2024
Annual Report



# Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health



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# **OUR TEAM**

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# **BACKGROUND**

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health (CGH) employs a one-university approach to global health, catalyzing activities across the University for students, faculty, and collaborators through innovative approaches to resource sharing, convening, and applied learning. Since 2006, CGH has served as a funding and resource hub by providing faculty and student grants, convening multidisciplinary teams to respond to calls for applications, supporting field-based learning, and connecting JHU researchers to each other and to international partners.



Photo by Joseph Amueller (c) 2022

- Our mission: To catalyze global health activities across the University for students, faculty, and collaborators through innovative approaches to resource sharing, convening, and applied learning
- Our vision: A "One University" approach to impact global health challenges

## Core Activities

- Convene JHU experts to develop multidisciplinary proposals
- Catalyze meaningful global health opportunities for faculty and staff
- Support and coordinate applied learning experiences
- Serve as a hub for global health resources for JHU
- Coordinate global health activities across JHU
- Foster equitable collaborations with international partners

This report was produced by Meagan Harrison with support from Anna Kalbarczyk. The report was published on December 16, 2024.

# GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR



As 2024 draws to a close, we reflect on the significant challenges facing global health and some of the accomplishments achieved. The landscape of global health is constantly evolving, and leadership and public policy will play a crucial role in how our society responds to these changes. For example, as we emerge in the post-COVID era, we examine the impact one disease had on our global society. Between 2020 and 2023, more than 7 million people died from COVID, and an estimated \$12 trillion dollars was lost due to the global societal reactions to the pandemic. Multiple debates have arisen as to what the proper reactions should have been, and as a result a new political leadership is emerging that could have profound influences in our reactions to future pandemics and other global health issues.

Beyond infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) claim over 40 million lives annually, contributing to early workforce exit and a staggering \$30 trillion in economic losses over the past three decades. Other threats include antibiotic resistance, mental health crises, armed conflicts, and the environmental impacts of climate change and natural disasters. These challenges can lead to devastating consequences, emphasizing the need for global health leadership focused on global prosperity and health, political stability, and international peace and security.

In response, Johns Hopkins University has always committed its mission to fostering the types of leadership capable of responding to these and other existential threats to humanity. Of American universities, Johns Hopkins has the largest global footprint with hundreds of faculty, students and programs present in over 130 countries, working with partners side by side to address the economic, health and societal problems. While there are many examples of the University's response, one that I would like to highlight was the establishment of two interdisciplinary initiatives to address environmental issues, the Ralph S. O'Connor Sustainable Energy Institute and the Institute for Planetary Health.

The University launched its <u>Climate Action and Sustainability Plan</u>, setting a goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. This plan takes a holistic approach to creating healthy, equitable, and sustainable environments locally and globally. As part of this initiative, the Center for Global Health successfully converted one of our leading research facilities in Uganda to 100% solar power. This was no small feat as we maintain a freezer repository with 45 -80C Freezers and a 10,000 ft research laboratory plus a large administrative facility for all computing requirements and staff offices. This achievement marks a milestone, making it the first fully energy-independent research facility in Africa, powered by solar panels and a specialized liquid cooling system for high-capacity computer servers.

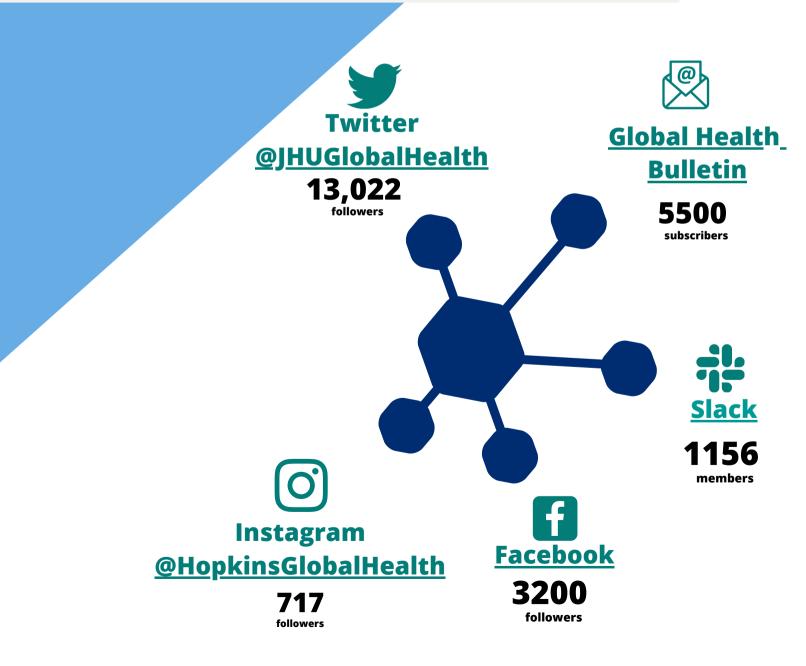
Leadership development in global health is central to the University's mission and the CGH's goals. This report highlights key investments: 1. Travel grants for students and housestaff to work in underserved areas with international partners; 2. Collaboration with Makerere University to build a new School of Public Health in Kampala, Uganda, to educate future public health leaders; 3. The Fogarty-supported Research Leadership Academy, fostering the transition from researcher to leader; 4. Strengthening the Emerging Women Leaders in Global Health network. Looking ahead to 2025, the Center for Global Health will continue to update and coordinate global health initiatives through our website, weekly newsletter, and Zoom lectures to inform and promote leadership at Johns Hopkins and with our partners.

I wish you success in 2025 and that you have the opportunity to embrace and pursue the ideals of global health.

Tom Quinn, MD, MSc Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health

# CONNECTING VIRTUALLY WITH A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

CGH has cultivated a vibrant virtual community using social media, Zoom, our weekly newsletter, and the Women in Global Health Slack Workspace. We are more connected and inclusive than ever before, as virtul engagement has reduced many location related barriers to participation in our activities.



# Section 1: A HUB FOR CONVENING

In 2024, the Center for Global Health continued convening groups with inperson, hybrid and virtual programming. We continued to build on the strategic virtual programming that we developed as a response to the pandemic to continue to connect with global health students and partners around the world.

# **RESOURCE SHARING**

CGH has brought together the recordings from all of the webinars we have hosted on our <u>YouTube</u> channel as a resource for the global health community.







# A HUB FOR TRAINING



# **UJMT RESEARCH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

The Research Leadership Academy is an interactive and participatory seminar series designed to foster growth among trainees and support their transition from researcher to research leader for UJMT Fogarty Fellows. This series was purposeful in its approach to introduce participants to key research leadership topics that are often overlooked during academic coursework but can have a significant impact on the success of an individual's research career.

This seminar series is built upon three core domains: the conduct of global health research, essential knowledge and skills for global health leadership, and mentoring competencies for global health research. The format of the seminar actively engages trainees, builds skills through practice, and evolves with the trainee experience.

Four modules will have been taught between June 2024 and March 2025. Each session is facilitated by at least one topic area expert. The modules were divided as follows:

Module 1: Pre-orientation and In-person Orientation

- 1.1 Welcome to UJMT
- 1.2 Creating your Individual Development Plan
- 1.3 IRB Planning
- 1.4 Implicit Bias (In-person Orientation)

Module 2 Pre-departure

- 2.1 Defining leadership
- 2.2 Implicit bias and cross-cultural practice
- 2.3 Stakeholder engagement

Module 3: Early fellowship

- 3.1 When things don't go right
- 3.2 Project and team management
- 2.3 Championing diverse perspectives

Module 4: Late fellowship

- 4.1 Grantsmansihp
- 4.2 Capacity strengthening
- 4.3 Collaborating with external stakeholders and dissemination

Dr. Anna Kalbarczyk offers regular 1:1 leadership coaching sessions for interested fellows as a value-add component to the program.









**13** 

sessions



fellows

# Section 2: STUDENT ENGAGMENT AND AWARDS





This year we continued to award annual student grants and fellowships.
Students traveled to more than 20 countries for the Global Health
Established Field Placement and the Lietman Fellowship.

This year we launched two new travel grant programs and these awardees will travel in 2025.

- 1) **Medical Student Global Health Travel Grant** for JHU medical students to complete global health rotations, and
- 2) **Rishi Children's Fund Travel Grant** for graduate students to participate in research and practice experiences related to orphans and vulnerable children in India.

# **FUNDING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

# **Lietman Fellowship**

The Paul S. Lietman Global Travel Grant for Residents & Fellows supports travel for residents and fellows completing rotations in low- and middle-income countries.



grantees awarded



countries



Photo by Sarah Bennett (c) 2024

# **Global Health Established Field Placement (GHEFP)**

The GHEFP provides travel support to students doing practicums at Hopkins-affiliated global health placements





**37** 

grantees awarded



countries with placements

Photo by Arisa Kiyomoto (c) 2024

# Global Health Established Field Placement (GHEFP) Student Highlight



# Mackenzie Simon-Collins, MSPH Student

I worked in Cluj-Napoca, Romania in collaboration with Babes-Bolyai University where I lead a qualitative research study that investigated the intersection of adolescent pregnancy in rural Transylvania, health systems, and social media through stakeholder interviews. I designed my topic, managed our IRB, crafted the interview guide, conducted interviews, and analyzed the transcripts. This was my first experience leading a study from start to finish. My experience was as much of a cultural immersion as it was a research immersion. I made lifelong friends in my mentors and peers in my 9 weeks in Cluj. My GHEFP experience in Romania has had a beautiful impact on my life and career path moving forward, and I hope to further integrate global health research into my future medical career.

# Hrishikesh Sathyamoorthy, ScM Student

My project focused on evaluating the impact of physical fitness on the well-being of adolescents and youth living with HIV in South India, with a focus on gendered barriers to participation. During my placement, I conducted baseline data collection, including demographic, psychological, and physical fitness assessments, and contributed to quantitative and qualitative analysis by interpreting focus group discussions and transcripts. I also had the opportunity to support leadership and lifeskills training, and participate in many other community programs. This transformative experience allowed me to blend research, teaching, and medical skills while connecting deeply with the community and strengthening my commitment to mentorship and global health.



# Autumn Tangney, MSPH Student



During my GHEFP, I implemted and evaluated the "I'mPossible Fellowship", a peer mentorship program for orphaned and semi-orphaned adolescents living with HIV. Through this experience I gained community-based participatory research skills, and learned intricacies of working with ALHIV. The experience expanded far beyond a practicum placement, as I have continued the research through the Johns Hopkins International Vaccine Access Center and have returned to India organize and facilitate the first annual "She'sPossible" gender empowerment program for 82 young girls and women. t was so rewarding to use what I learned in the classroom to produce tangible outcomes in the field. I have gained a broad global health perspective, built lasting relationships with partners, and learned about adaptability—each key insights that will serve me as I continue to promote health equity after graduation.

# **Global Health Day 2024**



Each year, the Center for Global Health celebrates Globa Health Day by sharing and informing global health knowledge, expertise and experiences with the Johns Hopkins local and international communities. For Global Health Day 2024, we partnered with the JB Grant Global Health Society to host a two-day symposium in person at the new Bloomberg Center in Washington, DC with virtual student poster presentations on the second day.

Outstanding speakers from the US State Departmentt, USAID, CUGH, NIH, World Bank and PAHO discussed various topics on funding of global health activities, WHO, and health systems restructuring in LMICs.

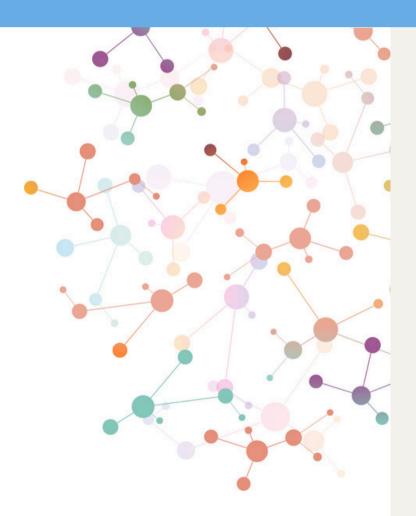
Students were provided transportation from Baltimore to Washington, DC as well as lunch and dinner to celebrate the occasion.



**Virtual Posters** 

**Presentations** 

# Section 3: EMERGING WOMEN LEADERS IN GLOBAL HEALTH (EDGE)



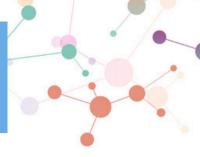


With support from a grant from the Provost's Office, the Center for Global Health created a virtual **Women's Leadership Seminar Series** in 2020 to expose students and other members of our community to non-academic career paths in the field of global health using a women's leadership lens.

Since then, we have continued to produce this seminar series and created the Emerging Women Leaders in Global Health (EDGE) program. In 2024 we hosted seminars, expanded our EDGE Slack network, and hosted multiple networking sessions both in person and virtually.

We also celebrated the launch of the **EDGE Student Society** at BSPH.

# WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SEMINARS



In 2024 the Center for Global Health continued to host <u>women's leadership</u> <u>seminar series</u>. We partnered with Beyond Parity to launch a new series called "Beyond Parity: The Art of Practicing Gender-Transformative Leadership".



seminars



Shakira Choonara, PhD Commissioner on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Lancet



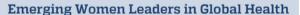
**Featured Speakers** 

Ryan Ubuntu Olson, MPS Global Manager, DEEI DAI



Kimberly (Kim) Walker, PhD Inaugural Senior Advisor, Global Inclusion and Belonging PSI

# **EDGE STUDENT SOCIETY**



# **EDGE**

**Student Society** 

### Launch Event

Voices of Change: Empowering Women Leaders in Global Health

October 15, 2024 12:00-2:00pm Feinstone Hall (E2030) Wolfe Street Building (and virtually on Zoom)



### **Our Speakers**



Dr. Anna Kalbarczyk
Co-founder of EDGE
Associate Scientist,
Dept of International Health



Dr. Rosemary Morgan
Associate Chair in IDARE
Associate Research Professor,
Dept of International Health



Dr. Anita Shankar
Executive Director- SEE Change
Associate Scientist,
Dept of International Health



**Dr. Nukhba Zia**Assistant Scientist,
Dept of International Health

In 2024 we supported a group of Hopkins students to launch the EDGE Student Society, a Hopkins Student Group branch of the EDGE network.

Together we hosted two in-person networking events and hybrid launch event in Feinstone Hall complete with a panel of esteemed Hopkins faculty members, and a networking lunch.

# STRENGTHENING NETWORKS FOR WOMEN IN GLOBAL **HEALTH**



# Women in Global Health Slack Workspace

We continued to cultivate a vibrant <u>Slack workspace</u> to connect attendees for virtual networking, engage members with polls and discussion posts, advertise job postings, and encourage solution-finding. We now have over **1200** brilliant women in global health in our Slack network.





Our team attended and hosted workshops at the Womenlift Health Conference in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in April 2024. We hosted the following well-attended sessions:

- 1) Disrupting Harmful Narratives: **Gender Transformative Leadership** Skills
- 2) Allyship in Action: Driving **Women's Leadership Collectively**

# Section 4: STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FROM THE GROUND UP









Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health has partnered with the **Makerere School of Public Health** and supported the construction of their new building through a grant from USAID.

In October 2024, the Rakai Health Sciences Program and Hopkins faculty participated in a **scientific retreat** together, continuing their longstanding partnership.

CGH Director **Dr. Tom Quinn** had the opportunity to tour the new construction and participate in the retreat with our partners.



# Section 5:

# RAISING SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMING

At the end of 2024, we launched a fundraising campaign to raise support for the Center's programs, specifically focusing on the student travel grant opportunities. Our initiatives like the Global Health Established Field Placement Travel Grant, Paul S. Lietman Travel Grant for Residents and Fellows, Medical Student Global Health Travel Grant, and the Rishi Children's Fund Travel Grant—each valued at \$3,500— enable students, residents, and fellows to gain invaluable in-country experience, mentorship, and collaborations with global partners committed to improving health worldwide.

Through our campaign, we are offering alumni and other supporters of our programs, many of whom now work in global health careers, the opportunity to give back to the CGH program that may have helped set them on their global health career trajectory. By contributing to this campaign, donors can provide career-changing opportunities for a new generation of students and trainees.

Click here to contribute.





# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



# Next year, CGH looks forward to

- Expanding the EDGE Network and the EDGE student society.
- Launching a community-led EDGE webinar series
- Learning from and expanding our new travel grant programs
- Raising support for student programs



Photo by Jordan Babin (c) 2023

# **CLOSING REMARKS**

As we reflect on the past year, the Center's mission to bring together people and opportunities to solve global health problems remains at the forefront of our work. The evolving global health landscape calls us to not only address pressing challenges but to reimagine how we connect, learn, and innovate together.

Our work has been increasingly focused on reimagining global health leadership and fostering applied leadership skills that help our trainees to remain agile in this evolving landscape. This year, we aim to connect more deeply and meaningfully with our communities to foster critical dialogue and fresh perspectives. Through the EDGE network we will be launching a community seminar series designed to showcase the incredible work of our members. This initiative reflects our commitment to cultivating meaningful partnerships, bridging diverse expertise, and creating spaces for learning that inspire transformative action.

As we move forward, I am energized by the opportunities ahead to deepen our connections, expand our impact, and continue building a collaborative and inclusive global health community. Together, we can advance discovery, elevate shared learning, and drive sustainable solutions to the world's most complex challenges.

Anna Kalbarczyk, DrPH, MPH Assistant Director Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

# Thank you!

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health would like to thank the many faculty, students, and staff across the University who engage with us each year and make our programs possible. We could not have conducted our work this year without support from the Department of International Health, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Thank you for your support. Finally we offer a special thanks to our many international partners who continued to engage with us during a busy year.

Thank you to our many supporters for your continued contributions, financially and otherwise, to the Center.

If you would like to support the Center for Global Health, gifts can be made here.



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