

Office of Global Health



DREXEL UNIVERSITY  
Dornsife  
School of Public Health

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# DORNSIFE OFFICE OF GLOBAL HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2021

[DREXEL.EDU/DORNSIFE/GLOBAL](https://drexel.edu/dornsife/global)

## WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught the world a simple truth – that health is a truly global concern, transcending borders and impacting our daily lives. It has exposed pre-existing structural inequities that have resulted in health disparities and inequitable access based on race, class and nationality. It's within this context that it's more important than ever to advance the mission of the Dornsife School of Public Health: to recognize that health is a human right and that to improve the health of communities and populations we must advance innovative public health programs, impactful research and meaningful partnerships.

Despite the challenges of 2021, the Dornsife School of Public Health's global health work has continued to expand at a rapid pace. While the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the way we work, it has not impeded the productivity nor the rigor of our research, training and teaching. Global health research and training projects, such as *Salud Urbana en América Latina* (SALURBAL) ["Urban Health in Latin America"] and the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene capacity building (WASH Cap) certificate course conducted in partnership with World Vision International have stayed the course, adapting by increasing remote collaboration. The school's faculty have also developed creative ways to maintain and launch new research projects across multiple countries in Africa, Asia, as well as in Latin and North America.

Further advancing our goal of building the next generation of researchers examining health disparities globally, the Global Alliance for Training in Health Equity Research (GATHER) and the Dornsife Development Scholars programs continue to support students from the undergraduate level to post-doctoral researchers to address urgent global health priorities.

Overcoming challenges, fostering innovation, and developing strong partnerships were all critical responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, but are also everyday imperatives for successful work in global health. The Dornsife School of Public Health's global work in 2021 reflects this, and illustrates the school's commitment to health equity, solidarity and social justice. Working in this field requires interdisciplinary, critical thinking and appreciation for, and sensitivity to, diverse cultures and settings. Looking back on our work in 2021, I am proud that our global health research, teaching and training continues to emphasize these values and focus on the most pressing global public health issues, and that our students remain fearless and undaunted, rising to the challenge, and the imperative, to ensure that health as a human rights is realized for all.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Amon".

Joseph Amon, PhD, MSPH  
Director, Office of Global Health  
Clinical Professor, Community Health and Prevention

## RESEARCH

Faculty at the Dornsife School of Public Health engage in a wide range of research projects globally. Research spans across countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. In 2021, faculty members' research examined the impact of urban environments on mortality and health, cross-border migration on health status, strengthening research capacity for inclusive development and assessing progress for human rights programming on access to health services. COVID-19 continued to be a topic addressed in faculty research, along with climate change.

### **Salud Urbana en América Latina (SALURBAL) (Latin America)**

Led by [Dr. Ana Diez Roux](#), dean of the Dornsife School of Public Health, [Salud Urbana en América Latina \(SALURBAL\)](#), Urban Health in Latin America, is a five-year project launched in April 2017. Drexel University's Dornsife School of Public Health and partners throughout Latin America and in the United States are working together to study how urban environments and urban policies impact the health of city residents throughout Latin America. In 2021, SALURBAL, together with the Pan-American Health Organization, co-hosted the [17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban Health](#). The theme of the conference was, "Transforming our Collective Urban Future: Learning from COVID-19" – it covered topics such as urban health inequities, transforming built environments, and climate change. Last year, SALURBAL researchers have published groundbreaking papers on life expectancy and mortality, the impact of greenspace on socioeconomic inequities, and mobility reductions and COVID-19 incidence. In addition, the project, working through local country-based teams, also organized [six webinars](#) targeting local policy actors and stakeholders.

### **Breaking Down Barriers to Access HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria Services (Global)**

In 2017, the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#) began an initiative to scale-up programs to remove human rights-related barriers to access HIV and TB services in 20 countries. These programs include support to: reduce stigma and discrimination; train health care providers on human rights and medical ethics; sensitize lawmakers and law enforcement agents; promote legal literacy and legal services; and monitor and reform relevant laws, regulations and policies. At the mid-point of this five-year initiative, [Dr. Joe Amon](#) and [Professor Nina Sun](#) led a team of researchers, working with local partners, to assess progress and challenges in each of the 20 countries participating in the initiative. Final report can be found on the [Global Fund](#) website.



## **Description & Analysis of Inequalities in Mortality in Latin American Cities(Latin America)**

[Dr. Usama Bilal](#) continues to lead the work in describing levels and inequalities in mortality in Latin American cities, both through exploring life expectancy and cause-specific mortality across 363 Latin American cities and through understanding the role of city size on mortality across 742 cities of the Americas (including the US and Latin America).

## **Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Inclusive Development in Post–COVID–19 Africa (Africa)**

In 2021, [Dr. Alex Ezeh](#) continued to be part of the growing global conversation that seeks to support the capacity of African research and knowledge institutions to define local priorities, retain top scientists, and develop robust systems and processes. Dr. Ezeh worked closely with the African Development Bank Group's (AfDB) Acting Chief Economist and Vice President, Professor Kevin Urama, to plan and host a Global Community of Practice seminar on [Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Inclusive Development in Post-COVID-19 Africa](#) in early spring. The two-day seminar mobilized interest among the key stakeholders – 545 experts from private, public, and academic institutions across 58 countries – on the need for AfDB to establish and host a knowledge capacity development fund (KCDF) for Africa. In December 2021, Dr. Ezeh hosted a hybrid meeting in Nairobi with key stakeholders and academics from across the continent to develop the organizational design and implementation structure for such a continental fund. At the end of 2021, Dr. Ezeh received funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Family Planning (FP) Data Initiative to scope and prioritize its agenda to drive FP measurement innovation globally.

## **Migrante Project (US & Mexico)**

In 2021, led by [Dr. Ana Martinez-Donate](#), the Migrante Project implemented and finished a cross-sectional survey with 1200 migrants in three border cities along the México-United States border. The survey was conducted in partnership with the Binational Border Health Commission and represented the first phase of a three-phase plan to measure and assess the health status and access to health care in deported Mexican migrants and other migrant flows traveling South, North and across the border. From 2020 - 2021, border Migrante collected data on sexual and reproductive health and applied over 1000 rapid SD BIOLINE HIV/Syphilis Duo and Hep B HBsAg to migrants in these flows, collecting data to estimate the prevalence of these diseases in the migrant population. In addition, the first Migrante survey included questions on COVID-19 testing, infection, and vaccination history, as well as adherence to preventive behaviors and economic impacts of COVID-19. These data provide critical and hard-to-obtain information on the burden of the pandemic on mobile populations. Migrante's team is composed by over forty research assistants in Mexico and a coordinating team at Drexel. The second phase is set to start in 2022 and measure chronic and non-transmissible diseases. The third phase planned for 2022-2023 will focus on mental health indicators. These NIH-funded project will provide insight into health indicators not easily collected or tracked, making Migrante an innovative and cutting-edge project.

## **Crossroads Project (Colombia)**

In 2021, the Crossroads project implemented a dissertation grant in two Colombian cities to collect data with Venezuelan migrant and refugee women. This project is led by doctoral student, [Catalina Correa-Salazar](#) and her doctoral advisor, [Dr. Martinez-Donate](#). Working with three research assistants and six volunteers, this team has conducted thirty semi-structured interviews in Bogotá and Cúcuta, sixteen violence prevention and sexual and reproductive health workshops in over eight different locations and collected seventeen social cartographies of places women deem dangerous for their health and safety. The Crossroads project is done in partnership with a Colombian NGO that provides direct services to migrant and refugee women. Data and results have supported the construction of a feminist network of care that has continued to provide psychological first aid for women in the two cities mentioned and supports access to services like education, housing and health. In 2021, over 230 women were served through the Crossroads project network, data collection was finished successfully. Currently, this team's efforts are focused on analyzing the data and writing the results for dissemination.

## **Built Environment, Pedestrian Injury and Deep Learning (BEPIDL) Study (Colombia)**

Led by [Dr. Alex Quistberg](#), the BEPIDL study got off to its official start in January 2021. During the first year of the project, the team identified key built environment features related to pedestrian safety. This process included drawing on prior literature, receiving input from local experts, and assessing what features might be identifiable by neural networks. From this work, a built environment feature protocol was created to guide and train human annotators. To prepare for creating the training data for neural networks, the team sampled 10,000 locations in Bogota using Google Street View panoramas images. Half of those locations were where a pedestrian had been struck by a vehicle between 2015 and 2019. Human annotators were trained to identify and annotate from the feature protocol. Simultaneously, data from geographic databases have been gathered that are parallel or complimentary to the image data. In September, the study was awarded a one year administrative COVID-19 supplement to examine pedestrian and bike collisions after the start of the pandemic and to assess how pre-pandemic built environment features may have impacted collision rates in different neighborhoods of the city.

## **Our Health Matters: Indian Trans Men and Transmasculine Health Study (India)**

In March 2021, [Dr. Ayden Schiem](#) received an R21 from the National Institute of Mental Health (MH125263) to conduct a community-based participatory mixed-methods study of transgender men's mental health and access to care in Delhi and Mumbai, India. The project, *Our Health Matters: Indian Trans Men and Transmasculine Health Study* in Summer 2021, launched remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is governed by a Steering Committee of Indian transmasculine people working in collaboration with academic researchers from India, the U.S., and Canada. In the first phase of the research, the project hired and trained community members to conduct qualitative interviews with 39 transmasculine individuals in Hindi, Marathi, or English. The team used the qualitative data to help develop culturally appropriate measures of trans-related experiences such as family acceptance or rejection, which will be included in the quantitative second phase of the project, a multimode survey to be launched in 2022.

## **Trans PULSE (Canada)**

[Dr. Ayden Schiem](#) co-leads the project Trans PULSE Canada, an ongoing national community-based research project funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The study collected survey data from 2873 trans and nonbinary people in Canada in 2019, and follow-up data about the COVID-19 pandemic from 820 of those participants in 2020. In 2021, Trans PULSE published community-facing reports focused on priority populations within trans community, developed in collaboration with community members. These reports (available at [transpulsecanada.ca](https://transpulsecanada.ca)) addressed health and well-being for trans and nonbinary people who are Indigenous, people of color, immigrants or newcomers, sex workers, youth, and nonbinary-identified. The team also published the first peer reviewed article from the study in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal - Open*, highlighting geographic disparities in access to gender-affirming and general health care. Dornsife graduate students participated in the research by developing a public dashboard of the COVID-19 survey data and by using the data for Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) projects.

## **Assessing the Role of Criminalization and Punitive Approaches to COVID-19 (Global)**

Working with [Dr. Joe Amon](#), [Professor Nina Sun](#) led a collaboration with UNAIDS, examining the role of criminal and punitive sanctions on the enforcement of COVID-19 lockdowns. Building on the lessons learned from prior epidemics, including HIV, tuberculosis and Ebola, the project synthesized human rights legal norms and standards around the use of criminal law and punitive sanctions in public health responses, as well as conducted an analysis of 51 emergency orders from 39 countries, representing seven regions across the globe. The project also included a series of consultations, co-convened by UNAIDS and Drexel, with civil society and academic experts, soliciting guidance and input on recommendations to prevent the overreliance on criminal measures in public health emergencies.

## International Health Conference Presence

In 2021, Domsife School of Public Health faculty presented their work on international health at the following international conferences:

- International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders' meeting on [Global Allies for Equitable Mental Health Research Funding](#)
- Belfast Transformative Health and Regeneration Initiatives (for Vibrancy, Equality, and Sustainability) (THRI[VES]) Symposium, Ulster University – Belfast, Ireland
- [International Conference on Urban Health](#)
- Meeting of Asian parliamentarians on “The management of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Asia Pacific Region: good practices and lessons learned” – organized by Asia Centre, Harm Reduction International and UNITE
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation meeting on: “Addressing stigma through strategic program optimization to improve HIV prevention and treatment outcomes: the pathway to 2030”
- April 2021 Session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AIDS

## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

DSPH faculty continue to serve on advisory committees for a range of global health institutions.

- Dr. Ezeh was appointed as a co-Chair for a new WHO Technical Consultation on the Burden of Malaria in Urban Areas and a new Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing. He was also appointed as a Member of the High-Level Advisory Board for Economic and Social Affairs of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- Dr. Groves was invited to participate in an advisory role for the Lactation Working Group of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, as well as the Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing.
- Dr. Amon was appointed to the IAS-Lancet Commission on Health and Human Rights, an ethics committee of the British Medical Association, and to a World Health Organization guidelines development group for malaria chemoprevention.
- Dr. Martinez-Donate served as a member of the International Council for the Global Society on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health.
- Dr. Bilal served as on the COVID-19 advisory board for the Directorate of Public Health of the Principality of Asturias, Spain.



# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In 2021, the Dornsife School of Public Health continued to be a leader in education and training for students, practitioners, and junior scholars. The Global Health-related degrees attracted students nationally. The school maintained innovative and vibrant training programs for pre- and post-doctoral students, the Global Alliance for Training in Health Equity Research, and for undergraduate students, the Dornsife Global Development Scholars. In addition, Drexel's partnership with World Vision International on the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene certificate flourished, with the program's first participants from countries in Asia and Latin America.

Other education and training highlights from 2021 include supporting young leaders from across Africa, Mandela Washington Fellows, as well as co-developing a course – *Know It, Prove It, Change It* – with a grassroots organization, Asia Catalyst.

## Online Global Health MPH, MS and Certificate

The online Master of Public Health (MPH) in Global Health teaches students how to analyze the influences affecting the health and well-being of diverse populations across different cultures and contexts. It is designed to train students and health professionals in the foundations of public health with an emphasis on global health. The program prepares students to:

- Apply ethical approaches and human rights principles in global health research and practice
- Design public health interventions in diverse cross-cultural settings
- Develop monitoring and evaluation strategies to assess progress to program goals

In 2021, 27 new students entered the online Global Health MPH and 5 new students started the Global Health MS program. Overall, there are 83 enrolled masters students pursuing both full-time and part-time degree programs. Students hail from more than 15 states and range in age from 22 to 60 years.

## Pre- and Post-Doctoral Training in Health Equity

Beginning in the 2021-2022 academic year, the Dornsife School of Public Health (DSPH) welcomed its third cohort of [Global Alliance for Training in Health Equity Research \(GATHER\)](#) Trainees. Led by [Dr. Alex Ezeh](#) and [Dr. Gina Lovasi](#), in June 2021, GATHER welcomed a new cohort of four trainees, supported for 3 to 12 months while conducting health equity research in the United States and around the world.

The trainees are each partnered with two mentors: one based in the US, often a DSPH faculty or GATHER advisory committee member, and the other from among investigators at our global sites. Short courses and seminars from June through September offer intensive skills-based research training, and we hope to soon return to offering travel to one of three research sites in Brazil, Kenya, and Mexico while adhering to COVID safety protocols. This academic year, the trainees are orchestrating additional events including a workshop on writing Op-Eds – for example, speaking out about the implementation of [Title 42](#), a panel discussion of syndemic theory, and a tabletop pandemic preparation exercise.

This program is an opportunity to advance their careers and develop expertise in global health equity issues, while joining the DSPH's extensive international network of public health scholars across Latin America and Africa. In addition to the newest cohort of GATHER trainees below, GATHER's growing network includes 10 prior trainees, with a range of disciplinary backgrounds and research interests that can be explored further on our website.

## GATHER Trainees



William Lodge II, MSc, PhD Candidate, is focused on HIV primary and secondary prevention research—both domestically and in resource-constrained settings across the globe. His research interests include investigating barriers and facilitators to suboptimal antiretroviral therapy (ART) adherence among gender and sexual minorities living with HIV.



Macceau Médozile, DrPh, MPA, Post-Doctoral Trainee at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, a native-born citizen of Haiti received his DrPH in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences from the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University School of Public Health (2020). His research focuses on communicable diseases. He plans to build on his doctoral research by studying risk factors and determinants of health associated with HIV and tuberculosis in Kenya.



Sara Jane Samuel, MPH, Doctoral Trainee at the Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia University, developed an interest in health equity as an undergraduate. In her current studies, she is interested in the intersection of public health with American foreign policy. Specifically, Samuel's work examines the use of vaccination campaigns and other public health measures as instruments of American foreign policy in the latter half of the 20th century in Mexico and South Asia.



Jamile Tellez Lieberman, MPH, DrPh Candidate at DSPH, works with Ana Martinez-Donate, PhD, a DSPH faculty member in the department of Community Health and Prevention. She hopes to work in non-academia or industry setting after earning her DrPH degree, focusing on intervention development/evaluation, applied mixed-methods, community-based research, and service delivery in communities of color, specifically Latine/x immigrant families at the intersection of social justice and health equity.

## Dornsife Global Development Scholars

The [Dornsife Global Development Scholars](#) program is a nationally and internationally recognized capacity-building program for bridging gaps between scientific research, development practice, and applied problem-solving in the context of improving global health. In 2021, the Dornsife Global Development Scholars program focused its work on responding to the climate change and its implications on population and global health. The Dornsife Scholars explored water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and climate change through a health equity lens. The 2021 cohort of the Dornsife Global Development Scholars program tackled climate change through a newly formed research collaboration with [World Vision International](#). The first challenge the students investigated evaluated power dynamics between international non-governmental organizations in the high-income economies and research collaborators in four low-income economies. This research group is the first of its kind and strategically aligns with World Vision's "Roadmap to Impact" global WASH business plan 2021-2025.

## 2021 Dornsife Global Development Scholars



Salamata Bah (Sophomore)  
Computer Science Major  
College of Computing & Informatics



J'Anna-Mare Lue (Senior)  
BS/MS Environmental Engineering Dual-Degree  
College of Engineering



Kaelah Grant (Sophomore)  
Psychology Major/Premed Major  
College of Arts and Sciences



Leila Nzekele (Senior)  
Public Health Major  
Dornsife School of Public Health

### Notable Dornsife Global Development Scholar highlights include:

- 2020 Scholars J'Anna-Mare Lue, Salamata Bah, Kaelah Grant, and Leila Nzekele presented their research project—Decolonizing WASH Research: Results of a qualitative study and consensus-building process to develop principles for increasing equity in WASH Research—at three national conferences (2021 World Vision Community of Practice Meeting, 2021 Colorado WASH Symposium, and 2021 University of North Carolina Water and Health Conference).
- 2018 Scholar Afrah Howlader gave the undergraduate class presentation during the 2021 Dornsife School of Public Health commencement ceremony.
- 2017 Scholar Theophilus Abah gave the class presentation during the 2021 Drexel University College of Medicine commencement ceremony.
- Under the direction of 2019 Scholar Jerusalem Tamire and 2018 Scholars Leila Nzekele and J'anna-Mare Lue, the student-run organization SHARP raised \$1,700 to begin a student-led tradition of VIP latrine sponsorships in the Ha-Makintane and Ha-Rabeleng villages in Lesotho. This donation adds to the \$10,000 Davis UWC Project for Peace grant which has supported the development of 15 VIP latrines in southern Africa villages.

# Global Health WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) Certificate

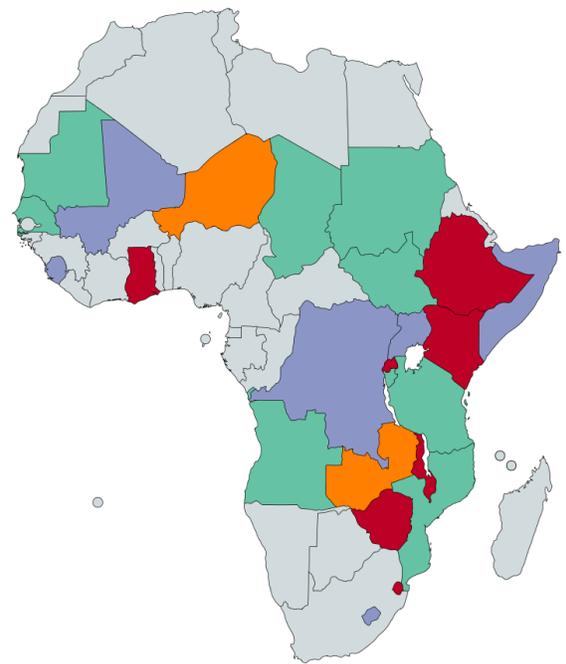
Drexel University and [World Vision International](#) (WVI) continue to implement the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Capacity Building (WASHCap) certificate program for World Vision staff as a part of the organization’s efforts to expand the organization’s WASH programming.

The program consists of a hybrid model of online courses, face-to-face (F2F) instruction and field and laboratory work in Africa. All courses are offered for credit, with two certificate tracks: International WASH (IWASH) through DRI/University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and Global Health WASH through the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University.

For calendar years 2020-2021, 71 WVI employees have enrolled in the program and have completed their studies or will complete their studies at the end of the winter 2021/2022 academic year, which brings the number of employees trained since the program started in 2018 to 152.

These cohorts include WVI employees from 19 countries across sub-Saharan Africa, as well as the USA. The 2020-2021 cohorts also included the program’s first participants from countries in Asia and Latin America. Though historically, each cohort receives a one-to-two-week residency, with the COVID-19 pandemic, the residency was moved online.

## Number of Students Participating in WASH Capacity Building Course by Country (2018–2021)



- 1-5 Students
- 6-10 Students
- 11-15 Students
- 16-25 Students

## Mandela Washington Fellows

Mandela Washington Fellows are a diverse group of young African leaders with backgrounds in government, entrepreneurship, and private business, as well as public service and community leadership. An important, cross-cutting skillset for all the 80 young leaders of the 2021 cohort is an understanding of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) concepts and skills. Working with the Office of Global Engagement, the Office of Global Health developed a session on key challenges in monitoring and evaluation that discussed core principles and the challenges of policymaking amidst uncertainty – especially appropriate in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

After a short presentation on the basics of M&E by Nishita Dsouza, PhD(c), School of Public Health faculty members Joe Amon, Irene Headen, Sharrelle Barber and Ayden Schiem engaged in a discussion on M&E with communities in US, Brazil, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. The session also featured a virtual communications toolkit and a Q&A with the Mandela Fellows.

## OFFICE OF GLOBAL HEALTH EVENTS

- Global health brown bag discussions – informal discussions between Drexel faculty, students and staff on the latest global health research at the Dornsife School of Public Health, featuring:
  - Usama Bilal, MD, PhD, MPH – “Mortality across the continuum of urbanization in the Americas”
  - Ariela Braverman-Bronstein, PhD(c), MD, MPH – “Adolescent birth rates and the urban social environment in Latin American cities”
  - Nina Sun, JD – “Evaluating programs to reduce human rights barriers to access HIV, TB and malaria services in Uganda”
  - Pooja Doshi, DrPH(c) – “Addressing social and health equity in blind and visually impaired populations”
  - Claire Slesinski, MSPH – “The Urban Health in Latin America (SALURBAL) Project: Dornsife SPH’s largest global health research collaboration”
  - Jamile Tellez Liberman, DrPH(c) – “It Felt Like I Hit Rock Bottom”: A Qualitative Exploration of the Mental Health Impacts of Immigration Enforcement and Discrimination on U.S.-citizen, Mexican Children”
- Global health orientation workshop on global reproductive health, organized by the Office of Global Health – this orientation event was for all incoming masters and doctoral students for 2021-2022. Global health faculty and staff shared their work with the new students and facilitated small group discussions on a case study on access to reproductive health services for women and adolescent girls in El Salvador.
- Quarterly global health webinars for Drexel students, staff, faculty and the broader community – the 2021 webinars focused on:
  - *A Post COVID World: Implications for Health and Human Rights* – speakers:
    - Felicita Hikuam, Director, AIDS and Rights Alliance of Southern Africa (ARASA)
    - Rev. J.P. Mokgethi-Heath, Policy Advisor, HIV and Theology, Church of Sweden
    - Ed Ngoksin, Technical Adviser, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria
  - *COVID-19 and Global Health: Programming in a Pandemic* – cosponsored by Management Sciences for Health, Amref Africa and World Vision International – speakers:
    - Marian Wentworth, President and CEO, Management Sciences for Health (MSH)
    - George Kimathi, Director, Amref Institute of Capacity Development
    - Margaret Schuler, Senior Vice President, International Programs Group, World Vision U.S.
  - *Reducing Exposures to Lead Globally: Case Studies from Two Decades of Work in Low and Middle-Income Countries* – speaker: Richard Fuller, President of Pure Earth

# TRAINING ON HEALTH JUSTICE: KNOW IT, PROVE IT, CHANGE IT

In collaboration with the health and human rights non-profit, Asia Catalyst, the Office of Global Health developed a free, online course, *Know It, Prove It, Change It*. The course is based on a curriculum from Asia Catalyst, developed hand-in-hand with activists from China, Thailand and Myanmar. The course focuses on three sections:

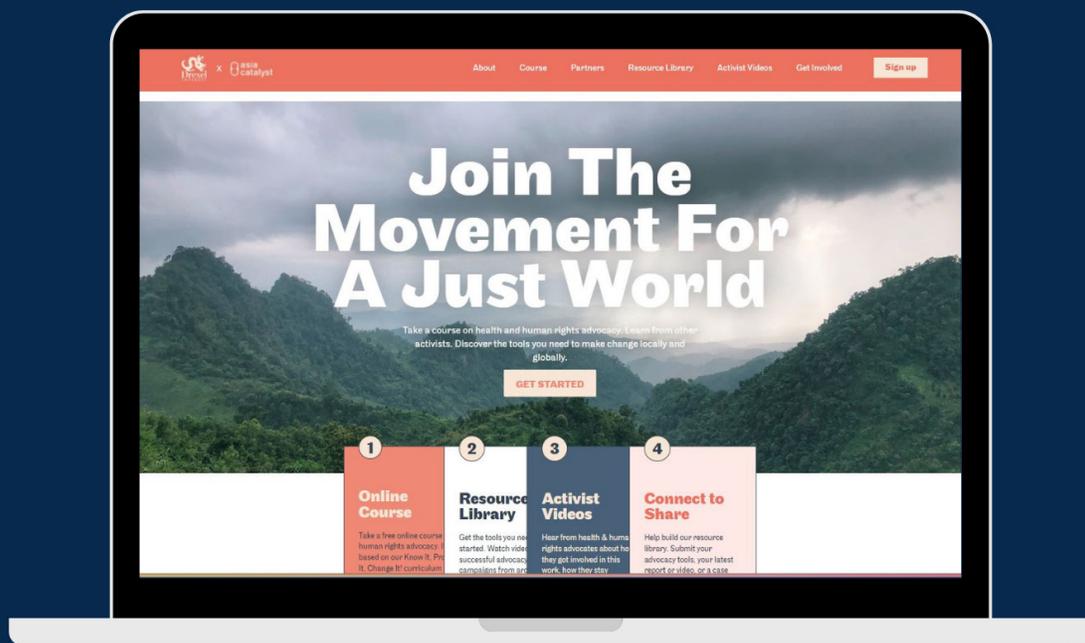
- *Know It*: Understanding the international human rights framework
- *Prove It*: Documenting health and human rights abuses
- *Change It*: Engaging in health and human rights advocacy

Though the course originally focused on HIV, it has been updated to incorporate new developments in public health, as well as additional health and human rights issues, such as reproductive health, disability rights and palliative care. In addition to video lectures, the course includes exercises and activities to help the learner understand concepts on human rights, rights documentation and advocacy. Learners will receive a certificate of completion for each section – *Know It, Prove It* and *Change It*.

Complementary to the course is the website [rights.health](https://rights.health) (see photo below). [rights.health](https://rights.health) includes a resource library with sample health and human rights reports, as well as research and advocacy tools.

It also features a video library containing interviews with community activists on health and human rights work. Proudly, [rights.health](https://rights.health) is supported by leading organizations in the global health advocacy community, including:

- AIDS and Rights Alliance for South Africa (ARASA)
- APCOM – LGBT rights network in Asia and the Pacific
- International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD)
- International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC)
- International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC)



# VISITING GLOBAL HEALTH SCHOLARS

Visiting Global Health Scholars are invited to support activities and engage with global health and human rights work at the Dornsife School of Public Health. The 2021 Visiting Global Health Scholars' work focused on community engagement, global health advocacy and drug policy.

Karyn Kaplan, Executive Director of Asia Catalyst, worked with the Office of Global Health in the creation of an online health and human rights course, *Know It, Prove It, Change It*, and its accompanying site [rights.health](https://rights.health). Shen Tingting worked with the Office of Global Health in conducting research on harm reduction policies and access to anti-retroviral treatment for women living with HIV in China.



Karyn Kaplan  
January 2021 – December 2021

Karyn Kaplan is the Executive Director of Asia Catalyst, a US- and Thailand-based non-governmental organization that trains marginalized groups in Asia to advocate for their health and rights. She has lived in Thailand for more than 20 years. With leading HIV activist, Paisan Suwannawong, Karyn co-founded the Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group (TTAG), an HIV community-led organization to increase access to lifesaving HIV and hepatitis C treatment for people who use drugs, people in prison, migrant sex workers, and others.

While a Visiting Global Health Scholar at Drexel, Karyn collaborated with Dornsife's Office of Global Health on developing an online advocacy course on health and human rights.



Shen Tingting  
January 2021 – December 2021

Shen Tingting is a prominent HIV and human rights advocate based in Beijing, China. From 2007-2012, Tingting was the Deputy Director of Dongjen Center for Human Rights Education and Action. At Dongjen Center, Tingting co-founded the Korekata AIDS Law Center, the first legal aid project to provide legal support for people living with HIV/AIDS and marginalized groups in China, and established the first health and legal services outreach program for female sex workers in Beijing. Currently, Tingting serves as a member of the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights. She holds an MA in social security from Renmin University of China.

During her term at Drexel, Tingting conducted research on digital surveillance and harm reduction and on access to antiretroviral treatment for women living with HIV.



## SELECT FACULTY & STAFF GLOBAL HEALTH PUBLICATIONS

In 2021, faculty and staff from across the Dornsife School of Public Health published in a variety of global health journals. Topics covered include COVID-19, health-related stigma and discrimination, human rights and pandemics, and social determinants of health, such as evictions and access to justice.

Beyrer C, Allotey P, Amon JJ, et al. Human rights and fair access to COVID-19 vaccines: the International AIDS Society–Lancet Commission on Health and Human Rights. *The Lancet*. 2021 Apr 24;397(10284):1524-7.

Biehl J, Prates LEA, Amon JJ. Supreme Court v. Necropolitics: The Chaotic Judicialization of COVID-19 in Brazil. *Health and Human Rights Journal*. June 2021.

Bilal, U., Hessel, P., Perez-Ferrer, C. et al. Life expectancy and mortality in 363 cities of Latin America. *Nat Med* 27, 463–470 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-020-01214-4>

Chakrapani V, Scheim AI, Newman PA, et al. Affirming and negotiating gender in family and social spaces: Stigma, mental health and resilience among transmasculine people in India. *Cult Health Sex*. 2021;1-17. doi:10.1080/13691058.2021.1901991

Davis S, Alston P, Amon JJ et al. “An international pandemic treaty must centre on human rights.” *BMJ Opinion*. May 10, 2021

Dsouza N, McGhee-Hassrick E, Giordano K, et al. Analysis of Network Characteristics to Assess Community Capacity of Latino-Serving Organizations in Philadelphia. *J Urban Health*. 2021;98(5):654-664. doi:10.1007/s11524-021-00535-0

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