



THE CENTER FOR CROSS-CULTURAL HEALTH

Information • Training • Research • Consulting



International Health
Education Alliance

October 14, 2008

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to announce exciting news about a development that will reduce health disparities in Minnesota.

In early July, the International Health Education Alliance (IHEA) merged with the Center for Cross-Cultural Health, an organization recognized for its vision to improve health and well-being and increase health equity.

With the merger, Niccu serves as Director of the IHEA Program within the Center. She is pleased to join Debra Rodgers, the Center's Executive Director, and Sandra Eliason, M.D., its Director of Medical Programs, as well as the staff of both organizations in working to achieve a shared mission.

Both IHEA and the Center have long been committed to reducing health care disparities. While the two organizations have pursued different courses to this goal, their approaches have been – and are – highly complementary.

As you may know, IHEA focused on educating individuals from diverse backgrounds about the prevention of chronic conditions. Over the years, IHEA has worked closely with communities to produce more than 200 brochures in 60 languages on the prevention and early detection of cancer, HIV/AIDS and cardiovascular diseases. In contrast, the Center's focus has long been to build cultural competency in human services and health care organizations and to engage communities in co-creating solutions to address cultural and ethnic health disparities.

The combination of these approaches creates an exciting opportunity to develop broader, more comprehensive and increasingly effective approaches to increase health equity. We will keep you informed as we leverage our combined capabilities to build healthier communities in Minnesota.

I hope you will join us in supporting the future work of the Center. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Niccu Tafarrodi, Ph.D.
Program Director, IHEA

Debra Rodgers
Executive Director