Over the past two years, the CP TIG has organized a “Walk the Talk” session at the AEA annual meeting. These community partnership tours are a way to provide our members with opportunities to learn more about the social ecology surrounding the conference locale and practice and discuss the application of CP principles of community engagement and empowerment to evaluation work. In these sessions, we have visited neighborhoods and local organizations, learned from community members and each other, and provided our host organizations with evaluation support.

Please join us November 12, 2015 for a toxic tour in La Villita. We will better understand how local activists and community members have been engaged in community environmental justice action to raise awareness and reduce health disparities in Chicago.

La Villita, also known as the city’s South Lawndale community area and located in Chicago’s west side, is a historic port of entry for many Latino immigrants, in particular those from Mexico. Poor housing stock and transportation, toxic environmental elements including land, water, air as well as public and private facilities, dangerous work conditions, dense neighborhoods with little green space all add to the health disparities impacting the everyday lives of La Villita's working-class families. The rates of asthma, obesity, teen birth, and poor mental-health in La Villita are among the highest in the city of Chicago. Staff from The Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO; http://lvejo.org/) will guide us through key areas of their community. They will teach us about their activism around environmental justice, criminalization, and gentrification. They will share how they have used culturally relevant popular education and other participatory tactics. We will hear about their powerful environmental justice struggles and witness firsthand how they have reclaimed toxic industrial sites to collaboratively design and enjoy healthy green space (see http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/ct-little-village-park-opening-met-20141214-story.html and http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/la-villita-park/). A facilitated conversation will follow on how community psychology informed evaluation can bolster grassroots action and program refinements.

Come and participate in this mutually beneficial experience centered on how evaluation can be used to better serve diverse populations and help reduce health disparities in communities like La Villita. The walk starts at the Hyatt Regency front entrance at 2:00 pm. Look for cars with posters stating “Community Psychology and Evaluation Community Tour.” We will drive together through historic Pilsen and into La Villita for the toxic tour. This drive will also serve to foster a conversation about gentrification and the need for evaluation practices grounded in the social realities of our communities. The tour will be a walking tour that will be approximately 1 hour in length. Rain or Shine so dress accordingly. After the tour we will have a guided discussion, dinner and the CP TIG business meeting at Blanco y Negro Restaurant, 4043 W 26 Street, Chicago, IL – 60623.

We welcome all conference attendees to join us for any and all of these activities. We are asking everyone to register for any combination of the tour, business meeting and “no host” dinner. There will be light appetizers provided by the CP TIG during discussion and business meeting and full dinner options are available at your own cost https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015AEAChicago_CPTIGevents

PLEASE NOTE: SPACE IS LIMITED FOR THE TOXIC TOUR! Secure your spot by being one of the first 30 to register! We will contact you to confirm your registration or wait list assignment.
The Community Psychology TIG has existed for four years. To ensure that the TIG is meeting its members’ needs and providing sufficient opportunity for members to engage, the TIG leadership conducted a survey to learn about how members want to participate in the TIG and the TIG activities that are important to members. The brief electronic survey was distributed to the AEA’s TIG membership list (n=99) in March and April, 2015.

Thirty-one members responded, 6 of which were current leadership team members. More than three-quarters of respondents had completed a doctoral degree, the remainder completed a Masters degree. Nearly two-thirds completed their professional education in community psychology. Less than two-thirds currently are members of the Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA).

When asked how members would like to participate in the TIG, the most frequently reported responses centered on activities that are typical of professional association participation: Receive the TIG newsletter (97%), Participate in the annual TIG business meeting during the AEA conference (61%), and Review community-psychology related proposals for the annual conference (55%). Members most frequently reported not wanting to participate in: the TIG newsletter team (77%), Liaising between the TIG and SCRA (45%), Organizing the AEA Conference “Walk The Talk” event (42%), and Leading a community psychology related AEA coffee break webinar (42%). When asked how important it was for the TIG to provide or sponsor four activities, mean responses ranged from somewhat (3) to very important (5): Community psychology related sessions at annual AEA conferences (4.8), TIG newsletters (3.9), Community psychology related AEA365 blog posts (3.8), and community psychology related AEA coffee breaks (3.6).

Several members expressed interest in becoming more involved in the TIG. This is wonderful news! The leadership team is actively recruiting members for the coming year. If you are interested, please contact Ann Price (aprice@communityevaluationsolutions.net) or Susan Wolfe (wolfe@cnmconnect.org) or any Leadership Team member (http://comm.eval.org/CommunityPsychology/tigleadership).

Nearly half of the respondents (14) reported attending the 2014 AEA conference; of which, only six reported attending the TIG business meeting. TIG Leadership noted that an error in the 2014 conference program likely contributed to lower attendance.

We asked survey participants for suggestions to encourage TIG member participation in the business meeting. Ten respondents provided suggestions, several of which have been incorporated into our 2015 conference agenda. Examples of these suggestions are: combining the business meeting with Walk the Talk, having guest speakers as part of the meeting, including an opportunity to network and socialize with food, and keeping the business portion of the meeting limited to an hour.

The complete results of the survey are posted on the TIG website at (http://comm.eval.org/CommunityPsychology/home/). TIG Leadership will continue to use these helpful results in its planning for the coming year. Thank you, again, to all who participated!

We think this tree symbolizes the importance of honoring the diverse, strong roots and interests of practicing community psychologists and evaluators.

Visit the Community Psychology TIG website at http://comm.eval.org/
It is that time of year again where the Community Psychology TIG elects new leadership. This year we need candidates for Incoming Chair, Incoming Program Chair, Incoming Webmaster and members of our Leadership Council. Each position requires a two-year commitment with the option to continue if you choose to. During year one you will work alongside the current officer to learn the ropes, and then in year two you will assume the position of chair or webmaster and mentor the next incoming officer. If you choose to remain, in year three you will transition to the leadership council to continue to provide guidance for the TIGs continued growth and development.

**Five Reasons to Volunteer for a Leadership Position on the CP TIG**

1. It provides an opportunity to deepen your engagement with AEA.
2. You get a voice in planning for the AEA Conference and can share your fun and creative ideas.
3. The opportunity to meet more CP evaluators.
4. Sharpen your leadership skills
5. It looks good on your resume or CV

The qualifications are:

1. A desire to serve
2. Commitment to regularly participate in bi-weekly or monthly calls, follow through with voluntary assignments, and embrace your role on the leadership team.

These positions are open to students, recent graduates, and long time ago graduates. Being trained as a community psychologist isn’t necessary, you just need to feel like you might be a community psychologist.

If you would like to be included as a candidate for one of the open positions, please email Susan Wolfe at wolfe@cnmconnect with answers to the following questions:

1. Which position are you interested in?
2. Why are you interested in the position?
3. Why should we consider you as a candidate?

We would like to have our rosters ready so that we can hold elections at the CP TIG Business Meeting at AEA.

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**CP TIG 2015 Business Meeting**

Hi everyone, we hope you are getting primed and ready for AEA 2015!

Our Business Meeting this year will be at **Blanco y Negro** (4043 W 26 Street, Chicago, IL 60623). Many of us will be attending the Walk the Talk event prior to our business meeting. For those of you not planning on attending please do join us for the business meeting and a no-host dinner. The Business Meeting will start at 6pm. We will be discussing our accomplishments this past year, making plans for the future, and electing a new slate of officers. Any questions, please contact Ann Price at aprice@communityevaluationsolutions.com.

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**Thanks to Proposal Reviewers for AEA 2015!**

We could not have put together such a fine program for AEA 2015 that represents interests of the Community Psychology TIG without volunteer reviewers! Please note the names below. Several of them are presenting this year as thought leaders!

Cheryl Ramos  Rodolfo Vega
Rachel Becker Klein  Katherine Ong
Rachael Suffrin  Amy Hilgendorf
Madeleine DeBlois  Peter Hubbard
CP TIG Sponsors Multiple Sessions at AEA 2015

1703: Considering Complexity in Evaluation as Natural Inquirers

2936: Building Parenting Communities: An Evaluation of Parent Cafes

2927: Evaluation Design Challenges and Solutions in the Context of a Workshop to Increase Bystander Intervention Behaviors

1882: Evaluation of Animal-Assisted Activities Among Child Residents of Short-Term Domestic Violence Shelters

1778: The self-esteem and depressive symptom of young North Korean Refugees (NKRs) living in South Korea: comparative study

1171: Building Capacities in Community Organizations: Lessons Learned from Three Community Psychologists

2399: 3rd Annual Walking and Talking Evaluation In and Of the Community: A guided tour hosted by the Community Psychology Topical Interest Group and led by the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO)...

1612: Addressing Social Justice in Evaluations: Capturing Racism, Sexism, and the other "Isms"

1347: The Haves & Have Nots: A Hands-on Exploration of Evaluators' Tendencies toward Power and Their Effect on Practice

CP1: Considering Context of Community-Based Programs with Underserved Populations

2200: Meeting People where they are: Successes and challenges of working together to produce exemplary evaluations

2201: Using an online platform for participatory monitoring and evaluation across diverse contexts

2880: Community Psychology Graduate Program Effectiveness: Evaluating Our Progress and Inclusiveness

2255: Evaluation for Social Justice

2310: Culturally anchored evaluations: Win-win opportunities for students, evaluators and community stakeholders