a working conference on strategies for improving health in underserved communities
SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

8:30 – 9:45 a.m.   Poster Session: Bridging the Gaps Student Community Health Projects

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.   Workshop Sessions

  Workshop 1   Give Me Your Lunch Money: The Power Dynamics of Bullying
  Workshop 2   “Righting”: Health Literacy for Women and Families
  Workshop 3   A Community Puzzle: Can We See All the Pieces?
  Workshop 4   So Many School Dropouts: What Can We Do About It?
  Workshop 5   Making Sense of Cultural Sensitivity
  Workshop 6   Electing Health-Care Solutions in 2008: Advocating for Our Unheard Communities
  Workshop 7   Striving for Good Health: Little Investment – High Yield
  Workshop 8   Problem Child: Or Child with Problem?
  Workshop 9   More Than Words: Creative Methods for Fostering Healthy Choices Among Youth
  Workshop 10  Developing Successful Strategies for Aging

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.   Awards Ceremony/Plenary Session

  Jimmy Santiago Baca, Poet, author, advocate, former inmate

For Information
To learn more, please contact Mary Ellen Bradley, Bridging the Gaps Program Office: Phone 215-898-4141, Fax 215-573-2265.
E-mail: btgpchip@mail.med.upenn.edu  Web: www.bridgingthegaps.info
Please Join Us!

September 12, 2008
8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Behrakis Grand Hall
Creese Building
3210 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Please share this invitation with others who might wish to attend.

Now celebrating its 18th year, Bridging the Gaps is committed to forging partnerships with individuals and organizations dedicated to the promotion of health in underserved communities. The annual symposium is based on the work of students from academic health institutions in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Erie, Pennsylvania, and in New Jersey who have participated in the Bridging the Gaps program. The symposium is offered free to the public. Come explore issues of importance to all of us focused on improving the health of our urban communities.

Participating Educational Institutions
Bryn Mawr College, Drexel University, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Temple University, Thomas Jefferson University, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, University of Pennsylvania, University of Pittsburgh, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.
Jimmy Santiago Baca
Poet, author, advocate, former inmate

A runaway at age 13, Jimmy Santiago Baca was sentenced to five years in a maximum-security prison where he turned his life around. While incarcerated, he learned to read and write and discovered a passion for poetry. Baca sent three of his poems to Denise Levertov, the poetry editor of Mother Jones. The poems became part of “Immigrants in Our Own Land,” published in 1979, the year he was released from prison. Later that year, he earned his GED.

Baca is the winner of the Pushcart Prize, the American Book Award, the International Hispanic Heritage Award, and for his memoir, “A Place to Stand,” he received the prestigious International Award. In 2006 he won the Cornelius P. Turner Award—an national award recognizing one GED graduate annually who has made outstanding contributions to society.

Baca has devoted his post-prison life to writing and teaching others who are overcoming hardship. He has conducted hundreds of writing workshops in prisons, community centers, libraries and universities throughout the country. In 2005 he created Cedar Tree Inc., a nonprofit foundation that provides free instruction, books, writing materials and scholarships to those in need. It also offers an internship program, which provides live-in writing scholarships that allow students, writers and poets a chance to write, attend poetry readings, conduct writing workshops, and work on documentary film production.

This program is made possible through generous support from the following:

- CIGNA
- Claneil Foundation, Inc.
- Federal Work Study Program
- First Hospital Foundation
- Fourjay Foundation
- Genuardi Family Foundation
- Independence Foundation
- Patricia Kind
- Merck & Co., Inc.
- Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Rosenlund Family Foundation
- St. Christopher’s Foundation for Children
- The Allen Hilles Fund
- The Barra Foundation, Inc.
- The College of Physicians of Philadelphia
- The Douty Foundation
- The Edna G. Kynett Memorial Foundation
- The Nelson Foundation
- Tuttleman Family Foundation
- Wachovia Foundation
- Irene G. Wolf

List may be incomplete.
Please indicate your workshop preference below:

- 1 Give Me Your Lunch Money: The Power Dynamics of Bullying
- 2 “Righting”: Health Literacy for Women and Families
- 3 A Community Puzzle: Can We See All the Pieces?
- 4 So Many School Dropouts: What Can We Do About It?
- 5 Making Sense of Cultural Sensitivity
- 6 Electing Health-Care Solutions in 2008: Advocating for Our Unheard Communities
- 7 Striving for Good Health: Little Investment – High Yield
- 8 Problem Child: Or Child with Problem?
- 9 More Than Words: Creative Methods for Fostering Healthy Choices Among Youth
- 10 Developing Successful Strategies for Aging

Please R.S.V.P. by September 5, 2008
Simply fill out and return this card or fax it to 215-573-2265
E-mail invitees may respond to btgpchip@mail.med.upenn.edu

We look forward to seeing you there!