

**EILEEN SPARLING**  
University of Delaware  
Center for Drug and Health Studies  
257 E. Main Street, Suite 110  
Newark DE 19716  
(302) 831-3346  
sparling@udel.edu

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019 - Present      **UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, CENTER FOR DRUG AND HEALTH STUDIES**  
**Project Director/Researcher**  
Working collaboratively with Principal Investigators, direct the day-to-day operations of Center projects in the area of mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment.
- Manage project workflow including coordination of teams, timelines, deliverables, reporting and Institutional Review Board approval and compliance.
  - Conceptualize, develop and edit data and research products.
  - Communicate with stakeholders and funders about project progress and relevant findings.
- 2017 - 2019      **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, CENTER FOR CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL**  
**Manager, Community Clinical Linkages Team Manager**  
Working with Center Director and Principal Investigator, lead Maryland's collaboration between state, county and city health departments to prevent obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and stroke (CDC 1422 grant), guide the Disability Health Inclusion Program (CDC 1603 grant), and reduce health disparities through community and health system interventions.
- Manage teams, community and academic partnerships to improve population health.
  - Lead initiative in nine targeted jurisdictions to implement and evaluate best practices in chronic disease prevention related to physical activity, nutrition policy, lifestyle change, clinical systems, and expansion of non-physician team members in selected strategies.
  - Provide administrative, budgetary and grant management guidance and technical assistance related to evidence-based, best practices related to chronic disease prevention and control.
  - Oversee project personnel, performance measure tracking and reporting to funding agency.
  - Establish and monitor contracts and awards to meet project goals.
  - Identify and implement systems to improve tracking and reporting.
- 2007 - 2017      **UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, CENTER FOR DISABILITIES STUDIES**  
**P.I. (2012 - 2017) | Project Director (2007-2012) - Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities**  
Direct Delaware's initiative to address disparities in health care access and health outcomes experienced by the population living with disabilities. Oversee planning, strategy development, and implementation for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded project. Liaise and leverage relationships with state, local, non-profit organizations, and private agency partners in addressing health and disability issues to create system-level change. Manage project activities, personnel, budgets, and reporting to federal funding agency. Coordinate development, evaluation, and dissemination of program materials, procedures, policies, data reports, and curricula. Mentor and supervise student research assistants.
- Conduct the first statewide public health assessment of the population with disabilities identifying gaps in health access, health status and outcomes.
  - Lead creation/implementation of state's *Plan to Achieve Health Equity for Delawareans with Disabilities* Facilitate adoption of Delaware DHSS Inclusion Policy promoting equity for people with disabilities in state contracting, data collection, and representation of vulnerable populations.
  - Develop/deliver training and technical assistance to 400+ providers regarding capacity in accessibility and inclusive health care.
- 2002-2007      **INWOOD PROJECTS / SSOC INC. – KELTON, PA**  
**Principal**  
Business operations manager for a corporate communications consulting agency serving primarily pharmaceutical company clients.

1995-2000 **NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – CONCORD, NH**  
**Health Promotion Advisor** - Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and Health Risk Assessment Unit  
Educational campaign developer/implementer targeted at protecting citizens from environmental exposure.

- Transitioned program from universal lead screening to targeted screening for pediatricians statewide
- EPA collaborator for community education on SuperFund and brownfields site remediation.
- Developed safe renovation workshop for property owners.

1993-1995 **MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH – BOSTON, MA**  
**Health Systems Analyst** - Emergency Medical Services for Children Project  
Assessed disparities in Emergency Medical Systems' capacity to serve children.

- Developed community-based interventions for responder knowledge that created system-level change.

1990-1993 **ELLIOT HEALTH SYSTEM – MANCHESTER, NH**  
**Manager** - Marketing Communication (1991-1993) | **Public Relations Associate** (1990-1991)  
Oversaw planning, development, implementation and evaluation of campaigns supporting regional health system initiatives.

1982-1990 **EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER – EAST BOSTON, MA**  
**Marketing Representative** (1985-1990)  
**Research Interviewer & Supervisor** (1982-1985)  
For National Institute on Aging funded longitudinal study, collect data assessing needs of elderly citizens. Developed campaigns to reach diverse inner-city populations.

## TEACHING

2007-2017 **UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, CENTER FOR DISABILITIES STUDIES**  
**Supervisor/Mentor** - Undergraduate and Graduate Research Assistants

1994-1996 **UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPT. OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT & POLICY**  
**Instructor**, Marketing for Health Care Administrators: Graduate Program in Health Administration

## EDUCATION

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY – BOSTON, MA**  
**Ed.M. Educational Media and Technology**

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK**  
**B.A. in Philosophy** (Concentrated studies in Health Care Issues), Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Sigma Tau

## AFFILIATIONS

- Delaware Public Health Association, 2013 - Present
- American Public Health Association, 2006 - Present
- American Association on Health and Disability, 2007 - Present
- National Association of City & County Health Officials, Disability & Health Work Group, 2016 - 2018
- Governor's Comm. on Building Community-Based Alternatives, Health Care Committee Co-Chair 2013 - 2017

## REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

### Reports

Sparling, E., Lee, J.C., Mineo, B., Viswanathan, B., Cheng, M. (2017). *Oral Health Care Management: Recommendations for Long-Term Care Facilities*. Newark, DE: University of Delaware, Center for Disabilities Studies.

Sparling, E., Guinivan, P., Lee, J.C., Magane, K., Uribe-Zarain, X., Viswanathan, B. (2015). *The Plan to Achieve Health Equity for Delawareans with Disabilities*. Newark, DE: University of Delaware, Center for Disabilities Studies.

Sparling, E., Borrás, K., Guinivan, P., Lee, J.C., Magane, K., McDuffie, M.J., Rhonton, L. (2014). *The Current Landscape for Disability and Health in Delaware: Public Health Assessment Report Summary*. Newark, DE: University of Delaware, Center for Disabilities Studies.

Borrás, K. & Sparling, E. (2013). *Disability and Health in Delaware, Delaware Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2010 Select Data*. Center for Disabilities Studies, Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities Project, University of Delaware Newark, DE.

Riddle, I., Romelczyk, S., & Sparling, E. (2011). *Effective Communication for Health Care Providers: A Guide to Caring for People with Disabilities*. Newark, DE. Center for Disabilities Studies, University of Delaware.

Riddle, I.K., Romelczyk, S., Sparling, E., & Tressell, P. (2011). *Disability and Health in Delaware, Delaware Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2009 Select Data*. Center for Disabilities Studies, Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities Project, University of Delaware Newark, DE.

Galonsky, P., Riddle, I.K., Romelczyk, S., Sparling, E., & Tressell, P. (2010). *Health and Disability in Delaware. 2008 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Center for Disabilities Studies, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

Riddle, I. K., & Sparling, E. (2009). *Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities: A plan for action. A strategic plan for Delaware to promote health and prevent secondary health conditions in individuals with disabilities*. Center for Disabilities Studies, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

### Presentations

Dubravcic, E.; Martin, S.; Sparling, E. *Assessing Disparities in Tobacco Use using New Disability Status Indicators*, American Public Health Association Annual Conference, November 2016, Denver, CO

Cooper, T; Sparling, E.; Guinivan, P. *Health Equity: Preparedness Planning through the Lens of Persons with Access and Functional Needs*, NACCHO Annual Conference, July 22, 2016, Phoenix, AZ

Lee, J.C.; Sparling, E. *Achieving Health Equity for Individuals with Disabilities: The Power of Collaboration—the State Health Department and UCEDD Partnership in Delaware*, Annual Conference of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, November 16, 2015, Washington, D.C.

Sparling, E.; Heller, L; Cieniewicz, K. *Accessibility in Community Settings: Barriers, Resources and Next Steps*. 2015 LIFE Conference, January 15, 2015, Dover, DE.

Sparling, E.; *Achieving Health Equity for Delawareans with Disabilities*; Presentation to Christiana Care Health System Community Center of Excellence; October 8, 2014, Newark, DE.

Sparling, E.; Sarro, L.; Tucker, B. *Using Sign Language Interpreters in Medical Settings: Provider's Responsibility*; Presentation to the Henrietta Johnson Medical Center Medical Staff; September 17, 2014, Wilmington, DE.

Sparling, E.; *Integrating Oral Health into Health Equity Initiatives*. Delaware 2015 Oral Health Forum, May 8, 2015, Dover, DE.

Sparling, E.; *Achieving Health Equity for Delawareans with Disabilities*; Presentation to Christiana Care Health System Community Center of Excellence; October 8, 2014.

Sparling, E.; Sarro, L.; Tucker, B. *Using Sign Language Interpreters in Medical Settings: Provider's Responsibility*; Presentation to the Medical Society of Delaware, Practice Management Forum; January 30, 2014, Newark, DE.

Sparling, E. *Improving the Health of People with Disabilities through State-based Public Health Programs*, Presentation to the Governor's Commission on Building Access to Community-based Services, May 20, 2013, Newark, DE.

Sparling, E. *Promoting Accessible, Inclusive Fitness and Outdoor Recreation: Partnerships and No-cost/Low-cost Strategies*, Annual Conference of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, November 2013, Washington, D.C.

Sparling, E. *Disparities in Preventive Screening for Adults with Disabilities in Delaware*, Presentation to the Delaware Cancer Consortium, Disparities Committee, May 21, 2012, Dover DE.

Sparling, E. *Including People with Disabilities in Health Promotion Activities*. Presentation at the Delaware Healthy Eating and Active Living Coalition Annual Summit, March 22, 2012, Dover DE.

Sparling, E.; Hancharick, T. *Achieving Accessibility in Outdoor Recreation Settings: Resources, Tools and Tips for ADA Compliance*. Delaware Recreation and Parks Society Annual Conference, February 22, 2012, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

Sparling, E. *Disability and Health: Best Practices in Prevention*. Panel presentation at the Delaware Cancer Education Alliance Conference, October 5, 2011, Newark DE.

Riddle, I.; Romelczyk, S.; Sparling, E. *Delaware Mammography Accessibility Project: An Assessment of Delaware Facilities*. Poster presentation at Delaware Health Science Alliance Women & Children's Health Research Conference, December 10, 2010, Newark, DE.

Riddle, I.; Romelczyk, S.; Sparling, E. *Open to Interpretation: Effective Communication Under the ADA Still Presents Challenges to Patients who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing*, Poster presentation at Delaware Health Science Alliance Women & Children's Health Research Conference, December 10, 2010, Newark, DE.

Riddle, I.K.; Sparling, E. *Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities Project*. Poster presentation at the Annual LIFE Conference, January 24, 2008, Dover, DE.

Riddle, I.K.; Sparling, E.; Mitra, M.; & Roy, P. *Behavioral risk factor surveillance system. A flexible tool for monitoring health status of individuals with disabilities*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, November 9-12, 2008, Washington, D.C.

Sparling, E. *Accessible Recreation in Delaware*, Panel presentation at Annual LIFE Conference XI, January 22, 2009, Dover, DE.

Sparling, E. *Update on Livable Communities and Universal Design in Delaware*, Panel presentation at CDC Disability and Health State Grantee's Meeting, April 23, 2009, New Orleans, LA.

Sparling, E.; Galonsky, P. *Reducing Stress through Physical Activity: Making the Connection Work for You*. Workshop at Fourth Annual Conference for Direct Support Professionals, May 12, 2009, Dover, DE.

Sparling, E.; Riddle, I.K.; & Romelczyk, S. *Delaware mammography accessibility project*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, November 8-11, 2009, Washington, D.C.

Sparling, E., *Disability and Health in Delaware*. Invited speaker at Health Education Network of Delaware Spring Workshop, Newark, DE. June 6, 2010, Newark, DE.

Sparling, E.; Sarro, L.; & Tucker, B. *Using Sign Language Interpreters in Medical Settings*. Panel presentation at Center for Disabilities Studies, University of Delaware, October 12, 2010, Newark, DE.

Sparling, E.; Romelczyk, S.; & Riddle, I.K. *Open to interpretation. Effective communication in health care facilities still presents challenges to patients who are deaf or hard of hearing*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, October 31-November 3, 2010, Crystal City, VA.