CRISP supports the development of independent University of Massachusetts researchers who conduct community engaged research. Community engaged research involves collaboration with community partners along the translational research continuum.

Lorraine Cordeiro, PhD, MPH
Food Security, Traditional Health Practices, and Health Education among Immigrant and Refugee Women in the United States
Partnering with the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell, Inc., Dr. Cordeiro collected and analyzed samples of traditional medicinal concoctions used by post-partum Cambodian women in Massachusetts.

Christopher Denning, PhD
Adapting and Piloting a Physical Activity Program for Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Dr. Denning worked with the special education director of the Quincy Public Schools to develop and implement a physical activity and motor development program. He then studied the effects of the program on fitness levels, social skills, and behavioral problems in the children.

Rachel Kulick, PhD, MEd
UMass Dartmouth Grows: Ecological and Equity Based Approaches to Food Justice
Dr. Kulick partnered with students and faculty at New Bedford High School to launch a comprehensive program focusing on food justice including planting a community garden, designing curriculum for environmental science classes, and mapping food areas in the community.

Harpreet Thind, PhD, MPH, MBBS
Community-Based Yoga to Improve Adherence to Weight Loss Recommendations
Dr. Thind worked with the Lawrence Senior Center and Lowell General Hospital to study the effects of yoga for patients pre- and post-bariatric surgery including changes in behavioral and psychological factors.

2017 CRISP Scholars
- Leslie Wang, PhD
- Angela Walter, PhD, MPH, MSW
- Michelle Trivedi, MD, MPH
- Kristin Murphy, PhD

All four 2016 Scholars are seeking future funding (NIH R21, R16, and AREA R15) to build on the findings of their initial projects.