

Jennifer Tiffany

Web Bio

Information

Biography

Biographical Statement

Jennifer Tiffany serves as Director of Outreach and Community Engagement for the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR) and as Associate Director for Extension and Outreach in the College of Human Ecology. She also directs the HIV Risk Reduction Research and Education Projects in the BCTR, including the Complementary Strengths Research Partnership which has received NIH funding and involves youth and community-based organizations in research on high quality youth participation, social connectedness, and adolescent sexual health promotion. She joined the College of Human Ecology in 1989 to develop and direct the "Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS" parent education project, which has received numerous awards and was designated a as Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service Program of Excellence in 2001. She received a BA *summa cum laude* in East Asian Studies from Dickinson College in 1977, and holds an MRP and PhD in City and Regional Planning from Cornell University as well as a degree in nursing from Tompkins-Cortland Community College.

Professional

Current Professional Activities

Jennifer Tiffany's work centers on research translation and community engagement, with a particular emphasis on intergenerational communication, youth participation and community-based participatory research including local and international participatory research partnerships with adolescents to explore the impact of HIV/AIDS and ways youth and adults can work together to stem the epidemic. Her HIV/AIDS related research includes a study funded by the National Institutes of Health to examine the relationships among social connectedness, highly engaged program participation, and HIV risk reduction among 13-17 year olds in New York City. The Tiffany-Eckenrode Program Participation Scale (TEPPS), developed and validated through that study, is now being disseminated. She is the lead author of the "Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS" parent

education curriculum, directed a long-standing education initiative for parents and guardians funded by the NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute, and is now working to translate findings from that project into a new set of parent education resource materials. Her research and outreach efforts build upon participatory action research and community-based participatory research methods as well as participatory approaches to planning, program and resource materials design, and evaluation. She currently holds positions as Director of Outreach and Community Engagement, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, and Associate Director for Extension and Outreach, College of Human Ecology.

Research

Current Research Activities

The Complementary Strengths Research Partnership. This community-based participatory research project examines the relationships among social connectedness, highly engaged youth program participation, and HIV risk reduction among adolescents in New York City after-school programs. Funding sources for the on-going community-based participatory research project include a research grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research. Our objective is to study the interactions among youth connectedness, characteristics of highly engaged program participation and HIV risk reduction using both quantitative and qualitative analytic methods in order to develop effective setting-based interventions that promote strong youth participation, thereby promoting youth health and well-being overall and in particular adolescent sexual health. The Tiffany-Eckenrode Program Participation Scale (TEPPS), developed and validated through this study, is now being disseminated.

Empowering Parents to Promote Adolescent Sexual Health. This integrated research and extension project builds on the long-standing “Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS” parent education project to develop, field-test and deliver an innovative, participatory, community-based educational intervention for parents and other adults raising children in New York State.

An Exploratory Study of Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy to Dating Violence. While we know a small proportion of teens are accessing Orders of Protection, we also know the numbers are far smaller than the prevalence of interpersonal violence in teen dating relationships might suggest. Furthermore, while there is a growing literature on teen dating violence itself, few if any studies have partnered with teens to explore, in-depth, their awareness of the availability of Orders of Protection for youth, the barriers that stand in the way of their use,

the factors that facilitate their use, and suggestions for modification to better meet the real life experiences and needs of young people. This focus group study is one component of a larger project led by Advocates for Human Potential and funded by the National Institute of Justice.

International participatory action research to mobilize youth responses to HIV/AIDS. Although the timeframe for funded community mobilization programs is often brief, they may continue to bear fruit over long periods. We continue to follow-up on UNICEF's global "What Every Adolescent has a Right to Know" initiative when opportunities emerge.

Extension

Current Extension Activities

Jennifer Tiffany's responsibilities as Director of Outreach and Community Engagement for the BCTR, Associate Director for Extension and Outreach in the College of Human Ecology and Cornell Cooperative Extension Assistant Director include working to integrate extension/outreach with research and teaching; sustaining a strong partnership between the BCTR and CCE; coordinating the CHE/CCE summer internship program; assisting faculty and CCE professionals to build research partnerships; working to strengthen linkages between campus-based faculty and county extension associations; and identifying opportunities to disseminate CHE scholarship to external audiences. Dr. Tiffany is an active member of CCE's Integrated Program and Research Team and Directors' Council and is deeply involved in the review of applications for Federal Formal Funding grants and in supporting the activities of Program Work Teams, 4-H/Youth Development, the Research Navigators program, and other CCE program and professional development activities. In addition to her responsibilities as Director of Outreach and Community Engagement for the BCTR, Associate Director for Extension and Outreach in the College of Human Ecology and Cornell Cooperative Extension Assistant Director, Jennifer Tiffany directs the Empowering Parents to Promote Adolescent Sexual Health Project. This new integrated research and extension project builds on the "Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS" Parent HIV Education Project, funded by the New York State Department of Health from 1989 through 2011. "Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS" received numerous awards, including the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute Distinguished Service Award for the Provision of HIV Prevention Services (2000), the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Award for Excellence in Community Health Promotion (1994) and the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute HIV/AIDS Materials Development Award for Merit (1994). The project was designated a Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service Program of Excellence by the United States Department of Agriculture in 2001. Like the "Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS" project, we anticipate that, after the initial phases of resource material development and field-testing, the Empowering Parents to Promote Adolescent Sexual Health Project will be implemented throughout New York State, this adult peer education project will be adopted and adapted by community educators in many other states and countries.

Education

Courses

Websites

Related Websites

Talking with Kids about HIV/AIDS - Parent HIV Education Project
www.twkaha.org

Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research
www.bctr.cornell.edu

Jennifer Tiffany's Web Bio
www.human.cornell.edu/bio.cfm?netid=jst5

Administration

Administrative Responsibilities

Jennifer Tiffany serves as the Director of Outreach and Community Engagement for the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research. As a member of the BCTR leadership team, she is responsible for building and sustaining strong and innovative linkages between the Center and its key community partners, including Cornell Cooperative Extension, as well as for strengthening the community engagement capacities of Center-based programs. Dr. Tiffany is also the Associate Director for Extension and Outreach, College of Human Ecology as well as Assistant Director for Cornell Cooperative Extension. Her CHE/CCE responsibilities include working to integrate extension/outreach with research and teaching; sustaining a strong partnership between the BCTR and CCE; coordinating the CHE/CCE summer internship program; assisting faculty and CCE professionals to build research partnerships; working to strengthen linkages between campus-based faculty and county extension associations; and identifying opportunities to disseminate CHE scholarship to external audiences. She is an active member of CCE's Integrated Program and Research Team and Directors' Council and is deeply involved in the review of applications for Federal Formal Funding grants and in supporting the activities of Program Work Teams, 4-H/Youth Development, the Research Navigators program, and other CCE program and professional development activities.

Publications

Selected Publications

SELECTED JOURNAL ARTICLES:

Tiffany, J., Exner, D., and Eckenrode, J. A new measure for youth program participation. *Journal of Community Psychology*. Accepted for publication – forthcoming: April 2012 issue (vol. 40, issue 3).

Goto, K., **Tiffany, J.**, Pelto, G, and Pelletier, D. Young people's experiences in

youth-led participatory action research for HIV/AIDS prevention. *International Journal of Child, Youth and Family Studies*. Accepted for publication.

Goto, K. Pelto, G. Pelletier, D., and **Tiffany, J.** (2010) "It Really Opened My Eyes:" The effects on youth peer educators of participating in an action research project. *Human Organization* 60(2), pp. 192-199.

Goto, K., **Tiffany, J.**, Pelto, G. and Pelletier, D. (2008) Use of Q Methodology to Analyze Divergent Perspectives on Participatory Action Research as a Strategy for HIV/AIDS Prevention Among Caribbean Youth. *AIDS Education and Prevention* 22: 301-311.

Maglajlic, R. A. and **Tiffany, J. S.**, (2006). Participatory action research with youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina. *Journal of Community Practice special issue on Youth Participation and Community Change*, 14(1-2), pp. 163-181.

Powers, J. L. and **Tiffany, J. S.** (2006). Engaging youth in participatory research and evaluation. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, Supplement*, pp. 79-87.

Tiffany, J. S. (2006). Respondent-driven sampling in participatory research contexts: Participant-driven recruitment. *Journal of Urban Health*, 83(7) pp. 113-124.

Bianchi, A., Bishara, D., Enekwe, P., Frost, B., Kastning, A., **Tiffany, J. S.** et al. (2003). Friends inviting friends: Participant-driven recruitment in an HIV prevention research project, *Community Youth Development Journal* 4(1), pp. 26-31.

Tiffany, J. S. (2001). Insights from a plant closing: Dislocated workers and economic development planning, *Planners Network Journal*.

Krauss, B. J., **Tiffany, J. S.** and Goldsamt, L. (1997). Research Notes: Parent and pre-adolescent training for HIV prevention in a high seroprevalence neighborhood. *Royal Tropical Institute AIDS/STD Health Promotion Exchange/Sexual Health Exchange*. 1, 10-12.

Tiffany, J. S. (1996). Notes on welfare reform. *Community and Rural Development Institute Newsletter*. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Tiffany, J. S. (1992). Talking with kids about AIDS. *Family Life Educator*, 10 (4).

Buchanan, R., Olsfeldt, R., Tobias, D., **Tiffany, J. S.**, and Ziegler, J. (1990) Medicaid coverage of AIDS related care: Attitudes of state legislators serving on health-related committees. *AIDS & Public Policy Journal*, 6(3).

Buchanan, R., Olsfeldt, R., Tobias, D., **Tiffany, J. S.**, and Ziegler, J. (1990). Sources of AIDS information: A survey of state legislators' serving on health-related committees, *New England Journal of Human Services*, 10(3).

SELECTED EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEOS

Tiffany, J.S. (2007) Participatory learning with the HIV/AIDS Education Project, Cornell University Public Service Center 2007 Anthology on Service Learning, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Tiffany, J. S. and Young, S. (2004). Involving Parents as Partners in Youth Development. *Practice Matters Issue #2. Assets Coming Together for Youth* Upstate Center of Excellence, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Cornell University RTK Working Group (2003). Participatory Action Research in the Context of the What Every Adolescent Has a Right to Know (RTK) Initiative: Participatory Action Research Toolkit, Cornell University/UNICEF RTK Initiative, Ithaca, NY. (Also available in CD ROM format: Right to Know: Global Portfolio UNICEF (2003).

Cornell University RTK Working Group (2002). Participatory action research in the context of the what every adolescent has a right to know (RTK) Initiative: Core Concepts and Methods, Cornell University/UNICEF RTK Initiative, Ithaca, NY. (Also available in CD ROM format: UNICEF (2003). Right to Know: Global Portfolio.)

Parent HIV/AIDS Education Project (1992). Talking with kids about AIDS: Facilitating key activities. Cornell University Media Services, 58 minute video. Ithaca, NY.

Tiffany, J. S., Tobias, D., Raqib, A. and Ziegler, J. (Second edition 1993, first edition 1991; Spanish edition published 1993). Talking with kids about AIDS resource manual and teaching guide. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Maglajlic, R. A. and **Tiffany, J. S.** (2006) with the Bosnia-Herzegovina UNICEF RTK PAR Team participatory action research with youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Chapter in B. Checkoway and L. Gutierrez (eds). Youth Participation and Community Change. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press.

Krauss, B. J., Godfrey, C., Yee, D., Goldsampt, L., **Tiffany, J. S.**, and Almeyda, L., et al, (2000). Saving our children from a silent epidemic: The PATH Program for Parents and Preadolescents. Chapter in W. Pequegnat and J. Szapocznik (Eds.) Working with families in the era of HIV/AIDS. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Tiffany, J. S. (1994). Involving parents and families in HIV education. Chapter in M. Quakenbush and Clark (eds.) The HIV Challenge. Santa Cruz, CA: ETR Associates.

Tiffany, J. S. (1981). The equal opportunity trap. Chapter in W. Chapkis (ed.), Loaded questions: Women in the military. Amsterdam, Netherlands and Washington, DC: Transnational Institute/Institute for Policy Studies.