I am excited to share with you the 2020-2022 Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research Report. This Report highlights the many ways that our Faculty Scholars, Health Equity Interns, graduate students, and staff have worked with multiple communities during the past two academic years engaging in research to further the goals of health equity and social justice. Never has the need for a critical examination of our public health efforts nor the opportunities to strengthen our efforts to promote health equity and social justice been greater. Increasingly public health and sociological scholars are describing this moment as a syndemic – a term coined by anthropologist Merril Singer and defined by the CDC as a time of “synergistically interacting epidemics”. While the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the inadequacies of our existing public health systems, the stark racial disparities in coronavirus cases, mortality, and social and economic impacts of the pandemic reflect the persistence of structural racism. We continue to reckon with the persistence of racially motivated police brutality, a critical public health issue; and we struggle to address the epidemic of gun violence in this country as mass shootings threaten the sense of safety for people in public spaces with more Americans dying from gun violence in 2020 than any other year in history; at the highest rate of gun deaths since 1974. And now with the recent over-turning of Roe v Wade, reproductive health and health care access, and women’s health are threatened in ways that will certainly exacerbate existing racial health inequities. These multiple threats to our well-being are fueling an unprecedented mental health crisis as our systems of care are not able to respond to the surge in need for mental health care and treatment. In March 2022, President Biden released a strategy for our National Mental Health Crisis noting “We cannot transform mental health solely through the health care system. We must also address the determinants of behavioral health, invest in community services, and foster a culture and environment that broadly promotes mental wellness and recovery. This crisis is not a medical one, but a societal one.”

This moment has also brought increased public awareness, discourse, and resources needed to continue to address many of the health and social issues we at the IHESJR address in our research. This is an opportunity for change, and we at the IHESJR will continue with research efforts that provide knowledge needed by communities, public partners, and the academic community to continue to promote health equity and social justice, to engage in anti-racist research practice, and to continue to find new ways to work with communities, local and beyond. We are excited to be developing collaborative partnerships at the NU Charlotte Campus, the Roux Institute in Portland Maine, and the NU Seattle campus as we explore strategies for expanding community-partnered health equity research across the NU campus network, and we will continue to engage with and support the efforts of the many centers and institutes across Northeastern University engaged in work for social change and promoting health equity.

The students, faculty, staff, and community partners engaged at the Institute have much to be proud of. In this report you will read about the 124 undergraduates who have worked with us as Health Equity Interns (HEI) over the 2 years, under the leadership of Program Director Suzanne Garveich, on projects that address a wide range of public health challenges. Our network of Faculty Scholars provide generous mentorship to our HEIs and they have accomplished great things including receiving 37 PEAK awards from the Northeastern University Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships over the 2 years, publishing with faculty, and supporting and co-creating knowledge with our many partners. And we have much to celebrate and were thrilled to be able to do so in-person this Spring! Four doctoral students working at the IHESJR recently graduated (three in population health and one in sociology) each completing dissertation research poised for social impact, along with many master’s students and HEIs. Our NU-Public Evaluation Lab (NUPEL), in partnership with the Institute on Race and Justice and the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, has continued to grow and thrive under the leadership of Tiana Yom, Program Director, and newly appointed Assistant Research Professor. We have celebrated the many accomplishments and promotions of IHESJR Faculty Scholars. With the continued support of the Bouvé Dean’s office we look forward to continuing to grow our community of faculty, students, and staff; our community partnerships; and our research efforts, to best equip us to tackle the work ahead. There is much work to be done and I look forward to continuing that work with you all.

Alisa K. Lincoln
Director, Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research, Bouvé College of Health Sciences
Associate Dean of Research, College of Social Sciences and Humanities
Professor, Sociology and Health Sciences
Welcome to the Institute

In the past two years we welcomed new faculty, staff and students to the Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research to help further the IHESJR’s mission of promoting health equity and reducing health disparities.

**John Olawepo**, MBBS, PhD is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Health Science and an IHESJR Faculty Scholar. He conducts research in global health, chronic illnesses, maternal and child health, and implementation science.

**Danielle Crookes**, DrPH is an Assistant Professor in Health Sciences and an IHESJR Faculty Scholar. She conducts research focused on immigrant health.

**Makiya Polk** is the Institute’s Administrator Coordinator. She is part of the IHESJR leadership team and works on budgets, office management, and human resource management.

**Darien Mather** is a Doctoral Student in the Population Health PhD program and supported Dr. Beth Molnar’s research.

**Thomas Carpenito** is a recent graduate of the Population Health PhD program and previously supported Dr. Beth Molnar’s research.

**Sushant Kumar** is a Doctoral Student in the Public Policy PhD program and supported Dr. Tiana Yom.

**Natalia Coriano Diaz** is a Doctoral Student in the Population Health PhD program and supports Drs. Amy Helburn and Jean McGuire’s research.

**Tiffani Elliot** is a Doctoral Student in the Sociology PhD program and supporting Dr. Alisa Lincoln’s research.

**Francesca Korte** is a Doctoral Student in the Population Health PhD program and supporting Dr. Alisa Lincoln’s research.

**Shauvan Sutton** is a Doctoral Student in the Sociology PhD program and supporting Dr. Alisa Lincoln’s research.

**Chloe Nichols** is a Doctoral Student in the Population Health PhD program and supporting Dr. Alisa Lincoln’s research.

**Vela McBride** is a Master’s Student in the Master’s of Public Health program and supported the Salus Populi Project as a Research Assistant.

**David Cruz Mejia** is a student in the Master’s in Public Policy Program and supported Dr. Tiana Yom as part of NU-PEL as a Graduate Research Assistant.

**Ayanna Miller-Smith** is a Doctoral Student in Criminology and Criminal Justice and supported Dr. Tiana Yom as a part of NU-PEL as an SGA.

**Rachel Shaw** is a Doctoral Student in Sociology and supported Dr. Tiana Yom as a part of NU-PEL as an SGA.

**Julia Vasta**, a Master’s Student in the Public Policy Program, supported Dr. Tiana Yom as part of NU-PEL as a Research Assistant.

**Vivian Wilt**, MPH, CPH, worked on Dr. Beth Molnar’s research team as a MPH Practicum Student and then following the practicum as a Research Assistant.

**Emily Alves** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Kaleem Amhid** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Elizah Becker** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Jennifer Cecili** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Seulji Choi** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**John Dalton** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Alexander Deger** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Chimdiebere Ezeigwe** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Yeji Go** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Zoe Harris** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Lindsay Immers** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Ryan Ji** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Phuong Le** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Liz Mariluz** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Atsushi Matsumoto** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Meaghan McDougall** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Jeanine Nasser** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Andie Oates** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Inanna Pickering** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Alissah Sillah** (Graduate Capstone)  
**Sophie Wittshire** (Bachelor Capstone)  
**Marina Yamada** (Bachelor Capstone)

2020-2021 Health Equity Interns

Our Health Equity Internship Program continues to grow. From 2020-2022 we worked with students from seven Northeastern University colleges, including 94 interns in 2020-2021 and 81 interns in 2021-2022. These interns were matched with 35 Research Advisors over the past two years. Interns received experiential learning while working on a Research Advisors’ research related to advancing health equity and reducing health disparities. They also received research related trainings to advance their knowledge and skillset in public health research, such as trainings on: literature reviews received experiential learning while working on a Research Advisors’ research related to advancing health equity and reducing health disparities. They also received research related trainings to advance their knowledge and skillset in public health research, such as trainings on: literature reviews, qualitative research and focus groups, by the Health Sciences Librarian Philip Espinola Coombs; research ethics; qualitative research and focus groups, by Institute Faculty Scholar Claudia Santelices; Quatrics software; and secondary trauma and the wellness of the research by NU-PEL leadership Amy Farrell, Alisa Lincoln, and Suzanne Garverich. With the support from Dr. Atsushi Matsumoto in 2020, Suzanne Garverich, Program Director of the Institute supervised the interns.

HEI gathering in October 2021  
HEIs at the IHESJR end of the year event, 2022
RISE brings together Northeastern University students of all levels to present their innovative research across the University’s colleges. We have a strong presence of Institute students presenting at RISE the past two years as well as continuing support from Faculty.

**2021 Presentations The Trust Project**

- Kaleem Ahmad, Masters in Public Health
- Tyreke Gaston, Psychology
- Samhita Koduri, Health Sciences
- Alisa Lincoln, Faculty Mentor

Measurement of Social Media Influence on Body Image Through Computer Based Avatars, Social Media, and Virtual Environments

- Romina Cabrera-Perez, Health Sciences
- Aila Misawa, Masters in Health Informatics
- Amy Lu, Faculty Mentor

Let Others Love You Back to Health: Exploring the Role of the Arts in Mutual Support Recovery

- Grace Carolonza, Communications
- Maren Fiessen, Theater
- Ashley Houston, Population Health PhD
- Dani Snyder-Young, Faculty Mentor

Implementation Fidelity of the Healthy Beginning Initiative in Benue State, Nigeria

- Chimdiebere Ezeiugwu, Health Sciences
- John Olawepo, Faculty Mentor

Chimdiebere won the Ethically Informed Research Award

Dating App Use During COVID-19 and the Social Wellbeing of Gender Non-Conforming Individuals

- Connor Holmes, Health Sciences
- Laura Senier, Faculty Mentor

An Examination of Onset of Comorbidities in the HIV/AIDS Population: A Literature Review

- Olivia Hoyt, Biochemistry
- Moka Yo-Jeong, Faculty Mentor

Vulnerabilities to and the Socioeconomic Impacts of the Leishmaniases: A Review

- Jorja Kahn, Behavioral Neuroscience
- Richard Wamai, Faculty Mentor

Shadie Tannier, Health Sciences
- Tiffany Joseph, Faculty Mentor

Accessibility of Daystar Life Center: A Nonprofit for Alleviating Hunger and Homelessness

- Sophie Wittshire, Health Sciences
- Beth Moinar, Faculty Mentor

Utilization of Peer Professionals in Pediatric Primary Care is Massachusetts

- Marina Yamada, Health Sciences
- Daphney Mirand, Staff
- Sameera Nayak, Population Health PhD
- Beth Moinar, Faculty Mentor

**2022 Presentations**

Addressing Early Childhood Mental Health in Child Welfare: Findings from Massachusetts

- Emily Alves, Health Sciences
- Beth Moinar, Faculty Mentor

Prevalence of Mental Health Visit Utilization Among Medicare Beneficiaries and Prevalence of Psychiatric Medications Usage Among Medicare Beneficiaries

- Jennifer Cecili, Pharmacy
- Seulji Choi, Pharmacy
- Yeji Go, Pharmacy
- Ryan Ji, Pharmacy
- Phuong Le, Pharmacy
- Sai Shashank Nakula, Master’s student
- Muhammad Zain Raza, Master’s student
- Jeanne Madden, Faculty Mentor

Understanding Processes and Impacts of Organizational Re-entry in a Post-COVID World

- Aastha Das, International Businesses
- Tiffani Elliot, Sociology PhD
- Christina Khalil, Biochemistry
- Prakriti Sethur, Cell and Molecular Biology
- Kristina Wang, Health Sciences
- Alisa Lincoln, Faculty Mentor

Firearm Suicide Prevention

- Julia Denlinger, Health Sciences
- Alisa Lincoln, Faculty Mentor

Effect of Community-Based Approach on Demand for SCD Newborn Screening in Nigeria

- Maisha Gregory, Nursing
- Madeline Gully, Health Sciences
- John Olawepo, Faculty Mentor

Tackling Disparities in Care for Somali-American Children with Disabilities: A Structured Approach

- Rayna Haque, Health Sciences
- Carmel Sathi, Faculty Mentor

Trauma-Informed Public Health Policies: A Literature Review of Community-Level Interventions

- Sinead Hassan, Health Sciences
- Shan Mohammed, Faculty Mentor

Evaluation of a Harm Reduction Training (HaRT) Program

- Norida Jean, Biology
- Medina Stahlekar, Health Sciences
- Bryanna Testino, Cell and Molecular Biology
- Emily Mann, Faculty Mentor

Retention in Care among People Living with HIV in Nigeria

- Katherine O’Brien, Health Sciences
- Julia Papasodoro, Health Sciences
- John Olawepo, Faculty Mentor

Interprofessional Trauma-Informed Education: Training within the New Generation

- Claudia Pressat, Health Sciences
- Shan Mohammed, Faculty Mentor

Staying Connected While Staying Apart: Intergenerational Tutoring in the Time of COVID-19

- Nihala Razack, Health Sciences
- Aniyah Travis, Health Sciences
- Jessica Hoffman, Faculty Mentor

Understanding Firearm Owners Perspectives on Firearm Suicide Prevention in the United States

- Dorian Stump, Health Sciences
- Alisa Lincoln, Faculty Mentor

Beyond Naloxone: An Examination of Disparities in Post-Opioid Emergency Community Paramedicine

- Kyle Willette, Health Sciences
- Leo Beletsky, Faculty Mentor
PEAK Experience Awards
In the past two years IHESJR interns have received 35 PEAK Awards, funded through the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships. The PEAK Experience Awards are a progressively structured sequence of opportunities designed to continue supporting learners as they continue climbing to new heights of achievement in undergraduate research and creative endeavor throughout students’ Northeastern journeys.

PEAK Awardees

Anisa Amiji (fall 2020), Examining Information-Seeking During COVID-19, supported by Dr. Miso Kim, College of Arts, Media and Design

Lujane Barakat (spring 2021), Oral Health Behaviors and Self-Image, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Cullen Bober (fall 2020), Exploring DJH Charges and Carceral Budgets, supported by Professor Leo Beletsky, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and Law School

Julia Denlinger (fall 2021), Firearm Suicide Prevention Strategies for Firearm Owners and the Preventability of Firearm Suicide, supported by Dr. Alisa Lincoln, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Julia Denlinger (spring 2022), Firearm Suicide Prevention, supported by Dr. Alisa Lincoln, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Julia Dierker (fall 2021), Mixed-Method Telehealth Research, supported by Dr. Dami Ko, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and Humanities

Kevin Dunne (summer 2022), COVID-19 and Mental Health, supported by Dr. Bilge Erten, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Kevin Dunne (fall 2020), COVID-19 and Domestic Violence, supported by Dr. Bilge Erten, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Jasper Duval (fall 2020), The Shame of the Slum: An Exploratory Study of Territorial Stigma and Mental Wellbeing in a Non-Notified Settlement in Mumbai, supported by Dr. Liza Weinstein, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Jasper Duval (spring 2021), The Shame of the Slum: An Exploratory Study of Territorial Stigma and Mental Well-being in a Non-Notified Settlement in Mumbai, supported by Dr. Liza Weinstein, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Jasper Duval (summer 2021), ‘We Live in Garbage’: Legal Exclusion in a Non-Notified Settlement in Mumbai, supported by Dr. Liza Weinstein, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Jasper Duval (summer 2021), ‘Pray to the Mumbai Government’: Government Officials and Legal Exclusion in a Non-notified Settlement in India, supported by Dr. Liza Weinstein, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Angelica Fiuza (fall 2020), Twenty Seconds a Day: The Impact of Tiktok Diet Culture Content on Young Women, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Owen Graham-O’Regan (fall 2021), Changing Laws or Changing Norms? The Impact of Female Leadership on Intimate Partner Violence in India, supported by Dr. Bilge Erten, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Rayna Haque (fall 2020), A Qualitative Review of Mental Health and Exposure to Violence in Resettled Refugees, supported by Dr. Carmel Salhi, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Rayna Haque (fall 2020), Somali Parent Perspectives on Barriers to Diagnosis in Children with Developmental Disability, supported by Dr. Carmel Salhi, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Cate Henning (fall 2020), Drug-Induced Homicides: The Solution or the Problem?, supported by Professor Leo-Beletsky, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, School of Law

Conner Holmes (spring 2021), Exploring Transgender, Non-binary, and Genderqueer Dating App Use, supported by Dr. Laura Senier, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and College of Social Science and Humanities

Meghana Iyer (fall 2020 and fall 2021), Improving Guardrail Damage Reporting to Promote Injury Prevention in Motor Vehicle Accidents, supported by Dr. Alisa Lincoln and Suzanne Garverich, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Kenadi Kaewmanaprasert (fall 2020), Influence of Documentation Status and Race on Immigrant Healthcare Access, supported by Dr. Tiffany Joseph, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Summer Kelly (spring 2022), UN-Masking the Origins of Maternal Mortality/Morbidity Inequities, supported by Dr. Alisa Lincoln, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Eva Koruvilla (spring 2022), Defining Healthy Eating: A Delphi Consensus Study, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Winnie Li (fall 2020), Digital Media Use and Mental Health in College Students, supported by Dr. Lichuan Ye, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Haley Moriarty (fall 2021), Parenting in the Time of Social Media: A Qualitative Study of Parental Involvement in Teens’ Social Media Use, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Nikita Murli (summer 2021), Tracking Drug-Induced Homicide (DIH) Charges in the United States, supported by Professor Leo Beletsky, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, School of Law

Shubhro Nandi (fall 2020), Improving Access to Early Childhood Mental Health Services in Child Welfare, Supported by Dr. Beth Moinar, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Thai-Mi Nguyen (summer 2021), Un-Masking the Origins of Maternal Mortality/Morbidity Inequities (UMOMMI), supported by Dr. Collete Ncube, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Gail Nissan (fall 2020), The Longitudinal Effects of Body Image Concerns on Health Outcomes, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Maya Rabow (fall 2020), The Longitudinal Effects of Body Image Concerns on Health Outcomes, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Dorain Stump (fall 2021 and Spring 2022), American Firearm Suicide Prevention Project, supported by Dr. Alisa Lincoln, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Ciara Sosnowski (summer 2021), Arts, Health, and Wellbeing: A Literature Review, supported by Dr. Rebekah Moore, College of Arts, Media, and Design

Valerie Do Vale (fall 2020), Immigrants’ Healthcare Access Under Shifting Public Policies, supported by Dr. Tiffany Joseph, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Morgan Wong (summer 2021), Un-Masking the Origins of Maternal Mortality/Morbidity Inequities (UMOMMI), supported by Dr. Collete Ncube, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Yechan (Ben) Yang (summer 2021), LGBTQ Health Care Disparities in Telemedicine, supported by Dr. Alisa Lincoln and Suzanne Garverich, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Julia Zalvino (fall 2021), Which Types of Social Media Are Helpful for Body Image: Hearing from Diverse Youth, supported by Dr. Rachel Rodgers, Bouvé College of Health Sciences
Health Equity Faculty Scholars Program

Our Faculty Scholars program provides an opportunity for faculty from colleges across the University to engage in research with shared commitments to health equity and social justice to come together for shared learning opportunities, mentor Health Equity Interns, and to facilitate interdisciplinary research collaborations. With the support of the Dean’s Office of Bouvé College of Health Sciences, we have been able to provide undue to support faculty as they develop their research portfolios in advancing the goals of health equity for diverse populations made vulnerable through marginalization and exclusion.

Advancing Health Equity Pilot Awards

Jordon Bosse, PhD, RN, School of Nursing, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Moral Reckoning with Nurses’ Actions, Inactions, and Silence that May Perpetuate Health Inequity Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) People (2021)

Leanne Chukoskie, PhD, Physical Therapy, Movement & Rehabilitation Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences and Art + Design, College of Arts, Media, and Design, An International Game Jam (2022)

Danielle Crookes, DrPH, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Sanctuary Policies and Receipt of Preventative Cardiovascular Care among Immigrants in the U.S. (2022)

Lorna Hayward, PhD, Physical Therapy, Movement & Rehabilitation Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Increasing Access to Equitable Adaptive Spirit Opportunities to Promote Physical and Mental Health for College Students with Disabilities (2022)

Jessica Hoffman, Md, PhD, Applied Psychology, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Intergenerational Tutoring: Older Adults Supporting Children’s Academic Needs via Video Conferencing (2022)

Tiffany Joseph, PhD, Sociology and Anthropology, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, (Not) All In: Race, Ethnicity, Immigration, Exclusion, and Health Care in America’s City on a Hill (2022)

Miso Kim, PhD, Art and Design, College of Arts, Media, and Design, Learning from Deaths During COVID-19 – Exploring the Principle of Dignity for End-of-Life Care Services (2021)

Jeanne Madden, PhD, Sc.M., Pharmacy and Health Systems Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Access to Mental Health Care among Medicare Beneficiaries (2021)

Rebekah Moore, PhD, MA, Music, College of Arts, Media, and Design, Advancing Racial and Health Equity through the Arts: A Community-Engaged Research Study in the City of Boston (2022)

John Olawepo, MBBS, PhD, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Impact of Community-and Incentive-based Approaches on the Demand for Sickie Cell Disease Newborn Screening in Nigeria (2022)

John Olawepo, MBBS, PhD, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, An Exploration of Barriers to and Facilitators of Sickie Cell Disease Newborn Screening in Nigeria: A Qualitative Study (2022)

Rachel Rodgers, PhD, Applied Psychology, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Food Industry Literacy Intervention (2021)

Rachel Rodgers, PhD, Applied Psychology, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Towards Parent-led Intervention for Body Inclusiveness (2022)

Carmel Sathi, ScD, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, How do Parents of Children Admitted to the Emergency Department for a Mental Health Crisis View the Role of Clinicians Around Firearm Safety? (2021)

Claudia Santelices, PhD, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Impact of Drug Checking Technologies on Drug Using Behaviors (2021)

Dani Snyder-Young, MA, PhD, Theater, College of Arts, Media, and Design, Studying Social Stigma and Affect in Diverse Audiences of This is My Treatment (2022)
Works in Progress Series

How Can We Use Low-Cost Immersive Virtual Reality Headsets to Promote Growth Mindset Development in Children and Youth?
Daniele Levac, PhD, Physical Therapy, Movement & Rehabilitation Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences
February 22nd, 2021

Expanding Bouvé’s Footprints in Sub-Saharan Africa: Nigeria and Research Possibilities
John Olawopo, MBBS, PhD, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences
March 2, 2021

Salus Populi: Educating the Judiciary About the Social Determinants of Health
Salus Populi Research Team (Wendy Parment, Jennifer Huer, Faith Kahalik, Alisa Lincoln, Alex Alden, Eri Lee, Madison Haywood, Maya Clark)
Co-sponsored by the Center for Health Policy and Law Roundtable Series
March 22, 2021

Breast Cancer Previvors and Survivors in the Pandemic: A Pilot Study Exploring HBOC (hereditary breast and ovarian cancer) Online Peer Support
Linda Blum, PhD, Sociology and Anthropology, College of Social Sciences and Humanities
April 26, 2021

Putting Stigma-Reduction Approaches for Mental Health Promotion Technologies to the Test
Teresa O’Leary, Doctoral Student, Personal Health Informatics, Khoury College of Computer Science and Bouvé College of Health Sciences
May 17, 2021

Using the Law to Advance Reform in the “Rehab Industrial Complex”
Leo Beletsky, JD, Health and Justice Action Lab, School of Law and Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences (left, below)
Amelia Caramadre, Health and Justice Action Lab, School of Law (right, below)
Co-sponsored by the Center for Health Policy and Law Roundtable Series (2nd from left, below)
February 7th, 2022

Impact of Drug Checking Technologies on Drug Using Behaviors: A Qualitative Approach
Claudia Santelices, PhD, Health Sciences, Bouvé College of Health Sciences
April 25th, 2022

Annual Report
**The Northeastern University Public Evaluation Lab (NU-PEL)**

NU-PEL is an interdisciplinary lab created in 2018 through support from a Tier 1 grant from the Northeastern University Office of Research Development, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, and the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. Faculty from the Institute for Race and Justice and the IHESJR created a lab that brings together faculty and students with an interest and commitment to community-academic partnerships to improve local communities and enhance the well-being of the people living in them through the use of evaluation research. The vision of NU-PEL is to build a community-academic partnership to improve local communities and enhance the well-being of the people living in them through the use of evaluation research. This is accomplished by bringing together expertise and resources to advance the theory, practices, and utilization of evaluation through research, education, and services.

**New Grant Highlights**

**Culturally Responsive Evaluation (CRE) Series**

The inaugural event took place on November 16, 2020 with guest speaker, Dr. Zinzi Bailey from University of Miami, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program. The second event took place on April 6th, 2021 and featured a panel of expert evaluators, Dr. Alemayehu Bekele, Dr. Marcia Coné, and Noe Medina. Panelists shared how CRE is used in their work, challenges, as well as provided recommendations on how to implement CRE in practice. The third event took place on March 31st, 2022. How to Build in CRE into Design of an Evaluation continued the CRE series and Dr. Mindelyn Anderson led the 90-minute learning session where participants were able to draft and practice creating tools for CRE.

**Getting the Most Out of Your Mentored Relationship**

Community-Engaged Teaching and Research and the Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research convened a forum to have a conversation around building meaningful mentor and mentee relationships in a professional setting on September 22, 2021. Panelists included mentorship pairs Dr. Gail Begley and Adrianna Graziano, Sameera Nayak and Shurobhi Nandi, Dr. Tiana Yom and Isabelle Carrillo. The conversation was moderated by Dr. Shan Mohammed.

**For more information on NU-PEL go to:**

[https://bouve.northeastern.edu/nu-pel/](https://bouve.northeastern.edu/nu-pel/)
Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research hosted a panel discussion with representatives from state and local health and mental health agencies on racial and health equity lessons learned during COVID-19 on December 8, 2021. Panel members included:

**Antonia Binn**, CPHQ, LSSBB
Director, Performance Management & Quality Improvement Massachusetts Department of Public Health

**Martin Cohen**, MSW
CEO/President, MetroWest Health Foundation

**Sarimer Sánchez**, MD, MPH
Director, Infectious Diseases Bureau Boston Public Health Commission

**Margaret Guyer**
Principal Investigator - DMH SAMSHA COVID-Emergency grant Massachusetts Department of Mental Health

### Community Service Opportunities

Every semester the IHESJR commits to supporting a community organization in its mission to provide services to those in need. Over two years the members of the IHESJR community supported several organizations.

In the spring of 2022 we were pleased to work again with Community Servings, an organization whose mission is to actively engage the community to provide medically tailored, nutritious, scratch-made meals to chronically and critically ill individuals and their families.

We also worked with Cradles to Crayons and Women’s Lunch Place. Cradles to Crayons’ mission is to provide the essential items that children in struggling families need to thrive at school, to participate more fully in life, and to just be a kid. We did a coat drive as well as created inspirational cards for the kids. The Women’s Lunch Place inspires hope and supports the development of self-sustaining skills for women experiencing hunger, homelessness, and poverty. We supported a drive to collect and purchase needed products for the women.

### Institute Affiliated Faculty Research

Institute faculty are engaged in many research efforts across the University. Here we highlight their research focusing on health equity and social justice, by showcasing 1) all newly awarded grants from July 1, 2020 to June 30th, 2022 and 2) continuing research grants.

#### 2020-2022 Newly Awarded Grants

**Climate Change and Health**

**Funder:** Northeastern University, College of Arts, Media, and Design Dean’s Office

This project, done in partnership with fellow IHESJR Faculty Scholar Dr. Miso Kim, examines the physical and mental health burden of climate change on young adults. Via journals, surveys, and design exercises we seek to understand attitudes toward climate change and climate change communication, which we hypothesize may range from nihilism to hope, as well their sense of agency towards the future.

- Sara Jensen Carr, Co-PI
- Miso Kim, Co-PI
- Michael Arnold Mages, Co-PI
- Susan Mello, Co-PI
- Estefania Ciliotta Chehade, Postdoctoral Assistant
- Yechan (Ben) Yang, Health Equity Intern
- Madison Thomas, Health Equity Intern

**Understanding the Physical and Psychological Health and Wellness Needs of Minor Sex Trafficking Victims**

**Funder:** National Institute for Justice

Sex trafficking victimization is associated with serious health consequences including posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, sexually transmitted infections, and substance use disorders among others. Trafficking survivors also experience problems obtaining medical and mental health care. However, little is known about the specific health consequences of sex trafficking of minors as our field is primarily informed by research on adults and with non-US samples, limiting the generalizability to US youth. In particular, we lack rigorous data about the physical and psychological health consequences of minor sex trafficking and health access behavior for MST survivors. The proposed study will utilize a robust sampling mechanism to capture the experiences of a large sample of MST survivors in the U.S. to investigate the above-listed topics.

- Amy Farrell, PI
- Carla Cuevas, PI
- Alisa Lincoln, Research Scientist
- Sara Lockwood, SCCI Doctoral Student

#### Salus Populi: Educating the Judiciary about the Social Determinants of Health

**Funder:** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

This project is in collaboration with the Center for Health Policy and Law at Northeastern University School of Law and the Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research and seeks to provide guidance and training to judges on the impact of the law on the social determinants of health.

- Hermine Poghosyan, Co-PI
- Brady Post, Co-PI
- Gary J. Young, Co-PI
- Laura Senier, Co-PI

#### Hospital-Physician Integration: Implications for Health Equity and Care for Seniors

**Funder:** Northeastern University, Tier 1

This project will examine the impact of hospital-physician integration on health care quality, costs, and racial disparities among elderly patients with cancer and cardiovascular conditions.

- Amy Farrell, PI

#### Social Determinants of Health

**Funder:** Spencer Foundation

This project will examine the impact of the law on the transition from college to adulthood.

- Linda Plum, PI
Our interdisciplinary team has developed a prototype of OurSleepKit, which is an innovative couple-focused mobile health tool to promote CPAP adherence. OurSleepKit aims to coach mutual engagement and model positive partner involvement in CPAP treatment, thus motivating greater CPAP adherence. The goal of this R01 project is to use a participatory approach to refine OurSleepKit and comprehensively evaluate both its effect on CPAP adherence and user engagement.

Lichuan Ye, PI

Moral Reckonings with Nurse’s Actions, Inactions, and Silence that May Perpetuate Health Inequities among LGBTIQ+ People

Funder: Humanities Center Fellowship

The first part of the study was to explore the healthcare experiences of transgender and nonbinary (TG/NB) individuals through Twitter posts. Two groups of TG/NB folks are being recruited to take part in a workshop to create a digital story about workplace/healthcare experiences and will also complete interviews to learn more about how the story they created is related to their workplace/healthcare experiences more broadly.

Jordan Bosse, PI
Lauren Glupe, Health Equity Intern
Allison McLaughlin, Health Equity Intern
Sare Nonoyama, Health Equity Intern

National Library of Medicine Grant for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health

Funder: National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health

NLM Grants for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health are awarded for the preparation of book-length manuscripts and other scholarly works of value to U.S. health professionals, public health officials, biomedical researchers and historians of the health sciences.

Tiffany Joseph, PI
Kevin Ha, Sociology PhD student

Evaluation of the School-based Healthy Relationships Project for Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse among Children Pre-K through 5th Grade

Funder: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

This study is a rigorous evaluation of a school-based child sexual abuse prevention program, the Healthy Relationships Project, developed by the non-profit community-based nonprofit Prevent Child Abuse Vermont. A stepped wedge randomized clinical trial will be utilized to test the efficacy of the program among children pre-K through 5th grade in 56 public schools in Washington, DC. The program has been implemented in 30 U.S. states, including Vermont in Vermont and since its implementation, substantiated cases in Vermont dropped 72% between 1992 and 2020, and the number of child perpetrators dropped 77%. We hope to show that the intervention is associated with a change in reported cases of child sexual abuse and increased knowledge and self-efficacy of caregivers and teachers.

Beth Molinar, PI
Christi Rizzo, Co-I
Farzad Noubary, Co-I
Daphney Mirand, Project Manager
Chloé Nichols, Population Health SGA
Benchezie Fleurague, Nursing PhD Student
Olivia Hirsch, Health Equity Intern

Ongoing Research

Evaluation study of ECMH FIRST (Early Childhood Mental Health; Family, Independence, Resilience, Support, and Treatment)

Funder: SAMSHA subcontract from the Boston Public Health Commission

ECMH FIRST project began in October 2019 and expanded the LAUNCH/MYCHILD model previously developed and evaluated by this team to a novel setting. The direct-service goal of ECMH FIRST is to improve access to high-quality, culturally competent, evidence-based behavioral health services through an innovative Family Partner/Clinician service model for children age 0–48 months and their families in Boston who are involved with the child welfare system. The project employs a family partner, clinician, and service coordinator to implement the evidence-informed LAUNCH/MYCHILD model to better identify and serve families with children who are either at high risk for social, emotional and/or behavioral problems, or who already show symptoms of severe emotional disturbances. The evaluation study is a mixed methods design combining analyses of data from assessments of children and caregivers by clinical staff over time with qualitative data from interviews and process evaluation measures.

Beth Molinar, Lead Evaluator
Farzad Noubary, Biostatistician
Daphney Mirand, Project Manager
Sara Nonoyama, Population Health PhD Candidate
Chloé Nichols, Population Health PhD SGA
Benchezie Fleurague, Nursing PhD Student
Atsushi Matsumoto, MPH Student
Emily Alves, Capstone Student
Aniyah Travis, Co-op Student
Katherine Baker, Health Equity Intern
Olivia Hirsch, Health Equity Intern
Helen Ji, Health Equity Intern


Funder: National Science Foundation (Sociology program)

The United Nations has recognized access to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically affordable, and accessible water and sanitation as fundamental human rights. Nevertheless, the cost of household water and sanitation services for U.S. consumers has risen much faster than the general cost of living in the 21st century. Nonpayment of water bills is increasing and water utilities in some cities have responded by shutting off water delivery to households with unpaid bills. This project will identify the historical, ecological, demographic, technological, political, and legal factors that contribute to water unaffordability, and assess the consequences of escalating water costs for vulnerable populations. We will show how a city’s organizational capacity, e.g., fiscal and economic resources, formal policies, physical infrastructure, information system resources, and the skill and professional training of city employees, affects the design and implementation of city policies on water affordability. The project will also illustrate the extent to which certain types of policies and practices disproportionately affect elderly, disabled, low-income, and non-white Americans. Our findings will help government officials identify forces that create variations in water affordability policies, and will also develop educational materials to facilitate partnerships between municipal officials, water utility managers, and the public, to help them improve local water affordability and assistance programs.

Laura Senier, PI
Sharon Harlan, Co-I

Annual Report
Funder: IHESJR Advancing Health Equity Pilot Awards and Dean’s Office of College of Arts, Media and Design

Using the meta-analytic procedure, we will obtain valid estimates of the effects of active games and virtual reality both across population groups as well as across the lifespan in both clinical and non-clinical settings. Our findings may provide more accurate insight to public health researchers as well as practitioners to maximize the potential of AVGs for a broader population which could potentially benefit from them.

Amy Lu, PI
Dar Alon, Research Assistant
Caoi Sousa, Postdoctoral Research Assistant
Kelly Lee, Undergraduate Research Assistant

Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Lung Cancer Screening Potentially Due to Current Screening Guidelines

Funder: IHESJR Advancing Health Equity Pilot Award

This project investigates racial/ethnic disparities in lung cancer screening among adults aged 55 to 80 years old. Specifically, to compare lung cancer screening rates among adults eligible for lung cancer screening (with a 30 pack-years smoking history) and those who do not meet the smoking eligibility criteria (with 20-29 pack-years smoking history).

Hermione Pophosyan, PI

(Not) All In: Race, Ethnicity, Immigration, Exclusion, and Health Care in America’s City on a Hill

Funder: IHESJR Advancing Health Equity Pilot Award

This research project examines the impact of changing health and immigration policies on immigrants’ healthcare access.

Tiffany Joseph, PI
Micahah Parker, Health Equity Intern

Mental Health Outcomes Among US Healthcare Workers Exposed to COVID-19

Funder: IHESJR Advancing Health Equity Pilot Awards

This project aims to characterize the mental and emotional distress among frontline healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19.

Kara Pavone, PI
Maria van Pet, Co-I

Evaluation of the Massachusetts Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Impact Project

Funder: Subcontract from MA Department of Public Health, funded by Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (HRSA)

The goals of this project were to evaluate Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) efforts to increase developmental skills among 3-year old children in Chelsea and Springfield, and to develop a state-level early childhood data system to track child developmental health indicators. Process evaluation methods were utilized to track progress and provide feedback to the implementation team to make improvements.

Beth Molinar, PI
Daphney Mirand, Project Manager
Sameera Nayak, Population Health PhD Candidate
Shubhbi Nandi, Health Equity Intern

Promoting Physical Activity among Preschool Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Expanding the Capacity of Teachers and Caregivers to Engage Children in Active Play

Funder: Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation

The purpose of this collaborative project with Better Kid Care at Penn State University is to update and expand the WE PLAY-Autism online training, migrate it to the Better Kid Care online platform for wide dissemination, and to conduct a program evaluation of the updated intervention.

Jessica Hoffman, PI

Urban Form Impact

Funder: Northeastern University’s Provost’s Office

This project seeks to understand correlates of built environment features and demographics to climate change events. By spatially analyzing the extents of flooding, extreme heat, and wildfires, the research team will examine the characteristics of density, housing stock, and urban landscape as well as dimensions of race and income in those areas most affected.

Sara Jensen Carr, Co-PI
Jay Copas, Co-PI
Sharon Harlan, Mentor

Exploring New Measures of the Affordability of Healthcare for Patients in Medicare

Funder: NIH NIA

Patient out-of-pocket costs pose a potential barrier to the use of needed medical services and risk to the health and well-being of individuals, particularly among vulnerable populations such as elderly persons with limited financial resources or multiple chronic conditions. This study will conduct comprehensive analyses of newly available federal survey measures of medical cost burden (e.g., going into debt to pay for care) and cost-related underuse (e.g., delaying needed care due to costs) among Medicare enrollees. Once established, these data will form a foundation for future research that will be able to monitor impacts of new policy approaches aimed at improving quality and efficiency of healthcare delivery within Medicare.

Jeanne Madden, PI
Becky Brinsacher, Co-PI
Fang Zhang, Co-I, Harvard Medical School
Alison Gailbraith, Co-I, Harvard Medical School
Dennis Ross-Degnan, Consultant, Harvard Medical School
Steve Soumerai, Consultant, Harvard Medical School
Jerry Gutwirth, Consultant, University of Massachusetts
Farrah Nekui, Doctoral Research Student
Parthwsh Shetty, Master Student Analyst
Susimtha Bayapureddy, Master Student Analyst
Shivangi Vashi, Master Student Analyst
Sai Nakula, Master Student Analyst

BRCA Communities in the Pandemic: Exploring the Role of Online Peer Support

Funder: IHESJR Advancing Health Equity Pilot Award

This project examines the role that online peer support groups have within people living with BRCA I and II during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Linda Blum, PI
KJ Surkan, Co-PI, MIT
Liz Mariluz, Health Equity Intern
Communities

Green Spaces Among Teens in Boston-Area
Emotional Well-Being and Access to Blue and Green Spaces
Lorraine Lacroix-Williamson, Doctoral Student Research Assistant
Karen Freund, Co-Mentor, Tufts University
Daniel Kim, Joint Primary Mentor
Alisa Lincoln, Joint Primary Mentor

This research addresses these disparities.

preterm birth disparities, as well as inform strategies to address determinants of health interact and function interde-terminant for health outcomes, including lower overall mortality, lower cardiovascular disease risks, improved birth outcomes, increased physical activity, decreased obesity, and improved mental health and emotional well-being. A major limitation of this research however, is that it has focused either on adults or on very young children; teen voices have been largely ignored. We are piloting methods to assess exposure to green and blue spaces and explore how these recreational amenities are associated with mental health among teens in two Boston-area neighborhoods.

Laura Senier, PI
Alisa Lincoln, Co-I
Madeleine Scammell, Boston University School of Public Health
Rajyaa Kumar, Health Equity Intern
Sylvia Wise, Health Equity Intern
Mollie Harmon, Health Equity Intern
Pragnya Kaindi, Health Equity Intern

Evaluation of Boston FIRST SOC (Family Independence, Resilience, Support, and Treatment Systems of Care)

Funder: SAMSHA, subcontract from Boston Public Health Commission
The Boston Family Independent, Resilience, Support and Treatment System of Care (FIRST SOC) project began in October 2019 and expands the LAUNCH/ MYCHILD model (www.ecmhmatters.org) previously developed and evaluated by this team to a novel setting. The direct-service goal of FIRST SOC is to improve access to high-quality, culturally competent, evidence-based behavioral health services through an innovative Family Partner/Clinician service model for children age 0-48 months and their families in Boston who are involved with the child welfare system. The evaluation study is being led by researchers at the Institute of Health Equity and Social Justice Research at Northeastern University. Impacts of the intervention on social, emotional and behavioral health of the children and on their caregivers (foster families, birth parents, case workers) will be measured over time, as well as the development and improvement of systems for the care of young children with behavioral health needs in Boston, Massachusetts.

Beth Molaner, PI
Daphney Mirand, Project Manager
Sameera Nayak, Population Health PhD Candidate
Thomas Carpenito, Doctoral Research Assistant
Marina Yamada, Undergraduate Capstone Student
Andie Oates, Undergraduate Capstone Student
Amy Kelleher, Health Equity Intern
Shurobhi Nandi, Health Equity Intern
Kayla Anderson, Health Equity Intern

Transitions to Adulthood Amid the Pandemic and Its Aftermath: A Longitudinal Study

Funder: Northeastern University’s College of Social Sciences and Humanities RDI

This project examines the impact of COVID-19 on the transitions of people going into adulthood.

Linda Blum, PI
Kaitlyn Eni Lee, Undergraduate Research Assistant

Resilience Building in Schools Serving Economically Disadvantaged Children Under COVID-19: An Examination of Systems Level Efforts

Funder: Spenser Foundation
Results of this study will illuminate how schools serving economically disadvantaged and minoritized children in such unprecedented large-scale and prolonged adversity confronts challenges, and builds resilience as a system. This study will be one of the first to investigate resilience building under COVID-19 from an integrated school-systems perspective. Although this is a qualitative case study, the lessons learned will help reveal the systems processes in a school that facilitate resilience in a digital era and inform school interventions, policy making, and future research.

Hong Ni, PI, California State University
Chieh Li, Co-PI
Bonnie Nastasi, Consultant on qualitative research, Tulane University

Evaluation of the Vicarious Trauma Resource Initiative

Funder: Office for Victims of Crime, subcontract from International Association of Chiefs of Police

The Vicarious Trauma Response Initiative (VTRI) is a training and technical assistance (T/TA) initiative to assist organizations where the occupational challenge of vicarious trauma, or the hearing of stories of victimization of people served, affects employee and organizational health. There are 12 community implementation sites throughout the country that are establishing and executing community-based approaches that buffer and mitigate the negative effects of vicarious trauma. The VTRI team is providing T/TA to participating organizations in each site, and the Northeastern team is evaluating the progress via survey research with employees at each organization and among their leadership.

Beth Molnar, Evaluation PI
Daphney Mirand, Project Manager
Samantha Meeker, Doctoral Research Assistant
Bencheung Fleuraguste, Nursing PhD Student
Vivian Wilt, Graduate Research Assistant
Theres Alezander, Health Equity Intern
Katherine Baker, Health Equity Intern

Immersive Virtual Reality for Vissuospatial Assessment in Children with CP

Funder: American Academy of Cerebral Palsy & Developmental Medicine
This project aims to develop a new VR measure of visuospatial abilities in children with Cerebral Palsy (CP)

Danielle Levac, PI
Minxin Chang, Doctoral Research Assistant

First Episode Psychosis Strategic Plan

Funder: MA Department of Mental Health
Working with DMH, the team is conducting focus groups with youth, caregivers, and providers in order to develop the states’ strategic plan for people experiencing their first episode of Psychosis.

Alisa Lincoln, PI
Atsushi Matsumoto, Graduate Research Assistant
Alyssa Pascoc, Health Equity Intern

The Social Construction of Legal Exclusion in Indian Slums

Funder: NSF

Prevent Depression of Chinese-American Adolescents through a Mobile Health Application

Funder: NIH-NIMHD, R21 (Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant)

Chinese American adolescents (CAAs), traditionally perceived as a model minority (i.e., smart, diligent, quiet, etc.), experience serious acculturative stress and depression coupled with cultural barriers to care and racial/cultural discrimination, facing a major mental health disparity. This proposal addresses the disparity by developing a new mobile health application for CAAs to provide a culturally tailored, personalized, interactive, accessible, and economical depression prevention. The app will be highly scalable and easily adaptable for other minority groups.

Chieh Li, PI/PD
Huijun Li, PI, Florida A&M
Shengli Dong, PI, Florida State University
Edward Hirsch, Co-I
Alisa Lincoln, Co-I
Justin Chen, Consultant, Psychiatrist, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School
John Torus, Consultant, Psychiatrist and Mental Health App Experts, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School


Funder: NIH-NIMHD

The goal of this project is to address significant gaps in our understanding of how structural and intermediary determinants of health interact and function interde-terminants to generate and perpetuate racial/ethnic preterm birth disparities, as well as inform strategies to address these disparities.

Collette N. Ncube, PI
Alisa Lincoln, Joint Primary Mentor
Daniel Kim, Joint Primary Mentor
Hazhir Rahmandad, Co-Mentor, MIT
Daniel Enquobahrie, Co-Mentor, University of Washington
Karen Freund, Co-Mentor, Tufts University
Lorraine Lacroix-Williamson, Doctoral Student Research Assistant

Emotional Well-Being and Access to Blue and Green Spaces Among Teens in Boston-Area Communities

Funder: IHEJSIR Advancing Health Equity Pilot Award and CSHH RDI

A growing body of literature suggests that exposure to blue and green spaces is beneficial for a range of health outcomes. Research on green spaces and health has documented positive effects on a variety of health outcomes, including lower overall mortality, lower cardiovascular disease risks, improved birth outcomes, increased physical activity, decreased obesity, and improved mental health and emotional well-being. A major limitation of this research however, is that it has focused either on adults or on very young children; teen voices have been largely ignored. We are piloting methods to assess exposure to green and blue spaces and explore how these recreational amenities are associated with mental health among teens in two Boston-area neighborhoods.

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Alisa Lincoln, PI
Atsushi Matsumoto, Graduate Research Assistant
Alyssa Pascoc, Health Equity Intern

The Social Construction of Legal Exclusion in Indian Slums

Funder: NSF
This study employs a mixed-methods, qualitative research strategy and a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach to explain how legal exclusion is constructed in Kaula Bandar, a non-notified settlement of 12,000 people in Mumbai, India. Liza Weinstein, PI, Northeastern University Ramnath Subbaraman, Co-PI, Tufts University School of Medicine Anita Patil-Deshmukh, Co-PI, Partners for Urban Knowledge, Action, and Research (PUKAR), Mumbai India Saloni Dev, Graduate Student Assistant, Northeastern University

**Developing Firearm Suicide Prevention Programs Tailored to Gun Owner Population Subgroups**

Funder: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Subcontract from Boston University School of Public Health

Dr. Alisa Lincoln is collaborating with Dr. Craig Ross from Boston University School of Public Health to determine population specific suicide prevention strategies. This study is designed to (a) identify subgroups of gun owners through Latent Class Analysis, who share similar attributes and similar suicide risk profiles and then (b) conduct qualitative research with the subgroups to explore barriers and facilitators to the development of targeted firearm suicide prevention programs that can be adopted by each subgroup.

Craig Ross, PI, Boston University
Alisa Lincoln, PI
Suzanne Garvenich, Program Manager
Jaimie Gradus, Boston University
Michael Siegel, Boston University
Kevin Carvalho, Research Assistant
Gemma McFarland, Doctoral Research Assistant
Aiden Baglivo, Health Equity Intern
Julia Denlinger, Health Equity Intern
Dorian Stump, Health Equity Intern
Madeline Guily, Health Equity Intern

For more information on the research being done at the Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research, please visit our website at [https://bouve.northeastern.edu/institute-for-health-equity-and-social-justice-research/](https://bouve.northeastern.edu/institute-for-health-equity-and-social-justice-research/)

**Faculty Innovations in Diversity and Academic Excellence Grant. Promoting Intersectional, Ongoing, Equitable Exchanges around Racism (PIONEER).**

Funder: Northeastern University Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion

This project is part of OIDI’s faculty innovations grant. Dr. Glowacki is chair of the Department of Health Sciences’ Social Justice Steering Committee and this grant is used to create a peer support group for students from marginalized and/or historically op-

**In the Press**

Hermine Poghosyan, IHESJR Faculty Scholar’s research was in Bouvé College of Health Sciences News. Despite the Stigma, Cancer Patients Look to Cannabis for Relief 2021
Sara Jensen Carr, IHESJR Faculty Scholar was mentioned Bloomberg City Lab. How Fear of Disease Transformed Boston’s Swampy Back Bay.
Chieh Li, IHESJR Faculty Scholar’s collaborative work was in Northeastern News. English Learners in Public School Classrooms are Often Left Behind, What Can Help Them Catch Up?
Elizabeth Glowacki, IHESJR Faculty Scholar authored a blog post, Public Memory and Art: Opportunities for Depicting COVID-19 Inequities, for the stent group HERE4Justice, run by MPH students at Simmons University.

Beth Molnar was interviewed by NBCBoston in the newsstory, Autopsy Results Reveal NH Boy Died of Violence, Neglect, Fentanyl Intoxication.

**FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS**

**Awards**

The LAUNCH/MYCHILD Model Practice, received an Innovation Hub Award for being the highest scoring Best Practice submission from the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) at their annual conference in 2021. It was officially included in the AMCHP Innovation Station Database as a Best Practice as of June 2020. Dr. Beth Molnar, IHESJR Director of Violence Prevention and Trauma Studies, and her research team have been evaluating the LAUNCH/MYCHILD Model Practice since 2012.

Tiffany Joseph, IHESJR Faculty Scholar received Honorable Mention from the American Sociological Association’s International Migration Public Sociology Award, International Migration Section.

Elizabeth Glowacki, IHESJR Faculty Scholar received the Bouvé College of Health Sciences Distinguished Educator Award.

Jordon Bosse, IHESJR Faculty Scholar was named a Humanities Center Fellow for AY 2021-2022.

**In the Press**

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Beth Molnar was interviewed by NBCBoston in the newsstory, Autopsy Results Reveal NH Boy Died of Violence, Neglect, Fentanyl Intoxication.

**Meryl Alper**, IHESJR Faculty Scholar was part of several podcast episodes: The Good Robot, One World One Network, and Critical Technology
CELEBRATIONS!

We were so thrilled to be able to have an in-person end of the year celebration this year! It was a time of being mostly remote for 2 years that we, as an Institute community were able to come together to celebrate all of the accomplishments of our students, staff, and faculty. We gathered in one of the Northeastern University Tents where we were able to meet people in-person for some of us the first time, and have a time where we could meet all of our members of our ever growing Institute. This event was made possible by the support of the Institute Director, Alisa Lincoln and the Sunshine Committee members: Tiana Yom, Suzanne Garverich, Makiya Polk, Vela McBride, and Krystal Abbott.

Institute Faculty, Staff and Students enjoyed lunch from the local Black-owned business, Darryl’s Corner Bar and Kitchen, as well as had time to socialize with various members of the community. We also participated in an icebreaker where we played bingo. Fun was had by all!

Co-op Students!

From the support of the Bouvé College of Health Science’s Dean’s Office, the IHESJR is able to have a Co-op student every 6 months who supports the administration and research that is done at the Institute. We have been so lucky in having amazing students each Co-op period. We thank each one of you, especially during times of COVID-19 where many of you spent your time remotely.

At the spring celebration, we asked the Institute community for one word that comes to mind when they think of the Institute. To the left is the word cloud that has been created of all the responses.

(left to right: Alisa Lincoln, The Sunshine Committee: Suzanne Garverich, Tiana Yom, Makiya Polk, Vela McBride, Krystal Abbott)
We want to highlight the amazing accomplishments of our Institute students of all levels: doctoral, masters, and undergraduates during these past two years. They have all worked so hard during their time at Northeastern University. We also wanted to thank each one of them for all of their work they have put into the research we do at the Institute.

**Doctoral Graduates**

Alexandra Alden, Sociology PhD Program, College of Social Sciences and Humanities  
Saloni Dev, Population Health PhD Program, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Ashley Houston, Population Health PhD Program, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Sameera Nayak, Population Health PhD Program, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Arielle Scoglio, Population Health PhD Program, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Tiana Yom, Health and Behavior Studies, Health Education Ed.D Program, Columbia University  
Megan Zeikisky, Population Health PhD Program, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

**Master Graduates**

Kaleem Ahmed, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
John Dalton, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
David Mejia Cruz, Masters in Public Policy, College of Social Sciences and Humanities  
Zoe Harris, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Alissah Sillah, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Taylor Smith, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Olivia Sterns, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences  
Vivian Wilt, Masters in Public Health, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

**Bachelor Graduates**

Elena Abatzis, COS  
Nur Selin Akbulut, COS  
Sundos Al-Husayni, Bouvé  
Theres Alexander, COS  
Emily Alves, Bouvé  
Elizah Becker, Bouvé  
Michael Cullen Bober, Bouvé  
Julia Denlinger, Bouvé  
Jacob Farmer, CSH  
Mason Fitzpatrick, DMSB  
Maren Flessen, CAMD  
Maisha Gregory, Bouvé  
Rayna Haque, Bouvé  
Sinead Hassan, Bouvé  
Lindsey Immers, Bouvé  
Meghna Iyers, Bouvé  
Jorja Kahn, COS  
Christina Khalil, COS  
Winnie Li, Bouvé  
Ecom Lu, Bouvé  
Jennifer Magana, Bouvé  
Allison McLaughlin, Bouvé  
Sabrina Meyer, Bouvé  
Andie Oates, Bouvé  
Michaiah Parker, Bouvé  
Alyssa Pascoe, CSSH  
Nihala Razack, Bouvé  
Mia St. Angelo, DMSB  
Oliva Sterns, Bouvé  
Dorian Stump, Bouvé  
Aniyah Travis, Bouvé  
Kyle Willette, Bouvé  
Sophie Wiltshire, Bouvé  
Marina Yamada, Bouvé  
Yechan Yang, COS  
Tiffany Yang, Bouvé  
Claire Yu, Bouvé

**Faculty Awards**

Kaitlyn Eric Lee and Liz Mariuz presented at the CSSH Undergraduate Research Forum in March 2021 and were supported by Faculty Scholar, Dr. Linda Blum

**Sociology PhD candidate Sundos Al-Husayni was named a Fellow of the Fostering Diversity in HIV Research program at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.**

**ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Sameera Nayak** (Student Graduate Assistant) was selected as Communication Chair for the APHA International Health Student Committee

**Huntington 100 IHESJR Students (2021 and 2022)**

**Anisa Amiji**  
**Kaleem Ahmed**  
**Catherine Di Gangi**  
**Tyrekil Gaston**

**ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Sameera Nayak**  
**Dr. Tiana Yom**  
**Aniyah Travis**  
**Meghna Iyer**  
**Shreya Shetty**

**Sundos Al-Husayni**

**Academic Excellence Awards**

**Taylor Smith** (Health Equity Intern) won the Outstanding Teaching Award

**Connor Holmes** (Health Equity Intern) won the Harold D. Hodgkisson and Fulbright awards.

**Zoe Harris** (Health Equity Intern) won the Outstanding Student Teaching Award

**Dr. Tiana Yom** Program Director of the Northeastern University Public Evaluation Lab (NU-PFL), was selected to receive an Outstanding Teaching Award for the College of Social Sciences and Humanities.

**Sameera Nayak**, an Institute SGA working with Dr. Beth Molnar, and PhD Candidate in the Population Health PhD program, has been selected to receive the 2022 Outstanding Student Teaching Award from Northeastern University.

**Population Health PhD student Lorraine Lacroux-Williamson has been named a Fellow of the Fostering Diversity in HIV Research program at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She was a recipient of the 2021 Race & Sexuality Research Award from the Center of Positive Sexuality.**

**Population Health PhD candidate Sameera Nayak was awarded a research seed grant from the Boston Area Research Initiative (BARI) for her dissertation study as well as the Northeastern University Dissertation Completion Fellowship.**

**Sociology PhD candidate Alexandra Alden was awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship.**

Ye, L. (2022, January 27). Engaging Partners to Promote Adherence to CPAP Treatment. Invited speaker for Sleep and Circadian Grand Rounds, University of Pittsburgh Center for Sleep and Circadian Science [virtual].

Ye, L. (2022, April 28). Engaging Partners to Promote Adherence to CPAP Treatment. Research Cameo at Northeastern SON FOM.

Ye, L. (2022, May 11). Building a Program of Research and Leading Interdisciplinary Inquiries. Invited speaker for Biotechnology, Health, and Innovation Research Center, Hungkuang University, Taiwan [virtual].


