



CAREER TRAINING IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

The Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health is the locus for studies in maternal and child health (MCH) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH). As a recipient of a federal MCH Training Grant for over 50 continuous years, the Department prepares students for leadership careers in health promotion and disease prevention among populations of women, children, adolescents and their families. Tuition support is provided to graduate students in the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health, demonstrating the Department's commitment to fostering the next generation of leaders in MCH research and practice.

The study and practice of MCH addresses the unique developmental and epidemiological characteristics of women, children, and adolescents within the context of the complex interaction of physical, social, and environmental influences on health. MCH has evolved from an historical focus on mothers and children as discrete units to an integrated view of families, their health and well being over the lifespan and across generations. MCH studies use a multidisciplinary approach to examine the interwoven roles of families, community institutions, culture, and government functions in health promotion and disease prevention. MCH training emphasizes the use of analytic and methodological skills in designing and evaluating policies, programs, and interventions.

Contemporary MCH concerns include racial disparities in key indicators of population health, early determinants of adult disease, effects of social context on outcomes, accountability and quality of care in different health care delivery systems, and systems development.

Preparation for Leadership Positions in Maternal and Child Health

The Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health offers several programs of study—Child and Adolescent Health and Development; Reproductive, Perinatal, and Women's Health; and Population and Health. The Department also offers a range of degree programs—MHS, PhD, DrPH, and the interdepartmental MPH. In addition, students can earn a Maternal and Child Health Certificate by completing a set of required and elective courses.

MCH studies at JHSPH prepare graduates for careers in public health by building:

- Analytic quantitative and qualitative skills for problem solving;
- Policy, and the knowledge of factors that influence local, state, and national legislation and social policies; and
- Skills in organizational management and leadership in collaborative strategies to address population health issues.

Graduates of the Department go on to careers in a variety of public and private settings, including academic health centers and universities, research organizations, private foundations, community nonprofit and voluntary health organizations, governmental public health agencies, legislative and policymaking bodies, consulting firms, professional trade organizations, and national advocacy organizations.





EXAMPLES OF CAREER PLACEMENTS OF JHSPH MCH GRADUATES

MHS Graduates

- Program Officer, Academy for Educational Development
- Public Health Analyst, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration
- Coordinator, Breast and Colon Cancer Family Registries, National Cancer Institute
- Communication Specialist, Matthews Media Group
- Policy Analyst, Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs

DrPH and PhD Graduates

- Health Advisor, Doctors Without Borders
- Assistant Professor of Maternal and Child Health, University of North Carolina
- Associate Scientist, RAND Corporation
- Director of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Minnesota Department of Health

Experiential Learning Opportunities in the MCH Training Program

The more than 15 full-time faculty members affiliated with the MCH Training Program devote significant time to teaching, mentoring, and partnering in research with students. Adjunct faculty and guest lecturers expand the opportunities to learn from experts in other departments and institutions in the U.S. and abroad. Students gain practical experience through collaboration with faculty members on research, policy analysis, the development of programs, and technical assistance resources. The proximity of JHSPH to the nation's capital allows for frequent involvement of adjunct faculty and guest lecturers from Washington, D.C. institutions and provides opportunities for

internships and special studies on Capitol Hill and with federal agencies as well as national professional and policy organizations.

Additional hands-on learning opportunities are provided through three institutional affiliates. The Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health's

Women's and Children's Health Policy Center

(<http://www.jhsph.edu/wchpc>)

draws on the science base of the university setting to inform national policies, programs, and the practice of maternal and child health. The Department's

Center for Adolescent Health

(<http://www.jhsph.edu/adolescenthealth>)

works with youth and youth-serving

organizations in the Baltimore community to conduct research that identifies the needs and strengths of young people and tests programs designed to promote the health and well-being of young people. The Johns Hopkins **Urban Health Institute** (<http://urbanhealthinstitute.jhu.edu>), based in PFRH, works across Johns Hopkins Institutions and with external partners to improve the health and well-being of the residents of East Baltimore and Baltimore City and to promote evidence-based interventions to solve urban health problems nationwide. Each of these multidisciplinary centers is a nexus for connecting with faculty, research, and practice and policy activities as a component of Johns Hopkins' MCH academic program.

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY OF THE MCH TRAINING PROGRAM

Faculty in the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health work on a broad range of MCH topics, touching on a number of key areas of inquiry:

- ***Early Childhood Health and Development and Community Pediatrics Practice***
- ***Social Context for Adolescent Health***
- ***Women's Health over the Lifespan***
- ***Supporting Public Health Practice in the States***

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREER TRAINING IN MCH OR FOR APPLICATION MATERIALS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE <http://www.jhsph.edu/dept/pfrh/>

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