

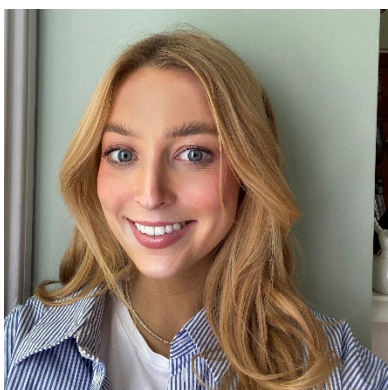
Introducing the 2023 Summer Research Program Cohort— Public and Global Health Track



Meti Abdella (she/her)

Schilsky Family Summer Research Scholar

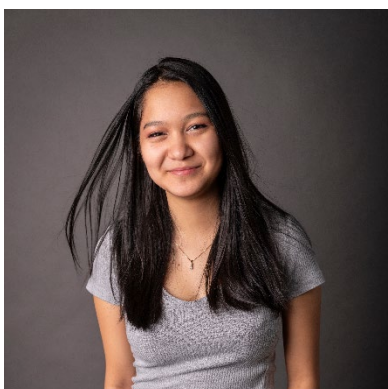
Originally from Ethiopia, I am a rising senior in Biology at Bethany College, West Virginia and hope to pursue a Master of Science in global health studies with a focus on maternal and infant health. My interest in health care, involvement in humanitarian services, and passion for travel and understanding of different cultures, has propelled me towards this path. I am passionate about advocating globally for disadvantaged groups. I look forward to working with Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD, to evaluate the sexual risk taking behaviors of vulnerable women in Uganda and to learn more about intervention research.



Maeve Fahy, BCL (she/her)

Mark and Cathleen Reifsteck Summer Research Scholar

I am a first-year, graduate-entry medical student at University College Dublin in Ireland, where I also earned a bachelor's in Civil Law. I am honored to participate in the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program as I have a strong interest in health education and promotion, health equity and accessibility. Working with children and adults from disadvantaged backgrounds has for me, illuminated health care inequality, something I wish to change as a physician. I am delighted to work with Hillary Reno, MD to assess the needs of St. Louis patients seeking sexual health care. I look forward to gaining research experience and connecting with like-minded students.



Olivia Kim (she/her)

Little Medical School Scholar

I am a rising senior at Washington University in St. Louis majoring in Anthropology: Global Health and Environment with minors in biology and economics. I also completed my spring semester at the University of Amsterdam studying medical anthropology and human geography, and I hope to pursue a career in public health and medicine. This summer, I am excited to work with Kelly Harris, PhD, on her project investigating pediatric asthma related to St. Louis industrial pollution. I look forward to gaining research experience that examines health disparities and environmental racism.



Justin O'Hagan (he/him)

University College Dublin Scholar

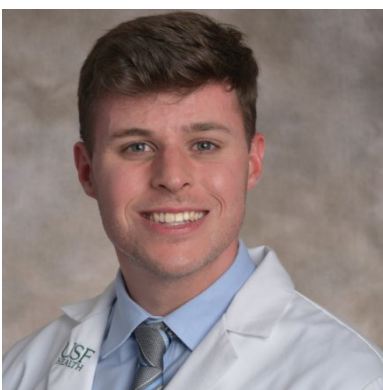
I am a third-year undergraduate medical student at University College Dublin, in Ireland with a strong passion for public health, infectious diseases, statistics, and the integration of technology in health care. This summer, I am thrilled to work under the mentorship of Sara Malone, PhD on an impactful project evaluating the long-term effectiveness of an early warning score system in global oncology care. My experience working at a COVID-19 vaccination center has reinforced my commitment to address underlying causes of illness and to advocate for preventative measures. My ultimate goal is to improve health care services worldwide by leveraging technology and evidence-based public health strategies.



Celeste Sangster (she/her)

Cora Faith Walker Scholar

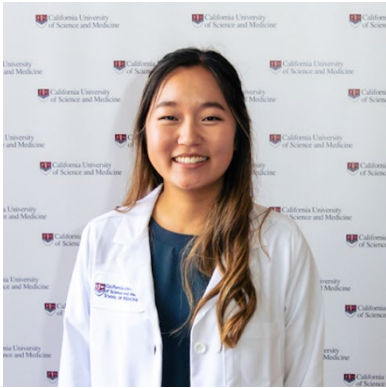
A rising junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, double majoring in medical anthropology and public policy, I study the history of U.S. maternal health policy and its 50-year impact on the quality of care and birth outcomes. I also research traditional global birthing practices and how the U.S. can incorporate them. I plan to earn a graduate degree in public health, public policy, or law and pursue a career in high-level policy making in maternal health. I am thrilled to collaborate with Abigail Barker, PhD, and Timothy McBride, PhD on a project on evidence-based strategies for improving maternal and infant health. I look forward to advancing my research skills while gaining valuable connections.



William (Will) Sayre (he/him)

SPRIGHT Scholar

A first-year medical student at USF Health Morsani College of Medicine, I am thrilled to work this summer with Lori Holtz, MD and Stephanie Fritz, MD to study the impact of a newborn's surroundings on the microbiome. I received my undergraduate degree from Rice University in Houston, Texas, and my prior research and clinical experiences have often revolved around public health and pediatric wellness. I look forward to developing my skills as a future health care professional while also learning about St. Louis culture, different communities, and the unique public health challenges this city faces.



Caitlin Shin (she/her)

SPRIGHT Scholar

I am a first-year medical student at the California University of Science of Medicine in Colton and earned a BS and an MA in global health from UC, San Diego. I have served as a Planetary Health Ambassador for the UC Global Health Institute, a student representative for the UC San Diego global health department, and, I worked with partner institutions at Uganda’s Mbarara University of Science & Technology, and Rwanda’s University of Global Health Equity. My primary interests involve expanding graduate health education in LMICs and creating maternal health educational materials internationally. This summer, I am thrilled to collaborate with Michelle Silver, PhD, to study implementing HPV vaccinations in adolescents in Zambia.



Bijay Shrestha, MD (he/him)

Amelia Jane Brown Johnson Memorial Award Scholar

A medical graduate from Nepal, I am pursuing masters in public health at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Illinois. I am a medical doctor interested in public health and preventative medicine, and a research enthusiast with a deep interest in the field of epidemiology of diseases. This summer, I am privileged to work with mentor Amy McQueen, PhD on the project, “Examining the Influence of Social Needs on Health-related Outcomes among Adult Medicaid Members with Type 2 Diabetes.” I look forward to gaining the in-depth knowledge and skills required to be an independent medical researcher and to helping heal communities affected by urgent public health issues.



Alexandria (Alex) Swanson (she/her)

Gold Family Summer Research Scholar

Originating from Kansas City, Kansas, I am a rising junior in the Interdisciplinary Honors College at Loyola University Chicago. Majoring in public health with minors in biostatistics and biology, I have learned first-hand about Chicago public health and the complex system of social determinants that make up the city. This summer, I am excited to broaden my horizons at the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program - Public and Global Health Track, working with Christina Stallings, PhD in her Mycobacterium Lab, studying the complexities of resistant strains of Tuberculosis.



Natasha Zimmerman (she/her)

Mark and Cathleen Reifsteck Summer Research Scholar

I am a rising senior at Washington University in St. Louis, and double major in chemistry and anthropology on the global health and environment track. I also work with WashU's Prevention Research Center, the Emergency Support Team (WashU's student-run EMS service), and Ghost Lights a cappella group. I hope to pursue a career in public health, and have particular interests in social determinants of health and environmental health. This summer, I am excited to collaborate with Professor

Kia Davis, ScD, MPH on the project, "Developing a Safety Net Innovation Advisory Board to inform Structural Changes in Healthcare to Reduce Health Disparities."