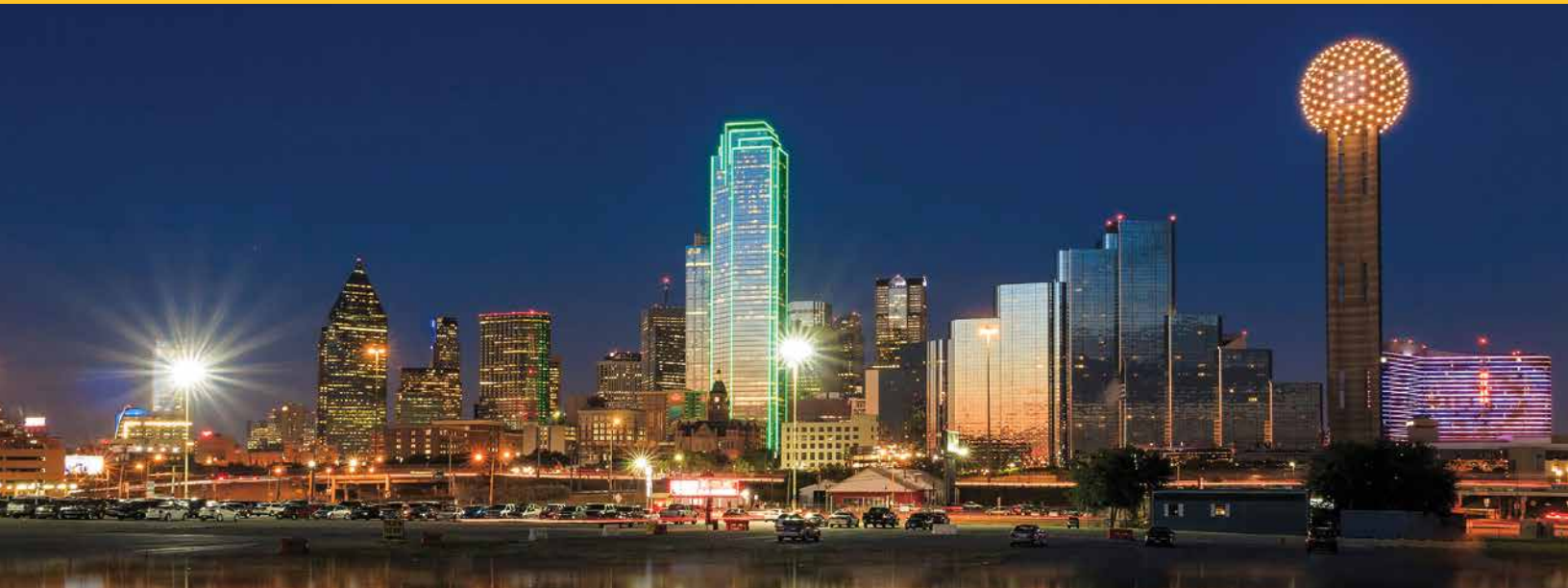


EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND PURPOSE STATEMENT



The Minority Health and Community Health Research Interest Groups (RIGS) of the Southern Nurses Research Society will host a pre-conference Community Town Hall:

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 | 4-6 p.m.

**Diabetes Health and Wellness Institute | Juanita J. Craft Recreation Center
4500 Spring Avenue | Dallas, TX 75210**

Community Town Hall: A Bridge to Engage Community Members and Researchers

Community engagement is a core approach to improving population health. This Town Hall meeting has been planned by researchers, clinicians and community members to understand the concepts around engagement *with* and *for* promoting health and well-being in the community.

The purpose of this Community Town Hall is two-fold:

1) to provide information about promoting health and mitigating health disparities, particularly related to major chronic health issues affecting residents of the South Dallas area. Cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and stroke are among the top chronic conditions; 2) the Community Town Hall will provide an opportunity for researchers and others stakeholders to hear concerns and learn from local community members.

Organizers have planned panel presentations by researchers, faith-based organizations and citizen members. A community-based approach will be used to engage all participants in the process of bi-directional learning for problem identification, decision-making and strategies for problem solving empower community for active participation in their own well-being.

The Community Town Hall will conclude with a reception and networking event for attendees. The final results of the Town Hall will be disseminated to attendees, SNRS membership, local community members/groups and schools of nursing in the Dallas, Texas area.