

Dr. Karen Hacker has served as Director of the Allegheny County Health Department since her appointment by the Allegheny Board of Health in Fall 2013.

She is an Adjunct Professor in the Departments of Health Policy and Management and Behavioral and Community Health Sciences at the University Of Pittsburgh Graduate School Of Public Health and a Clinical Professor at the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine. Prior to her current position, Dr. Hacker was Executive Director of the Institute for Community Health and the Senior Medical Director for Public and Community Health at the Cambridge Health Alliance with appointments at Harvard Medical School and School of Public Health.

Dr. Hacker received her undergraduate degree from Yale University, her MD from Northwestern University and her MPH from Boston University. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Boston City Hospital and her Adolescent Medicine Fellowship at Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles. She has extensive experience working with diverse populations as a public health leader, health care administrator, primary care physician and community based participatory researcher.

Throughout her career, Dr. Hacker has worked with community partners to catalyze change in both practice and research environments. Her research has been responsive to community needs, with interests focused on adolescent risk and resiliency, child mental health, social determinants of immigrant health, and health policy. She has led efforts to incorporate behavioral health screening into pediatric primary care and worked with communities on issues of substance abuse and overdose prevention and youth suicide.

As Director, Dr. Hacker is the highest ranking official in the Health Department and is responsible for overseeing its programs and activities. She also serves as Secretary to the [Allegheny County Board of Health](#).

Recent Publications

Hacker K, Penfold, R, Zhang F, Soumerai S. Impact of Electronic Health Record Transition on Behavioral Health Screening. *Psychiatric Services*. 2012;63(3):256-61

Hacker K, Chu J, Arsenault L, Marlin R.P. Provider's Perspectives on the Impact of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Activity on Immigrant Health. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. 2012;23(2):651-665

De Las Nueces D, Hacker K, DiGirolamo A, Hicks L. A Systematic Review of Community-Based Participatory Research to Enhance Clinical Trials in Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups. *Health Services Research*. 2012; 47(3):1363-1386

Dryden D, Hardin J, McDonald J, Taveras E, Hacker K. Provider Perspectives on Electronic Decision Supports for Obesity Prevention. *Clinical Pediatrics*. 2012;51(5):490-497

DiGirolamo A, Geller A, Tendulkar S, Patil P, Hacker K Community-based Participatory Research Skills and Training Needs in a Sample of Academic Researchers from a Clinical and Translational Science Center in the Northeast. In press *Clinical and Translational Science* 2/2012

Hacker K, Tendulkar S, Rideout C, Bhuiya N, Trinh-Shevrin C, Savage CP, Grullon M, Strelnick H, Leung C, DiGirolamo A. Community Capacity Building and Sustainability: Outcomes of CBPR In Press *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education and Action*. 4/2012

Hacker K, Yoon Choi S, Trebino L, Hicks L, Friedman E, Blanchfield B, Gazelle S. Exploring the Impact of Language Services on Utilization and Clinical Outcomes for Diabetics. 2012 *PLoS ONE* 7(6): e38507. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0038507

Chomitz VR, McDonald J, Aske DB, Arsenault L, Riales, N, Brukilacchio L, Hacker KA, Cabral H Evaluation results from an active living intervention in Somerville, MA. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. In Press 6/2012

Leung C, Sprague-Martinez L, Chu J, Hacker K, Brugge D, Pirie A, Allukian N, Leslie L. Community engaged pedagogy: A strengths-based approach to involving diverse stakeholders in research partnerships. In Press *Progress in community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*. 6/2012

Fried L, Williams S, Cabral H, Hacker K. Differences in Risk Factors for Suicide Attempts Among Ninth and Eleventh Grade Youth: A Longitudinal Perspective In press 8/2012 *The Journal of School Nursing*