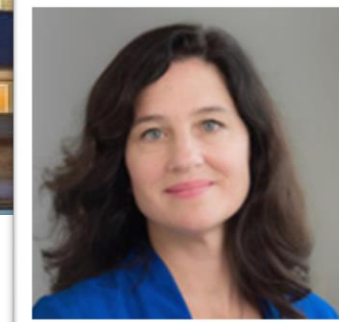


# MaineHealth Institute for Research



Our **Vision** is to enhance the health of our communities through collaboration and excellence in research

Our **Mission** is to inspire, support, and conduct innovative research that advances scientific knowledge, educates communities and learners, transforms healthcare, promotes equity, and improves health.



**Elizabeth Jacobs, MD, MAPP**  
Director of MHIR  
VP of Research, MaineHealth

# MHIR CENTERS



## Center for Applied Science and Technology (CAST)

**Anne Breggia, PhD**

- Integration of MHIR laboratory and clinical/data resources with NorDx clinical instrumentation, and data & support services
- Home to the BioBank at Maine Medical Center – 50,000 annotated human samples available to researchers within and outside MaineHealth



## Center for Clinical & Translational Science (CCTS)

**Susan Santangelo, ScD**

- Linking basic, clinical and translational investigators
- Home to the Northern New England Clinical & Translational Research Network
- National COVID Cohort Collaborative
  - Home to the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP) research data warehouse



## Center for Interdisciplinary Population and Health Research (CIPHR)

**Kevin Stein, PhD**

- Initiate and evaluate interventions to improve healthcare quality and safety –data analysts, biostatisticians on staff
- Conduct research projects in the areas of health services, human behavior, environmental impact, and others



## Center for Molecular Medicine (CMM)

**Adriana Rosato, PhD**

- 19 bench research labs exploring:
  - -Cardiovascular biology
  - -Cancer biology & therapeutics
- -Developmental biology & organogenesis
- -Genetics & epigenetics
- -Stem & progenitor cell biology
- -Metabolic & hormonal regulation
- -Vector-borne disease lab

# CIPHR Areas of Expertise Cut Across a Variety of Disciplines

- Behavioral science
- Bioinformatics
- Biostatistics
- Survey research
- Epidemiology
- Health services research
- Mixed-methods research
- Program Evaluation
- Qualitative research
- Rural health disparities
- Community-based participatory research



# Meet the community where they are



**Photo credit:**  
Jack Westfall, MD, MPH  
Donald Nease, MD

**We're from the University. We're here to help!**

# Program Evaluation at CIPHR

## Current:

- FCHN Food as Medicine
- Community Informed Care Initiative (this is the CHW program)
- Behavioral Health access in Western Maine
- PCORI dissemination (if you want to count the eval aspect of that)
- Western Maine co-located addiction medicine program
- 

## Just awarded:

- Oxford County FAM
- Neonatal Telehealth program

## Proposals out:

- Project CONNECT (with Preble St.)

# Northern New England Clinical and Translational Research Network- Maine



**Principal Investigator**  
Cliff Rosen, MD



**Kathleen Fairfield,**  
MD, MPH, DrPH



**Neil Korsen**  
MD, MSc



**Lisbeth Balligan,**  
MPH



**Carrie Sullivan**  
MPH



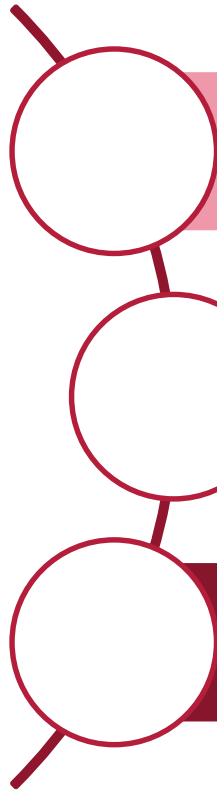
**Emma DayBranch**  
MPH

## Community Engagement and Outreach Core

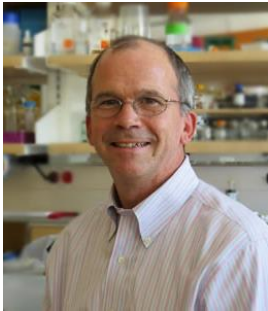


To become a member  
<http://www.med.uvm.edu/nne-ctr/home>

## NNE-CTR Community Engagement and Outreach Core Aims

- 
- To engage investigators in research to address health disparities and inequities in northern New England, consistent with national Healthy People 2030 goals and community priorities
  - Increase Northern New England community engagement capacity to identify and prioritize community health challenges and participation in research.
  - Expand current partnerships among academic centers, rural health care practices, Federally Qualified Health Centers, community organizations, and the Northern New England Practice Based Research Network to increase community-based research projects

# Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Acute Care Research and Rural Disparities



**Principal Investigator**  
Doug Sawyer, MD, PhD



**Co-Investigator**  
Tom Gridley, PhD

## Community Engagement, Bioethics, & Outreach



Frank Chessa, PhD



Richard Riker, MD



Neil Korsen, MD, MSc



Elizabeth Jacobs,  
MD, MAPP



**AcuteCare**  
Rural Health Research  
COBRE



Lisbeth Wierda, MPH



Liz Scharnetzki, PhD



Cat Feutz, IMBA, CCRA



Amanda Lessard, PhD



## CEBO's Main Objectives

### Support to the Acute Care COBRE Project Leads and Pilot Projects

This can vary by project but typically IRB and project support as needed

### Community Engaged Research Infrastructure and Support

This aims to center around clinician/medical personnel engagement, advisory boards and councils with specific acute care needs

### Training and Education

This primarily focuses on clinician training programs and within the community engaged advisory boards formed for acute care research projects

# Community Engagement at MaineHealth Institute for Research

Vision — Values — Aspirations

## Our Vision

To include community voices in research at MaineHealth and collaborate with them as a trusted, valued partner to make Maine's communities the healthiest in America.

## OUR CORE VALUES IN ACTION

Act with integrity, authenticity, and humility to meaningfully engage communities

Build trust and develop long term relationships with community partners and stakeholders

Listen, respond, and be accountable to our communities

## OUR GUIDE POSTS

### Equity



Prioritize research that addresses the needs of those affected by health inequities and disparities.

Share resources equitably

Involve more voices in the research process

Focus on issues of equity through innovative research, interdisciplinary collaborations, and pushing the boundaries of traditional academic and health research norms when needed.

### Bidirectional Partnerships



Communities see research & researchers as part of their ongoing efforts

Elevate the value of community expertise in scientific research so that research becomes more meaningful and actionable.

Share the joy of discovery by working together to produce knowledge and solve problems

### Participatory Science



Believe anyone can be a scientist when given the resources, support and opportunities to participate

Create the relationships and connections needed to translate research into practice

Meet stakeholder groups where they're at

Center those with lived experience in health research – 'nothing about us without us'

### Stewardship



Work collaboratively across grants/people/places

Be tireless ambassadors for community engaged research

Build the capacity and infrastructure to sustain community-engaged science

Community engagement is part of research projects and we are committed to it

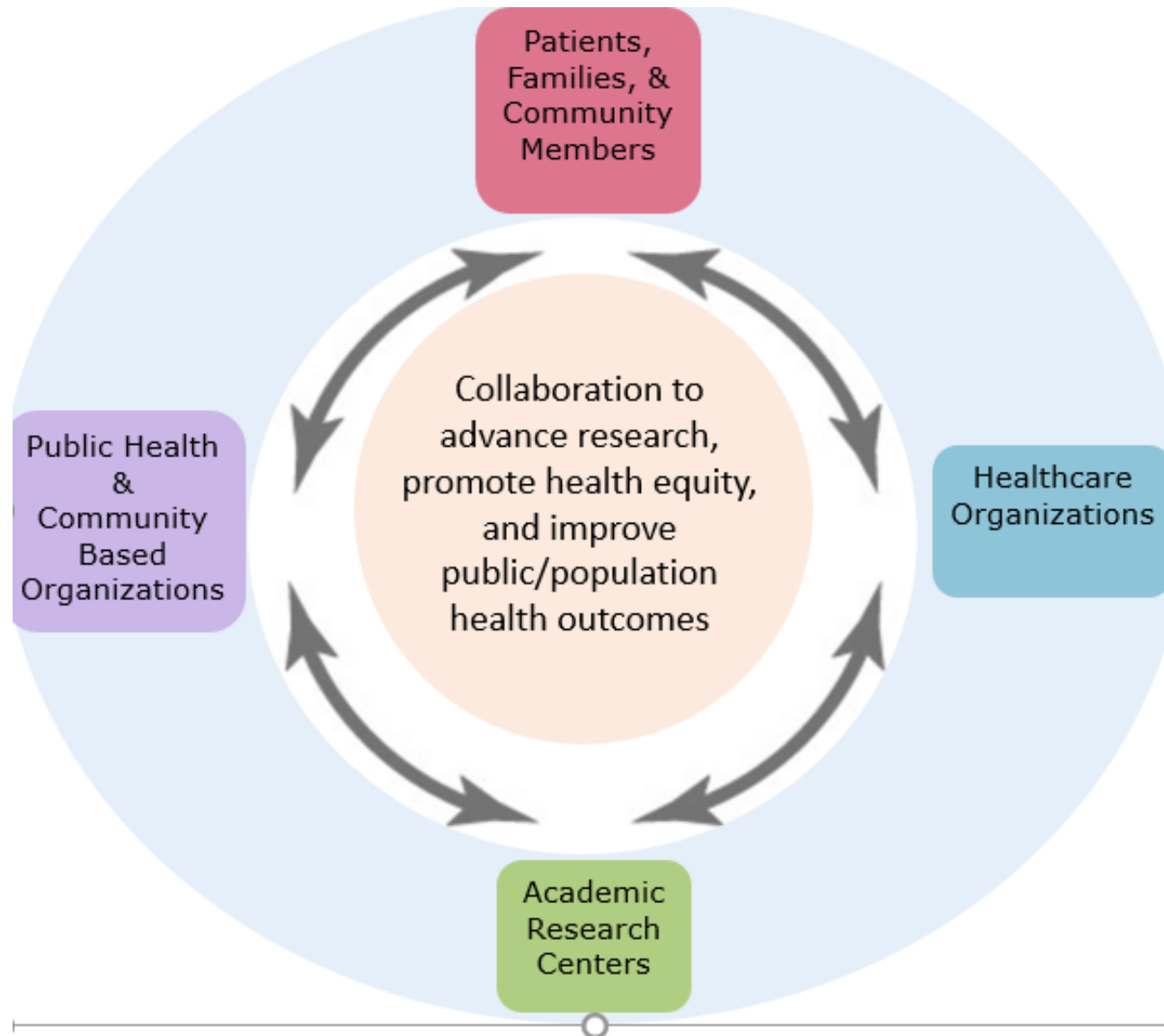
## OUR RESULTS & ASPIRATIONS

*MaineHealth has a portfolio of community engaged research projects focused on reducing health disparities especially in historically marginalized, under-served and rural communities.*

*We have many active projects that engage community members as true partners in the process, so that no one feels like a data point, so that our research norms generate trust and a better understanding of science: This leads to research being more meaningful, relevant and actionable for everyone.*

*Investigators and research centers regularly come to communities to learn how to conduct research that benefits communities, and reinforce the value of, and trust in science and discovery.*

# Community Engagement @ MaineHealth Institute for Research



# Western Maine



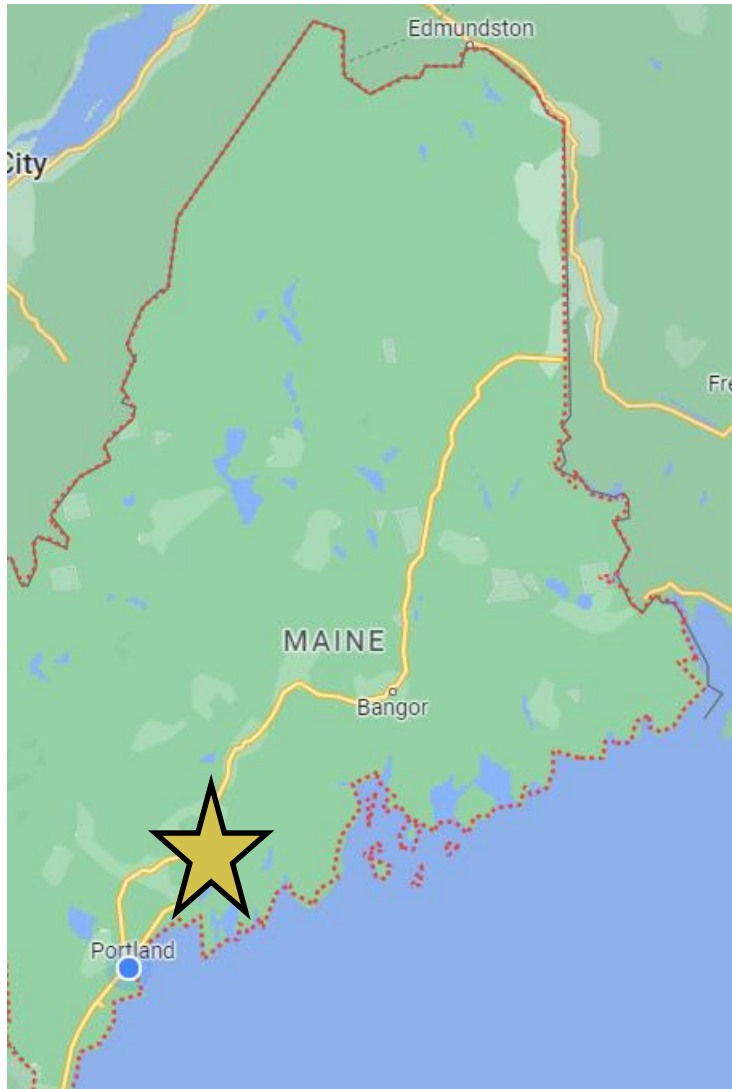
## Researcher-Institutional Capacity Building

- EyeNuk for diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy - patient and provider experience
- Value Based Care --> impacts on primary care providers
- Addiction Medicine Practice Evaluation
- Harm Reduction/ SSP utilization
- Understanding stigma impacting rural residents with SUD/ODU and in recovery
- Bright Bodies
- Enhancing Physical Function in Older Rural cancer survivors through remotely delivered Group Exercise (FORGE)
- Palliative Care for rural patients with heart failure

## Partnership Development for Community Lead/Engaged Research

- Community Engaged Research Council
- Community meeting attendance- HOH, MRBN, others

# Coastal Maine



## Researcher-Institutional Capacity Building

- Intake Meetings with Investigators for how to plan and budget for community engagement in research studies (Autism, Cancer Care, Community Health Workers, etc.)
- Addiction Recovery Center— provide support for pilot study on implementing evidence based programming (Contingency Management) to address growing needs for treating stimulant addiction in rural population, particularly with mothers

## Partnership Development for Community Lead/Engaged Research

- Midcoast Community Collaborative – founding and steering team member for development of this multi-sector collaborative that includes 70 organizations within the Midcoast region.
- Community Research Dissemination – creating/piloting new pathways for disseminating research to inform local practice and decision making

# Other CER Activities

## Ongoing Activities/Services

- Clinical Research ECHO (Member of Hub Team; Recruiting and coaching researchers to present clinical research cases)
- Boot Camp Translation
- Community Engagement Studios
- Regional CER Council development and integration with special interest groups

## Supporting Funding mechanisms:

- PCORI: Engagement Award: Building Capacity to Disseminate of PCOR/CER Evidence to Reduce Rural Health Disparities in Maine

## Specific Projects (system-wide)

- [Community Health Needs Assessment](#) and Annual Improvement Plans: Access to behavioral health care
- Professional development opportunities- researchers & students

