

IMMIGRATION RESEARCH IN ACTION

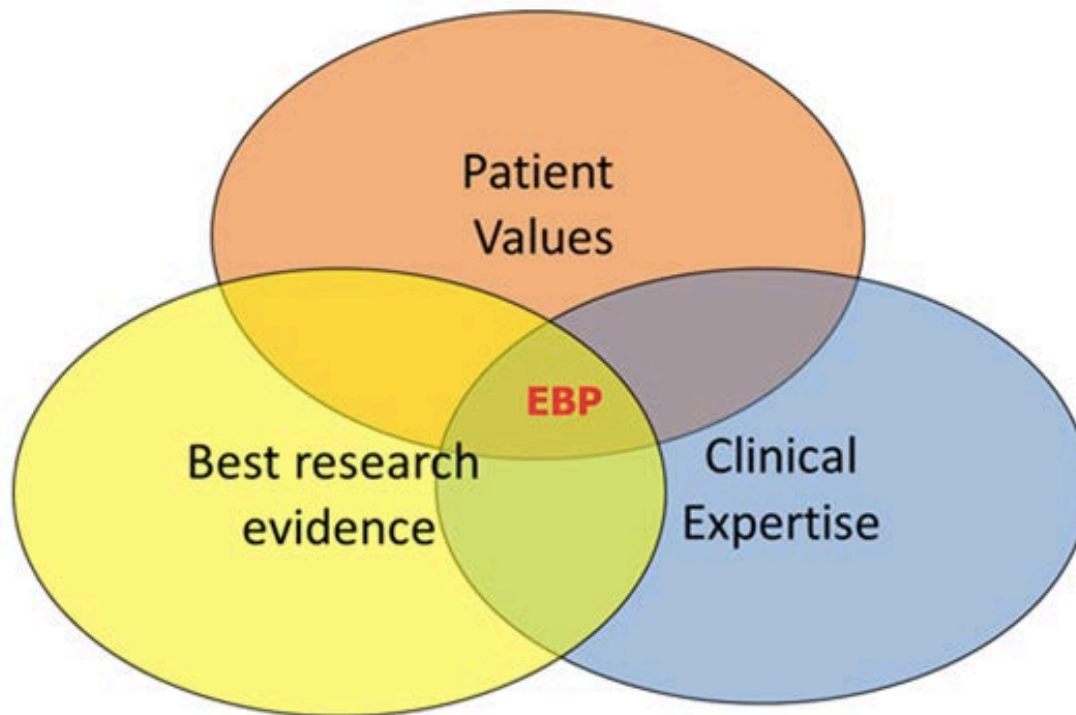
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Director, Immigrant Integration Lab

Catholic Immigrant Integration Conference
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Uses of Research in Practice

- To inform the delivery of effective and relevant services
 - Evidence Based Practice (EBP)



Uses of Research in Practice

- To facilitate team discussions and continuous learning.
 - Grand Rounds



Image source: <http://www.bu.edu/lesotho/gallery/grand-rounds/>

Uses of Research in Program Development

- Catholic Relief Services

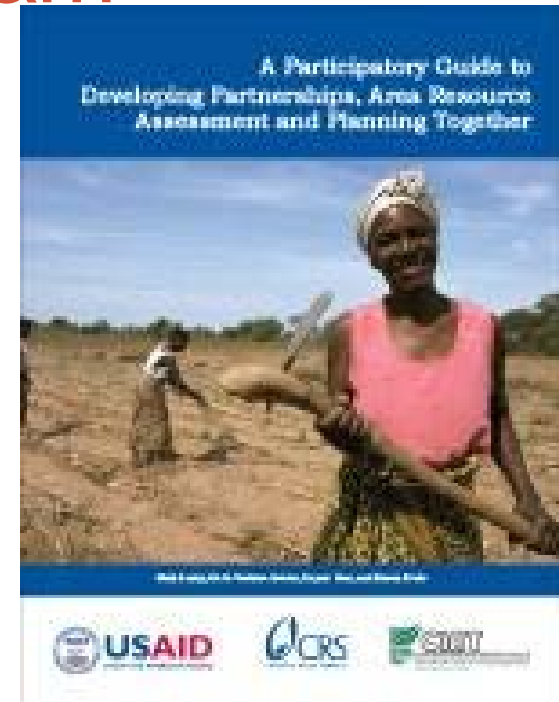
- Food for Education

- South Africa

- JRS:

Intake, database

and the ability to target the greatest need.



Use of Research for Evaluation and Identification of Promising Practices

- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services
 - Central American Youth in Long Term Foster Care:
 - A Study of Child Welfare Outcomes.
 - Documentation of Best Practices



<http://lirs.org/>

Partner to Find Facts

- Alejandro Olayo-Mendez:
- 2015-16
 - 4 Trans-Mexico Journeys along the migrant route
 - 14 shelter stays
 - 7 Humanitarian agencies off the trail
 - 3 additional visits to shelters to document migrant experiences of 200 people per day passing through
 - Detailing the violence, robberies, rapes, beatings
 - Facts to undergird decisions of pastoral care, services needed, volume of demand, outcomes of policy and recommended advocacy.

Uses of Research in Practice

- To develop trainings for service providers
 - Training new team members
 - Consulting for other agencies



Image source: <http://ulgatl.org/>

Uses of Research in Practice

- To influence policies that affect service providers
 - Research informed advocacy



Partners in Knowledge

- BORDER STUDIES
 - Jeremy Slack, UT, El Paso
 - Gabriella Sanchez, UT, El Paso
- Smuggling, security, drugs, undocumented migrant risks
- And
 - Deportation Nation, Dan Kanstroom
 - Border Patrol Nation, Todd Miller

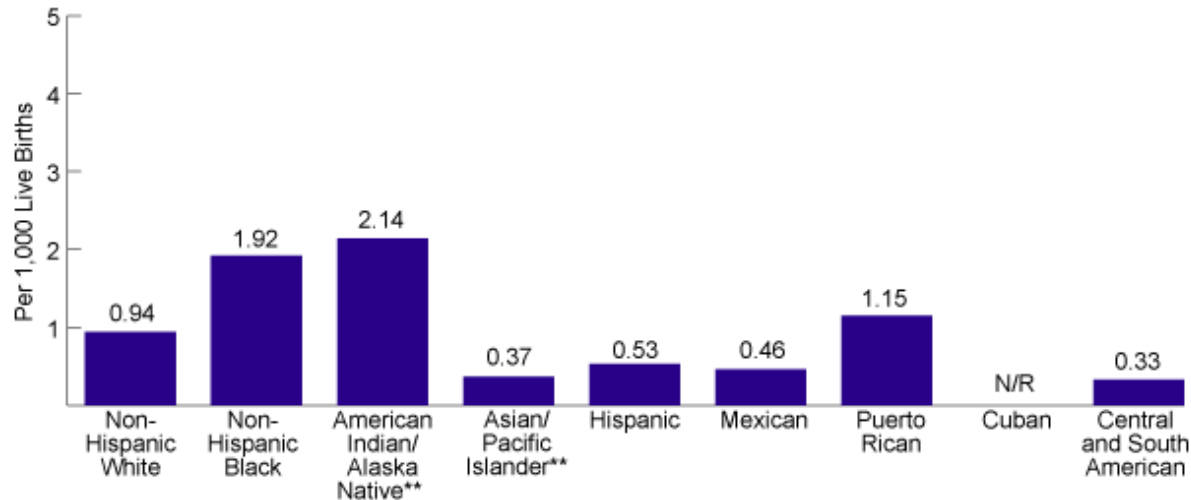
Using Research for Accuracy

- DACA:
 - Brookings published [Local Insights from DACA for Implementing Future Programs for Unauthorized Immigrants](#) Nicole Svajlenka and Jill Wilson.
 - Hard data about the use and delay of enrollment used by AIC, FIRM to advocate for outreach and extension.



Research for Inclusion

SUID* Mortality Rates, by Maternal Race/Ethnicity, 2009



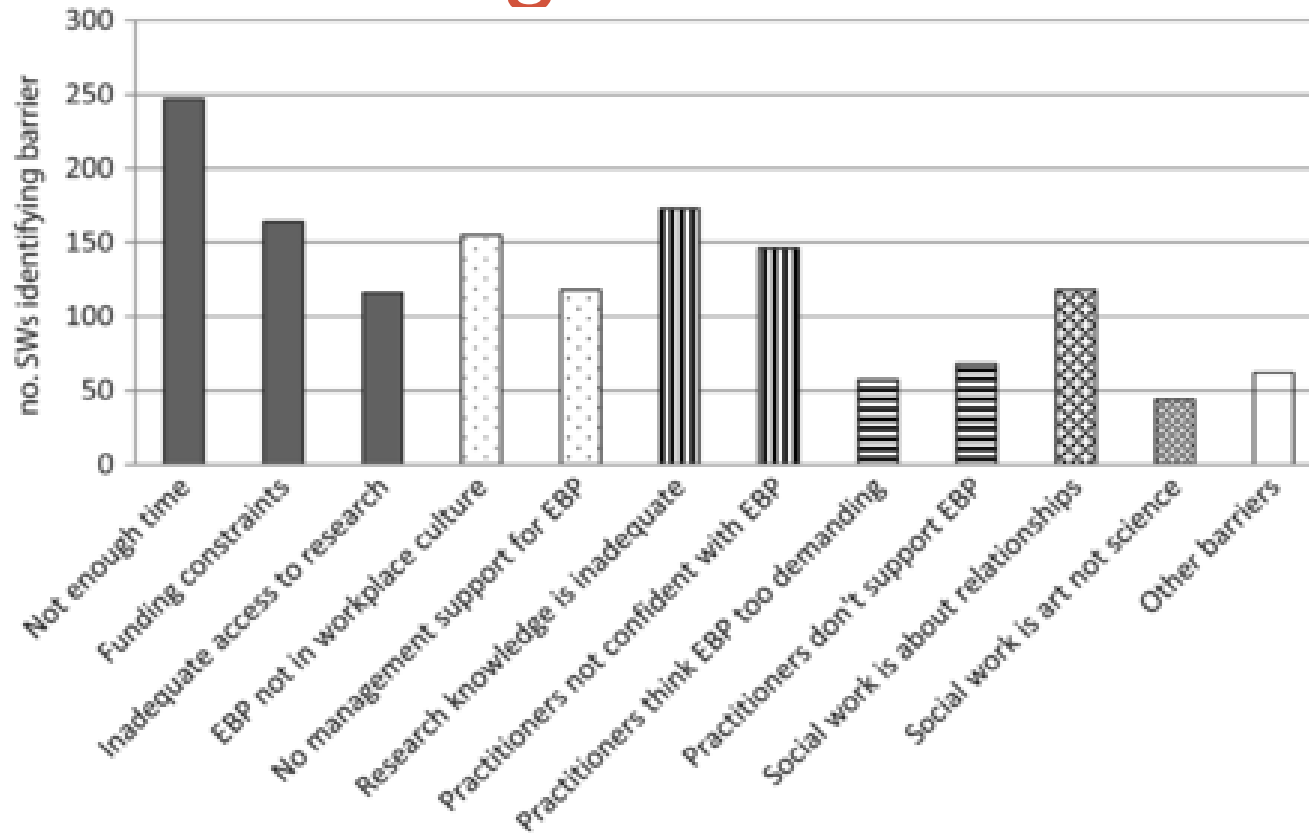
*Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths (SUID) includes SIDS (R95), Unknown Cause (R99), and Accidental Suffocation or Strangulation in Bed (W75) **Includes Hispanics. N/R: Fewer than 20 deaths; data did not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics (DVS), Linked Birth/Infant Death Records 2007-2009 on CDC WONDER On-line Database. Retrieved from: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/lbd-current.html>; Accessed: 7/28/13.

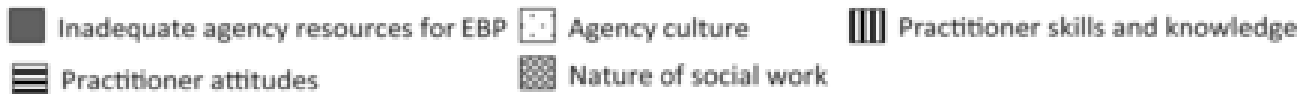
4000 SUID annually



Barriers to Using Research



Types of barriers:



Bringing service providers and researchers together

- Conferences
 - Forum that brings service providers and researchers together



Image source: <http://thecuretocancersummit.com/conference-order/>

Partner for Professional Development

- BCSSW
 - Latino Leadership Institute, Spanish Language MSW
 - Immigrant and Refugee Certificate

Example:

Florence Project, expanding from
legal assistance to social work
participation in case management and
individual care.

Continuing Education
In Service Training
Field Education interns



Bringing service providers and researchers together

- Action Research

- Service providers track data from assessments and evaluations of their programs
- Service providers determine needed areas for future research
 - Resource: Greenwood, D.J & Levin, M. (2007). *Introduction to Action Research: Social Research for Social Change*

- **Share what you are learning, document your work.**

Research Sources

- Center for Migration Studies
 - An educational institution and think tank
 - Publishes the *International Migration Review (IMR)*



- Migration Policy Group
 - European nonprofit that promotes strategic thinking on mobility, equality, and diversity
- Colegio de la Frontera Norte
 - Observatorio de Legislación y Política Migratoria
- UNU-Merit
 - Global lessons on impact of migration

Research Sources

- ISMU Foundation
 - Promotes and conducts studies and research projects
 - Focuses on Italy and international migration
- Metropolis Canada
 - Network for comparative research on immigration, diversity, and immigrant integration
- Google Scholar
 - scholar.google.com

Research Sources

- Migration Policy Institute
 - Nonprofit think tank
 - Publishes reports about migration
- COMPAS of University of Oxford
 - Produces research about immigration
- Immigration Integration Lab
- of Boston College
 - Publishes monthly newsletters



Research Sources

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
 - <https://doaj.org/>
- Pew Foundation and Pew Research Center
- Urban Institute
- American Immigration Council

Take Away

- Create a value in evaluation
- Discover options
- Explore evidence through research



- What does it require to be evidence based?
- TIME
- RESOURCES
- ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE