The Center for Health Equity Research (CHER) brings together collaborative, multidisciplinary teams of scholars and community members to improve health in underserved communities through a shared commitment to health equity, innovation, and translational research.

**Rocky Mount Social and Environmental Assessment to Rate Community Health (SEARCH)**

The UNC Center for Health Equity Research (CHER) has recently launched the Rocky Mount Social and Environmental Assessment to Rate Community Health (SEARCH) project. The study will consist of a series of observational assessments to measure the existence and quality of various aspects of the physical and social environment in Rocky Mount neighborhoods. The data will be used to support current and future CHER projects, and is specifically focused on understanding neighborhood-level determinants of health that influence cardiovascular disease related health outcomes.

The SEARCH project will assess wide array of domains and questions that will attempt to provide an objective assessment of the built environment of Rocky Mount, NC. Through SEARCH, we plan to conduct a comprehensive assessment that will comprise of:

- A neighborhood observatory audit that will provide a comprehensive assessment of the physical and social environment of a neighborhood. The survey will assess neighborhood domains such as the: pedestrian environment; safety; adult activity; youth activity; physical and social disorder and order
- A public green space survey that will assess the: types of public park/green space, quantity and quality of amenities in a park; a measure of park attendance; adult and children activity and; park safety
- The food environment survey will rate the: types, quantity and quality of food available; Condition of the food store; food prices; and accessibility

If you are interested in learning more about SEARCH, please contact: Nicole Robinson-Ezekwe, MA, MPH at nic7@live.unc.edu