

# 2021 Networking Luncheon Directory



**James Allen, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Rural populations

**Research Focus:** My research focus seeks to strengthen American Indian/Alaska Native communities to enhance existing local community capacity to promote health and welfare. My current work includes long term collaborations with rural Alaska Native communities to describe and test effectiveness of culturally-based intervention to promote protective factors in prevention of youth suicide and substance abuse. I also work in a collaboration describing community-level protective mechanisms predictive of low suicide rates in rural Alaska Native communities, and cultural and spiritual factors in opioid use disorder treatment and prevention in Pacific Northwest and Minnesota tribal communities.

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research, Quantitative - Quasi-experimental, SMART, and Adaptive Designs

**Methods Description:** My methods focus includes life history qualitative interviewing in understanding cultural processes in health and well-being, and collaborative approaches to coding and interpretive analysis of qualitative data with communities of concern. I also have interested in recent developments in classical and modern measurement theory, particularly in its application to culturally distinct settings and the measurement of protective factors. Finally, I have interest in contemporary approaches to modeling in testing theory and intervention in small populations research, including recent applications of multilevel and Bayesian approaches.






**Michele Allen, MD, MS**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black/African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic/Latinx

**Research Description:** Adolescent health promotion and substance use prevention using participatory research approaches.

	<p><b>Methods:</b> Quantitative - RCTs, Community engaged/participatory research</p> <p><b>Methods Description:</b> I use participatory approaches to develop intervention approaches addressing adolescent health promotion across multiple levels (individual, family, school).</p>
	<p><a href="#">Lauren Bernstein</a> <a href="mailto:berns209@umn.edu">berns209@umn.edu</a></p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Indigenous populations, Rural populations, People experiencing homelessness, Medicaid population, Pet owners of the above populations with limited access to veterinary resources</p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> Barriers to veterinary care access; cultural perspectives of wildlife disease</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research</p> <p><b>Methods Description:</b> CBPR in culturally diverse deer hunting communities</p>
	<p><a href="#">Zobeida Bonilaa</a> <a href="mailto:zbonilla@umn.edu">zbonilla@umn.edu</a></p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Hispanic/Latinx, Immigrant populations, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age</p> <p><b>Research Focus:</b> Qualitative methods, Latine/x communities, MCH, global health</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Community engaged/participatory research</p>
	<p><a href="#">Sonya Brady, PhD</a> <a href="mailto:ssbrady@umn.edu">ssbrady@umn.edu</a></p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> health risk and health protective behaviors during adolescence and young adulthood, socioeconomic and ethnic disparities in consequences of risk taking, mechanisms linking stressful life circumstances to risk behavior and factors promoting resilience</p> <p><b>Grant Skills:</b> Conceptual model development</p>



**Danielle Bullock, MD, MPH**

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**Research Interests:** Disparities in pediatric rheumatology clinical and patient-reported outcomes

**Grant Skills:** Currently completing MPH



**Gabriela Bustamante**

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**Population Focus:** Rural populations, Immigrant populations, The LGBTQ+ community

**Research Focus:** I am a postdoctoral fellow in the NIH-funded Cancer Health Disparities T32 Training Program at the University of Minnesota. Overall, my research examines the role of social determinants of health, with an emphasis on the neighborhood physical and social context, on the development of cancer and other chronic diseases. Most recently, my research is focused on three broad and complementary areas of research: (1) Identifying disparities in cervical cancer prevention among underserved populations, (2) Understanding the role of neighborhood and the socio-biological pathways through which it leads to cancer morbidity and mortality, particularly among immigrants, and (3) Community-based participatory interventions to eliminate disparities in preventable cancers.

Methods: Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** I have a strong background in quantitative methods for large longitudinal studies. In addition, I often incorporate geographic methods into my research and publicly available data. More recently I have utilized community engaged/participatory research methods to guide my inquiries and methods and qualitative methods such as focus groups.





**Tammy Butterick**

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**Population Focus:** Military/veterans

**Research Focus:** Biomarker discovery relevant to brain immune responses in rodent models of environmental exposure, aging, obesity and Alzheimer's disease.

	<p><b>Methods Focus:</b> Rodent models of Alzheimer's disease, obesity, aging and environmental exposure</p> <p><b>Methods Description:</b> Rodent cognitive behavior, biomarker screening and cell culture</p>
	<p><b>Kathleen Call, PhD</b> callx001@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Indigenous populations, Black / African American, Asian / Pacific Islander, Rural populations, Immigrant populations, Medicaid population</p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> Kathleen Call's research focuses on the complexities of measuring health insurance coverage, including the discrepancy between survey and administrative data counts of insurance coverage. She also documents how rates of uninsurance respond to federal and state policy changes, and how well health insurance translates into equitable access to health care and for whom. She is interested in developing community-driven solutions to health insurance and health care barriers.</p> <p><b>Methods Focus:</b> Quantitative - observational data, Community engaged/participatory research</p>
	<p><b>Caitlin Carroll, PhD</b> carrollc@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Rural populations, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age</p> <p><b>Research Focus:</b> Rural health care, access to care, hospital closure</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Quantitative - observational data</p> <p><b>Methods Description:</b> Quasi-experimental methods</p>



**Dana Carroll, PhD, MPH**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations

**Research Focus:** I collaborate with American Indian tribes and communities to reduce commercial tobacco use and help reclaim traditional tobacco use. Much of my work focuses on developing and testing smoking cessation programs with tribal communities. I also conduct research to understand how to make the cigarette itself less appealing and addictive.

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** My methods range from analyses of large epidemiologic surveys to clinical trials and community-based participatory research and integrate mixed methods.



**Gabe Chan**

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**Research Interests:** Energy and climate policy, justice, democratic control in energy systems and community economic benefit, energy justice, and energy scarcity.

**Crina Cotoc, MD, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black / African American, Asian / Pacific Islander, Rural populations.

**Research Focus:** I am a public health scientist who combines concepts and methods across disciplinary boundaries to examine interconnections between the social and behavioral determinants of health in oncology, with a primary area of research in breast cancer. My work focuses on reducing cancer-related health disparities among communities most impacted by inequities. Included in my research agenda are studies on psychological side effects of a cancer diagnosis, doctor-patient communication and interactions in cancer prognosis, the role of animal assisted interventions as adjuvant therapy in pediatric oncology, as well as family-based association of killer cell immunoglobulin-like receptor genes with leukemia.

**Methods Focus:** Mixed methods





**Dori Cross, PhD**

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**Research Interests:** I broadly study the role of health IT in supporting care coordination and care transitions; I'm interested in studying EHRs and EHR data as tools to understand and address equity issues



**Brooke Cunningham, MD, PhD**

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**Research Interests:** race, racism, provider and organizational factors that impede or facilitate health equity



**Roli Dwivedi, MD**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black / African American, Asian / Pacific Islander, People experiencing homelessness, Immigrant populations, People affected by mental illness, Medicaid population, People with medical comorbidities

**Research Focus:** Culture, wellness, chronic diseases, preventive care, racism

**Methods:** Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews



**Janette Dill, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Low-wage workers

**Research Focus:** Dr. Dill's research focuses on the supply and labor market activity of the health care workforce, with an emphasis on direct care workers and workers without a college degree. Her other ongoing research projects include examining the supply of long-term care workers relative to the older adult population and rates of turnover among these worker, measuring the rewards for professional certification among direct care workers, and the employment behavior and intentions of direct care workers after the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Mixed methods

**Methods Description:** I am mainly a quantitative researcher, using large secondary datasets (IPUMS CPS, IPUMS USA, SIPP, etc.) to understand population-level wage and employment dynamics among health care workers. However, I have done some mixed methods research that has included interviewing and focus groups.



**Lynn Eberly, PhD, MS**

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**Population Focus:** Elders, community living and institutionalized such as in long term care, nursing homes

**Research Focus:** Medical imaging, neuroscience and neurodegenerative diseases, psychiatry/psychology, endocrinology (type 1 and type 2 diabetes), aging and elders (community living and in communal living/institutions).

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Community engaged/participatory research, longitudinal cohort studies, case/control studies

**Methods Description:** Clinical/intervention trials, cross-sectional and longitudinal (prospective) cohort studies, case/control studies, experimental conditions



**Milton "Mickey" Eder, PhD**

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**Research Interests:** Community engaged research, patient safety, health literacy and patient activation research among priority populations



**Sue Everson-Rose, PhD, MPH**

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**Population Focus:** Patients with cardiovascular disease, or breast cancer

**Research Focus:** Stress and psychosocial factors influencing chronic disease risk; lifestyle interventions; aging & heart health in women.

**Methods Focus:** Quantitative - observational data, Community engaged/participatory research, behavioral clinical trials/RCTs



**Esam El-Fakahany, PhD**

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**Research Interests:** Alzheimer's disease therapy

**Grant Skills:** Mentoring skills



**Shekinah Fashaw-Walters, PhD, MSPH**

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**Population Focus:** Black / African American, Medicaid population, Older Adults

**Research Interests:** My program of research focuses on understanding the racial/ethnic and socioeconomic inequities in long-term care access while elucidating and explicitly naming racism as a fundamental determinant of racial/ethnic health inequities within long-term care. I conduct research focused on older adults using both nursing homes and home- and community-based services.

**Methods Focus:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods





**John R. Finnegan, PhD**  
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**Population Focus:** Social conditions leading to marginalization, health inequities

**Research Interests:** Social determinants of health and inequity

**Methods Focus:** Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research



**Simone French, PhD**  
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**Population Focus:** Black/African Americans, Hispanic/Latinx, families and children with low income

**Research Focus:** Community interventions with racially/ethnically diverse families and children with low-income for healthy eating and physical activity. Environmental and behavioral interventions; multi-level interventions; community-engaged interventions with community partners in community settings.

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Focus:** Community-based, community-partnered group randomized trials



**Linda Frizzell, PhD**  
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**Research Interests:** Health services administration, clinic management, rural & Indian health policy and legislation, public health, gerontology, cultural mindfulness, health and wellness education research, behavioral health, community assessment, evaluation, exercise physiology, health education, memory loss and older adults, physical rehabilitative therapy, service learning administration, senior corps administration, and therapeutic recreation.



**Sarah Gollust, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** People affected by mental illness, I don't focus on particular populations in my work.

**Research Focus:** Dr. Gollust is a social scientist studying the intersections of communication, politics, and health policy. In her past research, she has examined media influences and public opinion around significant health policy issues, including obesity, health disparities, the Affordable Care Act, and cancer screening. She also examines how research is translated into health policymaking.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Content analysis and surveys

**Methods Description:** I conduct media content analyses (of ads and news, including TV and print) and I design and implement survey research designed to understand the public's attitudes, beliefs, and the influence of media.



**Elizabeth (Lizzy) Goldsmith, MD**

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**Population Focus:** Military/veterans, The LGBTQ+ community

**Research Focus:** Chronic pain, non-drug therapies for pain, sexual and gender minority health

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** Longitudinal cohorts, mixed methods, quantitative bias analysis in medical records-based research



**Stuart Grande, PhD, MPA**

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**Research Interests:** I examine how novel technologies (e.g., Mobile Health Tools) enhance or modify the ways patients and clinicians communicate to reduce social distance, reduce bias, and enhance shared decision making. My current research explores the potential of a mobile health (mHealth) application, designed with and for Black men with type-2 diabetes, may improve their care, treatment, and perceptions of healthcare over time.



**Brenna Greenfield, PhD, MS**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Rural populations, Alcohol and drug use

**Research Focus:** Addiction treatment, social determinants of health, CBPR

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research



**Rachel Hardeman, PhD, MPH**

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**Population Focus:** Black/African Americans, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age, Medicaid population

**Research Focus:** I am a reproductive health equity researcher and an antiracism scholar. My program program of research applies the tools of population health science and health services research to elucidate a critical and complex determinant of health inequity—racism. I leverage the frameworks of critical race theory and reproductive justice to inform my equity-centered work which aims to build the empirical evidence of racism’s impact on health particularly for Black birthing people and their babies.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** Population health data (American Community Survey, census, etc); Mixed methods; Community based participatory research





**David Haynes, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Black/African Americans, Medicaid population

**Research Focus:** Breast cancer screening disparities in women with African heritage. Spatial analysis of cancer screening disparities. Implementation of breast cancer education within the community.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Community engaged/participatory research, Spatial analysis

	<p><b>Methods Description:</b> I have expertise in spatial analysis or integrating environmental data as well as data visualization.</p> <p><b>Deborah Hendricks, MPH, MSPH, MCH</b> dlhendri@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> Translational Research <b>Grant Skills:</b> Community engagement resources</p>
	<p><b>Carrie Henning-Smith, PhD, MS, MSW, MPH</b> henn0329@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Rural populations</p> <p><b>Research Focus:</b> My research focuses on advancing health equity by addressing social and structural factors that contribute to health. In particular, I focus on the health and wellbeing of rural residents, older adults, and people with disabilities. I also examine the role of place in social wellbeing and quality of life.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Community engaged/participatory research <b>Methods Description:</b> I use a variety of research methods in my work, including analysis of national survey data, key informant interviews, and focus groups. I also strive to ensure that my research is community engaged and community informed, from the development of the research question to dissemination of results.</p>
	<p><b>Anna Hing, PhD</b> hing0013@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Black / African American, Asian / Pacific Islander, Immigrant populations, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age</p> <p><b>Research Focus:</b> I study how structural racism influences health, specifically looking at how voter suppression/disenfranchisement contributes to racial health disparities in maternal/infant health and life expectancy. Other work examines interpersonal discrimination and health and the influence of immigration on the health of Filipino migrants.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Quantitative - observational data</p>



**Rhonda Jones-Webb, DrPH, MPH**

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**Population Focus:** Black / African American

**Research Focus:** Alcohol epidemiology and policy with a special focus on race, social class and neighborhood influences.

**Methods Focus:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research.



**Benjamin Katz, M.D.**

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**Research Interests:** Migrant and seasonal farm workers; Social determinants of health; Community partnership



**Jonathan Kirsch, MD**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black / African American, Asian / Pacific Islander, Rural populations, People experiencing homelessness, Immigrant populations, Incarcerated and formerly incarcerated populations, People affected by mental illness

**Research Focus:** The mobile health initiative is open to collaboration with any researchers whose work directly impacts health equity, involves the community, increases opportunities for underrepresented learners and is based on social justice. Through community engagement work, our work is action oriented and scholarship revolves around community engagement.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Community engaged/participatory research, QALY Impact, return on investment,





**Katy Backes Kozhimannil, PhD, MPA**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black / African American, Rural populations, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age, Medicaid population

**Research Focus:** Katy Backes Kozhimannil is a Distinguished McKnight University Professor at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. The goal of her scholarly work is to contribute to the evidence base for clinical and policy strategies to advance racial, gender, and geographic equity and to collaborate with stakeholders in making policy change to address social determinants and structural injustice in order to facilitate improved health and well-being, starting at birth.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data



**Jennifer Linde, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Black / African American, Rural populations, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age, People with medical comorbidities, Hispanic/Latinx

**Research Focus:** Weight management, weight-related health behaviors, translation of programs to meet population needs

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** Randomized trials, demonstration projects, community-engaged research





**Katie Lingras, PhD, LP**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black/African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic/Latinx, children and families from minoritized and underrepresented backgrounds

**Research Focus:** Dr. Lingras is focused on bridging gaps between academic research and practice by providers who work directly with children. As such, her research is focused on social-emotional development and early childhood mental health, broadly, with specific attention to program evaluation and issues of implementation and sustainability. Specifically, Dr. Lingras engages in community-based program development and

	<p>evaluation in pediatric primary care and preschool/Head Start settings.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research</p> <p><b>Methods Description:</b> I used mixed methods to capture both quantitative changes and qualitative processes, the nuances of which are often not captured by "the numbers".</p>
	<p><b>Pam Lutsey, PhD, MPH</b> lutsey@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> CVD <b>Data Sets:</b> ARIC, MESA</p>
	<p><b>Hannah MacDougall, PhD</b> macdo327@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Medicaid population</p> <p><b>Research Focus:</b> Nonprofit Hospital Community Benefits</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Mixed methods</p>
	<p><b>Lauren Martin, PhD</b> mart2114@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Indigenous populations, Black/African Americans, People experiencing homelessness, Incarcerated and formerly incarcerated populations, The LGBTQ+ community</p> <p><b>Research Focus:</b> Trained in Anthropology, Lauren works with partners to conduct qualitative, mixed-methods, collaborative and action research on transactional sex, exploitation and trafficking. Her work is rooted in strengths, assets, meaning-making and experience to explore pathways to healing and wellbeing. In partnership with communities, her scholarship contributes to policy, prevention and intervention, building on strengths and reducing harm.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research, Ethnography</p>

**Methods Description:** Lauren's research methods focus on co-creation of research projects and knowledge generation working with community partners, specifically from communities who have been marginalized and who face intersectional oppressions. She uses the most robust and rigorous methods available to answer project questions and met goals. This usually requires team science and community collaborations.



**Susan Mason, PhD, MPH**  
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**Population Focus:** People affected by mental illness, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age, People with a history of adverse experiences/trauma

**Research Interest:** My research examines how stress, adversity, and trauma are distributed across the population and shape long-term health outcomes.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data

**Methods Description:** I am an epidemiologist trained in causal inference and quantitative methods. I also have some experience with qualitative data, survey development, and spatial/geographic measures.



**Donna McAlpine, PhD, MPH**  
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**Research Interests:** mental health and illness, food insecurity



**Barbara McMorris**  
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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black/African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic/Latinx, People experiencing homelessness, People affected by mental illness, The LGBTQ+ community, adolescents from vulnerable backgrounds

**Research Focus:** Promotion of health among vulnerable populations, especially adolescents. My wide-ranging focus has

been on risk and protective factors for bullying, violence, sexual risk-taking, school disconnection and push-out, alcohol, and substance use.

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Mixed methods

**Methods Description:** Quantitative methods are a strength (statistical models, SEM, mixture models), especially around secondary data analysis and survey research. I also conduct program evaluations with community partners, and many involve the use of mixed methods designs.



**Thomas Murray, PhD, MS**

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**Research interests:** general application areas of cancer treatment and management, diabetes mellitus and end-stage renal disease, and mental health and addiction; Bayesian modeling, Clinical trial design, Dynamic treatment regimes, Evidence synthesis, Time-to-event analysis, Competing risks, Pairwise comparison



**Rebekah Nagler, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** No specific population focus

**Research Focus:** My research examines the effects of routine exposure to health information in the media, with a particular focus on conflicting and often controversial information about cancer prevention and screening. I have additional research interests in communication and health equity, with the goal of understanding the role of communication in both attenuating and exacerbating health inequalities.

**Methods:** Mixed methods

**Methods Description:** I have research expertise in multi-method approaches to social and behavioral science. I have conducted media content analyses, qualitative studies (e.g., in-depth interviews, community-engaged focus groups), and quantitative studies (e.g., measurement validity studies, surveys, experiments). I also have experience conducting formative research for communication interventions, including cognitive interviewing, message pretesting, and usability testing.



**Hannah Neprash, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Black / African American, Rural populations, Medicaid population

**Research Interests:** I study how the increasing presence of nurse practitioners can expand access to primary care for BIPOC and rural patients. I also study the determinants of clinicians' decisions to participate in the Medicaid program (i.e., to accept and treat Medicaid patients).

**Methods Focus:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data



**Manka Nkimbeng, PhD, MPH, RN**

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**Population Focus:** Black / African American, Immigrant populations, People affected by mental illness

**Research Focus:** My research interests center around understanding the causes of health inequities in minorities and improving health outcomes for older adults. Encompassing my research and policy expertise, I work to develop and test interventions that can be translated into health policies and clinical practice to improve health and eliminate health inequities for older adults.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research



**Theresa Osypuk, SD SM**

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**Research Interests:** How place (neighborhoods; residential segregation) affects health and health equity (disparities mainly by race/ethnicity, nativity, socioeconomic status); if so, when in the life course; how policies outside of the health sector influence health and health equity; social epidemiology; methods

**Grant Skills:** applying causal methods to address social epidemiology questions; operationalizing inequality (e.g. neighborhood inequality); analyzing census data; creating life course residential histories





**Helen Parsons, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Black/African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic/Latinx, Rural populations, Medicaid population, People with medical comorbidities, Cancer

**Research Focus:** My research focuses on the benefits, risks, and results of healthcare interventions so that patients, clinicians and policy makers can make more informed decisions. Much of my work focuses on cancer survivorship, where I have expertise in implementation and evaluation of large survivorship studies, including the development and use of survey and administrative data to examine health and psychosocial outcomes. My overall goal is to identify effective strategies to improve the quality and value of healthcare.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Mixed methods

**Methods Description:** I have expertise in mixed-methods research, employing a combination of clinical registries, administrative data (e.g., Medicare), surveys and focus groups to understand how adoption of new programs and policies influence reimbursement and health outcomes.



**Cuong Pham, MD**

Dr. Cuong Pham is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Minnesota. He completed his residency training at the University of Minnesota in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. Currently he has a mix of clinic at the Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC), which serves the underserved citizens of Minneapolis, and inpatient wards at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. He has had varying cultural experiences working abroad in Vietnam and South Africa.



**Carolyn Porta, PhD, MPH, RN SANE-A**

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**Research Interests:** Young adult emotional well-being, LGBTQ youth/young adult health, sexual violence, global health

**Grant Skills:** Mixed methodologist, qualitative expertise, use of technology in research

**Data Sets:** College Student Health Survey



**Marizen Ramirez, PhD, MPH**  
mramirez@umn.edu

**Research interests:** Injury and violence prevention and control; injury and violence epidemiology; pediatric injuries; adverse child experiences; disaster preparedness; traffic injuries; agricultural injuries; intervention development, implementation and evaluation; policy evaluation; mixed methods.



**Chris Reif, MD, MPH**  
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Christopher Reif, MD, MPH, serves as director of clinical services of the Community-University Health Care Center and is involved in medical student education, co-directing the Urban Community Ambulatory Medicine(UCAM) clerkship and precepting for the Family Medicine Clerkship. He is a charter member of the National Assembly of School Based Health Care and former board chair of the Minnesota Organization for Adolescent Pregnancy, Prevention, and Parenting.



**Elizabeth Rogers, MD, MAS**  
earogers@umn.edu

**Population Focus:** Immigrant populations, Medicaid population, People with medical comorbidities

**Research Focus:** My research focus is to design, implement, and evaluate patient-centered intervention strategies based in safety net primary care settings to improve care quality and health outcomes in patients with diabetes made complex by comorbid chronic conditions and social vulnerabilities. My current work centers on optimizing diabetes care for patients in safety net clinics using a mixed-methods approach as well as on measuring and understanding patient-perceived treatment burden. Prior clinic-focused research has examined layperson coaches providing self-management support and community health worker integration into primary care teams.

**Methods:** Mixed methods

**Methods Description:** Surveys including patient-reported outcome measures, EHR data, in-depth interviews, mixed methods



**Simon Rosser, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** The LBGTQ+ community

**Research Focus:** Most of my research focuses on advancing sexual health, especially in sexual minority men. I design and evaluate next generation interventions to advance sexual health including comprehensive sexual health education for MSM, persuasive computing interventions for HIV/STI prevention, new technology approaches for oral cancer screening and online comprehensive sexual rehabilitation after prostate cancer treatment. I also address research disparities by conducting first studies, including in anodyspareunia, effects of antigay policies on gay men's health, effects of gay pornography on HIV risk behavior, and effects of prostate cancer treatment on receptive anal and oral sex.

**Methods Focus:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** I identify as a mixed methods researcher who conducts both in person and online studies, but am known for pioneering online research methods. We wrote some of the first papers on using the Internet for survey research, online RCTs, synchronous and asynchronous online focus group methods, and validation of online studies. I also have a special interest in ethics in human research, including in international research settings and online.



**Peter Scal, MD, MPH**

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Broadly it is in health services research, focusing on youth health and the transition to adulthood for youth with chronic conditions. Recently I've been working on the aspect of motivation for self-management/self-care.



**Erica Schorr, PhD, BSBA, RN**

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**Research Interests:** Health inequities related to cardiovascular disease - primary & secondary prevention



**Tetyana Shippee, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** Indigenous populations, Black/African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic/Latinx, People affected by mental illness, The LGBTQ+ community, Medicaid population

**Research Focus:** My work aims to improve quality and equity for those who use long-term services and supports. My work is informed by cumulative inequality theory, which I helped develop and addressing mechanisms that perpetuate racial/ethnic disparities across the life course for older adults.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - focus groups, Qualitative - in-depth interviews, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research

**Methods Description:** Most of my work is mixed methods but I also use quantitative methods for large claims and survey datasets and collect primary data via interviews, observations, and focus groups.



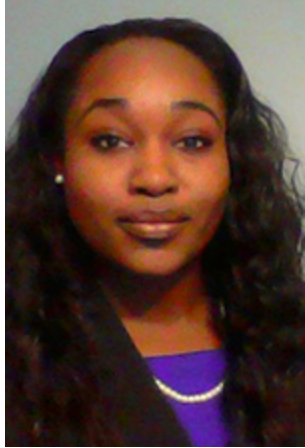

**Melissa Simone, PhD**

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**Population Focus:** The LGBTQ+ community, socially minoritized groups; intersecting social identities

**Research Focus:** My research interests are centered on understanding the socioecological risk and resilience factors that contribute to disparities in mental health and well-being in queer and trans young people and investigating possible avenues by which such disparities might be rectified. My research considers mechanisms across multiple domains and levels of influence (e.g., interpersonal, community, structural) through the application of advanced statistical methods that illustrate the complexity of factors contributing to health disparities.



	<p><b>Methods:</b> Quantitative - observational data, Mixed methods, Community engaged/participatory research, Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA)</p> <p><b>Methods Description:</b> As an applied methodologist, I aim to develop more nuanced psychometric tools in populations that have been historically excluded from psychometric research. Psychometric studies are crucial in the health disparities research as many of the commonly used measures were developed for and validated in largely homogenous groups (e.g., White, well-educated), and thus may underestimate or fail to detect pertinent factors as experienced by young people with socially minoritized identities. Thus, my quantitative research works to develop and validate psychometric tools that accurately reflect the experience of diverse populations.</p>
	<p><b>Stephanie Sisco, PhD</b> pleasant@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> The development of underrepresented professionals of color who have experienced trauma, whether directly or indirectly. Stress Management/Professional Development/Psychoneuroimmunology</p>
	<p><b>Jaime Slaughter-Acey, PhD</b> jslaught@umn.edu</p> <p><b>Population Focus:</b> Black / African American, People affected by mental illness, Pregnant women/women of reproductive age, People with medical comorbidities, People with Physical disability</p> <p><b>Research Interests:</b> Health equity, maternal and child health/perinatal epidemiology, social determinants of health, racism, colorism, life-course perspective, perinatal health, women's health, prenatal care, prenatal home visiting.</p> <p><b>Methods Focus:</b> Quantitative - observational data</p>





**M. Kumi Smith, PhD,**

[smi00831@umn.edu](mailto:smi00831@umn.edu)

**Population Focus:** The LGBTQ+ community, People living with HIV/AIDS, people experiencing substance use disorder (addiction)

**Research Focus:** I am interesting in measuring discrimination of marginalized patient populations emergent in healthcare settings. To date I have worked most closely on discrimination around sexual orientation, HIV status, race/ethnicity (anti-Black racism), and substance use.

**Methods:** Quantitative - RCTs, Quantitative - observational data, Qualitative - in-depth interviews

**Methods Description:** Analysis of surveillance data, clinic-based interventions, infectious disease dynamics & population mixing, intervention design, community engagement

**Ashley Stenzel, PhD, MS**

[stal0133@umn.edu](mailto:stal0133@umn.edu)

**Population Focus:** The LGBTQ+ community

**Research Focus:** My work has focused on cancer disparities to include racial disparities in cancer survival as well as disparities experienced among the LGBTQ+ community with respect to cancer screening and outcomes. Recently, I have been working on a project to examine how past experiences in the clinical setting may shape present day cancer screening activities among individuals who identify as LGBTQ+.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data



**Mike Sundberg, MD, MPH**

[sundb107@umn.edu](mailto:sundb107@umn.edu)

**Research interests:** Improved health care delivery to rural AIAN communities, AHC-Tribal-IHS collaborations.



**Laalitha Surapaneni, MBBS**

kampa003@umn.edu

**Research Interests:** Climate and health, physician legislative advocacy.



**Emily Vraga, PhD**

ekvrage@umn.edu

**Population Focus:** Online adults

**Research Focus:** I research interventions designed to help people identify and resist health misinformation on social media. I focus on diverse online populations across different social media platforms.

**Methods:** Mixed methods

**Methods Description:** I primarily rely on observational experimental designs, but also use survey research, content analysis, and qualitative interviews to understand people's experiences of health misinformation on social media.



**Rachel Widome, PhD, MHS**

widome@umn.edu

**Population Focus:** Black/African Americans, Military/veterans, Low income, adolescents and young adults

**Research Focus:** Rachel Widome is a social epidemiologist and Associate Professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Minnesota. The focus on her research centers on how environmental and contextual factors (such as social or economic conditions) influence chronic disease-related behaviors.

**Methods:** Quantitative - observational data

**Methods Description:** Dr. Widome's research uses natural experiment methodologies to explore how policy impacts population health.