



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH

Bloomberg American Health Initiative

Deploying the tools of public health to take on today's challenges.

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Bloomberg American Health Initiative

At a Glance

The Bloomberg American Health Initiative tackles critical 21st-century challenges to health in the United States through education, research and practice, aiming to improve health outcomes and save lives nationwide.

BY THE NUMBERS

\$300 Million

Gift from Bloomberg Philanthropies that established the Initiative in 2016 in honor of the centennial of the Bloomberg School of Public Health.

50

Full-tuition scholarships for a Master of Public Health degree annually.

10

Full-tuition scholarships for a Doctor of Public Health degree annually.

5 FOCUS AREAS

Addiction & Overdose

Adolescent Health

Environmental Challenges

Obesity & The Food System

Violence

3 CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Equity

Evidence

Policy

Key 2020 Data Points

158 Bloomberg Fellows are enrolled in the program to-date and represent a number of states and organizations, including traditional and nontraditional health organizations.

FELLOWS

- **130** MPH fellows from **36** states, Washington, D.C., and the Mariana Islands.
- **23** DrPH fellows
- **21** Alumni

COMMUNICATIONS

- Over **250,000** unique visitors, and over **725,000** pageviews since the December 2020 launch of our new redesigned website.

PROJECTS

- Supported **57** new community partnerships.
- Provided **5** public sector consultations.
- Approved **48** new research grants in academic year 2019-2020.

HIGH-IMPACT PROJECTS

Launched **3** new research projects at the Summit, including a national report on **state preparedness for climate change**, a guidebook for **youth serving organizations** on preventing sexual abuse, and **open case studies** that provide real-world data across the focus areas of the Initiative.

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

Worked with **137** collaborating organizations from **40** states, Washington, D.C., and the Mariana Islands. A majority of the fellows are from non traditional public health organizations including libraries, police departments, and agricultural extension programs.

COURSES

- Supported the development of **2** new academic courses, taken by **46** students.

EVENTS

- Sponsored **10** events both on campus and virtually.
- Convened more than **1,100** people virtually for the 3rd annual Bloomberg American Health Summit.

FACULTY

- Appointed **19** Bloomberg Professors of American Health.

The Initiative in a Pandemic

Despite an unprecedented year, the Initiative's impact across education, research, and practice continued to expand. Here are some examples with a focus on COVID-19:



EDUCATION

Fellows on the Frontlines was created to highlight the essential work of Bloomberg Fellows in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fellows developed innovative approaches to meet the needs of their communities.



ADOLESCENT HEALTH

Emily Witkowski

Maplewood Memorial Library
Maplewood, NJ

As a teen librarian, Emily has worked to reimagine how services and programs are offered during the pandemic. This included amping up personalized reference, switching to curbside pick-up, and planning virtual programs that have aided in a larger reach to the community.



VIOLENCE

Janel Cubbage

Maryland Department of Health
Baltimore, MD

Janel and her team provide updates to providers about how to use Telehealth, including expansion of services, trainings to help providers transition to telehealth, and tips on managing suicide risk via telehealth.



OBESITY & THE FOOD SYSTEM

Paige Volpenhein

Star of the Sea Foundation
Key West, FL

In an effort to ensure SOS communities received protein-rich sources of nutrients, Paige managed a fishing program, overseeing several charter captains and their crews to address a reduction in supply.



ADDICTION & OVERDOSE

Lorne Carroll

Alaska's Section of Public
Health Nursing
Anchorage, Alaska

Lorne works with a team to develop a workforce that is trained to fully conduct interviews and contact tracing. His team also ensures the workforce is equipped with the necessary tools to connect clients to harm reduction, behavioral health, and other essential services.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

David Harvey

Division of Sanitation
Facilities Construction (SFC),
Indian Health Service
Rockville, MD

David facilitates the development of a platform for reporting COVID-19 testing results at 400+ tribal healthcare facilities. He has also developed a tracking system for operation and maintenance needs at drinking water and wastewater systems serving Indian communities that may result from COVID-19.



The Initiative in a Pandemic

RESEARCH & IMPACT

COVID-19 IMPACT grants were designed to support research and practice-based approaches in response to the pandemic. These grants supported applications that included the Initiative's cross-cutting themes of equity, evidence, and policy.

PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Supporting Prince George's County Health Department's COVID-19 Care Program
- Understanding and Addressing COVID-19's Impact on Housing Among Black Intimate Partner Violence Survivors
- Incarceration and Re-Entry Experiences during the COVID-19 Response
- SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Antibodies in Decedents Undergoing Post-Mortem Examination in the State of Maryland

COVID-19 LAUNCHPAD grants were developed to address health equity and social justice challenges related to COVID-19 with direct impacts to the focus areas.

PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Improving Access to and Use of Harm Reduction and Healthcare Services among People who Inject Drugs Living in Low Income Communities During the Covid-19 Pandemic
- Air Pollution and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Hospitalizations in Baltimore in the Context of COVID-19
- The Impact of COVID-19 on People Who Use Drugs
- The impact of the Physical and Psychosocial Environment and COVID-19 among Children with Asthma Living in Low Income, Urban Neighborhoods

The Initiative in a Pandemic

COMMUNICATIONS

The American Health Podcast launched a three-part series on the coronavirus crisis that featured experts on the impact of the pandemic in the U.S., as seen through the lens of the Initiative's five focus areas. Episodes garnered over 2,500 downloads.

The screenshot displays a podcast player interface. On the left, there is a list of episodes with play buttons and duration indicators (30 minutes). The central focus is a large graphic with a blue and green background featuring a network map of the United States. The text on the graphic reads: "THE AMERICAN HEALTH PODCAST" in large yellow and white letters. Below this, it says "JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL of PUBLIC HEALTH" and "Bloomberg American Health Initiative". To the right of the graphic, there are snippets of episode descriptions and "Read More" links. At the bottom of the player, there are social media sharing icons and a description for the selected episode: "In this episode, we're talking about how rates of gun violence could be impacted by the difficult circumstances..."

EPISODES INCLUDED:

- **The Coronavirus Crisis: The Impact on Gun Violence** — Featuring Daniel Webster, Bloomberg Professor of American Health, and Shannon Frattaroli, associate professor at the Bloomberg School of Public Health and core faculty with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research.
- **The Coronavirus Crisis: Keeping Youth Connected** — Featuring Tamar Mendelson, Bloomberg Professor of American Health, Joni Holifield, founder and president of HeartSmiles, and Isaiah Thomas of HeartSmiles.
- **The Coronavirus Crisis: The Impact of COVID-19 on Sex Workers and People Who Use Drugs?** — Featuring Colleen Barry, chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Susan Sherman, a professor at the Bloomberg School of Public Health.

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND PRACTICE ACROSS THE FIVE FOCUS AREAS OF THE INITIATIVE

To address the challenges of **Addiction and Overdose, Adolescent Health, Environmental Challenges, Obesity and the Food System, and Violence**, Bloomberg American Health Initiative faculty and fellows are developing innovative public health tools and directly advising policy makers on how best to follow the evidence.

Addiction & Overdose

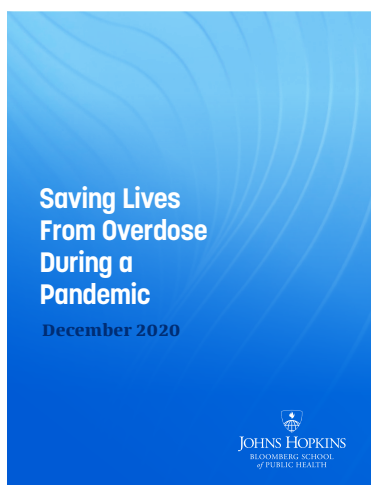
RESEARCH & POLICY IMPACT

SUPPORT FOR CREATIVE INTEGRATED BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH (SCIBAR) AWARD

In September 2020, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health announced the recipients of the funding awards supported by the Office of the Dean and the Initiative. **SCIBAR** grants are designed to solve complex challenges to public health through basic and applied research.



Bloomberg Professors of American Health, Drs. Melissa Walls and Sean Allen are among the award recipients. Drs. Wall and Allen's project, ***Translating mixed-methods research in addiction and overdose to policy and practice in indigenous communities throughout the United States*** will address gaps in existing data of people who inject drugs. The project will improve community engagement and increase the translation of evidence to policy change and practice to address health disparities in Tribal communities.



REPORT

In December, the report, **Saving Lives From Overdose During a Pandemic**, was released by faculty at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School in partnership with the Bloomberg Opioid Initiative.

The report outlines a set of recommendations aimed for policymakers in the areas of funding, data and surveillance, harm reduction, and treatment, and for special populations to ensure equitable response to the overdose epidemic during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Addiction & Overdose

POLICY



Bloomberg Fellow Haven Wheelock worked as chief petitioner on Oregon’s historical Measure 110, which decriminalizes possession of small amounts of hard drugs, including heroin, LSD, and methamphetamine. The Oregon Criminal Justice Commission estimates that approximately 3,600 fewer Oregonians will be convicted of felony or misdemeanor possession — a reduction of 90%. The ballot measure reclassifies possession of personal-use amounts of these drugs as a civil violation, and will fund addiction treatment, harm-reduction efforts, and other services for people with substance use disorders.

“As someone who is on the front lines of the addiction crisis, I have seen the devastating effects that criminalization has on people who use drugs. The shame of arrest and the trauma of incarceration stay with people long after they are released from jail. They are also harmful to healing. I have known people who were released from jail only to die days later of an overdose.”

— **Bloomberg Fellow Alumna, Haven Wheelock, MPH 2020**

SPARK!

The Spark Awards are intended to support innovative research projects to advance knowledge in the five focus areas while providing the foundation for future work.

Baltimore business owners in support of sharing a neighborhood with overdose prevention sites, the first of its kind to exist.

Bloomberg Professor of American Health, Dr. Susan Sherman, and her team conducted a study to ascertain overdose prevention site (OPS) support in Baltimore’s business community. The goal is to host information sessions and develop one-page fact sheets for use in local and state advocacy efforts.

PUBLIC SECTOR CONSULTATIONS

Public sector consultations are designed to engage and support faculty to provide technical assistance to members of local, state, and national government agencies. These consultations aim to result in outcomes and deliverables that have a direct impact on policy or practice efforts.

- Provide metrics for strategic priorities and other advising. Consultation conducted by Dr. Ju Park, in consultation with Maryland Governor’s Office and Opioid Operational Command Center.
- Revising syringe service intake form and gather data on how to better serve individuals who inject drugs. Consultation conducted by Dr. Sean Allen, in consultation with Cabell-Huntington Health Department.

Addiction & Overdose



SEMINAR SPOTLIGHT

In February, the Initiative hosted a school-wide seminar entitled: ***Rural Communities in Crisis: Leveraging Research to Inform Drug Policy and Practice***. The seminar was led by Dr. Sean Allen, the lead researcher in the report, *Estimating the Number of People Who Inject Drugs in a Rural County in Appalachia*.

EDUCATION

FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



Jennifer Harlos

Anchorage, AK

Jennifer is the Family Birthing Services Nurse Quality Liaison at Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. She works at the bedside in labor and delivery and works closely with physicians, midwives, nurses and administrators to improve care.



Charles Hawthorne

Oakland, CA

Charles is the Capacity Building Coordinator at Harm Reduction Coalition, where he provides technical assistance to organizations that seek to incorporate harm reduction into their service provision model.



ENDOWMENT-SUPPORTED FACULTY



Susan Sherman, PhD

Department of Health, Behavior, and Society



Brendan Saloner, PhD

Department of Health Policy and Management



Sean Allen, DrPH

Department of Health, Behavior and Society

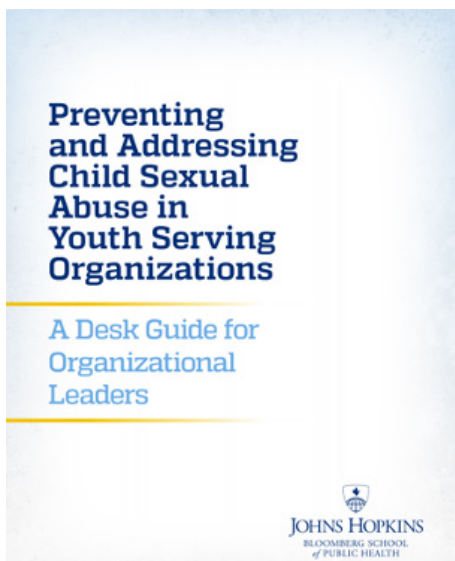


Javier Cepeda, PhD

Department of Epidemiology

Adolescent Health

RESEARCH & POLICY IMPACT



HIGH-IMPACT PROJECT

Preventing Sexual Abuse in Youth Serving Organizations presents a framework of best practices for national youth serving organizations to prevent childhood sexual abuse. Released in December 2020, researchers developed a Leadership Desk Guide that provides senior leaders of national, regional, and local youth serving organizations with new guidance and actionable options for preventing and addressing childhood sexual abuse.

SUPPORT FOR CREATIVE INEGGRATED BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH (SCIBAR) AWARD

How a 2019 Spark Award Helped Secure SCIBAR Funding

The work from Kristin Mmari’s Spark project truly “sparked” the pursuit of future research and led to a significant funding opportunity through JHSPH’s SCIBAR grant.

“Project VITAL (Vacant lot Improvements to Transform Adolescent Lives)”

investigates the impact of greening vacant lots on adolescent health in Baltimore City by building a sharable database containing key characteristics of restored and unrestored vacant lots, conducting a mixed-methods longitudinal study on changes in adolescent health associated with exposure to vacant lot restoration and embedding a cost-effectiveness study to determine the impact of different lot restoration programs on youth crime and violence, mental health, and food insecurity. This work will culminate into a blueprint for reducing adolescent health disparities through vacant lot restoration programs that can be distributed and adapted for different U.S. municipalities.





Adolescent Health

SPARK!

Uncovering the Contextual and Psychosocial Determinants of Adolescent Opioid Use in Maryland

- In July, Associate Professor Renee Johnson, in partnership with the Baltimore City Health Department, Baltimore City Opioid Intervention Team, Baltimore City Public Schools and Baltimore’s Behavioral Health Systems, began conducting exploratory and developmental research on how contextual and psychosocial factors shape risk for opioid use among adolescents in Maryland. Findings will generate new knowledge about the scope, nature, and social determinants of opioid use among adolescents.
-

IMPACT SUPPORTED BY THE INITIATIVE

Building a City-University Partnership to Address Adolescent Opioid Use in Baltimore City

- Associate Professor Renee Johnson convened a panel of researchers to gather research on adolescent opioid use in Baltimore City. They found Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) were associated with substantially increased likelihood of lifetime non-medical prescription opioid use and heroin use.
 - Findings were shared among the Baltimore City Department of Health, the Baltimore City Public School System, and the Behavioral Health Systems.
-

POLICY

- Bloomberg Fellow Grace Ramsay worked with Tapestry - an organization that meets the needs in sexual and reproductive health, substance use, and childhood nutrition - to advocate for the passage of legislation in Massachusetts that supports emancipated minors obtaining abortion services.
-

APPLIED EXPERIENCE AWARD

Expanding the Reach and Impact of LGBTQ Adolescent Health Data in Pennsylvania

- Bloomberg Fellow Mara Aussendorf works in the research and evaluation division with Public Health Management Corps. Mara and her organization worked with a local LGBTQ community center and the Pennsylvania Department of Health to conduct a statewide assessment on LGBTQ adolescent health needs.

Adolescent Health



EDUCATION

FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



Rocio Carranza Jacinto

Everett, WA

Rocio serves as the Prevention Family Advocate for Cocoon House. In this role, she is a case manager for underserved and Spanish-speaking families in Snohomish County, WA.



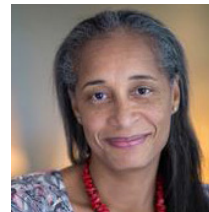
Kathryn Kaplan

Chicago, IL

As a Senior Research Associate, Kathryn leads projects with a direct health focus on HIV-related outcomes, the social return on investment of maternal and child health services among young moms experiencing homelessness, and evaluation of innovative place-based behavioral health and care coordination programs.



ENDOWMENT-SUPPORTED FACULTY



Maria Trent, MD

Department of Population, Family, and Reproductive Health



Tamar Mendelson, PhD

Department of Mental Health

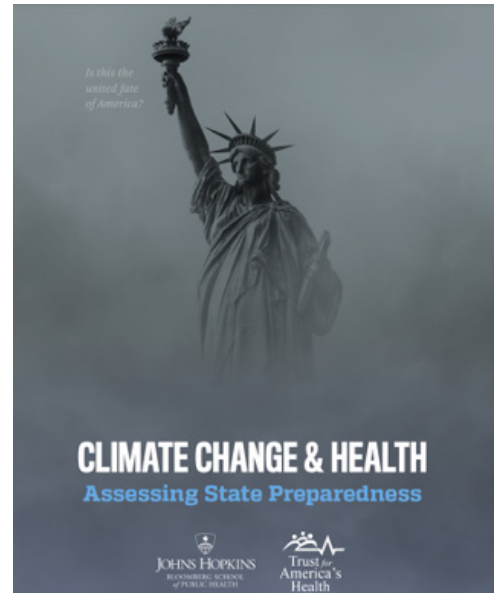
Environmental Challenges

RESEARCH & POLICY IMPACT

HIGH-IMPACT PROJECT

Climate Change & Health: Assessing State Preparedness

- Many of the states most vulnerable to climate change are also the least ready to cope with it. Climate Change & Health: Assessing State Preparedness examines how prepared states are to protect residents from the health impacts of climate change.
- In December, researchers at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Trust for America's Health released a report that assessed all 50 states and the District of Columbia on their level of readiness to protect residents from the health effects of climate change. The researchers found that while some states have made substantial preparations, others have hardly begun the process.



SUPPORT FOR CREATIVE INEGGRATED BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH (SCIBAR) AWARD

Kirsten Koehler and Adam Spira's SCIBAR project, **"Waking Up to Climate Change: White Roofs, Sleep, and Health in Baltimore City,"** works in partnership with the City of Baltimore's Office of Sustainability and Department of Housing and Community Development to evaluate the effect of installing roofs made of light-reflecting materials on indoor air

quality of 100 homes, as well as health and economic outcomes at the individual and neighborhood level in a low-income Baltimore community.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Where to invest in clean public transit?

- Public transit is an underutilized but important tool in improving health. A collaborative project between Johns Hopkins University, the Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition, and Baltimore community members, aims to better understand the relationship between the public transit system, air pollution, and health impacts in the Baltimore region. The goal is to provide recommendations to the City Council, Maryland legislature, and Transportation and Climate Initiative on which areas would benefit most from investments in clean transit.

Environmental Challenges

EDUCATION

FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



Julianah Marie

Frisco, TX

Julianah works across all schools in the Frisco school district on waste minimization and leads the environmental club for teens, Teens4Green.



Chantelle Mendonsa

Washington, D.C.

Chantelle leads the SPARCC Community of Practice, a platform for shared learning and relationship building around health, climate, and racial equity.



ENDOWMENT-SUPPORTED FACULTY



Aisha Dickerson, PhD

Department of Epidemiology

Spark project spotlight:
Investigation of environmental justice in a diverse longitudinal sample

of older adults in the United States

Assistant professor Aisha Dickerson's innovative pilot study looks to examine prospective environmental exposures and sociodemographic characteristics among a diverse study sample in relation to cognitive decline. The results of this study will be the first adequately powered study of its kind and provide valuable insight into vulnerable populations who experience a disproportionate burden of exposure, disease, and disparities.



Shima Hamidi, PhD

Department of Environmental Health and Engineering



Obesity & the Food System

RESEARCH & POLICY IMPACT

VANGUARD AWARD

The American Health Vanguard Award supports two years of innovative research that advances knowledge within the five focus areas.

An Assessment of the Summer SNAP Benefits Program: Can it reduce adolescent food insecurity?

- Associate Professor Kristin Mmari’s study is the first of its kind to evaluate the success of Maryland’s Summer SNAP Benefits, a program that works to reduce poverty and hunger for vulnerable children. In collaboration with the Baltimore City Department of Social Services, Baltimore City Food Policy Initiative, Center for a Livable Future, City of Baltimore Mayor’s Office of Employment Development and Johns Hopkins Center for Adolescent Health, the project also examines the acceptability of providing summer SNAP benefits to YouthWorks applicants.



Obesity & the Food System

POLICY

The Initiative Supports A Focus on Healthy Food in Retail Environments: The Development of a National Research Agenda to Support Healthy Eating through Retail Strategies

- In November, a culmination of efforts by Center for Science Public Interest, Healthy Eating Research, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and The Food Trust built a consensus around key research priorities for healthy food retail practices. Bloomberg Fellow Ashley Hickson served as the co-lead for the health retail project where she helped develop a guide for food retailers to help them select appropriate foods that meet the new guidelines, and also provided technical assistance through data analysis. Ashley is also supporting CSPI's partnerships with other localities to create similar policies across the country.

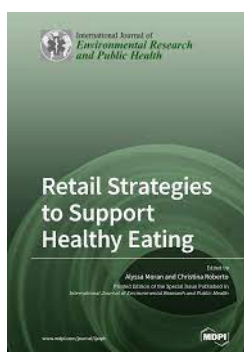
Incentivizing the Purchase of Fruits and Vegetables under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- Bloomberg Fellow Emily Foxman testified to the state legislature on a bill supporting a Texas-wide study and pilot program for SNAP incentives on fruit and vegetables at diverse retailers. The bill was passed and signed into law in January 2021, and mandates a steering committee to work on a statewide SNAP incentive program that is supported by Texas Health and Human Services.

PUBLIC SECTOR CONSULTATIONS

Faculty member Anne Palmer, MAIA, is an Associate Scientist in the Department of Health, Behavior, and Society and a program director at the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future.

- Anne worked with the Office of Public Health and Safety in Indianapolis to develop metrics to identify priorities and measure success on food policy initiatives.
- Anne also worked with the Madison, WI Food Policy Council to review and provide recommendations to governance structure to promote better community engagement and equity.



Initiative supports the development of a National Research Agenda to support healthy food retail

- In November, Dr. Alyssa Moran helped convene a diverse group across multiple sectors to discuss and finalize a national research agenda on retail strategies to support healthy eating. The Initiative supported the development of the report, **Retail Strategies to Support Healthy Eating**, that concluded public health and industry experts must work together to counter growing food insecurity and disparities by developing retail strategies and best practices that build a more equitable and healthful food system.

Obesity & the Food System

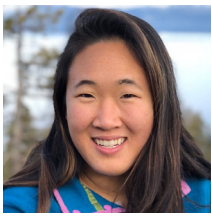


COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- **Increasing Capacity for Farm to Early Care and Education in Maryland and Washington** with the Research Triangle Institute and the Washington State Health Department, led by Dr. Sara Benjamin Neelon, Director of the Lerner Center and professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.
- **Solving Food Distribution in Baltimore, MD** with Civic Works. An initiative led by SOURCE, the community engagement and service-learning center for the Johns Hopkins University Schools of Public Health, Nursing, and Medicine.

EDUCATION

FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



Jillian Tse

San Francisco, CA

As the Program Manager for the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank, Jillian coordinates a weekly grocery delivery service program for adults with disabilities. She also conducts outreach and training to community-based organizations across San Francisco that partner with the Food Bank.



Rene Begay

Aurora, CO

Rene is Diné (Navajo) from Salina Springs, Arizona, on the Navajo Nation. In her role as a professional research assistant, Rene conducts qualitative and quantitative research, analyzes community health survey data for Alaska Native communities, and uses statistical analysis to create new measures of healthcare utilization. She also works on suicide prevention for rural Native Veterans.



ENDOWMENT-SUPPORTED FACULTY



Melissa Walls, PhD

Department of International Health

Walls (first-generation descendant of Bois Forte and Couchiching First

Nation Anishinaabe) is an expert in diabetes and substance use prevention. Walls was named the inaugural director of the Center for American Indian Health's new Great Lakes Hub in Duluth, Minnesota. For more than three decades, the Center has partnered with American Indian and Alaska Native communities to improve health, well-being, and self-sufficiency.



Yeeli Mui, PhD

Department of International Health

Violence



RESEARCH & POLICY IMPACT

REDUCING VIOLENCE AND BUILDING TRUST
Data to Guide Enforcement of Gun Laws in Baltimore

Daniel W. Webster, ScD, MPH | Cassandra K. Crifasi, PhD, MPH
Rebecca G. Williams, MSPH | Marisa Doll Doody, MHS | Shani A. L. Bugge, PhD, MPH

HIGH-IMPACT PROJECT

Reducing Violence and Building Trust: Data to Guide Enforcement of Gun Laws in Baltimore

The report from the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health finds that communities most impacted by gun violence want greater focus on individuals at high risk to engage in gun violence and stronger accountability measures to reduce illegal searches.

SPARK!

Informing solutions to prevent violence against Latinx populations in the U.S.

In July, Assistant Professor Andrea Wirtz, in partnership with Centro SOL and Latino Providers Network, began work to address interpersonal violence among Latinx immigrants. This preliminary work aims to inform a nationally representative study assessing violence victimization, including IPV and other forms of non-partner violence, among Latinx immigrants.

SPOTLIGHT ON SEMINAR

Reimagining More Effective and Fair Public Safety

The seminar series, “Reimagining More Effective and Fair Models for Public Safety,” led by Drs. Daniel Webster and Cassandra Crifasi addressed community safety and racial justice, and included presentations by faculty, fellows, and collaborating organizations. The series focused on exploring avenues, models, and policy and advocacy channels for policing that support communities without impeding their constitutional rights. The series also focused on police reform, mental health crisis response, and intimate partner violence.



Violence



EDUCATION

FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



Eric Cumberbatch

New York, NY

As the Deputy Director of the New York City Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, Eric implements innovative strategies to build stronger neighborhoods through new crime reduction initiatives including changes in the built environment, enhanced community engagement, and expanded social networks in areas that are most plagued by high rates of violence.



Heidi Penix

Austin, TX

Heidi works with the multidisciplinary Children’s Justice Act Task Force to engage in needs assessment and develop priorities to achieve the grant’s objective of reforming state processes for responding to child abuse and neglect.



Don Hedrick

Rapid City, SD

As the Chief of the Rapid City Police Department, Don has led and managed the Police Department’s agency wellness and officer resiliency efforts, which form the bedrock of its trauma-informed policing strategy and has been instrumental in planning and implementing the department’s Peer Support and Crisis Intervention Teams.



ENDOWMENT-SUPPORTED FACULTY



Daniel Webster, ScD

Department of Health Policy and Management



Michele Decker, ScD

Department of Population, Family, and Reproductive Health



Tiara Willie, PhD

Department of Mental Health

Cross-Cutting Themes

Equity, evidence, and policy continues to frame the approach for addressing the challenges of the Initiative's focus areas. The role of these cross-cutting themes is essential across the research, education, and practice portfolios. Formulating new policies, building on rigorous evidence, and ensuring equitable approaches motivates the Initiative's efforts towards impactful solutions.

These themes emphasize the need for engagement, implementation, and dissemination that strengthens current policies, enforces equity frameworks, and ensures science-informed approaches.

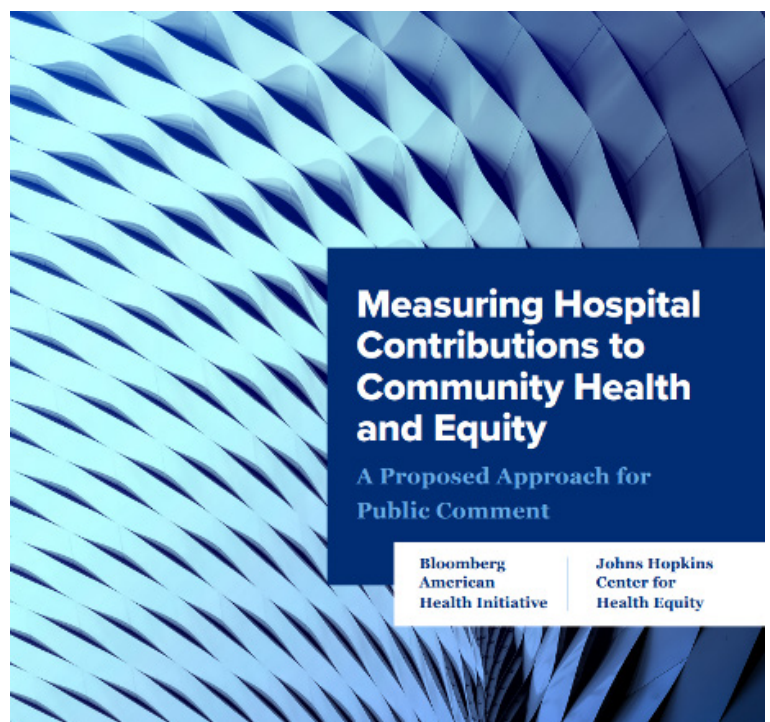
A number of courses and activities were developed to support these themes including the Inaugural Health Equity Training Opportunities Showcase, Rural Communities in Crisis: Leveraging Research to Inform Drug Policy and Practice, and Computational Epidemiology and Digital Data for Uncovering Disparities in Health, Patterns of Substance Use, and Opportunities for Early Intervention.

EQUITY SPOTLIGHT

Measuring Hospital Contributions to Community Health with a Focus on Equity

In Summer 2020, the Bloomberg American Health Initiative and the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity partnered with IBM/Watson Health to develop a method to measure the impact of hospitals on community health with a focus on equity, for potential inclusion in the Fortune/IBM Watson Health Top 100 Hospitals Program.

In August 2020, a draft of the proposed measures was released for public comments. More than 100 people and organizations submitted more than 600 comments. These led to many changes in the proposal, including the addition of six new best practice standards.



Cross-Cutting Themes

RESEARCH & IMPACT



HIGH-IMPACT PROJECT

Open Case Studies: Hands-On Data Science Education for Thousands of Students in Tackling Public Health Challenges

Open Case Studies is an educational resource that educators can use in the classroom to teach undergraduate and graduate students at colleges and universities across the United States how to effectively analyze data. It focuses on ten case studies that fall within the five focus areas of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative.

ENDOWMENT-SUPPORTED FACULTY

BLOOMBERG PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HEALTH IN EVIDENCE

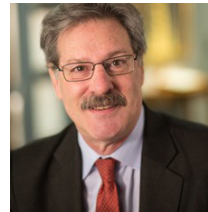


Elizabeth A. Stuart, PhD
Department of Mental Health

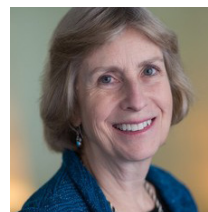
BLOOMBERG CENTENNIAL PROFESSORS OF AMERICAN HEALTH



Janice Bowie, PhD
Schoolwide DrPH
Program Chair



David Celentano, ScD
Department of Epidemiology Chair



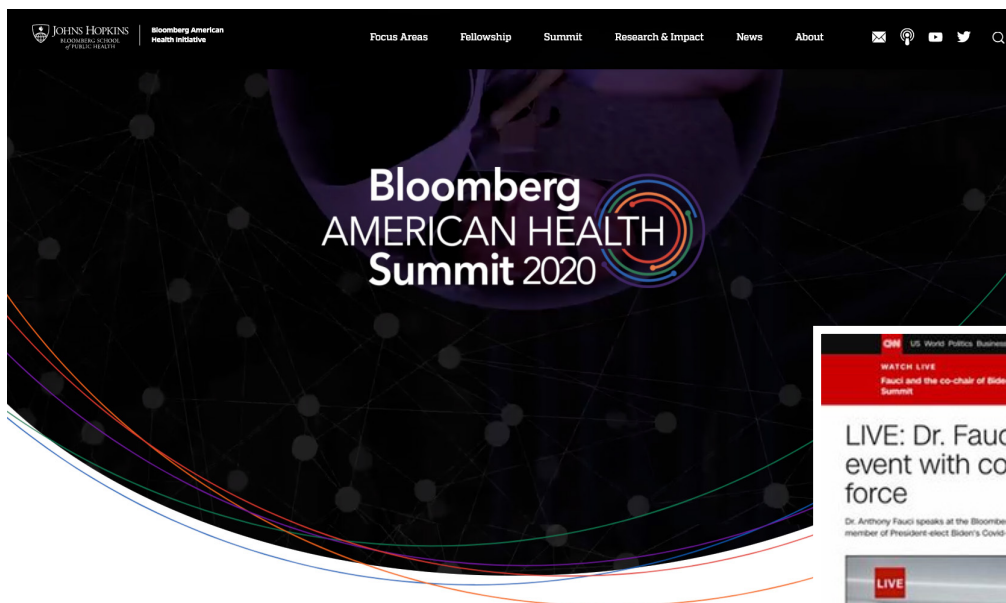
Marie Diener West, PhD
MPH Program Chair

Bloomberg American Health Summit

The **2020 Bloomberg American Health Summit, Reimagining American Health**, focused on numerous challenges facing our nation including the COVID-19 pandemic, radical injustice, food insecurity, and climate change.

Over **1,000** people attended the 2020 virtual summit. The summit featured **74** speakers, including elected officials, national public health leaders, media personalities, and thought leaders across public and private organizations. Over **30** breakout sessions across two days ranging from advancing adolescent health to effectively using data to solve public health challenges, to the impacts of COVID-19.

Coverage highlights include stories on **Axios, Fox News, CNN**, and live streams of the Summit on **CNN, Fox** and **PBS NewsHour** platforms. On social media, the live-streamed event generated a reach of **3.5 million**.



LIVE: Dr. Fauci talks about the pandemic at event with co-chair of Biden's Covid-19 task force

Dr. Anthony Fauci speaks at the Bloomberg American Health Summit along with David Kessler, a member of President-elect Biden's Covid-19 task force, and other speakers.



2020 Bloomberg American Health Summit Videos



Communications

BLOOMBERG AMERICAN HEALTH INITIATIVE WEBSITE

The Initiative website serves as a content hub to showcase the Initiative's work and thought leadership across its five focus areas. In 2020, the Initiative website redesign and enhancement was implemented to reflect the growth of the program since its inception.

Since its launch in 2016, there have been over **727,273** page views and **253,883** total new users.

THE AMERICAN HEALTH PODCAST

23,494 total downloads since November 2017. In 2020, **10** episodes yielded over **6,900** downloads, with a total of **22,649** downloads since its inception. Episodes include:

- **The Social Context of Intimate Partner Violence** - A conversation featuring Michele Decker, a Bloomberg Associate Professor of American Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Charvonne Holliday, Assistant Professor at the Bloomberg School; and Janice Miller, a Bloomberg Fellow and licensed clinical social worker who is the Director of Programs and Clinical Services for House of Ruth Maryland.
- **Building Resilience in Puerto Rico** - Featuring co-founders of Puerto Rico Stands - Yonaira Rivera, and Hadi Esieley-Barrera, an electrical engineer at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. Along with Jose Carlos Sanchez Cintron with El Familion, a group of community leaders in Sector Maná who mobilized the community immediately after Hurricane María and worked with the Puerto Rico Stands team.

INITIATIVE AND FACULTY IN THE NEWS



- The Initiative made appearances on **Gulf Coast Today** and **NBC-15** to talk about the Bloomberg Fellows Program and application cycle for the 2021 class.
- Over **439** media coverage and appearances of the Initiative and its faculty in local and national outlets, including **CNN**, **The Washington Post**, **The New York Times**, **The Wall Street Journal**, **USA Today**, and **National Public Radio**.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- In 2020, the Initiative received over **2.7 million** video views across social media platforms on a single video created to promote the 2021 Bloomberg Fellowship Program application cycle.