HIV Testing Feasibility and Acceptability with Low Wage Immigrant Workers (LWIW)

Investigator: Ifeoma Udoh

Project Partners: Jamila Shipp, Stephanie Cornwell (CALPEP); Christina Grijalva, Scott Carroll (La Clinica de la Raza); Meredith Minkler, Sandra McCoy (UC Berkeley School of Public Health)

In partnership with the Street Level Health Project - an organization that works to educate Day Laborers on occupational and sexual health and safety, promote civic engagement, and build community networks – the pilot project will provide regular HIV testing through weekly HIV testing visits from La Clinica de la Raza counselors. In addition, among low wage immigrant workers reached by Street Level, information will collected among those who decide to test, and also among those who decline HIV testing services offered in order to better understand barriers and facilitators to testing among this group. The pilot project seeks to better assess the HIV services needs of this population with the aim of identifying effective strategies for tailoring and scaling up HIV testing access among this hidden and hard to reach population.

The objectives of the pilot are:

- to test a strategy focused on scaling up and improving uptake of HIV testing among low wage immigrant workers (LWIW) in the Fruitvale District of Oakland, CA between October 2012 and March 2013;
- to assess risk behaviors, service delivery needs, and barriers and facilitators of HIV and other health services utilization among those who choose to test, and among those who do not; and
- 3) to develop and strengthen a process for linking LWIW who are HIV positive to care services at La Clínica.