



GILLINGS SCHOOL OF
GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Impact Report 2025

A complement to *Carolina Public Health* magazine





Dean: Nancy Messonnier, MD
Associate Dean for Communications and Marketing: Matthew Chamberlin
Managing Editor: Meg Palmer
Design and Production: AdrialDesigns.com
Send correspondence to:
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health
Communications and Marketing
Campus Box 7400, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7400
or email sphcomm@unc.edu.

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Shaista Sayeed, Ariella Tal, Joshua Bream and Anoushka Das walk in front of Rosenau Hall.

2	From the Dean
4	Academics, Faculty and Staff
6	Career Services
8	Research
10	Dasgupta wins MacArthur 'genius grant'
12	Mobile health smart messaging
14	Global Health
16	Innovation
17	Public health saved your life today ...
18	NCPHA Educational Conference
20	Polston: Where do I do public health?
22	Faculty Profile: Hedt-Gauthier
23	New distinguished professors
24	Partnership Hubs
26	The Pivot: Kukoyi
28	Practice
29	Communications and Marketing
30	Advancement
31	A legacy of service by the Lee family
32	A legacy rooted in community health

“What gives me hope is you, our extraordinary community who supports public health because we believe a healthier, more just world is possible.”

From the Dean

This has been a year of complex challenges for public health — locally, nationally and globally. The work of our profession involves sustainable, meaningful change led by communities with public health experts providing information, data, best practices and infrastructure. This, by nature, can mean that our work is easily overlooked until health challenges arise.

But our field is no stranger to these challenges. The strong legacy of our work in public health endures, both at the Gillings School and broadly. Times of trial reaffirm our commitment to the well-being of the people we serve — the state of North Carolina and communities across the world — and they underscore how necessary our mission continues to be.

What gives me hope is you, our extraordinary community who supports public health because we believe a healthier, more just world is possible.

What sets the Gillings School apart as a top school of public health is not just our expertise



but the drive and creativity that our students, faculty, staff and alumni bring every day. Our reputation stems from teaching and learning, research and practice, support operations, and community engagement — all working together to make an enormous positive effect.

As you read this report, you'll see our collective impact in every program and partnership, not only in the immediate outcomes but in the long-term changes that unfold over years. Public health often works quietly and persistently, with research and community action laying the groundwork for policies, behaviors and systems that evolve gradually to improve lives.

Standing on a resilient legacy, we will continue to build the future of public health together. 🏛️

Nancy Messonnier, MD

Dean and Bryson Distinguished
Professor in Public Health

Our Priorities

This year, we focus on three critical priorities that reflect urgent needs and extraordinary opportunities.



State of North Carolina

We're promoting healthier lifestyles and informed health choices while improving prenatal care and reducing maternal and infant mortality, all with the goal of increasing the state's health ranking, which currently sits at 30th in the nation. Our comprehensive approach to the opioid crisis has contributed to a remarkable 27% reduction in overdose deaths in the state between 2023 and 2024 — demonstrating what's possible when research meets community action.

Generative AI

We're empowering outstanding interdisciplinary AI research that optimizes public health efforts, such as cancer screenings, infectious disease tracking and the development of large language models that support patient treatment adherence. Our portable

AI ultrasound devices assist pregnancy care providers in low-resource settings, demonstrating how innovation bridges gaps in access and equity.



Clean air and water

We're conducting cutting-edge studies on pollution sources and health impacts, collaborating with communities to respond to disasters like Hurricane Helene and improve well water quality, and developing innovative methods to address harmful chemicals like PFAS in both air and water. Protecting these vital resources safeguards health and ensures a sustainable future.

Shaping tomorrow's public health leaders



Dana Rice, DrPH
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

The Gillings School is proud to have received another seven years of accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health this year. Our **64 academic programs** provide students with up-to-the-minute public health content and skills development in broad public health areas, and our curricula provide our graduates with the workforce-ready preparation needed by employers.

- This Fall, we welcomed the inaugural class of 34 students pursuing the new **Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree in Community and Global Public Health**, which prepares students to work in partnership with local and global communities to identify, assess and address health programs and to achieve health equity.
- The Master of Public Health (MPH) program was pleased to welcome MPH@UNC online students to campus for two immersive experiences. The Fall immersion aligned with **Practicum Day**, the **Experience Gillings Open House** and the **National Health Equity Research Webcast**. The Spring immersion coincided with the **Minority Health Conference**. The MPH program reinstated the in-person Practicum Day event, which showcases and celebrates the previous academic year's practica and their impacts. (See facing page for practicum impacts.)
- **Doctoral programs continue to prepare students** as highly skilled, highly employable researchers and leaders. More than 95% of doctoral graduates were either employed, engaged in a post-doctoral fellowship or pursuing other educational opportunities 12 months after graduating.

- **Laura Linnan, ScD**, stepped down from her role as senior associate dean for academic and student affairs after 10 years of invaluable leadership. **Dana Rice, DrPH**, began as associate dean for academic affairs after having first served for four years as the school's inaugural assistant dean for master's programs. We also welcomed **Ciara Zachary, PhD**, as assistant dean for master's programs, and **Shelley Golden, PhD**, as inaugural assistant dean for doctoral programs.

The student affairs team has strengthened the career services unit, led by **Greg Bocchino, EdD**. His team is rolling out a robust career services plan, responsive to student feedback and integrating ideas from different degree program leaders, to help graduating students — and early career alumni — adapt to a rapidly changing work environment. Between 97-99% of students find employment or pursue further education within 6-12 months of graduating.



Mark Holmes, PhD
Senior Associate Dean for Faculty and Staff Affairs

The Gillings School also has a new **Faculty and Staff Affairs unit** that will help ensure all employees get the tailored resources they need to grow in their careers, including support for career planning for any staff member who is interested. A key dimension of the new unit will be its focus on supporting faculty — and collaborating with career services — to strengthen student mentoring and career readiness. The Faculty and Staff Affairs unit will also guide implementation of the newly adopted Gillings Community Plan. The team is currently rolling out opportunities for faculty, students and staff to come together to dialogue across differences through its Heels for Healing program. 🏡

Students enrolled in Fall 2025 term

2,112

56%

North Carolina residents

43%

Domestic students from non-white communities

12.9%

International students

24%

Distance learners

23.5%

Domestic students from underrepresented non-white communities

43%

Domestic MPH@UNC students from underrepresented non-white communities

237

Permanent faculty

380

Permanent staff

Numbers at a glance

As a leader in public health education, the Gillings School cultivates a thriving environment with dedicated faculty, diverse programs and practical training experiences that equip students for successful careers in the field.

Graduates with a job or continuing education

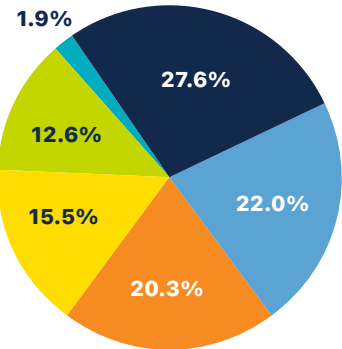
98%

Graduates/year

838

Graduates employed by:

- For-profit organizations
- Academic institutions
- Health care organizations
- Nonprofit organizations
- Government agencies
- Self-employed/other/unknown



Gillings MPH practicum

This practicum gives students an opportunity to apply their public health training in real-world settings while advancing health equity and community impact.

320+

Number of practicum partner organizations in AY24-25

780+

Number of practicum products produced in AY24-25

57%

Percentage of AY24-25 practica that primarily benefited people in N.C.

93%

Percentage of AY24-25 practica that recognized historical injustices impacting marginalized communities

90%

Percentage of AY24-25 practica that addressed disproportionate harm to socially/economically marginalized groups

92%

Percentage of AY24-25 practica that provided resources to those communities



Award-winning career services team helps Gillings students focus on the future

The Career Services team at the Gillings School, part of Student Affairs, is dedicated to helping students prepare for career success. Whether students are exploring career options, preparing application materials or navigating the job market, the Career Services team can provide support every step of the way.

This year, the team relocated to a new suite to offer more enhanced services in response to student survey results. The new activities and programs support career planning and decision-making, resume/curriculum vitae (CV) and cover letter reviews, interview preparation, salary negotiation, networking, and job search resources. They also urge students to take an early and active role in their own career development by prioritizing continuous learning, attending events and workshops, and seeking out meaningful opportunities to build their professional networks. The team also provides support for alumni, many of whom have experienced upheaval recently in the public health job sector.

Several members of the team have recently won awards for their good work ...



Lidia Colato Raez

Assistant Director for Career Services and Employer Engagement

Colato Raez was recently honored with the Employee Forum’s Professional Excellence Award. She was nominated by her peers for going above and beyond her assigned duties and exemplifying outstanding dedication and collaboration. In the past year, Colato Raez coordinated career information sessions on short notice, led efforts on expanded web resources for career services and maintained a strong relationship with the University Career Center’s Employer Relations team.



Derek Just

Assistant Director for Student and Alumni Career Services

Just has become the resident expert on generative AI in career services. He recently built an AI-enabled cover letter generator called CoverCraft to help Gillings students and alumni. The user enters their resume and the description of the job they are applying to, and the tool helps create a compelling cover letter. The website features a chat section to refine and improve the letter.



Greg Bocchino

Senior Executive Director for Career Services and Professional Development

Bocchino is a longtime-Gillings School leader in student support, leading programs to help students and alumni develop skills. He is also now serving as the new chair-elect to the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) Career Services Assembly in a three-year position. Bocchino will be helping to lead the collaborative career services efforts for students, faculty and staff across nationwide schools and programs of public health.

Visit the Gillings School Career Services website (sph.unc.edu/students/gillings-school-career-services-home) to learn more, book an appointment or stop by their newly redesigned Career and Student Lounge in Rosenau 263. 📍

Full story: sph.unc.edu/sph-news/award-winning-career-services-team-helps-gillings-students-focus-on-the-future

Research with lasting impact



Alexia Kelley, PhD
Interim Associate Dean for Research

Gillings researchers are deeply committed to advancing solutions to today’s most pressing public health challenges. From generating foundational insights to designing and implementing effective interventions, our multidisciplinary teams pursue collaborative, high-impact research that addresses real-world problems.

As we navigate the changing landscape of federal funding and policies, we are strategically developing a diverse research portfolio through innovative partnerships across academia, industry, government and community organizations. Looking ahead, we are focused on positioning ourselves at the forefront of public health research by leading with innovation and collaboration.

Check out some of the ways Gillings School researchers are addressing North Carolina’s health challenges while maintaining a strong global presence.

WIC as a maternal safety net

Maternal and child health researchers partner with USDA/WIC to implement evidence-based interventions that help staff and families recognize early warning signs of maternal morbidity. This approach can extend to health departments and Federally Qualified Health Centers, making it a scalable safety net for moms.

Researchers: Larelle Bookhart, PhD, Dorothy Cilenti, DrPH, Christine Tucker, PhD

Getting lead out, globally

Environmental sciences and engineering research on lead in drinking water drove World Health Organization guidance and a global pledge to eliminate lead pipes by 2040. Major implementers like World Vision and the World Bank have already shifted procurement, protecting millions of families from toxic exposure.

Researchers: Michael Fisher, PhD, The Water Institute

Drone-delivered defibrillators

Epidemiology research proved that autonomous drones can deliver AEDs to cardiac-arrest scenes, cutting critical minutes before emergency medical service arrives. This innovation could save countless lives by bringing lifesaving tech to neighborhoods fast.

Researcher: Wayne Rosamond, PhD

Safer jobs, healthier workers

Total Worker Health® research in health behavior improves safety and well-being for employees nationwide, influencing the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health’s policy and training the next generation of workplace health leaders. These interventions reduce chronic disease risk and injuries where people spend most of their day — on the job.

Researcher: Laura Linnan, ScD

Diagnosing cancer sooner

Epidemiology and health policy and management researchers led the first U.S. study on emergency cancer diagnoses, revealing that up to 40% of cases start in the emergency room. Their work drives system changes to catch cancer earlier.

Researcher: Caroline Thompson, PhD



Food as health

Through a partnership with Equiti Foods, nutrition researchers help bring 1,200 healthy meals per week to Medicaid recipients in the N.C. Healthy Opportunities Pilots. The program also creates jobs and farm demand in rural communities, linking nutrition security with local economic growth.

Researchers: Alice Ammerman, DrPH, Lindsey Haynes-Maslow, PhD

AI for safer pregnancies worldwide

Biostatistics researchers codeveloped an AI tool for gestational age estimation using blind ultrasound sweeps, validated in underresourced settings across Africa and India. This innovation enables accurate

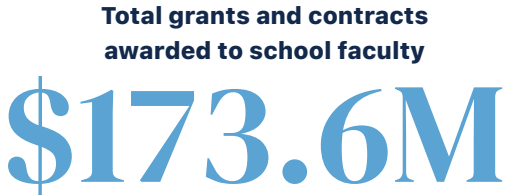
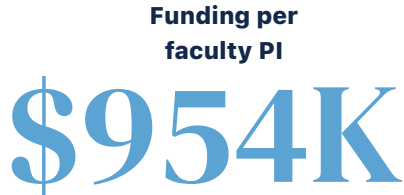
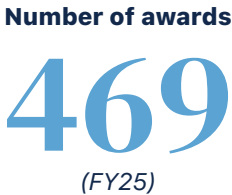
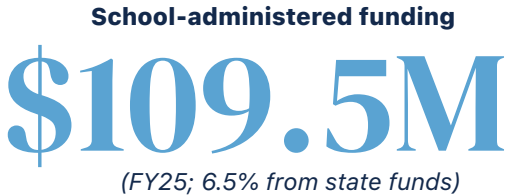
pregnancy dating without expensive equipment or highly trained personnel. It is now being considered for global scaleup to improve maternal and newborn outcomes.

Researchers: Michael Kosorok, PhD, Jeff Stringer, MD

Healthy veteran communities across N.C.

Researchers in public health leadership and practice lead a \$6.8M initiative to improve veteran health through community-based partnerships, resource mapping and best-practice toolkits. The project has engaged 30+ students and expanded to multiple N.C. counties, creating a replicable model for rural veteran well-being.

Researchers: Vaughn Upshaw, DrPH, EdD, Aimee McHale, JD



Nabarun Dasgupta wins MacArthur ‘genius grant’

The UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health scientist received the prestigious fellowship for helping prevent drug overdose deaths.

Nabarun “Nab” Dasgupta, PhD, holds many titles at UNC-Chapel Hill: Innovation Fellow at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, senior scientist at the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center and leader of the UNC Street Drug Analysis Lab.

Now he can add “genius” to that list.

Dasgupta has been awarded a 2025 MacArthur Fellowship, known as the “genius grant.” The honor, announced Oct. 8 by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, recognizes Dasgupta’s work as an epidemiologist and harm reduction advocate who combines scientific studies with community engagement to reduce deaths and other harms from drug use and overdose. Dasgupta and his team have played an important role in the national response to the opioid epidemic.

“Our mission is science in service,” Dasgupta said. “We want people to have access to the best knowledge and tools, so they can make better decisions about what they put in their bodies. This award is a testament to hundreds of community programs and health departments we serve, where lifesaving work happens.”

Dasgupta’s Street Drug Analysis Lab tests community-donated samples from around the country

to determine what is in street drugs, then makes the results public in an online database. To date, the lab has completed more than 16,000 analyses with atomic precision. Understanding the makeup of these drugs helps individuals make decisions about their drug use and allows community members and first responders to prepare and provide proper care.

Integrating molecular data and community-based problem solving, Dasgupta uses his Carolina training as an epidemiologist to isolate trends and illuminate the bigger picture. His passion is telling true stories about health with numbers. Those interested can follow the lab’s work in their newsletter.

“Our amazing teams pack boxes, analyze drug samples and process large volumes of data every day, in the hope that our neighbors have autonomy to lead healthier lives,” he said.

“Doing this work at Carolina is thrilling. Whenever we detect a street drug that’s never been seen before, we can call up world-class experts on campus and get immediate insight. The science that used to take years, we now do in weeks because we are focused on the socially relevant and actionable.”

In addition to analyzing street drugs, Dasgupta has worked for nearly two decades on broadening access to naloxone, which reverses opioid overdoses. He collaborates with people who have experience with drug use or its consequences to design effective, evidence-based interventions that respond to the needs of those who use drugs and community-based organizations that support them.

“Our mission is science in service. We want people to have access to the best knowledge and tools, so they can make better decisions about what they put in their bodies.” **Nabarun “Nab” Dasgupta**

“We are immensely proud of Nabarun Dasgupta for receiving a MacArthur Fellowship,” said **Chancellor Lee H. Roberts, JD**. “His groundbreaking work exemplifies Carolina’s mission to advance knowledge in service to society. This award honors his dedication and impact, as well as the collaborative spirit and commitment to the public good that define our faculty. Nabarun’s leadership and scholarship are making a tangible difference in North Carolina and beyond, and we celebrate this well-deserved achievement.”

“Nabarun Dasgupta’s recognition as a MacArthur Fellow is a powerful affirmation of the lasting impact his research has had on the communities he serves,” said **Penny Gordon-Larsen, PhD**, vice chancellor for research. “Addressing opioid overdose deaths, one of the most urgent public health challenges of our time, demands not only scientific excellence but also compassion, vision and collaboration. His work exemplifies how research can both advance knowledge and directly improve lives, exactly what we strive for every day at UNC-Chapel Hill.”

“Nabarun Dasgupta is such a fitting recipient of this prestigious recognition as the first Gillings Innovation Fellow as well as Senior Scientist at the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center,” said **Nancy Messonnier, MD**, dean of

the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. “He specializes in turning research into practice, and through his work, he amplifies community and patient voices in public health and provides innovative health-tech and community-based solutions. He co-founded a non-profit in Wilkes County, N.C., which was the first of its kind to provide the antidote that reverses overdose to pain patients and people who use drugs. His originality, insight and potential are just a few of the values he shares with the MacArthur Fellowship, and we are immensely proud of his dedication, selflessness and accomplishments.”

Full story: unc.edu/posts/2025/10/08/nabarun-dasgupta-wins-macarthur-genius-grant



Photo: Alyssa LaFaro/UNC Research

Mobile health smart messaging could lead to safer drinking choices

Every year, millions of young people risk serious harm from excessive alcohol consumption. Avoiding alcohol can be difficult while in college, among friends or in other social settings, but experts at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health believe a mobile phone app could play a vital role in helping young people make a healthier choice in some situations.

While no amount of alcohol is considered safe for health, excessive drinking increases the risk of alcohol poisoning, violence and injury, car accidents, and long-term health problems like heart and liver disease and cancer. In 2023, more than a quarter of Americans between ages 18-25 reported binge drinking – consuming 4-5 drinks on one occasion — in the past month, and more than 2 million reported high-intensity drinking — a risky behavior indicating consumption of more than double the binge drinking threshold.

“Our research has shown that high-intensity drinking is a relatively frequent behavior that has severe consequences,” said **Melissa Cox, PhD**, assistant professor of health behavior at the Gillings School, who is leading the development of the mobile health solution. “There are various environmental determinants — like where you are and who you’re with — that might facilitate this type of behavior, and these are the kind of factors our mobile app is trying to mitigate.”

The mobile app uses an algorithm that leverages data on a user’s location and social situations to trigger real-time text messages, prompting the user to consider how many drinks they’ve had and how to reduce their risk for negative consequences because of drinking. Users will complete daily reporting on the amount of alcohol they’ve consumed the previous day and the potential health effects it may have provoked. During the initial pilot period, the app will also survey users 30 days after the trial to track any changes in drinking behavior and related harms.

This type of just-in-time-adaptive-intervention (JITAI) approach was informed by work completed by the Gillings Innovation Lab-funded smart app for weight management led by Gillings School researchers **Deborah Tate, PhD**, **Carmina Valle, PhD**, and **Brooke Nezami, PhD**.

“It’s a creative way of integrating technical information gathering with what we know from the evidence base works to address high-risk drinking and putting it all together to generate this intervention,” Cox explained.

The app uses an algorithm that leverages data on a user’s location and social situations to trigger real-time text messages.

The study team is working with UNC’s Connected Health for Applications and Interventions (CHAI) Core to help shape the app, deploy the algorithm and ensure it protects privacy. Cox says the app will have high levels of encryption, and all data collected from users will be voluntary.

Startup funding from the National Institutes of Health and Innovate Carolina’s Translating Innovative Ideas for the Public Good (TIIP) Award is providing critical support for the app, which is still in its early pilot phase of trial to determine whether it can be a feasible solution to address high-risk drinking. These grants are a boon to researchers who want to innovate new solutions to potential public health challenges but face a mountain of startup costs that other grants will not cover without proof of concept.

“We wouldn’t have been able to do what we’ve done thus far without the Innovate Carolina funding,” Cox said. “We’re not even building the full app yet; that’s the expensive part. Right now, we’re developing something that has a look and feel of an app, because tech-based behavioral interventions are expensive. It takes a lot up front to even get to the point where you can rationalize the larger investment in building native apps.”

Cox and her research team began the pilot phase of testing in early fall of 2025 and hope to recruit users between 18-25 who come from a broad section of the general public, not just college students. The data from the pilot will help them determine the feasibility of building a more robust app that can ultimately prevent harms from high-risk alcohol use by intervening in drinking choices in real time. 

Global impact, local impact



Suzanne Maman, PhD
Associate Dean for Global Health



We are proud of the ways our students, faculty, staff and alumni continue to work locally and globally to advance health for all in the face of immense global health challenges.

Pivoting to Meet the Moment

We recognize the profound impact that shifting administrative priorities has had on our Gillings School alumni who work in global health. In response, we have deepened our commitment to supporting these professionals through strategic collaboration with Gillings Career Services. This partnership has enabled us to offer tailored career pivot resources with the goal of ensuring every alum feels seen, supported and equipped to navigate their next chapter with confidence.

The impact of this support has been both tangible and transformative. Many alumni have successfully transitioned into new roles that align with their values and expertise, often discovering renewed purpose in areas they hadn’t previously considered. Beyond job placement, our efforts have fostered a sense of community and resilience, reinforcing the message that Gillings stands beside its graduates not only during times of achievement but also in moments of challenge. This initiative reflects our enduring commitment to public health leadership and the people who carry it forward, during good times and challenging times.

Gillings stands beside its graduates not only during times of achievement but also in moments of challenge.

Global Hubs

Designed to establish a sustained presence in select geographic regions, the Global Hubs aim to provide high-quality, immersive learning experiences for students while enabling faculty to advance strategic public health initiatives collaboratively with in-country partners. Opportunities in Malawi, Vietnam and Zambia are made possible through a vital partnership with the UNC Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases (IGHID).

In summer 2025, 7 students worked with UNC Project Malawi (3), UNC Project Vietnam (3) and UNC Global Projects Zambia (1). Since the start of the Global Hubs in 2019, the international global hubs sites have helped train 28 Gillings Master of Public Health (MPH) students.

Student Spotlight



One example of student work includes **Charlotte Russo**, who collaborated with oncology staff, clinicians and pathologists in Malawi

to design a qualitative study protocol that will guide future research on barriers to timely cancer diagnosis. This research will lay the foundation for interventions aimed at strengthening diagnostic pathways and advancing equity in access to cancer care.

Continents in which we work

6

Countries in which we work

25

Funding for research with global components (9.1% of total)

\$15.8M

International students

273

Countries of origin represented

48

57 students received travel awards totaling

\$86K+

Students whose practicum had global impact

50

Countries reached through MPH practicum work

147

Faculty Spotlight

Professors **Vivian Go, PhD**, and **William C. Miller, PhD**, both Gillings faculty and members of IGHID, have partnered closely with Vietnam’s Ministry of Health and Hanoi Medical University (HMU) to conduct research that has directly shaped national HIV policy and public health education and recently received honorable professorships from HMU for their outstanding contributions in training, scientific research and development of international partnerships for over a decade.

Professors Miller (left) and Go (right) receive Honorable Professorships from Hanoi Medical University.



Global Research Impact

We have more than 80 faculty members who have currently or previously been engaged in global research. Many of these faculty have cultivated long-standing partnerships with international collaborators and organizations. One example is the work of **Nora Rosenberg, PhD**, whose team developed and tested a couples-based HIV program that encourages joint counseling sessions for pregnant women living with HIV and their male partners to foster mutual support and better adherence to HIV treatment. The findings are relevant to 1.2 million women living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa who become pregnant each year and their male partners. 📖

Innovating new public health solutions



Anne Glauber, MPH
Director of Innovation

At the Gillings School, we are united by a deep commitment to advancing public health through real-world impact. In response to today's pressing challenges, we are broadening participation across the school to accelerate the translation of innovative ideas into meaningful outcomes — through new roles, collaborative communities and targeted innovation support.

Innovation Strategy Advisor: A newly established faculty overlay role, held by [Will Vizuete, PhD](#), expands Innovation@Gillings' reach to drive public health impact.

Faculty Innovator Group: A community of innovation-focused faculty fostering collaboration, idea sharing and networking to address global health challenges. The group hosted a fireside chat with faculty innovators and awarded four micro grants to fund prototyping activities beyond traditional federal support.

Gillings Student Pitch Competition featured 12 teams and 10 coaches:

- **First Place (\$3,000): Sensible** — A diagnostic menstrual pad screening for cervical cancer, coached by [Erik Eaker](#).

- **Second Place (\$1,500) & People's Choice (\$400): Olea Health** — AI-driven, SMS-based health education for underserved populations, coached by [Sammy Orelie](#).
- **Third Place: MedFam (\$750)** — Discounted lodging for families in medical emergencies, coached by [Richard Kelly](#).

Startup: Couplet Care Inc., which markets bassinets that safely connect parents and newborns, completed its first commercial sales in N.C. and M.I. The patented technology was developed over nine years by a team led by UNC and Gillings-affiliated researchers [Kristin Tully, PhD](#), [Catherine Sullivan, MPH](#), [Carl Seashore, MD](#), and [Alison Stuebe, MD](#).

Intellectual property: AI-driven ultrasound technology by [Jeff Stringer, MD](#), [Ben Pokaprakarn, PhD](#), and [Michael Kosorok, PhD](#), was patented and licensed to expand fetal imaging access in rural and low-resource settings.

Pilot funding: \$7.8M invested in 44 **Gillings Innovation Labs** has generated \$332M in follow-on funding, 500+ publications, three startups and two patents. Six active labs on generative AI reached midpoint with \$6M follow-on funding and new invention disclosures. 🏢

Below: The 2024 Pitch Competition judges pose with Anne Glauber, Don Holzworth and the students from the first-place Sensible Pad team.



GILs awarded
\$7.8M

GILs scholarly publications

500+

SBIR/STTR funding awarded FY25

\$1.2M

GILs follow-on research funding received

\$332M

Startups formed FY12-25

89

(48 currently active)

Public health saved *and you didn't even know it.* your life today ...

Though its effects are often unseen, the work of public health is woven into the fabric of everyday life. At the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, researchers are driving innovations that help us live longer, healthier lives.



The U.S. has one of the **highest rates of preterm births** among high-income countries, but experts across the Gillings School in maternal and child health, epidemiology, health behavior, and environmental sciences and engineering are working to improve them. This includes research on lowering the risks of chronic disease, improving maternal health care access and ensuring water is free of chemicals that can increase birth risks.



The water in your faucet was probably clean this morning when you brushed your teeth, but disasters like Hurricane Helene have shown us how quickly water quality can be impacted, even in our own backyard. Public health work at the Gillings School is innovating new ways to ensure we have safe and sanitary water.



Since they were introduced in 1968, **seatbelts have saved more than 300,000 lives**, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and they're just one example of the important public health interventions that keep us safe. Gillings School faculty in health behavior and the Injury Prevention Research Center are also collaborating with state and national agencies to promote traffic safety policies and design safer roads.



Gillings School health behavior **researchers have long been at the forefront of tobacco control**. Their work helped inform the implementation of warning labels, smoke-free policies and youth prevention programs. Thanks to these efforts, rates of smoking in the U.S. have plummeted 73% among adults and 86% among youth, according to the American Lung Association.



Vaccines remain one of public health's most powerful tools, and Gillings School researchers in epidemiology and health behavior are leading efforts to improve vaccine access and trust. Thanks to vaccines and public health policies, deadly diseases like smallpox, measles, hepatitis, malaria, polio and so many more can now be a worry of the past — but only if we continue to support and promote vaccination and vaccine development.



Crosswalk imagery is one of the many ways public health has helped to keep pedestrians safe. Faculty at the Gillings School affiliated with the Highway Safety Research Center have tested variations of universal pedestrian signs that were not language dependent, leading to wide adoption across the globe.

The challenges we face are bigger, faster and more connected than ever — misinformation, global pandemics, health inequity, environmental crises — but public health work is up to the task. The Gillings School is ready to meet the moment, because the public will always need public health.

Gillings School elevates practice at annual NCPHA Educational Conference

This September, the Gillings School had an outsized presence at the annual N.C. Public Health Association (NCPHA) Fall Educational Conference, in Wilmington, N.C.

The event brings together public health professionals at all career stages — students, mid-career professionals and retirees — to strengthen practice through connections and strategies that lead to healthier North Carolinians.

It's where academics meet practice, and Gillings' collaborative work helps the state's workforce evolve. More than 20 Gillings representatives — from the North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH), the Departments of Public Health Leadership and Practice (PHLP) and Maternal and Child Health (MCH), and more — attended the conference to share mission-driven work aimed at building capacity of practitioners and leaders in the public health workforce.

Four priority areas — communications, policy development and support, organizational competencies, and accountability and performance management — have guided statewide collaboration. These capabilities are essential for governmental public health services to deliver protections and programs that improve health. With federal Public Health Infrastructure Grant funding, NCIPH works with N.C. public health agencies to gather data, conduct surveys, develop trainings and provide other support resources to enhance these areas.

Many presentations at this year's conference drew from this work and covered topics such as:

- **Building Leadership Capacity to Strengthen Public Health Infrastructure in N.C.** (given by [Breyana Davis](#) and [Steve Orton](#))
- **Workforce WINS:** Early Success from the N.C. Public Health Pathways Program (given by [Alexa Katon](#))

- **Mission Driven Onboarding:** Building Public Health Capacity Through Foundational Training (given by [Lori Rhew](#) and [Ellis Matheson](#))
- **Accreditation:** Past, Present and Future (given by [Margaret Benson Nemitz](#) and [David Stone](#))
- **Reporting Alignment Crosswalk for North Carolina Local Health Departments:** Change Management in Practice (given by [Bridget Nelson](#) and [Sara Currin](#))
- **Combatting STIs in Young U.S. Servicewomen:** A Systematic Review of Sociodemographic Risk Factors (given by [Grace Smolen](#) and [Julia Donavant](#))

The Gillings School was a silver-level sponsor and hosted a table to share program information. Students, staff and faculty presented posters and research. [Dorothy Cilenti, DrPH](#), professor of maternal and child health and director of the National Maternal and Child Health Workforce Development Center, delivered the closing keynote, highlighting collaborations with local health departments.

Several Gillings members and partners were honored for their practice-based work. [Lori Rhew](#) and [Ellis Matheson](#) received the Academic Practice-based Research (ABPR) Practitioner Oral Presentation Award for foundational public health course development for Buncombe County Health and Human Services, Department of Public Health. Master of Public Health student [Grace Smolen](#) earned the APBR Student Poster Award for "Bridging the Gap: Academic-Practice Partnerships to Optimize Resource Registries to Support Veteran Mental Health."



Gillings students, faculty and staff connected with public health professionals from across North Carolina at the NCPHA conference to share research, strengthen workforce capacity and advance community health through academic-practice collaboration.

Additional student posters included:

- **Systems Thinking in Public Health Practice:** Engaging Communities to Advance Veteran Wellness ([Jessica Linger](#) and [Maria Guta](#))
- **Cross-Sector Collaboration to Strengthen Systems of Support:** Lessons Learned from Phase 1 of the Healthy Vets Community Project ([Jessica Linger](#) and [Mariangelie Torres-Maldonado](#))

"A lot of magic can happen in a place like this conference when we have the opportunity to converge in person," said [Amy Joy Lanou, PhD](#), director of NCIPH and professor of PHLP. "When a leader in the state public health division, a person who's leading health communications in a specific county and our team member that's guiding regional health communications all sit at the same table or are discussing somebody's work in a conference session — that sticks. And then people build on that."

The week also included a quarterly retreat with local and state practitioners and NCIPH staff, plus a pre-conference session on communication — a growing priority in an age of misinformation. Eight NCIPH representatives and partners presented. Martha Anne Sperandio, MPH, communications project manager, shared updates on a collaborative network supporting health campaigns statewide. "Collaboration and peer-support are key in building capacity for local health departments to effectively communicate trusted messages to North Carolinians they serve," she said.

Elevating public health practice will continue to play a major role in the Gillings School's strategic plan, and the NCPHA conference plays a major role in ensuring those in PHLP, NCIPH, MCH and partners across the state create informed strategies about how to improve their work in the community. 📖

Where DO I DO PUBLIC HEALTH?

Take a peek inside the office of **Dr. Patsy Polston**, associate professor of health behavior. Polston is a two-time Gillings School alumna and the director of the new Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree program in Community and Global Public Health.

These are HeLa cells, the immortal cell line from Henrietta Lacks. Her cells were taken from her without her informed consent and contributed to groundbreaking research, disease treatments, scientific discoveries and medical patents. It's important to me to bring awareness to how powerful and significant her life was and to honor her full humanity. She was more than just her cells. She was a mother, a wife, a woman whose life mattered.

The mirror and words remind you that you are here for a unique purpose. Your life is important in the fabric of society and you can make an impact — decide what yours is going to be and then BE IT!!

This reminds me why I chose this career and love what I do. "Teaching is heart work," and when challenges arise, it's my reminder to keep going because I know I make a difference!

Students in one of my MPH courses were asked to create a visual representation showing the relationship between key concepts while incorporating leadership skills and self-awareness. These students were very creative, which I loved. It nicely demonstrated their understanding of the course content.

A juggling set for beginners: Linda Kastleman, who was on the Gillings communications team, gave me this special gift when I was a student because I was always doing a lot as a student leader while completing my dissertation. She would encourage me. I often look at this, think of her and smile. I am still juggling a lot, but I have advanced from beginner status!

Meet **Bethany Hedt-Gauthier, PhD**, who joined the Gillings School this year as a professor of maternal and child health and biostatistics.

Building trust, one data point at a time

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Concord, N.C., and I went to UNC-Chapel Hill for undergrad as a math major. I'm Tar Heel born, Tar Heel bred.

When did you know that public health was your path?

After graduation, I became a Peace Corps volunteer, teaching high school math for two years in northern Namibia, and then staying for a third year as an HIV liaison for the Ministry of Education. The community I lived in had a 25% HIV prevalence at a time before treatment and testing were available. The effects were devastating in the day-to-day lives of my host family and students.

At the end of my second year, I went to a talk where someone was showing the trajectory of life expectancy in Namibia, the economic impacts under the current prevalence, and how that could be changed if HIV treatment was available and was effective. I went up to that person at the end of their talk and said, "What do you do for a living?", to which they replied, "I'm an epidemiologist." And from



that point, I knew I wanted to go down the pathway of using numbers and math for scientific advocacy.

What are your research interests?

My whole career has been one of advocacy. I try to work in service to organizations that use research to understand health challenges or the impact of interventions. The organization I've worked with the most is Partners In Health (PIH). Paul Farmer, the founder of PIH, was my former chair, and I knew I wanted to work for an organization that had such a global impact.

PIH has a cluster of interests and priorities in maternal and child health, and as a result, my research has increasingly focused on the health of women and their children. And now, as an even more specialized subset of that, I study how people can engage digital technologies and AI for improved maternal and child health care delivery, particularly in resource-limited, rural settings. My largest research project is developing and evaluating an AI-enabled mobile health app that supports community health workers to provide post-cesarean care in rural Rwanda.

Congratulations, *new distinguished professors!*



Stephen Cole, PhD

Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor, Epidemiology

Dr. Cole is a leader in causal inference and epidemiologic methods, advancing research that improves the accuracy and reliability of public health evidence.



Jason Surratt, PhD

Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor, Environmental Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Surratt studies how air pollutants form and transform, deepening understanding of atmospheric chemistry and its effects on human health.



Hongtu Zhu, PhD

Kenan Distinguished Professor, Biostatistics

Dr. Zhu develops innovative statistical and imaging methods that drive discoveries in genetics, neuroscience and precision medicine.

What do you do to unwind?

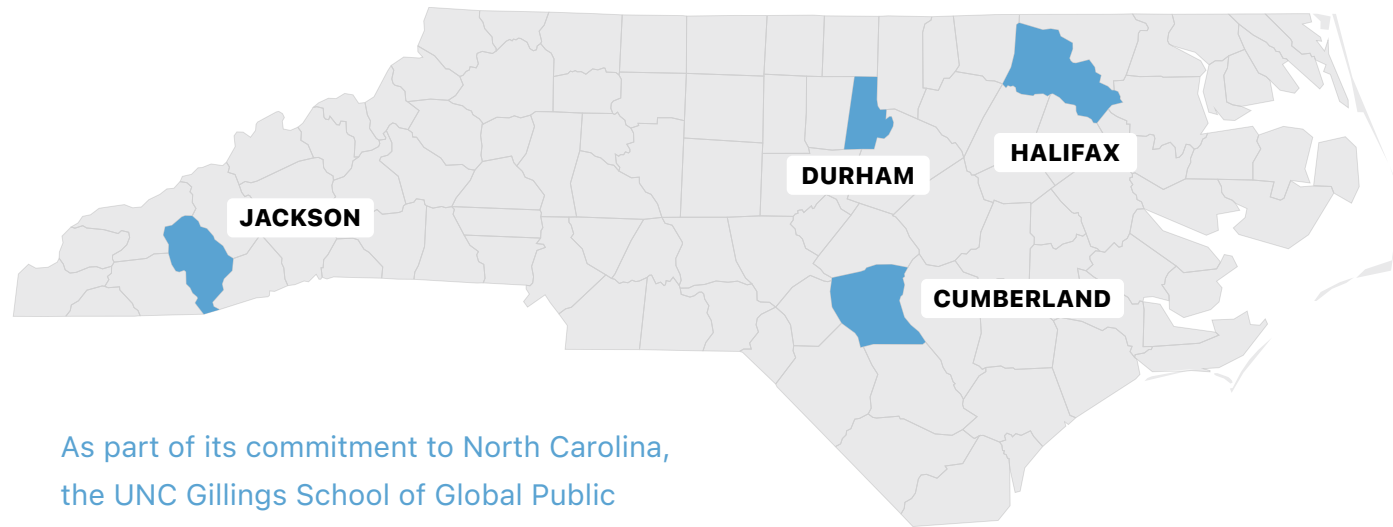
Outside of work, my biggest priority is nurturing my family: my partner, my eight-year-old and my ten-year-old. My kids are very adventurous and very creative, which makes me, by extension, very busy! If I truly do have time for myself to unwind, I enjoy West African and Zumba dance classes.

What do you think is the biggest public health issue today?

The biggest threat is trust in public health and the public's willingness to recognize that public

health is a worthwhile investment. The challenge with public health is that when you do it really well, you don't actually see the benefits, because it just permeates everything. And when you pull out that investment, you see the consequences but may not necessarily draw the line between the consequences and that lack of investment. So, I am challenged by questions like: How do I advocate to my friends that they should continue to vaccinate their kids? How do I advocate to my community that they need to support public health boards? Or how do I advocate to my government that we need to continue to invest in public health research? 🏠

Partnership Hubs bring students from classroom to community across NC



As part of its commitment to North Carolina, the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health has built long-term relationships with four counties through Partnership Hubs.

Located in Cumberland, Durham, Halifax and Jackson counties, these hubs provide resources and expertise to bolster local public health efforts. Faculty, staff and students collaborate with community organizations on projects that address each county's unique health priorities.

The Hubs also offer practicum opportunities — summer or semester-long internships — for Master of Public Health students to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings. Several first-year MPH students completed their practicum work in hub counties this year and shared insights from their experiences.

Cumberland County

Aisha Siddiqi, health policy and management

Siddiqi worked with the Southeastern N.C. Healthy Start program, supported by public health

departments in Cumberland and Hoke counties. Healthy Start provides resources such as baby carriers, classes and educational materials to new parents. Siddiqi and fellow student Shannon Micklewright created social media campaigns and marketing materials to connect new mothers with program offerings online.

Durham County

Anna Gilbert, health behavior, dual MD/MPH

Gilbert partnered with the Durham Center for Senior Life, focusing on funding strategies, building a grants database and drafting applications. She also conducted a mixed-methods impact evaluation — including a literature review, survey design and participant interviews — to assess the center's effect on physical activity and quality of life.

Practicum opportunities let MPH students put their public health education into action and discover what the practice of public health looks like outside the classroom.

Aaliyah Goodman, applied epidemiology

Goodman evaluated Duke University Hospital's Violence Recovery Program, which links victims of violence to community resources such as mental health care, education and housing. She analyzed demographic and injury data, along with resource connections up to a year post-discharge, to help improve program services.

Jacob Woodford, public health data science

Woodford collaborated with Durham County to enhance air quality tracking by integrating an Air Quality Index API into the county website. He also assisted with a community health assessment, collecting survey data at a local farmers market, and said the experience highlighted the symbiotic relationship between public health departments and communities.

Halifax County

Krishanda Sue Lucas, nutrition

Lucas developed a feasibility plan and grant materials for a commercial kitchen at the Hattie Palmer Staton Senior Center in Scotland Neck. The project aims to expand senior meal preparation and delivery and strengthen food access countywide. Lucas assessed infrastructure needs, regulatory considerations and funding strategies.

Samantha Schild, global health

Schild worked with the Rosalene M. Moore Cancer Awareness Foundation, known locally as the Fighters Foundation, to support cancer patients in Halifax, Northampton and Nash counties. She created a long-term work plan for establishing a hospice care facility, researched funding opportunities,

contributed to a grant proposal and drafted a press release to attract community support.

Francesca Walker, health behavior

Walker partnered with Halifax County's health director to assess health priorities and barriers to care in rural communities. She reviewed needs assessments and strategic plans, identifying gaps in vaccination rates and telehealth access for veterans.

Jackson County

Isabel Cody, health behavior

Cody worked with the Jackson County Department of Public Health to create a tobacco cessation presentation for county employees, later converted to video. She also helped design a survey on loneliness and isolation to determine whether these issues hinder community engagement.

Leah Maness, applied epidemiology

Maness, an MPH@UNC student, collaborated with Friends of the Jackson County Greenways to survey residents about greenway use and motivations. She compiled findings into a 30-page report incorporating health assessment data, which supported grant applications for greenway expansion by demonstrating community support and health benefits.

Through these practicum experiences, Gillings students strengthened local health systems while gaining practical skills to advance public health across N.C. 🏡

THE PIVOT

Rotimi Kukoyi wants to be a bridge builder in public health

What's your role in public health?

I'm a senior studying health policy and management at the Gillings School. I want to be a physician and policy maker, and I chose public health because it's highly interdisciplinary. In my future career, I see myself working in clinical spaces, insurance, hospital administration, and local and federal policy — across the health care ecosystem. I want to combine perspectives from them all to approach public health challenges in dynamic ways.

Can you describe your focus area in one sentence?

I want to be a bridge builder.

Right now, I see chaos at the federal level and know we must rebuild trust in public health. Health moves at the speed of trust, and people are full of doubt.

I grew up moving between four states — Iowa, California, South Carolina and Alabama — which exposed me to diverse social and political climates. That taught me the value of forming relationships with all kinds of people.

It's easier to condemn than to understand. Empathy is essential, and it's strengthened by first-hand experiences — living and witnessing things, not just reading about them. That's why I want to occupy many spaces in public health. I want to look at the people I'm serving and honestly say, "I do understand."

What brought you to public health?

I've been interested in medicine since ninth grade. COVID arrived when I was in tenth grade, the first time I'd heard of public health. In my last two years of high school, I did a capstone project on education and how socioeconomic factors impact access and outcomes.

My interest was based on lived experience: I was the only Black male in all seven of my Advanced Placement classes, even though Black students made up 30% of my high school — the largest in Alabama.

Living through a pandemic showed me that health and well-being are affected by the same social determinants that impact education.

Can you describe a time when you've pivoted in your public health career?

As a Black male in the South, I've always been passionate about health equity. More recently, I've realized I want to improve equity by driving innovation in health financing and care delivery. This approach requires making public health reforms financially viable. That's how we empower health systems to move equity from a value to a sustainable practice.

We've identified social determinants of health, but solutions remain elusive. Why? Some say you must fix housing, education and environmental issues before public health can be equitable, and those are huge tasks.



Rotimi, a Rhodes and Morehead-Cain Scholar and senior studying health policy and management, aims to bridge medicine, policy and community trust to make health equity sustainable.

Instead of tackling these separately, I believe we should redesign incentives within health systems, shifting focus from health care to overall health. Traditionally, our model rewards treating sickness over promoting health.

I'm excited about shifts from fee-for-service to value-based care, which rewards providers for outcomes and quality rather than volume. I'm inspired by technology and care management approaches — enabled by value-based incentives — that prioritize prevention and reduce unnecessary procedures. These trends offer actionable pathways toward equity today.

Who are you when you're at home?

I stay busy! I'm a Rhodes and Morehead-Cain Scholar, two-time Jeopardy contestant, and UNC's senior class president. Friends call me a workaholic, but I love being active and lazy in turn.

Sometimes, I'm playing intramural soccer or training for the Potomac River Run Marathon. Other times, I'm binge-watching shows like Severance, Hacks and Derry Girls.

Community is a top value. I've had generous mentors, and I believe meritocracy is a myth; achievement is talent plus serendipity. I try to pay it forward by sharing college admissions and scholarship advice on TikTok, where I have about 39,000 followers. One viral video about my own scholarship success — more than \$2 million across 11 schools — drew thousands of questions. To help, I created videos and launched meritscholarships.org, a national directory of merit-based scholarships. 📺

More Pivot interviews:
sph.unc.edu/comm/the-pivot

Elevating Practice, engaging communities and advancing health



John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH
Associate Dean for Practice

The Gillings School is in the third of a six-year strategic plan for practice, advancing our vision of a healthier North Carolina and a stronger global health impact.

Highlights from our work in practice:

- **Leading Regional Emergency Preparedness:** In partnership with the CDC, Gillings was awarded the Region 4 Center for Public Health Preparedness and Response. The Center is building capacity across eight southeastern states, including launching an intervention to help emergency response agencies address harmful health rumors.
- **Activating the Public Health Partnership Hubs:** The four pilot Hubs in Cumberland, Durham, Halifax and Jackson counties are now fully operational (see p. 24). Hub coordinators have connected with more than 50 community partners and supported more than 15 projects and classroom collaborations. Gillings students contributed 4,800+ hours of practice work, supporting community events, organizing focus groups and integrating community voices into coursework.
- **Engaging Students:** Seventeen Master of Public Health students have completed practica and internships through the Hubs, strengthening local public health infrastructure while gaining hands-on experience.
- **Strengthening Academic Health Departments (AHDs):** Gillings has formalized collaboration agreements with the N.C. Division of Public Health and is launching an acceleration project to support local health departments interested in creating their own AHDs.

For more information on practice at Gillings, visit: sph.unc.edu/practice/practice-and-service

Looking ahead

In the coming year, the practice unit will:

- **Embed and Elevate Public Health Practice:** Continue embedding students, faculty and staff into community-based and government organizations in the four Hub counties to address local health priorities.
- **Advance Practice-Based Research:** Collaborate with the Gillings Research Strategic Plan to strengthen evidence-based solutions.

Together, these efforts keep us moving forward in our commitment to elevate practice alongside research and teaching.

Widening our impact

Gillings faculty and students are actively shaping public health outcomes across N.C. and beyond. Their practice work addresses urgent needs (ranging from disaster preparedness to food access) while advancing health equity for communities locally and globally.

- About 70% of faculty engage in impactful practice work across N.C. counties and globally.
- Beyond practicum, 10% of students contribute to public health efforts at county, state and international levels.

70%

10%

Messaging that informs *with impact*



Matthew Chamberlin
Associate Dean for Communications and Marketing

Clear and accurate public health communications are essential for protecting communities and saving lives. When information is timely, accessible and trustworthy, it helps people make informed decisions about their health and safety.

Effective communication builds public confidence, counters misinformation and ensures that vital resources (such as vaccines, treatments and preventive measures) are used appropriately. It ensures diverse audiences receive messages tailored to their needs from community members who they trust. In times of crisis, strong public health communication can mean the difference between widespread harm and a coordinated, effective response. 🏠

Media Mentions

Gillings experts were quoted or mentioned in more than 250 media articles on many topics, including health policy, COVID-19, nutrition, alcohol use, vaccination, environmental health and food regulations. Top outlets include *NC Health News*, *NPR*, *The New York Times* and *The Daily Tar Heel*.



Top articles



There's a Right Way—and a Wrong Way—to Snack

The Wall Street Journal, July 8, 2024



What a geriatric doctor wishes you knew now for healthy aging

CNN Health, July 12, 2024



Four foods that should come with a smoking-style health warning

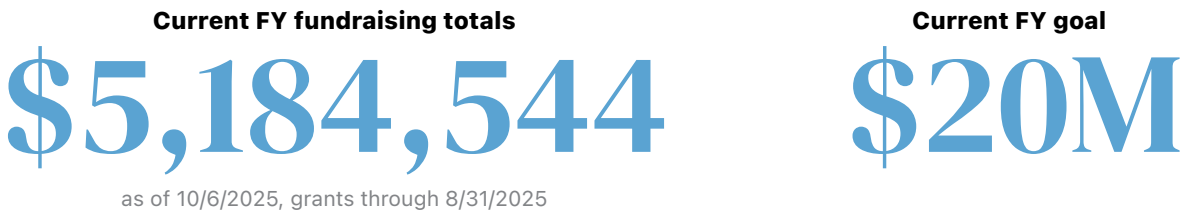
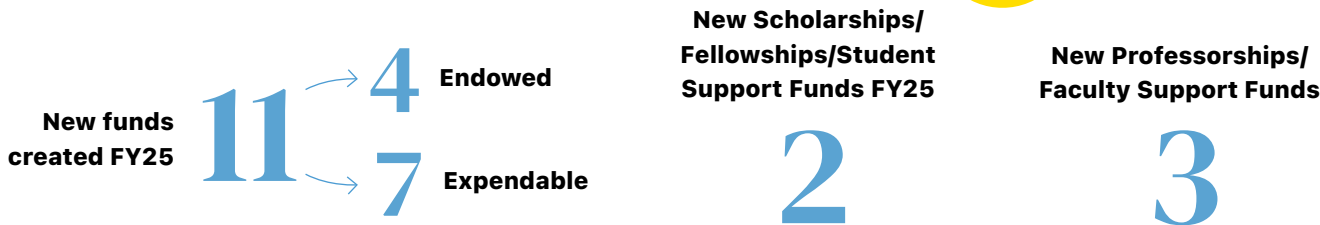
The Telegraph, July 29, 2024



Fact-checking Kennedy's health claims in his confirmation hearing

NY Times, January 29, 2025

Your support helps advance public health education!



A legacy of service by the Lee family

Mark Lee, BSPH '95, MS '97 (environmental sciences and engineering) didn't plan on majoring in public health when he came to UNC, but what began as a detour turned out to be a calling. Like his father, Lee was initially drawn to physics, but he found himself looking for something that felt more meaningful once coursework turned theoretical. On advice from a professor, he found his way to the School of Public Health and a discipline that combined science with service and impact.

"I took to it like a duck to water," he said. "Being able to take the math and point things in a direction that can really make a difference and help people — that was a need I hadn't realized I had."

A drive to be of service, exemplified by his mother, Dr. Sue Hollowell Lee, runs deep in Lee's family. She began medical school with three children under the age of six, completing an accelerated program and launching a pediatric career defined by compassion.

"She works her tail off, and she's crazy smart," said Lee. "But being a doctor was never about recognition; it was this almost obsessive need to be of service to other people in her community."

Dr. Lee focused her practice on children with complex needs, especially those in communities underserved by pediatric medicine. When she returned to her home county in rural North Carolina, she opened its first pediatric clinic, even though she knew it would barely break even. The clinic she started is Pamlico County's lone federally qualified health center (FQHC) providing comprehensive and affordable care to residents. She would go on to found Heartworks, a nonprofit organization with a mission focused on addressing the underserved mental and physical health needs of youth and their families in Pamlico County and surrounding areas. The organization offers afterschool and summer programs to more than 250 students each year, among other programs.



Mark Lee with his parents, Dr. Sue Hollowell Lee and Rod Lee.

To honor his mother's inspiring story and contribute to a legacy of service, Lee endowed the Dr. Sue Hollowell Lee Scholarship in Maternal and Child Health at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, noting the pride he feels in doing so while she is still actively engaged.

"Scholarship in maternal and child health will serve the same things she spent her life trying to serve," said Lee. "It's going to help more kids have a shot at a productive and happy life."

He hopes the scholarship can also bring attention to the challenges that continue to face rural communities, both in N.C. and elsewhere, and to entities like Heartworks and organizations like FQHCs that develop solutions to improve health and well-being.

By establishing this fund, Mark Lee is investing in the future of public health and the drive to uplift underserved communities, ensuring one woman's extraordinary legacy continues to inspire generations to come. 📖

Contact the advancement team at UNC Gillings to discuss how you can build an enduring legacy at our School: email.sph@unc.edu

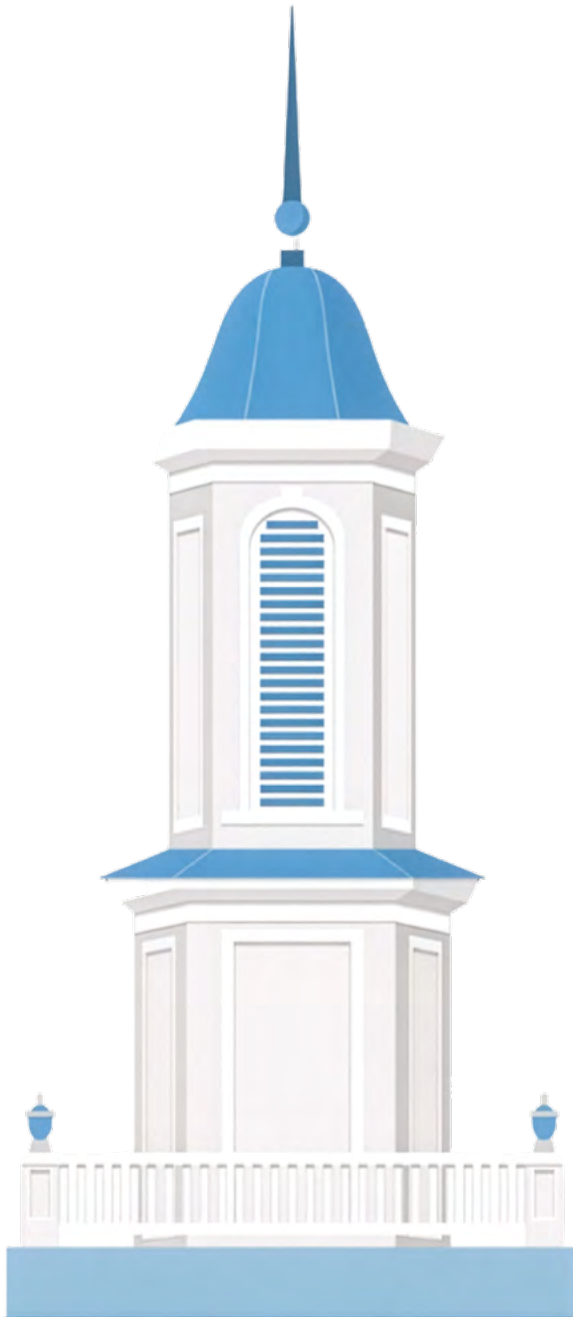
A legacy rooted in *community health*

As former dean of the Indiana University Bloomington School of Public Health, **Robert Goodman, PhD '87** (health behavior), is deeply aware of the role institutions of higher education play in public health. When a student at the UNC School of Public Health, Dr. Goodman focused his study on the social and behavioral principles that promote positive changes in community health. He leveraged these principles throughout his career to affect health disparities, address local health concerns via community capacity development and improve organizational effectiveness in health programming. His estate gift will support the next generation of public health scholars by providing funding to doctoral students with a strong commitment to community health.

"My dissertation at Carolina was about how you sustain social movements, like public initiatives that are both community and organizationally based," said Goodman. "Institutionalizing a legacy for my passion in community public health was important to me. I was thinking about where I would want to plant that kind of legacy, and the Gillings School was my choice."

The endowment will fund two students in the UNC Gillings Department of Health Behavior in perpetuity.

"Dr. Goodman's generous gift will provide crucial funding to enable our department to support two doctoral students dedicated to conducting rigorous community-based scholarship," said Kurt Ribisl, PhD, Jo Anne Earp Distinguished Professor and chair of health behavior. "His financial support is key to allowing us to attract the most talented and promising students to Carolina." 🏛️



Building a legacy in public health

At the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, everything we do is designed to improve the health of people and communities, here in North Carolina and around the world. Behind our rigorous programs of education, research and practice is a vibrant community of people dedicated to this shared aim.

By including the Gillings School in your financial planning, you help ensure that this work continues, through every student trained, every breakthrough made and every life protected. *A legacy gift to the School is a great way to establish your own.*

There are many different ways to give, including:

 **IRA qualified charitable distributions**

 **Real estate**

 **Life insurance**

 **Business assets**

 **Artwork, antiques and collectables**

Let your values carry forward in the work that safeguards us all.

Reach out to discuss how to build your legacy at the
Gillings School: giving.sph@unc.edu.

*The best way to provide
overarching support for the
Gillings School is to make a gift to
the Dean's Acceleration Fund.*

Make a gift today to support continued excellence
in public health education, research and practice at
the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health.

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GILLINGS SCHOOL OF
GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Read the latest Carolina Public Health:
*Public Health Made Your
Life Better Today*

This issue explores public health's
unseen efforts enhance daily life, from
safe air and water to disease control,
with the Gillings School leading vital
innovations and responses.

go.unc.edu/cph-2025

