

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
MEL & ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF

# PUBLIC HEALTH



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
Mel & Enid Zuckerman  
College of Public Health

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH INNOVATIONS**







# DEAN'S MESSAGE

**G**reetings Friends,

For 25 years, the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health has brought together science, compassion, and community to prevent disease and create a healthier future for all.

Our story traces back to the Arizona Prevention Center at the University of Arizona, where a small and determined MPH program graduated its first class in 1994. I had the privilege of being part of that inaugural class, an experience that inspired my lifelong commitment to public health and ultimately led me to serve as dean.

Guided by the vision of Dr. James Dalen, then Vice President for Health Sciences, and the leadership of Dr. Kent Campbell, then the director of the Arizona Prevention Center, our early efforts were fueled by passion, purpose, and a shared belief that prevention and community well-being are at the heart of healthcare. That vision became reality in 2000 thanks to the remarkable generosity and lasting commitment of Mel and Enid Zuckerman, whose gift established the college that now carries their name.

Under the leadership of our founding dean, Dr. G. Marie Swanson, and my privilege and honor to serve as dean since 2007, the college has flourished into a vibrant, globally recognized force in education, research, and community impact. As the first and only accredited college of public health in Arizona, we have proudly served as the state's driving force for health promotion and disease prevention.

From local neighborhoods to international networks, our reach has extended far beyond Tucson. We've trained more than 6,300 graduates who are now leading change in communities across Arizona, throughout the nation, and around the world. Our faculty and students work hand in hand with partners to tackle today's most pressing challenges—from chronic disease prevention, maternal and child health, and pandemic response to mental health, environmental resilience, and the emerging influence of Artificial Intelligence in health. With the integration of the School of Health Professions we are further expanding our collaborative reach, creating new opportunities for interprofessional learning and growing Arizona's healthcare workforce.

Our impact is visible across Arizona and beyond, from our One Health collaborations that connect human, animal, and environmental well-being, to our AI & Health initiatives that harness technology to predict and prevent disease. Through our Arts for Health and Wellness projects, we're exploring how creativity and cultural expression strengthen mental health and resilience. Our Mobile Health Units and Street Medicine programs are meeting people where they are, bringing care directly to those most in need, from rural towns to urban streets. And with the recent launch of the Ending Pandemics Academy, we are preparing the next generation of leaders to anticipate, prevent, and respond to global health threats with agility and compassion.

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we do so with deep pride in what we've accomplished, and an unshakable commitment to what comes next. The Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health stands strong because of the people who built it, believed in it, and continue to drive it forward: our faculty, staff, students, alumni, and supporters. Together, we carry forward a legacy of innovation, compassion, and collaboration that drives us to build healthier communities for generations to come.

I invite you to explore this report and celebrate the stories, accomplishments, and partnerships that have shaped our first 25 years.

Here's to the next 25!



Iman Hakim, MD, PhD, MPH  
Dean



# BY the NUMBERS



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Mel & Enid Zuckerman  
College of Public Health

[publichealth.arizona.edu](http://publichealth.arizona.edu)

# 1ST

**CEPH ACCREDITED  
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
IN THE SOUTHWEST AND  
THE ONLY ONE IN ARIZONA**

# 5

**ACADEMICS UNITS  
4 DEPARTMENTS / 1 SCHOOL**

# 12

**CENTERS & INSTITUTES**

# \$43M

**RESEARCH FUNDING**

# 10

**UNDERGRADUATE  
PROGRAMS**

# 13

**MPH  
PROGRAMS**

# 9

**MS, PhD, DrPH  
PROGRAMS**

**GRADUATES WORK IN**

# 50 STATES

# 42 COUNTRIES

# 6 CONTINENTS

# TOP 5

**AMONG ACCREDITED  
SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
FOR INDIGENOUS AND  
HISPANIC STUDENTS**

## Tucson Campus

Drachman Hall  
1295 N. Martin Ave.  
P.O. Box 245163  
Tucson, Arizona 85724

## Phoenix Campus

Phoenix Bioscience Core  
550 E. Van Buren Street  
UA Phoenix Plaza Building 1  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

## CONNECT WITH US



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## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.



The Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health has held continuous accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) since 2003 and is accredited through December 31, 2027.



## On the Cover

Public health students gather outside Drachman Hall, home of the Zuckerman College of Public Health.

Photo by  
Ann Garn





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ALL OVER THE WORLD, OUR  
ALUMNI MAKE A DIFFERENCE









25  
YEARS  
OF

GROWTH  
SERVICE  
INNOVATION



to build a  
healthier  
world  
FOR  
EVERYONE





## 2000

### THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA LAUNCHES THE COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

With a pivotal founding gift from Mel and Enid Zuckerman, the young college began to grow. In 2002, the college was renamed the **Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health** in honor of the Zuckermans and their visionary generosity.



## 2009

### Arizona Prevention Research Center

The Arizona Prevention Research Center launches with funding from the CDC and focuses on programs and projects conducted in close collaboration with residents of Arizona's border counties and Community Health Workers. The AzPRC is now part of the **Participatory Evaluation and Action Research Center (PEAR)** in the college.



## 2009

### Global Health Institute

The **Global Health Institute** is established to catalyze global health activity through international collaboration in education, research, training, and public health outreach.

To reach more students at the University of Arizona, the college establishes a public health major, the Bachelor of Science degree or **BS in Public Health**, for undergraduate students.



## 2009

### 2011 Arizona Center for Rural Health

The Rural Health Office becomes the **Arizona Center for Rural Health** in the college, providing outstanding public health services to rural communities.

## 2010

The college expands to **Phoenix** at the newly completed Phoenix Biomedical Campus of the University of Arizona.





**2001**

Professor G. Marie Swanson, Founding Dean, begins her leadership of the new college and builds expertise in education, research, and health promotion programs.



**2004**

## Zuckerman Family Center for Prevention and Health Promotion

Mel and Enid establish the Zuckerman Family Center for Prevention and Health Promotion within the college to support community wellness programs.

**2007**

Dr. Iman Hakim starts as the new Dean of the college and leads growth in programs, enrollment, research, and global partnerships.



**2006**



Newly completed Drachman Hall hosts its first classes, and the new home of the college is celebrated in a dedication ceremony in April 2006.

**2014**

## Environment, Exposure Science and Risk Assessment Center

The college establishes the Environment, Exposure Science and Risk Assessment Center (ESRAC) to provide expertise in the areas of human exposure science and risk assessment.



## Western Region Public Health Training Center

The Western Region Public Health Training Center (WRPHTC) is established to serve public health professionals in many western states with online training courses to meet emerging threats.



**2015**

The online Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program launches to bring excellent public health education to a whole new range of students. Now the college offers online undergraduate and MPH degrees through Arizona Online.

CONTINUE »



## 2016 Mobile Health Units

The college launches the Primary Prevention Mobile Health Units program to bring much needed services to Spanish-language communities.



## 2020–2022

The college received more than \$92 million in grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to conduct multiple research studies on COVID-19 and the impact of post-COVID-19 conditions in diverse populations.

## 2024 Health Equity Research Center

The Health Equity Research Center (HERC) forms to conduct high quality, multidisciplinary research to better understand and alleviate health inequities faced by underserved and vulnerable populations in the American Southwest.

To expand its global reach, the college launched a dual-degree program with Universidad del Valle de Mexico (UVM) so that students in several medicine-related programs at UVM can earn their BS in Public Health from the University of Arizona at the same time. More international dual-degree programs will follow.



2024



## 2025 Ending Pandemics Academy

With knowledge and expertise from the innovative non-profit *Ending Pandemics*, and funding from the Skoll Foundation, the college establishes the Ending Pandemics Academy to train the next generation of students and civic leaders to deploy emerging technologies, diverse data sources, and collaborative strategies to stop the next pandemic.

## 2025 AI for Public Health Initiative

The college launches the AI for Public Health Initiative to harness the power of AI to deliver data-driven insights, respond rapidly to emerging health threats, and find solutions to complex public health challenges.



# 2022

## Center for Firefighter Health Collaborative Research

The college opened the [Center for Firefighter Health Collaborative Research](#), which works with firefighters and fire departments to study the occupational health risks that firefighters face. Center researchers gather data that will inform decisions, practices, and policies to keep firefighters safer and healthier.



# 2023

## One Health Initiative

The college launches the [One Health Initiative](#) to expand education and research focused on complex public health challenges where human health, animal health, and environmental health are deeply interconnected.

# 2023

## Climate Change & Health Initiative

The college launches its [Climate Change & Health Initiative](#) to advance the public health response to climate change – the single biggest threat facing humanity today. In compliment, the college establishes the [Southwest Center on Resilience for Climate Change and Health \(SCORCH\)](#) with funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.



# 2025

## School of Health Professions

The college has launched four new graduate degree programs, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapy, Genetic Counseling, and Midwifery, within the new [School of Health Professions](#), along with courses in Health Sciences Design, to strengthen Arizona's healthcare workforce.

## Arts for Health & Wellness Initiative

The college launched the [Arts for Health and Wellness Initiative](#), a portfolio of programs implementing art-based interventions as effective tools for mental health support, social integration, and holistic healthcare across the lifespan. 25



# 2025



# OUR GLOBAL

## ST. LAWRENCE ISLAND, ALASKA, USA

### RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH TRIBAL NATION

In collaboration with the Yupik people on St. Lawrence Island in Alaska, Dr. Frank von Hippel conducts ecotoxicology research to evaluate and mitigate the health risks from environmental contamination due to a former Cold War military site and uses a Community Based Participatory Research model so the research is guided by the local Yupik community.



## TUCSON, ARIZONA, USA

### IT ALL STARTS HERE

Our home base at the University of Arizona is home to our talented multi-national faculty that has expanded our reach around the globe to improve health and wellness everywhere we go.

## MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

### DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM

A pioneering collaboration establishes a dual degree program where students will pursue Medicine at Universidad del Valle de Mexico and Public Health (BS) at the college. The dual degree program will equip graduates with a comprehensive skill set, blending medical expertise with a deep understanding of public health.

## LAKE ATITLÁN, GUATEMALA

### PIVOTAL RESEARCH

Research led by the college found a potential link between growth problems among infants and high levels of toxic metals and other elements in the breast milk of Mayan women in Guatemala's Lake Atitlán watershed region. The findings were reported in the journal Environmental Pollution.

## LIMA, PERU

### PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Our college is working with leadership from the Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas in Lima, Peru, to advance plans for a dual degree program. In addition, our Global Health Institute coordinates a Climate Change and Healthcare field experience program for students in the Peruvian capital.

## RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Initiated by Dr. Onicio Leal Neto, the college now has an international academic partnership with Inspirali, Brazil's largest medical education ecosystem, advancing global opportunities for students and faculty with an Executive Program in AI for Public Health, and joint research projects, and continuing medical education courses.

All around the globe, the college has built partnerships with other universities, programs, and communities to expand education and public health research. We now offer Dual Degree programs for students from other countries, pursue Community Based Participatory Research projects in diverse regions, operate the Global Flu View platform to monitor influenza-like illness globally, and fund our GHI Scholars to train students on projects and research in many nations.



# ENGAGEMENT

## LIMERICK, IRELAND

### EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Our partnership with the University of Limerick in Ireland has enabled several of our GHI Scholars to pursue research projects in Ireland. Recently, GHI Scholar Katie Herder conducted a gerontological health study in collaboration with the Insight Clinical Education and Research Unit that uses data from the healthcare system in Ireland to improve patient care.

## MYSORE, INDIA

### RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

GHI Scholar Priyanka Ravi, MDS, conducted a groundbreaking research study on occupational health exposures among tobacco farmers and tobacco workers, predominantly women, in the city of Mysore, India, to evaluate working conditions and improve public health in close collaboration with the college's longtime partner the Public Health Research Institute of India.

## HONG KONG

### INFLUENZA TRACKING PARTNERSHIP

The FluTracking digital online health surveillance system that operates in Hong Kong and Australia is part of the college's [Global Flu View digital web platform](#) that visualizes participatory surveillance data on influenza-like illness (ILI) from partner programs around the world to provide real-time insights into flu activity.

## SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

### EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

Our flourishing education and research partnership with the University of Technology Sydney has enabled several of our GHI Scholars and an NIH T32 Postdoctoral Fellow to work on public health research projects in Australia.

## JAKARTA, INDONESIA

### EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Dr. Priscilla Magrath and MPH student Lady Dorothy Elli recently [visited with our partner universities in Indonesia](#), the University of Indonesia and University Jenderal Soedirman, to build collaboration on education and research projects.

## DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

### PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH

Our collaborative partnership with Muhimbili University of Health Allied Sciences (MUHAS) has enabled our GHI Scholars to pursue research in Tanzania. Recently, GHI Scholar Victor Okpanachi studied the impact of climate change on water quality and the incidence of the *Vibrio cholerae* bacteria that causes cholera.

## POINTS OF CONNECTION

Explore the locations where our research, partnerships, and scholars are making a difference.



GLOBAL  
RESEARCH



GHI  
SCHOLARS



PARTNER  
UNIVERSITIES



GHES  
SCHOLARS



GLOBAL  
FLU VIEW



# GLOBAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

In our deeply interconnected world, a global approach to public health is more important than ever. Founded in 2009 by Dean Iman Hakim, the Global Health Institute has been building programs and partnerships all over the world to train tomorrow's global health leaders ever since.

Guided by director Dr. Gabriela Valdez and senior manager Roxanna Apaez, the [Global Health Institute's](#) (GHI) programs and partnerships train students to assess health threats, devise solutions, and implement programs that will keep our global communities safe and healthy.

With partnerships in many countries, and new education and research programs offered by the Ending Pandemics Academy and Global Flu View, the Global Health Institute pursues public health education, research, and programs that use innovative methods and technologies to meet the global health challenges of the future.

## Dual Degree students from the Universidad del Valle de Mexico gain a public health perspective

The University of Arizona's BS in Public Health with a Global Health Track, in collaboration with the Bachelor of Medicine program at the Universidad del Valle de Mexico, offers a unique and comprehensive educational opportunity for aspiring healthcare professionals. This [dual-degree program](#) seamlessly integrates the diverse perspectives of public health and medicine, equipping students with a robust foundation in global health. Graduates emerge with a holistic understanding of public health and medical practices, positioning them as adept professionals capable of addressing complex health challenges on a global scale.



## The Global Flu View influenza tracking platform trains students to fight the spread of infectious disease

Global Flu View (GFV), an innovative digital web platform that visualizes self-reported influenza-like illness (ILI) data from several participatory surveillance programs around the world, was awarded to the college's Global Health Institute in 2023, along with funding to hire a faculty member to oversee and advance the project.

Now GFV, directed by Dr. Onicio Leal Neto, is not only tracking disease globally, it is also preparing the next generation of innovative global health leaders through the Global Flu View Spark program that trains students to use digital tools and participatory surveillance to meet public health challenges.

## The GHI Scholars program empowers students to gain international research experience

In the summer of 2025, nine [Global Health Institute Scholars](#) (GHI Scholars) traveled abroad to pursue research and participate in programs in other countries. In the process, they helped communities and earned unique experience in global health practice.

The GHI Scholars program prepares students for an increasingly interconnected world through a transformative service-learning experience that builds skills in community engaged research, cultural competence, and problem-solving from diverse perspectives.



*This summer I worked in the Galápagos Islands, helping identify strategies to reduce health risks in Ecuador and growing as a researcher.*

—Juliana Salazar, 2025 GHI Scholar  
Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral (ESPOL), Ecuador



## Young Global Leaders program inspires high school students to practice public health

Since 2021, our Global Health Institute, in partnership with our [Environment, Exposure Science, and Risk Assessment Center](#) (ESRAC), has welcomed high school students from across Arizona for our [Young Global Leaders Program](#) (YGL), an immersive experience designed to spark curiosity, deepen knowledge, and inspire careers in public health and the health sciences.

This summer the YGL program, led by Roxanna Apaez, Senior Manager at GHI, and Dr. Jonathan Sexton, Director of Laboratory Operations and K-12 Outreach at ESRAC, introduced students to real-world research, laboratory investigations, and public health careers.

*Our goal is to empower young people as critical thinkers, compassionate leaders, and advocates for community well-being by giving them tools to question, test evidence, and explore how public health connects to their lives.*

—Roxanna Apaez Senior Manager, Global Health Institute



## Partnership with Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services helps train Dual Degree students from Mexico

This summer, medical students from the Universidad del Valle de México joined the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services Division through the Global Health Institute's ongoing Intercultural Program. The [partnership program](#) highlights cross-border collaboration and cultural learning while fulfilling the University of Arizona's land-grant mission to create opportunity through community collaboration.



## Students in the GHES fellowship advance public health for diverse communities in other countries

A year-long research training program funded by the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Fogarty International Center (FIC), the [Global Health Emerging Scholars](#) (GHES) fellowship program sends a new cohort of students to conduct research in low-and-middle-income countries (LMIC) around the world every year. Many students from the college have gained vital global health experience through the GHES fellowship program every year since 2021.

## Partnership with University of Limerick in Ireland enables student exchange and advances public health research

The School of Medicine at the University of Limerick in Ireland entered a partnership agreement with the Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona in 2022 to enhance cooperation in public health education, research and practice. Already [several students from both universities](#) have taken advantage of the opportunity to pursue public health research and experiential learning. 🇮🇪





# OUR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUILD A HEALTHIER FUTURE

**B**uilding on our strategic plan, the college directs resources to Strategic Initiatives that build the expertise and experience needed to prepare for current and future public health challenges. Our Initiatives deploy new technologies, build resilience, and bring programs that boost health and wellness to vulnerable and underserved communities.



## Arts for Health and Wellness

The new [Arts for Health and Wellness Initiative](#) develops and implements arts programs and creative activities such as dance, Tai Chi, visual arts, and music to support social and emotional needs in the community and promote mental health and wellness. These arts programs provide therapeutic benefits – they reduce stress, improve mood and cognition, enhance physical function, and foster social connection – for participants of all ages from kids to older adults.



## AI for Public Health Initiative

We live in a world where technology evolves at an unprecedented pace. In the field of public health, [Artificial Intelligence](#) (AI) will empower professionals to adapt and quickly respond to new health threats. In the field of public health, integrating AI is not just an option, it's a necessity for professionals to remain relevant, effective, and impactful. Public health challenges are becoming more complex, but with AI-powered solutions and data-driven insights, we can protect and improve population health in ways never before possible.



## Extreme Weather & Health

[Climate change](#) stands as the single biggest threat facing humanity. Droughts, floods, severe storms, and wildfires have already displaced millions of people, caused widespread food insecurity, and amplified the spread of disease. Public health provides the tools and expertise we need to lead the response to climate change displacement and health risks – to prepare, build resilience, and find solutions.





## Children's Health

When kids learn positive healthy habits, the knowledge lasts a lifetime and spreads among the extended family! [Our programs for children](#), like Healthy Habits Tucson and the Healthy 2B Me summer camp, harness the passion of our public health students to teach children about diet and exercise and wellness. They forge connections and relationships that build healthier communities, and they provide training for future public health leaders.

## Indigenous Health

In the Zuckerman College of Public Health, we are proud to [work collaboratively with tribes across Arizona](#) to deliver first-rate public health education and health services to Indigenous communities. We have worked with tribal communities to solve health challenges for many years, and we continue to grow our Indigenous faculty and program offerings. Together, we work to build health equity in all areas for native peoples.



## One Health Initiative

The more we learn, the more we understand that human health is deeply intertwined with the health of animals and the environment. [One Health](#) looks at human health in the context of these deep connections between people and the natural world. The One Health Initiative offers a range of programs to train the next generation of researchers to conduct community-engaged, cross-disciplinary investigations that will meet the complex health challenges of our rapidly changing world. 🌱



## Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud

The [Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud](#) public health program (in English: Committed to Your Health), fosters community-engaged research collaborations, service, and education to advance health equity in Southern Arizona. The Nosotros team works closely with underserved Mexican-origin and other Hispanic communities who experience health inequities to improve health outcomes. Their programs have led to weight-loss in partner communities, increased physical activity and healthy eating habits, and increased awareness of substance abuse and the importance of early medical screening.



Discover how our Strategic Initiatives turn ideas into action to advance health and resilience in every community. Scan the QR code or visit [publichealth.arizona.edu/initiatives](http://publichealth.arizona.edu/initiatives)





# OUR CENTERS FOCUS EXPERTISE & FUNDING

## ARIZONA CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH

Dedicated to improving the health and wellness of Arizona's rural and vulnerable populations, the Arizona Center for Rural Health provides education, technical assistance, data and analysis to rural hospitals and healthcare providers to help them adapt to a rapidly changing rural health environment. It is a hub for collaboration on health care and services with rural and underserved communities in Arizona, the Southwest, and on the border.

*Launched in 2011*

 [crh.arizona.edu](http://crh.arizona.edu)



## BRISA CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The BRISA Center for the Environment (Building Resilience, Innovation, Sustainability, and Assistance Center for the Environment) works as an authentic partner with diverse communities to achieve environmental, energy, climate resilience, and sustainability goals. Across a large geographic region in the US Southwest and Pacific Islands, the center serves as a one-stop shop for hands-on technical assistance, multi-faceted training, and other eligible forms of assistance, resources, and support to program participants.

*The EPA funded WEST Environmental Justice Center launched in 2023, now transformed into BRISA Center for the Environment.*

 [brisa.arizona.edu](http://brisa.arizona.edu)



## CENTER FOR FIREFIGHTER HEALTH COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

The Center for Firefighter Health Collaborative Research works with firefighters and fire departments to study the occupational health risks that firefighters face. Building on years of firefighter health research conducted by Zuckerman College of Public Health faculty in close collaboration with fire departments, CFHCR gathers data that informs decisions, practices, and policies to keep firefighters safer and healthier, and has already had a lasting positive impact on firefighter health.

*Launched in 2022*

 [publichealth.arizona.edu/outreach/CFHCR](http://publichealth.arizona.edu/outreach/CFHCR)

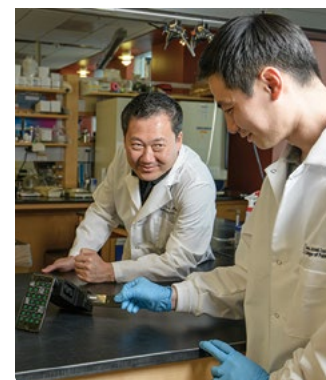


## ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURE SCIENCE & RISK ASSESSMENT CENTER

Using a cross-disciplinary approach, the Environment, Exposure Science and Risk Assessment Center (ESRAC), integrates public health with environmental research and brings researchers from different fields together to investigate a broad range of topics related to environmental hazards and human health effects. ESRAC identifies and evaluates harmful environmental exposures, then provides expertise to communities, care providers, and industry to monitor and model those exposures, assess health risks, design intervention and mitigation measures, and gauge economic impact.

*Launched in 2014*

 [esrac.arizona.edu](http://esrac.arizona.edu)



Since we launched our very first Center, the Zuckerman Family Center for Prevention and Health Promotion, in 2004, the college has continued to develop centers that harness our expertise, attract funding, and generate programs that make a real difference in the lives of people and communities. You can see the range and reach of our many Centers here!

## HEALTH EQUITY RESEARCH CENTER

The Health Equity Research Center (HERC) conducts high quality, multidisciplinary research to better understand and alleviate health inequities faced by underserved and vulnerable populations in the American Southwest. With a focus on communities at greatest risk with an unequal burden of disease, they strive to promote health equity through the advancement of empirically guided, sustainable programs and interventions that promote health through community engagement.

Launched in 2024

 [publichealth.arizona.edu/outreach/herc](http://publichealth.arizona.edu/outreach/herc)



## PARTICIPATORY EVALUATION AND ACTION RESEARCH CENTER

The Participatory Evaluation and Action Research (PEAR) Center partners with organizations at the local, state, tribal and national level to center community voices and promote prevention programs that improve public health. PEAR grew out of programs initiated by the Arizona Prevention Research Center funded by the CDC. Guided by their Community Action Board, and in close collaboration with Community Health Workers, the PEAR team collaborates on research, assessment, and mutual capacity building initiatives to address health inequities, inform policy, and support social change.

*The AZ Prevention Research Center launched in 2009*

 [pearcenter.publichealth.arizona.edu](http://pearcenter.publichealth.arizona.edu)



## SOUTHWEST CENTER ON RESILIENCE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH

The Southwest Center on Resilience for Climate Change and Health (SCORCH) is dedicated to research and programs that will empower communities in dry regions, both locally and globally, to adapt to the health risks of climate change and build health equity as heat, drought, wildfires, and other climate crises threaten population health. The fundamentally collaborative approach of the SCORCH team builds on current expertise and partnerships to serve a range of communities, including both urban and rural populations, Indigenous peoples, and Spanish-language groups.

Launched in 2023

 [scorch.arizona.edu](http://scorch.arizona.edu)



## WESTERN REGION PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING CENTER

The Western Region Public Health Training Center (WRPHTC) provides access to world-class professional development, data-driven learning tools, experiential learning, needs-assessments, consulting, and technical assistance for the public health and healthcare workforce in the pacific southwest. Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration, WRPHTC is one of ten Regional Public Health Training Centers that collectively represent the nation's most comprehensive resource for public health workforce development.

Launched in 2014

 [wrphtc.arizona.edu](http://wrphtc.arizona.edu)




Explore all of our Centers online and discover how they advance health equity through expertise, funding, and innovation. Scan the QR code or visit [publichealth.arizona.edu/centers](http://publichealth.arizona.edu/centers)





# OUR STUDENTS WILL CHANGE THE WORLD

Each generation of public health leaders pushes to advance public health and safety, and so much has been accomplished, from vaccines to seat belts to smoking regulations.

Each generation also faces new health challenges, and with the impacts of climate change, global migration, and technological disruption, our graduates must be prepared to lead tomorrow's fight for health and equity. We are training the next generation of public health leaders. 



## SPOTLIGHT

Since our first graduating MPH class in 1994, we have been preparing future public health leaders



ARIZONA GRADUATE PROGRAM IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
1993-1994

**IMAN HAKIM**

MD, PhD, MPH '94

Dean, Zuckerman  
College of Public Health  
Professor, Mel & Enid  
Zuckerman Endowed Chair in  
Public Health  
Founding Director,  
Global Health Institute



**MARK SMOLINSKI**

MD, MPH '94

Executive Director,  
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Jeff Skoll Endowed Chair  
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**HILARY FLINT**

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Applied Research Division,  
St. Luke's Health System



*Public health matters to me because it is about protecting people where they live, work, and age. Growing up in a climate-vulnerable country, I witnessed how inequities shape health. My passion lies in using science to protect the most vulnerable and ensure every community has the chance to thrive.*

—Imran Mithu PhD Student, Environmental Health Sciences  
Hometown: Dhaka, Bangladesh





Our student Ambassadors give their time and talent to represent the college and promote public health.



Every year, we celebrate our first-generation students—those who are the first in their families to earn a higher education degree—with recognition pins presented by faculty to honor and celebrate their achievements. More than 90 first-generation students graduated from the college in Spring 2025.



*I was incredibly excited to work with UNAM on my 'Public Health and Health Promotion' project. This opportunity allowed me to deepen my understanding of public health in a global context, collaborate with fellow students in Ciudad de México, and learn directly from the communities we aimed to serve.*

—**Danitza M. Molina** MPH Student, Global Health  
GHI Scholar, Mexico City  
Site: Facultad de Estudios Superiores Zaragoza,  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México



*I chose public health because I believe healthcare should not focus solely on treating disease, but also on preventing it. If we look at health from the holistic standpoint that public health provides, we can do so much good for the community!*

—**Robyn Almario** Undergraduate Student, Public Health (Global Health Emphasis)  
Hometown: Detroit, MI



# SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The college welcomes four new clinical degree programs and courses in health sciences design in our new School of Health Professions! These new graduate degree programs, several of them initiated by the Arizona Board of Regents, will train skilled providers to expand our healthcare workforce and meet the needs of communities in Arizona.

The new programs include:

- » Doctor of Physical Therapy Program
- » Physician Assistant Program
- » Midwifery Program
- » Genetic Counseling Graduate Program
- » Health Sciences Design Program

These new degree programs not only help the college grow, they also offer a unique opportunity that aligns with our public health mission and values. The new programs will train students from Arizona who can then provide healthcare services in Arizona for the rural, underserved, and tribal communities that need them.

*“We have many so many talented, eager applicants for these programs in the new School of Health Professions, and our graduates help meet the healthcare needs of Arizona communities.”*

—Kevin Lohenry, PhD, PA-C

Vice Dean, Health Professions Affairs

Executive Director, School of Health Professions



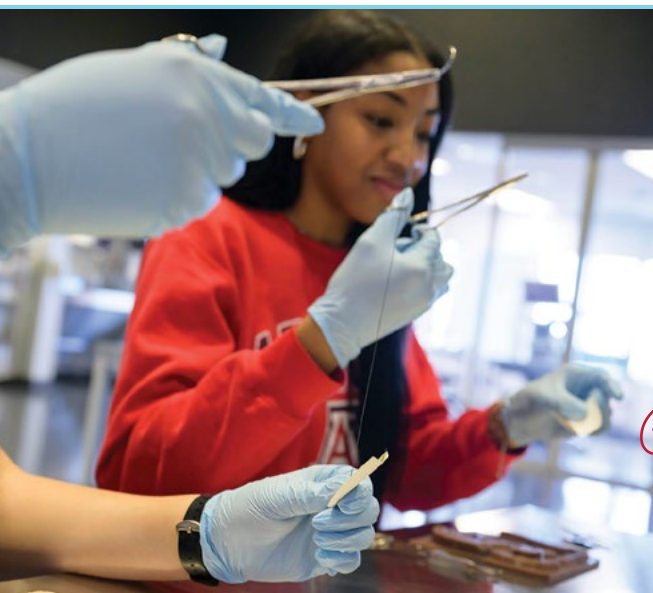
## Physical Therapy Program

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program launched this Fall 2025 with its first cohort of students! The full-time graduate level PT program guides students through sequential studies where foundational knowledge is repeatedly connected to clinical and patient applications across the three-year program.

Students gain experience through community service, experiential learning, simulation, and clinical and professional skill building. Graduates will be prepared for the PT license exam and to enter the profession as skilled generalist physical therapists and proficient adaptive learners.

*“Physical therapists are movement experts, they work closely with clients to promote healing, improve function, and enhance the quality of life.”*

—Christine Childers, PT, PhD Director, Physical Therapy Program



## Physician Assistant Program

The graduate-level Physician Assistant (PA) Program trains skilled, compassionate clinicians with emphasis on primary care, rural health, and service to diverse communities. A required Medical Spanish curriculum and commitment to cultural humility equip graduates to deliver inclusive, person-centered care. Guided by excellence, integrity, and a culture of joy, graduates will expand Arizona's healthcare workforce while advancing equity and access across specialties.

Currently pursuing accreditation, the program anticipates welcoming its first class in Fall 2026.

*“Our program will train the next generation of expert and compassionate physician assistants to expand access to care here in Arizona.”*

—MJ Ellis, MPAS, PA-C Director, Physician Assistant Program



# OUR NEW SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS WILL EXPAND ARIZONA'S HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

## Midwifery Program

The Master of Science (MS) in Midwifery Program is a two-year curriculum designed for the experienced Registered Nurse (RN) to prepare for certification as a nurse-midwife. The Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM) independently provides reproductive and sexual health across the life span. This includes care during pregnancy, labor, birth, postpartum, cancer screening, contraception, fertility awareness, care of the newborn for the first 28 days of life and other sexual health needs.

Currently in the accreditation process, the Midwifery program hopes to launch in Fall 2026.

“Our Midwifery program acknowledges the generations of midwives who came before us, and we advocate for equitable access to holistic care in Arizona and beyond.”

—Erin McMahon, EdD, CNM, FACNM Director, Nurse Midwife Program



## Genetic Counseling

The Genetic Counseling Graduate Program prepares graduates for a career in the rapidly growing field of genetic counseling. The GCGP combines classroom-based coursework with real-world experience as students work with practicing genetic counselors and physicians in the clinic. Graduates are prepared to give expert guidance to clients, clinicians, and the public about genetic conditions, inheritance, testing, prevention, and research.

The Genetic Counseling Graduate Program at the University of Arizona launched in 2019.

“Our program delivers a well-rounded education in genetic counseling through academic, clinical, and research experiences, so our graduates can give the best guidance.”

—Chris Stallman, MLS, MS, CGC  
Program Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program

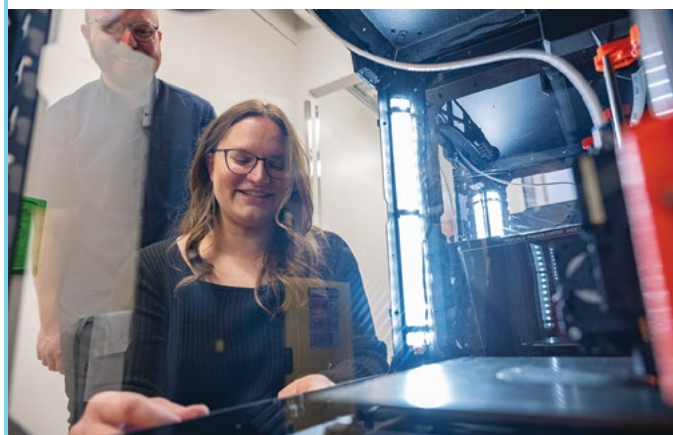
## Health Sciences Design

The Health Sciences Design program engages undergraduate, graduate and professional students from all disciplines in the development of solutions to health care challenges. The program offers a portfolio of specialty courses taught in state-of-the-art instructional spaces that incorporate advanced equipment with expert faculty and staff, giving students an opportunity to develop critical skills and competencies in health sciences design thinking.

The Health Sciences Design program was established in 2019. 🏆

“Our program teaches design thinking, a creative approach to problem-solving combined with a methodical testing process to prepare students to become healthcare innovators.”

—Kasi M. Kiehlbaugh, PhD  
Director, Health Sciences Design



# ENDING PANDEMICS ACADEMY

## THE ENDING PANDEMICS ACADEMY IS DESIGNED TO BUILD TOMORROW'S LEADERS, TODAY

**W**e all have the power to create a future free from pandemics.  
The Ending Pandemics Academy will make it happen.

It takes a bold, diverse, and empowered workforce equipped with the knowledge, skills and vision to stop the spread of infectious disease and end pandemics.

The Ending Pandemics Academy is a first-of-its-kind immersive training experience designed to ignite a spark of innovation in every participant, with programs tailored to personal and professional interests. 🌐



### WE PROVIDE



#### Immersive Trainings

Highly interactive, immersive training will focus on community-driven approaches for pandemic prevention



#### Innovative Technologies

Trainings will provide hands on experiences with innovative technologies to design community-specific solutions for health challenges



#### Mentorship

The Academy will provide mentorship for emerging leaders from diverse sectors and high-risk communities



### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Each of us has a role to play in keeping our communities safe from the health threats of epidemics and pandemics.

- » Students
- » Educators
- » Health Professionals
- » Community Leaders
- » Corporate Leaders
- » Program staff from NGOs and government agencies



**ENDING  
PANDEMICS  
ACADEMY**

*Early detection is by far the most achievable and cost-effective way to prevent a threat anywhere from becoming a threat everywhere.*

*In my experience, no community is too hard to reach, no country is too poor to innovate, and curiosity outshines fear across the globe.*

—Dr. Mark Smolinski

Executive Director, Ending Pandemics Academy  
Jeff Skoll Endowed Chair in Ending Pandemics





# AI FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

## OUR COMMITMENT TO AI FOR PUBLIC HEALTH



### AI & Digital Public Health Courses

We are determined to equip our graduates with AI competency to prepare them for the digital workforce of tomorrow. AI practices will span across public health services, health departments, and agencies at all levels where data-informed policies matter. Our courses will build understanding of new digital data sources and AI literacy, ensuring that our public health professionals become critical thinkers and engaged partners with computer scientists and engineers. New courses training students to deploy AI and digital tools to improve public health began in Fall 2025.



We live in a world where technology evolves at an unprecedented pace. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping industries, forging new frontiers, and redefining workforce demands. In the field of public health, integrating AI is not just an option, it's a necessity for professionals to remain relevant, effective, and impactful.



Public health challenges are becoming more complex, but with AI-driven solutions and data-driven insights, we can protect and improve population health in ways never before possible.



### Public Health & AI Summer School

The Public Health & AI Summer School at the College offers an immersive, hands-on educational experience designed to equip graduate students, research staff, faculty, and public health professionals with essential skills in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital public health. Recognizing the critical role AI plays in modernizing public health practice, our summer school fosters deep AI literacy, bridging the gap between public health practitioners and technological innovation.

### AI for Public Health Research

In public health research, AI provides powerful tools to help gather digital data from multiple sources, and to analyze disparate and large datasets. We have already begun to use AI for research projects, and we're training our students to understand the different ways that AI can be deployed to enhance and target research that will help us shape a healthier world. 🌐

[Learn More about AI for Public Health](#)

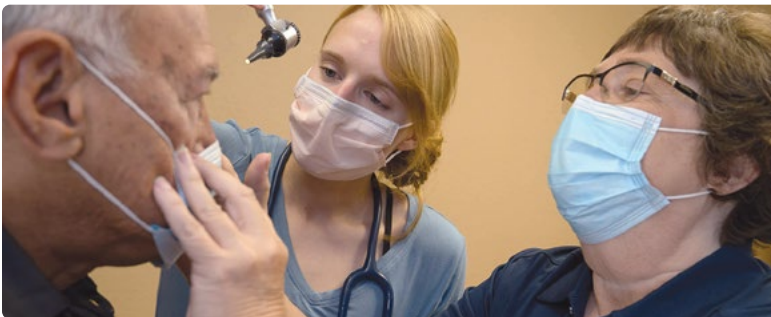
# BUILDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR 25 YEARS

The college has a long history of service in communities throughout the region, the state, the nation, and the world. We know that public health provides fundamental services and saves lives, and we are committed to working collaboratively to deliver the best possible programs and support in response to community needs.

## Our centers and programs collaborate with communities to drive our health equity mission

Our many [centers and programs](#) (see them all in the Centers section of this report) work in close collaboration with diverse communities to promote health and wellness locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

In particular, our [Arizona Center for Rural Health](#), our [Participatory Evaluation and Action Research Center](#), and our [Western Region Public Health Training Center](#) partner with many community organizations and health services providers to meet the health needs in Arizona and our region.



## We partner with local health departments to serve the state and build a strong public health workforce

To improve health across Arizona, our college is committed to partnerships with local health departments, partnerships that are formalized in agreements called [Academic Health Departments](#) (AHDs). AHDs are mutually beneficial partnerships designed to enhance public health instruction, practice, research, and workforce development to improve health in counties throughout Arizona.

We currently have AHD partnerships with health departments in Pima County, Cochise County, Graham County, and Yuma County. The College of Public Health also took the lead to establish a new partnership agreement between the University of Arizona Health Sciences (UAHS) and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) that promises to expand the many ways in which our college already supports the ADHS.

We work closely with agencies and community organizations across Arizona including state, county and tribal health departments, community health centers, rural health clinics, and hospitals. Together we are creating a healthier, more equitable world.



## Mobile Health Units bring health screening to at-risk communities

In 2016, the college partnered with the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission to launch the [Mobile Health Unit](#) (MHU) program that provides free preventive health screening services to underserved and underinsured Hispanic/Latino residents across Maricopa County. In 2018, the program expanded to Tucson and Pima County.

Even as the MHUs provide health services, they also train students from a range of fields (Public Health, Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy, etc.) who work alongside faculty and staff to serve vulnerable communities. Students actively engage in a collaborative learning environment to confront chronic health disparities and improve health equity for medically at-risk populations.







## Street Medicine Phoenix brings health services to the homeless in Phoenix

**Street Medicine Phoenix** (SMP), a student-driven interprofessional health care and social justice team coordinated by the college, delivers health services to the homeless population in Phoenix. The SMP brings together students and faculty from the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, Mayo Clinic, Midwestern University, and Creighton University to provide health care and other needed services to individuals experiencing homelessness directly where they are, whether in shelters, encampments, or on the streets.



## Feast for Your Brain supports community and healthy aging

In close partnership with community partners, our fourth annual 'Feast for Your Brain' healthy aging event took place in October and engaged hundreds of community members with performances, presentations, health services, games, mind-body exercises, music, and food. Orchestrated to bring the community together and advance engagement and research on the aging brain, the event is coordinated by the college in collaboration with the Precision Aging Network and Mindcrowd.

## SPOTLIGHT

### Paloma Beamer leads with dedication to community empowerment




We are excited to welcome Dr. Paloma Beamer as our new Associate Dean of Community Engagement. Dr. Beamer brings a longstanding passion for community service, especially for vulnerable populations, and deep experience implementing programs and conducting community-engaged research. A professor in the college and an environmental health sciences researcher, she is also the Director of the BRISA Center for the Environment and the Community Engagement Core Director for the Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center.



## Service-Learning courses and programs give students real-world experience

Service-Learning, a teaching and learning strategy, integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the educational experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. These community-engaged courses develop the skills needed for effective work with communities and for social change.

The college offers many Service-Learning courses and programs that bring students directly into communities, often locally, where they gain first-hand experience of health disparities. Some of our Service-Learning programs include Student Aid for Field Epidemiology Response (SAFER), the Border Health Service Learning Institute, and Tucson Family and Child Health. 

See how our outreach initiatives connect people, programs, and partners to strengthen community health locally and globally. Scan the QR code or visit [publichealth.arizona.edu/outreach](https://publichealth.arizona.edu/outreach)



# ZUCKERMAN FAMILY CENTER FOR PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

## WE INSPIRE HEALTHY HABITS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

The Zuckerman Family Center for Prevention and Health Promotion has been sharing the benefits of good nutrition and exercise with kids and families in Southern Arizona for more than 20 years!

As the first center at the college, established by the Zuckerman family in 2004, it provides health education programs, especially for elementary and middle school students, that have touched thousands of lives. Together with our partner schools and programs, we are building a healthier Arizona!

[Learn more about ZFCPHP](#)



### Healthy 2B Me Camp promotes healthy lifestyles

The Healthy 2B Me Summer Camp, a wellness camp for underserved youth in the greater Tucson area, increases public health knowledge about diet, physical activity, and tobacco prevention and promotes positive lifestyle choices related to self-care, kindness and healthy relationships. Launched in 2013, the camp has reached hundreds of local elementary students in Southern Arizona and trained dozens of college students in health education.



### Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative

A portfolio of programs that reach youth at different grade levels through a range of activities promotes health habits that prevent childhood obesity.

- » Healthy Schools Tucson
- » Healthy Habits Tucson
- » Wildcat Marathoners
- » Zen Den

*I am honored to continue the legacy of the Zuckerman Family Center. Our programs, focused on community-based health prevention and community partnerships, have a huge impact in Southern Arizona.*

—Dr. David O. Garcia, FACSM  
Director, ZFCPHP




### Educating the Next Generation of Public Health Professionals

Most of the ZFCPHP programs provide service-learning opportunities for students from the college to gain experience promoting community wellness to prepare the next generation of public health professionals.

The **Marcus Family Obesity Prevention Project Scholarship** provides funding for students to teach and train in the obesity prevention programs.

The **Healthy Schools Tucson** childhood obesity prevention program and **St. Johns After School Program** gives college students the opportunity to engage kids with weekly health education activities and grow through experiential learning.

The **ZFCPHP at Lapan College and Career Club (LC3)** partnership enables our student interns to integrate health and wellness into after-school programs such as soccer club, art club, pet therapy, and garden club (El Jardin), a collaboration that builds life skills and strengthens confidence and connection. 



# NURTURING MENTAL HEALTH ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

## OUR PROGRAMS BUILD SOCIAL CONNECTION AND MENTAL RESILIENCE



### WHOLISTIC movement programs for older adults promotes mental health

The Wellness, Health, and Opportunities for Living Successfully Through Tai Chi and Artistic Movement (WHOLISTIC) program, designed to engage older adults, provides guided movement (Tai Chi & Dance) to promote emotional, social, cognitive, and physical integration for participants. The WHOLISTIC program is coordinated in partnership with the UA Cancer Center and the Tucson Chinese Cultural Center. Current programs include:

- » Online Tai Chi, with the UA Cancer Center
- » Dance for Brain Health, with Tucson Chinese Cultural Center
- » Wellness Dance, with Tucson Chinese Dance




Today, our country is facing a mental health crisis, amplified by isolation and social media, with increasing rates of loneliness, anxiety, and depression. We have mobilized to address mental health across the lifespan, from youth to older adults, with a proactive and preventive approach that builds connection and resilience.

### DREAM dance program for kids builds connection

An innovative dance program designed for children in grades 1-5, the Dance, Resilience, Empowerment for Active Mental Health and Wellbeing (DREAM) class promotes physical and cognitive function through movement and dance. It mixes various dance types, such as Zumba, body percussion, and creative dance, to engage students, foster social connection, and promote mental resilience.



### Yoga 4 Youth program cultivates wellness

The Yoga 4 Youth program, hosted at the UA's Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine, uses yoga to inspire Tucson's younger generations to practice mindfulness, manage stress, and enhance overall well-being. Supported by funding from the Greer Foundation, the program reaches underserved communities and local school districts with yoga and mindfulness activities along as well as experiential field trips featuring garden and nutrition sessions. 

[Explore our Arts for Health and Wellness Initiative](#)

# RESEARCH: DATA GUIDES US

## DATA DRIVES OUR MISSION TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Over the past 25 years, our research expertise has grown exponentially, and so has our research funding! Today we have research strength in so many areas like environmental science, One Health, cancer, women's health, Indigenous health, climate change and health, rural health, firefighter health, infectious disease prevention, occupational health, and more.

We collect the data, then we translate our public health research into action, to implement programs and policies that improve health and wellness across the lifespan and forge a healthier, more equitable world.

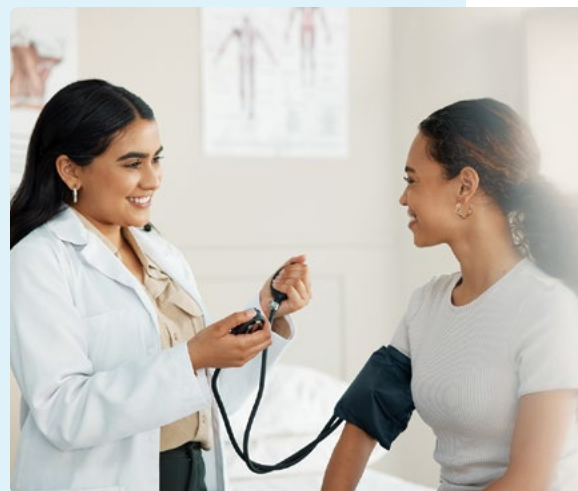


### Heat, Drought, Wildfires and Health

We see the impacts of climate change all around us – extreme heat, severe storms, droughts and wildfires – and each has health consequences. As these climate-driven crises unfold, it is the most vulnerable communities, the poor and disadvantaged, who suffer the most. We are preparing our students with the tools and expertise they need to lead the response to climate-driven health risks – to prepare, build resilience, and find solutions.

### One Health research gives insight into complex health challenges

The more we learn, the more we understand that human health is deeply intertwined with the health of animals and the environment, and that is the intersection where [One Health research](#) delivers insights. We conduct community-engaged, cross-disciplinary One Health research to meet the global health challenges of a rapidly changing world. We find data-driven solutions to complex health challenges and shifting patterns of disease transmission connected to environmental and animal health.



### We have been researching women's health from the start

From the beginning, our public health faculty have conducted research on women's health. Several of our researchers were involved in the landmark [Women's Health Initiative study](#) (WHI launched in 1993) that has transformed clinical and public health practice for women across the United States. Our senior researchers have trained our students and prepared the next generation of women's health researchers. Today, our depth of expertise and constant innovation in women's health research brings us national recognition.







## Public health researchers fight cancer, especially among vulnerable populations

Over the last 25 years, researchers in the college have directed and collaborated on a wide range of cancer research including breast cancer, cervical cancer, colorectal cancer, lung cancer, ovarian cancer, and skin cancer. We often work with specific populations such as firefighters, post-menopausal women, and Indigenous populations to understand their unique risks and needs. With funding from the American Cancer Society, National Cancer Institute, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and more, our researchers study cancer data and prevention to reduce risk for all communities.

## We implement AI and digital epidemiology tools to power future health research

In our technological age, digital tools like smartphones, mobile apps, and wearable devices can provide a wealth of data to understand, track, and stop the spread of disease. At the same time, AI gives us the ability to gather digital data from multiple sources and analyze large disparate datasets. We are already doing [research that combines digital epidemiology and AI](#), and now we are training the next generation of researchers to creatively combine these powerful tools to protect and improve population health in ways never before possible. 25

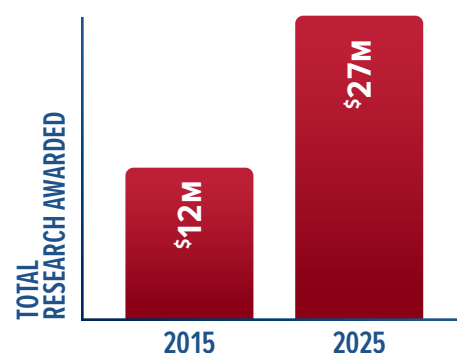


## We find answers to stop diseases from spreading

We have been doing infectious disease research for years, so when COVID hit in 2020, our researchers went into action. With federal funding, research like our [AZ HEROES study](#) quickly found answers about the spread of COVID and the vaccines, and our [CoVHORT study](#) continues to provide new insights into Long Covid. Our students learned valuable skills working on those research projects, and many joined our SAFER team (Student Aid for Field Epidemiology Response) to gather contact tracing data for the Pima County Health Department. Looking ahead, our research will continue to help stop the spread of disease and keep our communities safe.



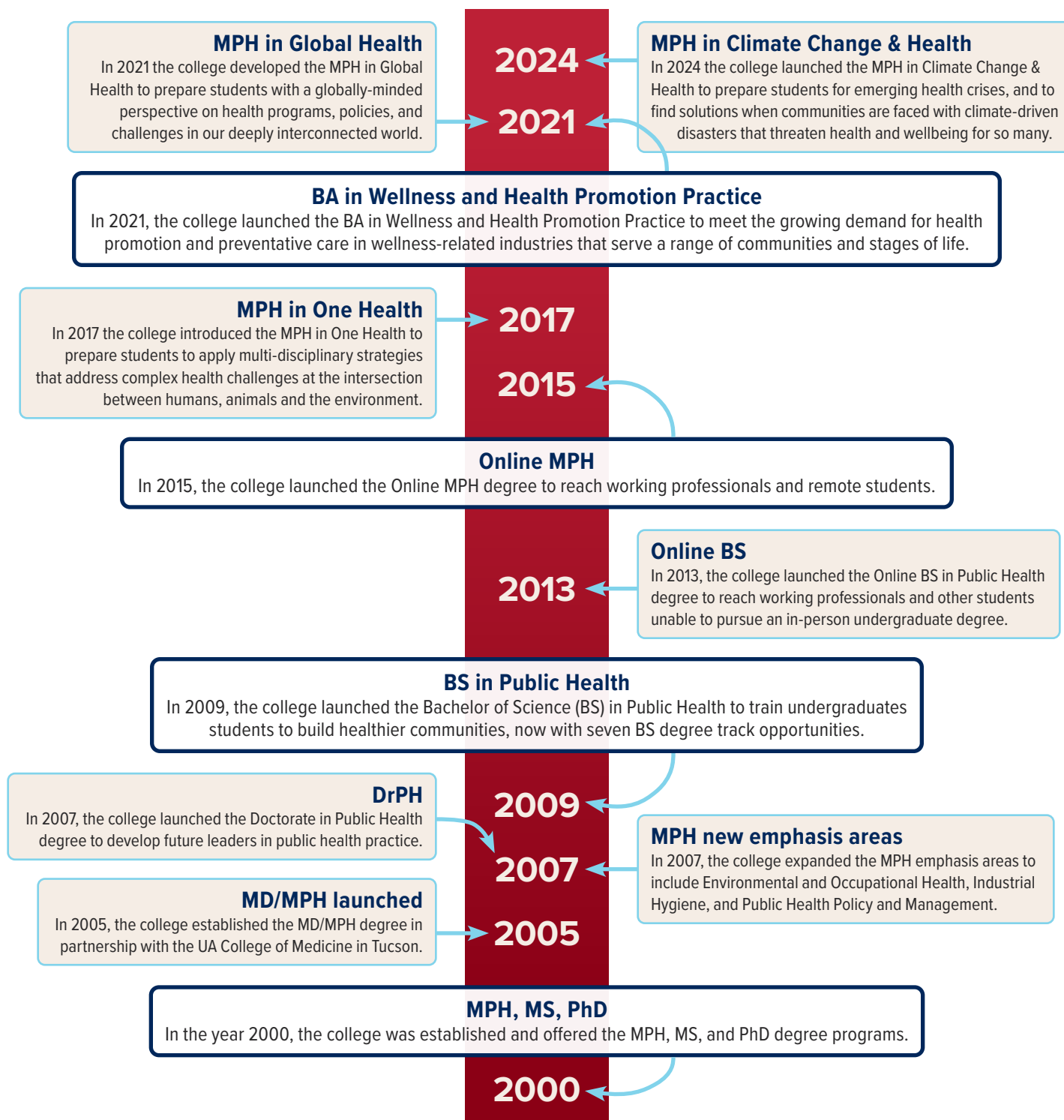
**2X** RESEARCH FUNDING HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED IN THE PAST 10 YEARS!



# DEGREE PROGRAMS HISTORY

Since the college was first established in the year 2000 with the Master of Public Health (MPH), a Master of Science (MS in Epidemiology), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Epidemiology, the number of our degree programs and emphasis areas has grown substantially to meet the needs of students and the demands of the health services workforce.

## 25 YEARS OF GROWTH IN PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

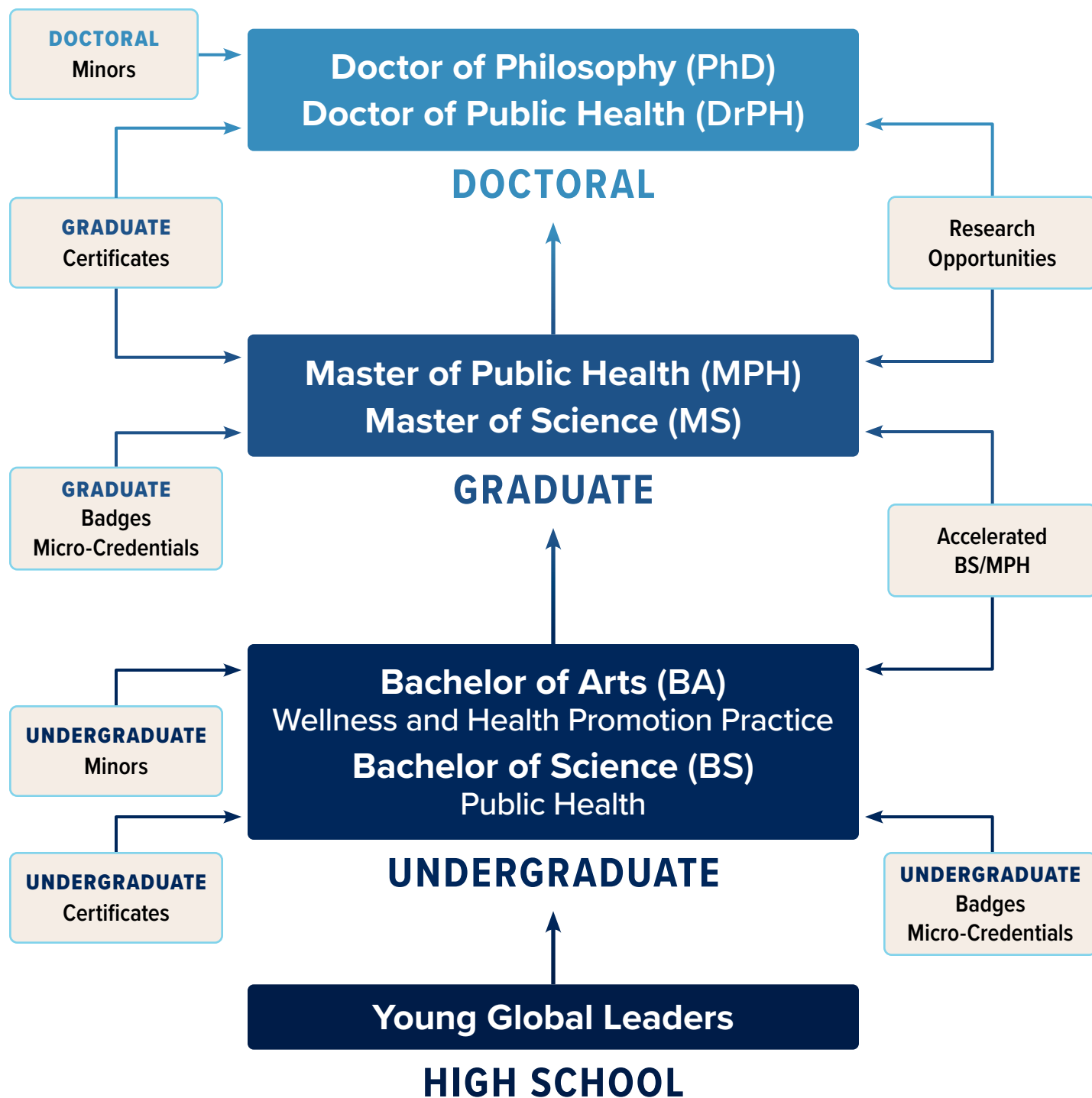




# PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE PATHWAYS

**INNOVATIVE  
EDUCATION  
OPTIONS STACK  
TOWARDS THE  
NEXT LEVEL**

To meet the needs of Arizona's health services workforce, and bring public health training to all sectors, the college has introduced new education formats such as certificates, badges, and custom immersive education programs.



# THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

## A LEGACY OF GIVING LAUNCHED THE COLLEGE AND POWERED OUR GROWTH

From Mel and Enid Zuckerman's founding gift, to the team of donors that Roy Drachman recruited to fund our building, Drachman Hall, to the many generous organizations and individuals who now fund scholarships for our passionate students – we give thanks.

Without our supporters, we could never have grown into the regional and global public health education leader we are today, and our thousands of graduates would not be out in the world building healthier communities.

**We thank all of you who have supported the college, from 2000 to 2025!**

### Gratitude for the legacy of support from the Zuckerman Family

Ever since Mel and Enid Zuckerman gave the founding gift that established the college 25 years ago, the Zuckerman Family has continued to support our students, faculty, and public health programs to touch the lives of millions of people in Arizona and around the world. All of us are profoundly grateful for the Zuckerman Family's legacy of support.

In 2023 we mourned the loss of our cherished founding visionary, **Mel Zuckerman**, who will be forever remembered for his compassion, generosity, and unwavering dedication to public health.

Now the next generations of the Zuckerman family continue their compassionate commitment to the college and public health. **Amy Zuckerman**, a longtime community



Many of the college's early supporters attended the Scholarship Luncheon in 2011. From left to right: Jim Dalen, Mel Zuckerman, Priscilla Dalen, Joan Cole, Enid Zuckerman, Deanna Lewis, Betty Anne Sarver, Iman Hakim, Janet Lang, Barry Lang.



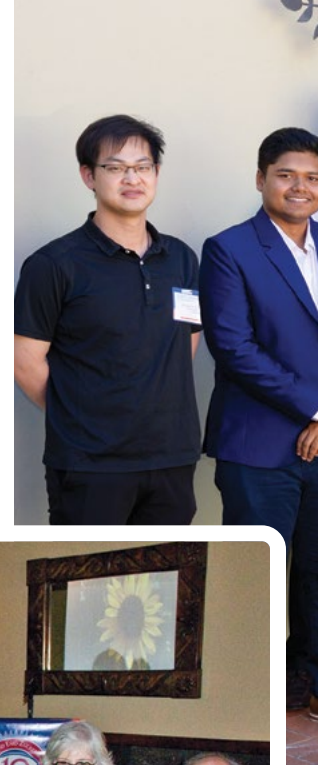
Amy Zuckerman with Dean Hakim

advocate, photographer, and public health champion, extends the legacy of her parents, Mel and Enid.

As a passionate public health advocate, **Nicole Zuckerman-Morris, JD**, continues to change the lives of students and the communities we serve through her dedication to our mission.



Above:  
Nicole Zuckerman-Morris, JD







## Our scholarships make it possible for our students to pursue their passion for public health

Our students are passionate about public health, and they come to our college to gain the skills they need to build a healthier, more equitable world. Without our scholarships, some of our students would not be able to earn their degree. We give our deep gratitude to those who generously open doors for our students in need, and we celebrate our scholarship students, many of whom have overcome great odds to pursue their college degree.

# 23 SCHOLARSHIPS

DURING 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

## \$327,218

IN SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED

IN PAST FIVE YEARS (2020-2025)

## \$2,736,253

IN SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED

## SPOTLIGHT

### Greg Wakefield leads fundraising for the college



We are delighted to welcome Greg Wakefield, our new Director of Development for the college. A native Tucsonan and UA alum, Greg brings over 20 years of experience in broadcast radio and an impressive network of relationships to his new role. He's excited to use his communication talents, his passion for health and wellness, and his relationship-building abilities to advance the college's public health mission in Arizona and beyond. Welcome Greg!



Ken and Linda Robin with Dean Hakim and public health students at the annual Scholarship Luncheon.

## Skoll Foundation and Carlyle One Health Group boost Ending Pandemics Academy

A [founding gift from the Skoll Foundation](#) helped create the Ending Pandemics Academy and establish the Jeff Skoll Endowed Chair in Ending Pandemics, now held by Dr. Mark Smolinski. A subsequent gift from the Carlyle One Health Group enables the Academy to launch its new programs and train the next generation of digital epidemiologists to deploy technology and AI to stop the spread of disease and meet tomorrow's public health challenges. <sup>25</sup>

**You can make a difference! Learn about the ways to give, from scholarships to program support to the Dean's Fund for Excellence and Endowed Chairs. Scan the QR code or visit [publichealth.arizona.edu/give-now](https://publichealth.arizona.edu/give-now)**



# ALL OVER THE WORLD, OUR ALUMNI MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**A**cross 25 years of growth, our graduates have gone out into the world determined to help others. We send our heartfelt “Thank You!” to all our alumni who make a difference in so many communities!

## We’re grateful to our Alumni Council for their support of the college and our public health mission

Our **Alumni Council** supports alumni and students, fosters connections, and advances fundraising and community engagement. We are grateful to all the members of our Alumni Council for contributing their exceptional knowledge, experience, and networks to support the college and our public health mission!

### Alumni Council Members

#### **ANU PARTAP MD, MPH '01**

» PRESIDENT

*Pediatrician & Director of Health Equity, Cook Children’s Health Care System*

**2001 MPH Community Health Promotion**  
TEXAS

#### **JOSHUA MALLET MS '12**

» SECRETARY

*Deputy Director, Research, The Council of State Governments Justice Center*

**2012 MS Biostatistics**  
COLORADO

#### **CHRISTOPHER NAGATA MBA, MPH '14, BS '10**

» MEMBER AT LARGE

*System Vice Chair, Administration & Finance, Mount Sinai Health System*

**2014 MBA/MPH Public Health Policy & Management**  
NEW YORK

#### **WENDY SUHR MPH '02, BA '98**

» MEMBER AT LARGE

*Managing Owner, Suhr Consulting Group*

**2002 MPH Health Education & Behavioral Sciences**  
CALIFORNIA

#### **GILBERT ARVIZU MS, BS '15**

*Community Development & Engagement Director, Valley of the Sun United Way*

**2015 BS Public Health**  
ARIZONA

#### **LARISSA ESTES DrPH, MPH '05**

*Executive Director, Racial Equity Commission, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom*

**2005 MPH Maternal & Child Health**  
CALIFORNIA

#### **ANTHONY HASAN MPH '13, BA '10**

*Senior Director, Outcomes Liaison, Eli Lilly and Company*

**2013 MPH Public Health Practice**  
ARIZONA

#### **ZIPATLY MENDOZA MPH, BS '22**

*Senior Consultant, Health Management Associates*

**2022 BS Community Health Education**  
GEORGIA

#### **TOM ROMEO MPH '17, BS '13**

*Director, Health Care, Stand Together*

**2017 MPH Health Promotion**  
VIRGINIA

#### **MAE ROUHANI MPH '15, BS '13, CPSO, PMP Prep, RYT**

*Manager, Global Regulatory Operations & Digital Innovation, Johnson & Johnson*

**2015 MPH Family & Child Health 2013 BS Public Health**  
NEW YORK

#### **CARLA (MARY) VALDEZ EdD, MPH, BS '00, MCHES**

*Faculty, California State University, Northridge*

**2000 BS Health Education**  
CALIFORNIA

*I’m thrilled to serve on the new Alumni Council. Nearly 25 years later, what I learned through the College’s classrooms and community connections still guides my work as a pediatrician. I am so grateful to be part of this alumni family!*

—Anu Partap President, Zuckerman Alumni Council





## ALUMNI OF THE YEAR 2025

*President, AZ Blue Foundation and VP, Community and Health Advancement, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona in Phoenix, AZ*

Dr. Christine Wiggs leads statewide initiatives that advance health equity and strengthen communities for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona.



**CHRISTINE WIGGS**

*PhD '16, MPH '02, MS '10*



**BEATRICE ABIERO**

*PhD, BS '11*

## FIRST DONOR TO THE 25 FOR 25 ALUMNI GIVING CIRCLE CAMPAIGN

*Senior Manager of Policy Research, Instacart in Washington DC*

Dr. Beatrice Abiero, an experienced demographer and health policy researcher at Instacart, directs large-scale research studies, and builds coalitions for Instacart's Policy and Government Affairs team.

## FIRST PhD ALUMNA

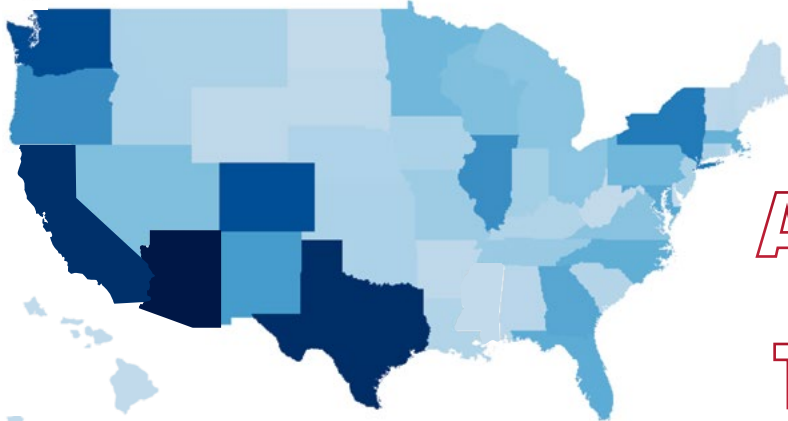
*Chief of Cancer Screening, Survivorship and Mentorship, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo, NY*

A national leader in her field, Dr. Mary Reid has spent over two decades advancing lung cancer screening and prevention and serves on NCCN guideline committees.



**MARY REID**

*PhD '98, MSPH*



**6,300+  
ALUMNI**



## TOP 5 WHERE DO OUR ALUMNI LIVE AND WORK?

### STATES

- 1 ARIZONA
- 2 CALIFORNIA
- 3 DC METRO AREA
- 4 TEXAS
- 5 WASHINGTON

### COUNTRIES (OUTSIDE THE U.S.)

- 1 CANADA
- 2 AUSTRALIA
- 3 UNITED KINGDOM
- 4 SAUDI ARABIA
- 5 SWITZERLAND



Washington, DC

## Our Washington DC alumni stay connected

In March, many of our [alumni from the Washington DC area gathered](#) for an intimate reception with Dean Hakim. The event brought together our vibrant community of alumni and served as a moment to reflect on the college's remarkable impact in the field of public health. It also set the stage for the college's upcoming 25th Anniversary celebrations later this year.

## Alumni come together in Atlanta

[A lunch event in Atlanta for alumni](#) from the college brought together alumni, students, faculty, and staff. Held on the same weekend as the 2025 Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Annual Conference, the gathering provided a unique and casual setting for attendees to reconnect, share experiences, and forge new relationships. Thank you to everyone who joined us!



Atlanta, GA





# THANKS TO ALL OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

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**You have empowered us to  
expand our public health  
education, service, and research.**

**Together we are building a  
healthier, more equitable world!**





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