

Presentation Title	Place in Schedule
Turning Unhealthy Work into Healthy Work: Healthy Communities through Healthy Work Action Research	Concurrent Session 6.3 <i>Day 3 – Thursday</i> <i>May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018</i> <i>4:05 – 5:30pm</i>
Description of Presentation	Presenter Name(s) And Credentials
<p>Across the country, millions of workers engage in precarious, non-standard employment. These workers are disproportionately represented by women, immigrants, and people of color and often have little control over their schedule and hours, are not paid a living wage, do not receive social benefits such as health insurance or sick leave, and have little protection against accidents and illness at work.</p> <p>In order to address recent trends in labor and improve conditions for those with precarious jobs, unique and thoughtful approaches must be adopted. Precarious work is a complex problem that requires a systems perspective in order to foster “integrated public health programs that consider the complex interplay between work-related and non-work-related factors, that integrate health protection with health promotion and that are delivered at multiple levels to improve health for low-income workers.” Yet, applications of systems - multi-level - approaches to health in the context of precarious employment are limited. Healthy Communities through Healthy Work (HCHW) is a project within the University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Healthy Work that engages with multi-level, multi-sectoral partners to better understand the barriers and facilitators of healthy work and to identify and build evidence to support promising practices that span the levels of the socio-ecological model and promote structural change (e.g. policy, systems, and environmental change) to address precarious work through collaborative action. HCHW has undertaken the first and second phases of action research (AR), Look and Think. The Look phase is characterized by systematic inquiry; the Think phase encompasses the analysis and interpretation of the results. We will discuss the AR model and review our guiding research questions, and data collection and analysis methods. Data collection methods include a</p>	Joseph Zandoni, PhD, MILR <i>University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health ERC</i>
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comprehensive intervention database and key informant interviews. Partners' perceptions of barriers and facilitators to healthy work will be discussed, as well as themes by levels and sectors. Early findings suggest that across sectors and levels, there is adequate awareness of the root causes of precarious work. However, there is a limited understanding or a sense of being overwhelmed about how to address the problem. There appears to be an opportunity for public health to provide data, surveillance, resources, get involved in policy work, and partner with labor to better make the argument for the connection between health and work. Implications for addressing worker health will be highlighted. We will also discuss the next phases of our work, the Act phase of AR, which is intended to drive next steps, such as furthering research or initiative development. HCHW is in the process of bringing together partners to create learning communities, focused on systems initiative mapping at multiple levels and the launch of pilot innovation initiative projects.