research assistants
- Assisted in generating ideas for news releases
- Reviewed 12 scientific journals for inclusion of related articles; content analyzed included articles
- Managed databases with over 1,000 records each using FileMaker Pro
- Assisted in preparing for telephone interviews; conducted telephone interviews in four Missouri communities

“Walk Missouri” Phase I Formative Research

- Recruited participants for focus groups; assisted in moderating focus groups; transcribed focus group data
- Coordinated team for traveling
- Researched information on the internet for 21 communities in Missouri; prepared and organized community binders; reviewed relevant literature

“Walk Missouri” Phase II Campaign development: A statewide walking campaign to raise awareness about the benefits of walking.

- Co-authored sample messages for a media campaign using CDCynergy; assisted in developing and testing a mass media campaign
- Moderated focus groups; transcribed focus group data; analyzed focus group transcripts
- Prepared and organized community binders
- Assisted in writing project reports

“Home to School” Phase I: A pilot transportation study to identify public health attitudes towards environmental barriers of children walking and biking to school.

- Assisted in developing an environmental assessment tool; collected data for an environmental assessment
- Assisted in conducting interviews with school principals; analyzed interview transcripts
- Assisted in writing project reports

Health Education Internship (September 2001-December 2001)

University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria, Peoria, IL

- A program teaching coping skills to grandparents raising their grandchildren
- Planned curriculum
- Developed syllabus
- Researched and benchmarked similar programs
- Developed class materials
- Developed skills to lead group discussions through role-playing

Computer Skills

- Computer systems: Macintosh and PC
- Statistical Software: SPSS (including descriptive and inferential techniques, linear regression, and logistic regression), EpiInfo version II & VI, and SAS (basic principles of statistics and data management)
- Database Software: FileMaker Pro
- Office Software: Microsoft Office (Access, Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Publisher) & Works
- Digital Video Application: I-Movie
- GIS: ArcView Catalog, ArcView Mapping

Training

- Art of Negotiation (MDHSS)
- Customer Service Training (MDHSS)
- Evidence based public health practice (Heartland Centers for Public Health Community & Capacity Development)
- GIS beginner (MDHSS)
- GIS intermediate (MDHSS)
- SAS fundamentals (ProTech)
- SAS and the BRFSS (Watermen, inc.)

Organizations

- American Public Health Association (2003-present)

Publications and Conferences

Peer-reviewed publication

Collie, VL; Jupka, KJ; **Bacon, CL**; Wheatley, ED; Ludwig-Bell, C; Kreuter, MW; Hawkins, D. Using handheld palm computers to gather information on environmental factors affecting walking to school among elementary school children. *Health Education & Behavior* 2003;30(4):405-406.

Selected Scientific Conference

Bacon, C; Stokes, S. The development of a strategic plan to address risky drinking behaviors (underage and binge drinking) in 12-25 year olds. Oral presentation to be presented at the 135th APHA Annual Meeting, November 2007, Washington DC.

Bacon, C; Stokes, S. Using a multi-phase assessment process to influence program selection and evaluation development. Oral presentation to be presented at the AEA Annual Conference, November 2007, Baltimore, MD.

Bacon, C; Anderson, J. The development of a web-based diabetes data profile in the state of Missouri. Poster presented at the 2006 Diabetes Translation and Obesity Conference, May 16-19, 2006, Denver, CO.

Amon, E; **Bacon, C**; Black, W; Artal, R; Leet, T. Risk factors for umbilical cord prolapse. Poster presented at the Society for Gynecologic Investigation 51st Annual Scientific Meeting, March 2004, Houston, TX.

Bacon, C; Ludwig Bell, C; Jupka, K; Jacobsen, H; Hawkins, D; Kreuter, M. Walk Missouri: Development of a statewide walking campaign. Roundtable presented at the 17th National Conference on Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, February 2003, St. Louis, MO.

Bacon, C; Caburnay, C; Kreuter, M. Tracking television news broadcast coverage of tobacco related stories in two Missouri communities. Poster presented at APHA Annual Meeting, November 2003, San Francisco, CA.

Caburnay, C; Lukwago, S; Kreuter, M; Luke, D; Zayed, H; **Bacon, C**. Tracking newspaper coverage of prevention research published in scientific journals. Poster presented at APHA Annual Meeting, October 2001, Atlanta, GA.