



May 2010

What Does Our Community's Growing Diversity Have To Do With Evaluation?

The Colorado Trust engages Community Science to help answer this question

Like many areas of the country, Colorado's racial and ethnic populations have grown more diverse, particularly through an increase in immigrants and refugees. The Colorado Trust wanted to ensure that its grant making and evaluations continue to evolve to better serve people of myriad cultures. With that goal in mind, they engaged Community Science to help deepen their understanding about what it takes to do a cross-culturally competent evaluation.

Ensuring a Cross-Culturally Competent Evaluation: The Journey Continues is the second part of a two-part series about such evaluations, funded by The Colorado Trust and written by Community Science's Kien Lee. It offers insights to help guide the complex dynamics between evaluators, funders and stakeholders of different cultures. The report gives useful examples of where cross-cultural competency is critical in evaluation and recommends questions and strategies that an evaluator should consider when practicing this form of cultural competency.

Community Science is committed to evaluations that are responsive to the growing diversity of our communities.

The Colorado Trust has a long-standing commitment to evaluating the effectiveness of its grant making. It has boosted its efforts to incorporate culturally competent practices to reflect a changing population.

To view the report in its entirety, [click here](#) (PDF file). The first report in the series is available for download [here](#) (PDF file).

NEW CLIENT: The Partnership for a Drug-Free America

Community Science to evaluate effectiveness of Parents: You Matter! for this nationally known organization

Community Science was recently hired for a 10-month engagement with The Partnership for a Drug-Free America to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Partnership's "Parents: You Matter!" program – a community education presentation designed to educate parents of 12- to 17-year-olds about adolescent substance abuse, as well as provide tools and resources to prevent it. For more information on this program, [click here](#).

Team Players: LaKeesha N. Woods, Ph.D.

In each issue, Team Players highlights the contributions of a Community Science team member



As passionate about practice as she is about research, [Dr. Woods](#) is focused on cultural influences on the development and functioning of youth and families of color; and culturally congruent preventive interventions for youth placed at risk. Currently serving on the evaluation team for the [The Colorado Trust's Equality in Health Initiative](#) and as co-project director for both [Nassau County Family Support System of Care](#), and [The Partnership for a Drug-Free America Parents: You Matter!](#), Dr. Woods' contributions to the team and the community are seen first-hand on a daily basis. [Click here](#) for her resume.

Making a Difference: Community Science Pitches in to Help a Local Family

On March 23rd, 13 members of the Community Science team pitched in with Habitat for Humanity to give a local Maryland family a new start – and a new home.

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Community Science's award-winning research and development group helps philanthropic, nonprofit and government organizations use science to build the capacity of communities to innovate and implement solutions to complex social problems. We bring to this work a unique ability to apply the science of community, a participatory and collaborative approach to problem solving, a culturally diverse staff and a commitment to social justice and equity. This ensures that our work is a true reflection of research turned into real results.

Out And About: CS in the Community

- Principal Associate **Kien Lee** was recently appointed by Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley to be part of an eight-member Commission to study the impact of immigrants in Maryland.
- In March, Principal Associate **Ricardo Millett** delivered the Marv E.



Working together, the Community Science team got hands-on.

At Community Science, our group practice of social change professionals is committed to building healthy, just, and equitable communities by providing:

- Advisory Services
- Capacity-Building Products and Services
- Initiative Management and Support
- Research and Evaluation Services

To discuss how Community Science can collaborate with your team, contact us at 301-519-0722 or info@communityscience.com.

Connecting Knowledge with Social Change

**Corcoran
Endowed
Lecture at
the Minnesota
Evaluation
Studies
Institute 2010
conference, "If
Social
Betterment Is
the Goal, Are
Evaluators
Leading the
Way?"** [Click
here](#) to read
what Dr.
Millett had to
say.

What's Happening:

**Colorado's
Neighborhood
Liaison Forum -**
David Chavis and
Joy Amulya
discussed the
importance of
building and
measuring a sense
of community in
Colorado. Dr. Chavis
has written about
the five strategic
factors for building
community in [this
article](#) and for
measuring a sense
of community [here](#).

For more information
about the study of a
sense of
community, visit
[senseofcommunity](#).

**AEA/CDC Summer
Institute
Registration is
open!**
Institute to be held
in Atlanta, June 13-
16, 2010. For
information, [click
here](#).



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