



UCLA BLUM CENTER
on Poverty and Health
in Latin America

*Connecting International Partners to Strengthen Health
Systems and Respond to Health Inequities*

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Acknowledgments

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Major Supporters

Richard C. Blum, University of California Regent

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Inter-American Development Bank

Salud Mesoamerica 2015 Initiative

Planning Committee

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Health





HEALTH IS...

- 🌐 “the state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity” (WHO, 1948)
- 🌐 Ability to adapt and self manage in the face of social, physical, and emotional challenges.



Despite public opinion, health is neither created nor maintained solely within the health sector





Human rights principles provide guidance to promote health

- The inter-connected and indivisible rights to:
 - the highest attainable standard of health
 - education, living standard adequate for health, benefits of progress
- Ratifying human rights agreements obligates governments to progressively remove obstacles to realizing all rights
 - **Particularly for groups who have more obstacles**



Latin America



Globally significant

Rich in history

Cultural greatness

**Geographically
beautiful**

Diverse populations

**Economic
powerhouse**



Progress – Latin America

- 🌐 Since 1990, poverty rates have been halved (UNDP, 2013)
- 🌐 Improved standards of living = rapid population growth in recent years
- 🌐 Poverty in rural areas = urbanization = related health challenges.



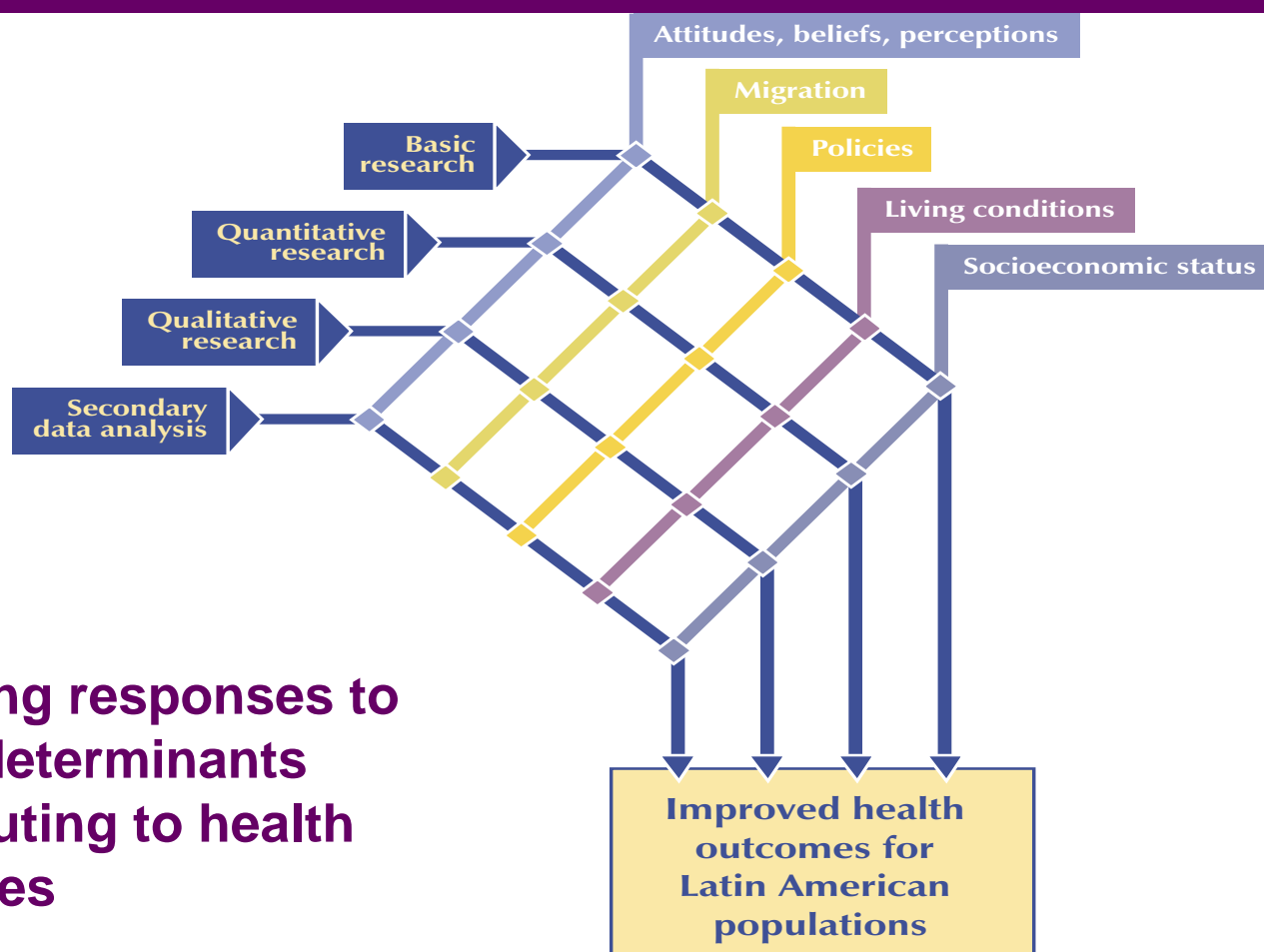
UCLA Blum Center Mission

*Working across boundaries
to reduce poverty
and health inequalities
in Latin America*





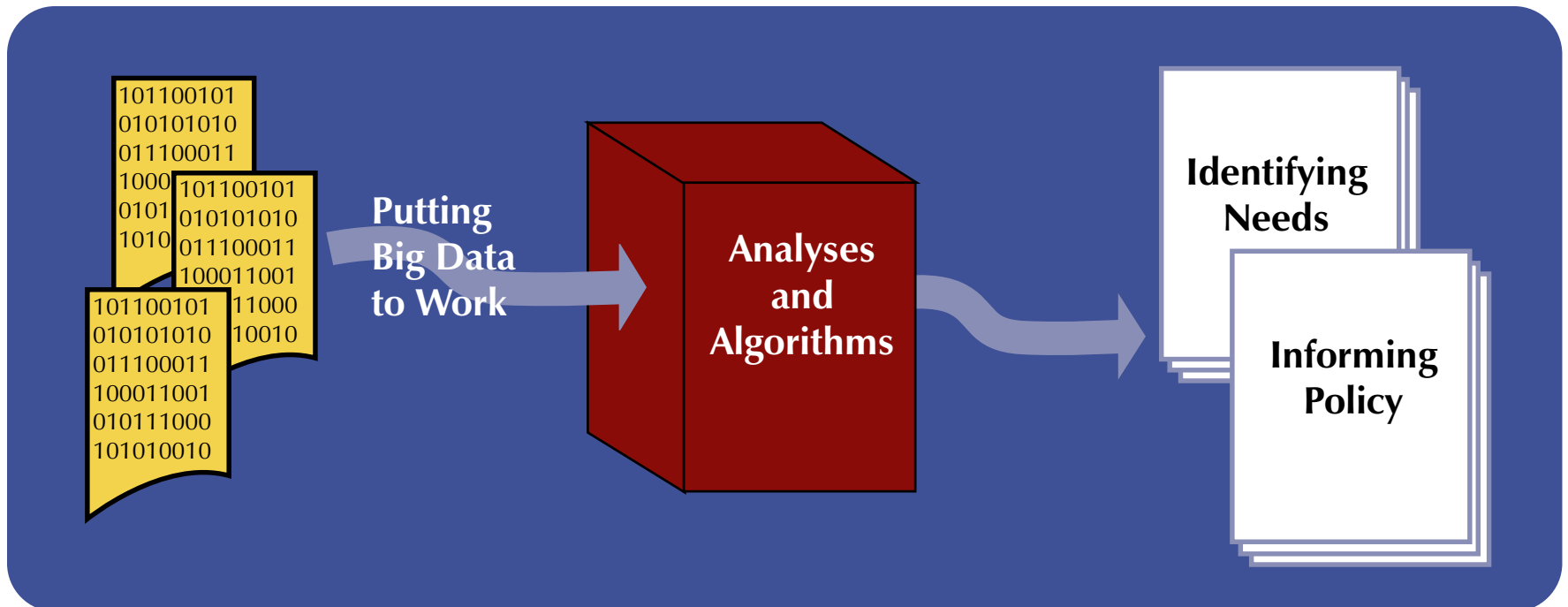
Goal 1: Research



Informing responses to social determinants contributing to health inequities



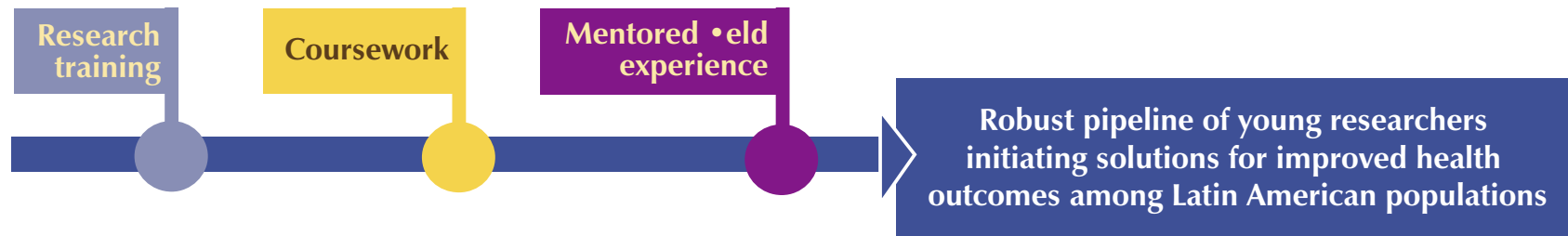
Goal 2: Policy



**Identifying effective policy strategies
and building enhancements**



Goal 3: Training

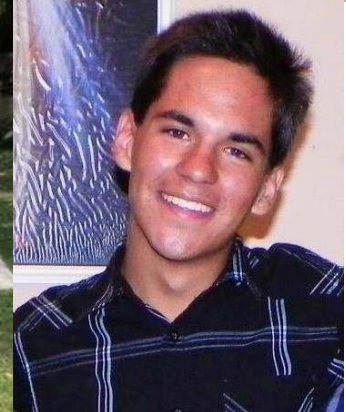


**Educating students and training researchers
about social determinants of health**



Training & Education

Summer Scholar Program





Training & Education

Second Annual Spring Conference

Connecting International Partners
to Strengthen Health Systems
and Respond to Health Inequities

May 6 & 7, 2014
De Neve Auditorium, UCLA



 **Annual Conference**

 **Freshman Cluster Course**

 **UCLA BLUM CENTER**
for Poverty and Health
in Latin America

*Working across boundaries
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SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Tearing down the silos



BUILDING COLLABORATIONS



Richard C. Blum,
UC Regents



Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation





ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS

International Organizations

- Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)
- Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles
- Consulate General of Venezuela in San Francisco
- Dr. Henri Gerard Desgranges (HGD) Foundation - Haiti
- Friends NE
- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) / World Health Organization (WHO)
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua
- World Bank

Representatives from 11 Latin American countries, including:

- Argentina
- Belize
- Costa Rica
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Venezuela



MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

UCLA Schools and Colleges

- ▶ College of Letters and Science, Division of Humanities and the Division of Social Sciences
- ▶ David Geffen School of Medicine
- ▶ Department of Education
- ▶ Fielding School of Public Health
- ▶ Luskin School of Public Affairs
- ▶ School of Dentistry
- ▶ School of Law
- ▶ School of Nursing

UCLA and Area Institutes and Centers

- ▶ Center for Health Policy Research
- ▶ Center for World Health
- ▶ Center of Expertise in Women's Health and Empowerment
- ▶ Center of Expertise on Migration and Health
- ▶ Chicano Studies Research Center
- ▶ Clinical and Translational Science Institute
- ▶ International Institute
- ▶ Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- ▶ Latin American Institute
- ▶ Program on International Migration
- ▶ UCLA Art and Global Health Center
- ▶ UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program
- ▶ WORLD Policy Analysis Center



UCLA Blum Center principles

1. Country driven
2. Social justice and equity aligned
3. Complementary
4. Inclusive and collaborative
5. Capacity building
6. Innovative
7. Prioritize most vulnerable
8. Results orientated
9. Sustainability conscious





Tuesday Sessions

- International partnerships **can** affect human capital and health systems – Keynote
- Successful programs that strengthen health systems and develop the workforce – Plenary Session 1
- IDB's work to accelerate MDG goals in the Americas and reduce equity gaps – Luncheon address
- Explore the Culture of Health with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – Plenary Session 2
- Salud Mesoamerica 2015 Initiative: how data is driving results – Plenary Session 3
- End the day with a reception, networking and entertainment event



Wednesday Sessions

- Regional efforts to scale up innovations that decrease inequities in poverty and health – Plenary Session 4

- Two-hour Working Sessions
Your opportunity to get involved to inform the RWJF Culture of Health. Choose from one of three sessions:
 - Working Session 1A: Values and Social Cohesion
 - Working Session 1B: Multi-Sector Collaboration
 - Working Session 1C: Putting Data in the Driver's Seat to Steer Policy and Systems for Equitable Health



**It is not true that people stop
pursuing dreams because they
grow old;
they grow old because they stop
pursuing dreams. —**

Gabriel García Márquez



Your Role at the Conference

- 🌐 Listen, learn, ask questions
- 🌐 Meet fellow researchers – exchange ideas
- 🌐 Strengthen our resolve to reduce poverty and improve health outcomes in all Latin American populations

➡ REDUCE HEALTH INEQUITIES