

# Public Health

*Public Health Matters Now  
More Than Ever*



## Rosie Frasso, PhD, CPH

Public Health, Program Director



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Jefferson

CREATE WHAT'S NEXT

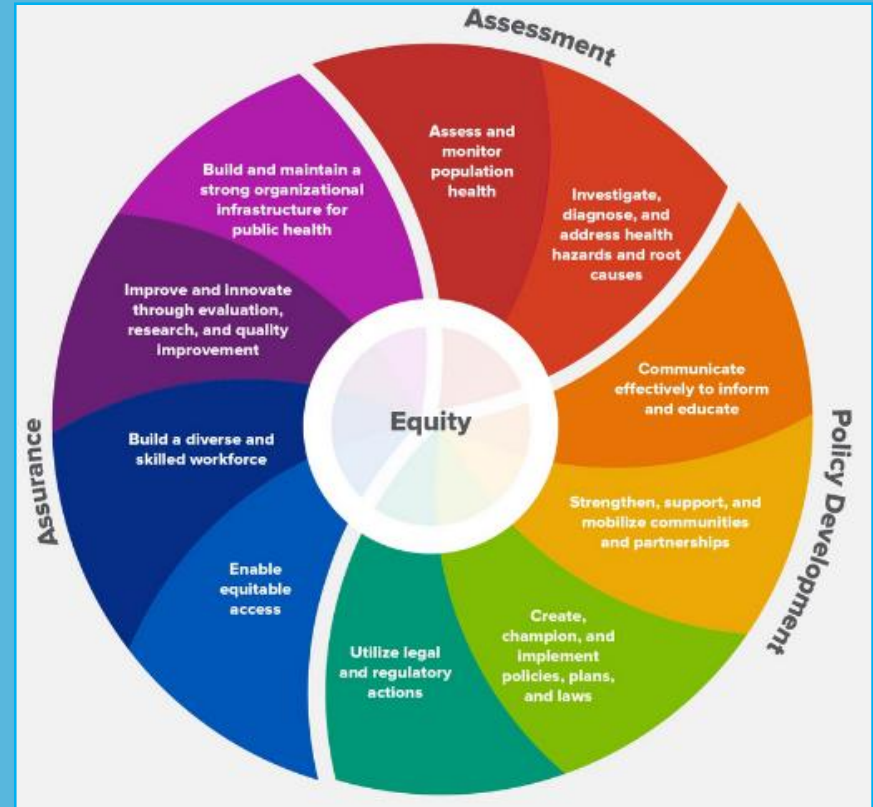
# Presentation Overview

- What is Public Health?
- Careers
- Program Overview
- Profiles
- Application Process
- Questions



**Public Health** is an interdisciplinary field of study and practice with two primary goals: (1) the prevention of illness, disease, and injury; and (2) the promotion and protection of human health.

In achieving these goals, public health emphasizes social justice, supports human rights and respects the dignity of individuals and the integrity of communities.



## Public health professionals:

- Track outbreaks of disease

- Conduct community health assessments

- Plan health education programs

- Direct campaigns to reduce risk factors for chronic health conditions

- Develop and advocate policies, both public and private

- Reduce harmful environmental exposures

- Provide increased access to preventive health services for underserved populations

- Engage in public health research

- Support multi-cultural global health initiatives here and abroad



### Where is this work done?

Local, state and federal health agencies, community health centers and hospitals, non-governmental health organizations (NGOs), schools and universities, professional health agencies, health insurance companies and businesses



We talk a  
lot about  
these



Social  
Determinants  
of Health

We often  
really mean  
these



Social  
Needs

We should  
focus more  
on these



Social  
Risk Factors

But that will  
mean facing  
these



Moral  
Determinants  
of Health

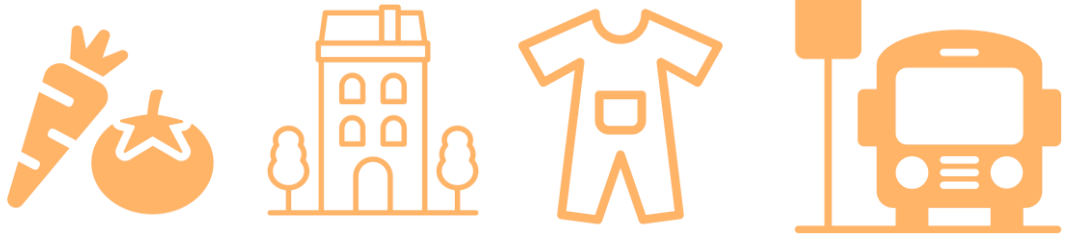


## Social Determinants of Health

“The conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life, including economic policies and systems, development agendas, social norms, social policies, and political systems” (WHO)







## Social Needs

The non-medical immediate needs of individuals that impact health, for example: food, clothing, housing, diapers, transportation that impact health



## Social Risk Factors

“Social risk factors, such as poverty, [discrimination/bias/injustice based on] minority race and/or ethnicity, social isolation, and limited community resources - play a major role in health, and significant gaps remain in health and in life expectancy based on poverty, race, ethnicity, and community environment” (HHS, 2019)



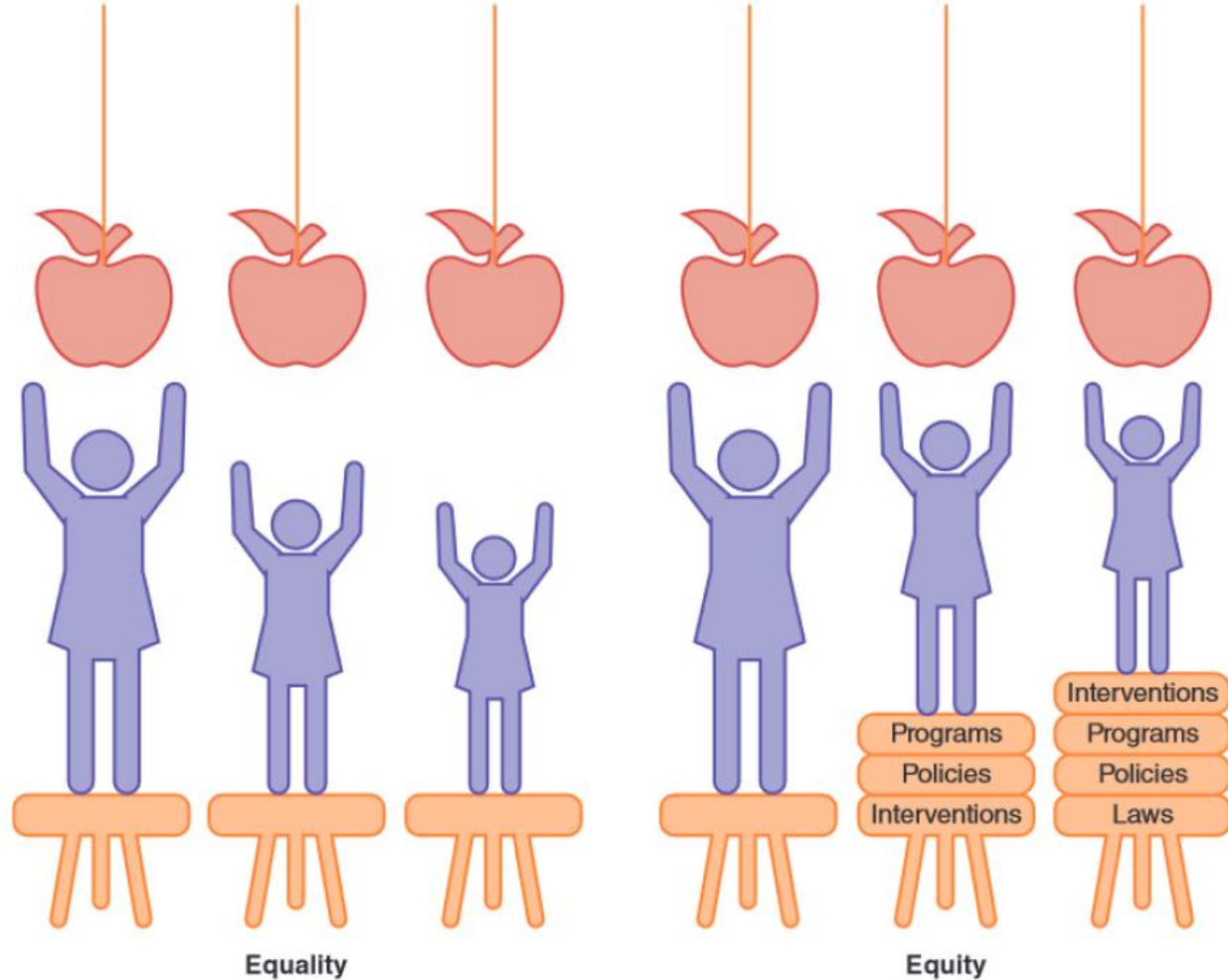


## Moral Determinants of Health

There is a long-standing underinvestment in actual human well-being, and it cannot be addressed “unless and until an attack on racism and other social determinants of health is motivated by an embrace of the moral determinants of health” (Berwick, June 2020)



What is  
our  
goal?



# Public Health and Health Care

**Prevention  
Health & Wellness  
Populations  
Community**

**Disease  
Identification  
Treatment  
Individual Level**



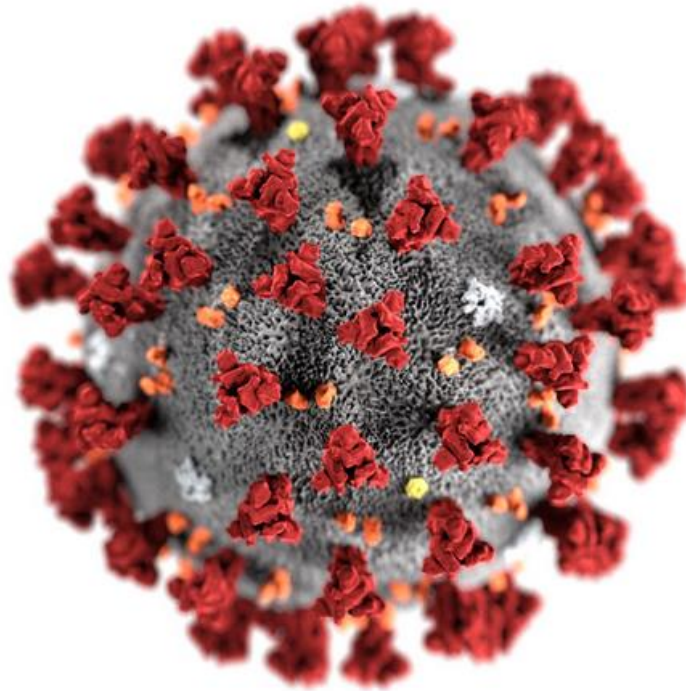
# Public Health and Health Care



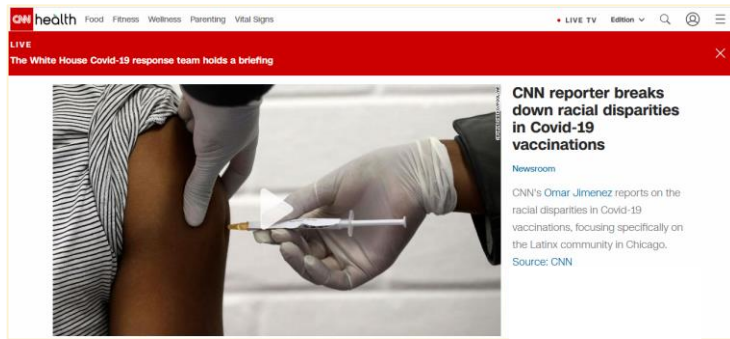
**Making a Difference**



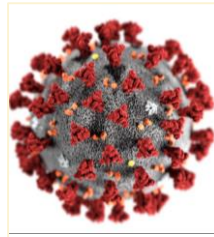
# Public Health Response - The Healthcare Crisis



# Now the Vaccine



Jeffery Davis, who has been staying at Pine Street Inn for two and a half years, receives the COVID-19 vaccine in January. (Jesse Costa/WBUR)



You Retweeted

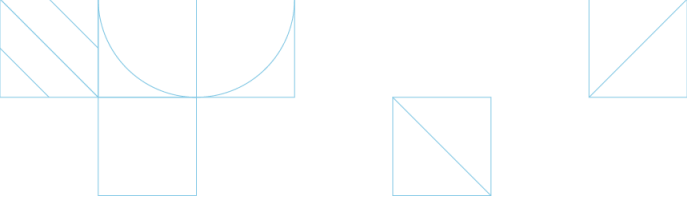
**Philadelphia Public Health** @PHLPublicHealth · Feb 2

Know the facts about the COVID-19 vaccine!

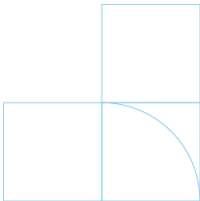
- ✓ It's safe
- ✓ You will need two doses
- ✓ Supplies are limited, but if you want it you WILL get it
- ✓ Side effects are normal
- ✓ It will help us beat the pandemic!

A close-up photograph of a hand wearing a blue nitrile glove. The hand is holding a small glass vial of vaccine and a syringe, preparing to draw the vaccine. The background is slightly blurred, showing a clinical setting.






# Program Overview





# Why Jefferson's MPH Program?

- The MPH Program at Jefferson's College of Population Health is linked to a world class academic medical center
  - We are flexible, tailored and high touch.
  - We emphasize experiential learning, small class sizes and dedicated faculty
  - Strong, long standing community connections that lead to rich experiences for students
- 

# Philadelphia



# *Master of Public Health - Core Courses*

- Foundations of Public Health (PBH501)
- Foundations of the US Healthcare System (PBH500)
- Society, Behavior & the Environment (PBH502)
- Fundamentals of Statistics (PBH504 or PBH505)
- Fundamentals of Epidemiology (PBH506)
- Foundations of Policy & Advocacy (PBH509)
- Health Research Methods (PBH510)
- Program Planning, Implementation & Evaluation (PBH520)
- Clerkship-Applied Practice Experience (C-APE) (PBH651)
- Capstone-Integrative Learning Experience (C-ILE) (PBH611/612 or 613/614)



# Concentrations



## Public Health Analytics

Focuses on epidemiological and statistical expertise through advanced coursework in how to collect, analyze, interpret and visualize data



## Healthcare Quality & Safety

Focuses on integrating public health knowledge and skills in the clinical space; perfect for students currently in or intending to enter the medical field (provider or administrator)



## Public Health Policy & Advocacy

Gives students the skillset to promote public health policy at the local, state, federal or international levels



## Public Health Practice (Generalist)

Gives students the freedom to choose electives that support their career goals



## Public Health Analytics

Focuses on epidemiological and statistical expertise through advanced coursework in how to collect, analyze, interpret and visualize data

Qualitative Research Methods (PBH512)

Advanced Statistics (PBH605)

Advanced Epidemiology (PBH606)

GIS Mapping (PBH609)

2 free-choice electives



## Healthcare Quality & Safety

Focuses on integrating public health knowledge and skills in the clinical space; perfect for students currently in or intending to enter the medical field (provider or administrator)

Introduction to Healthcare Quality & Safety (HQS500)

Applied Principles of Healthcare Quality (HQS509)

Applied Principles of Patient Safety (HQS515)

Project Management Essentials (OPX532)

2 free-choice electives



## Public Health Policy & Advocacy

Gives students the skillset to promote public health policy at the local, state, federal or international levels

Fundamentals of Environmental Health (PBH507)

Public Health Law & Ethics (PBH513)

Applied Policy & Advocacy (PBH518)

Economics of Health Insurance (AHE501)

2 free-choice electives



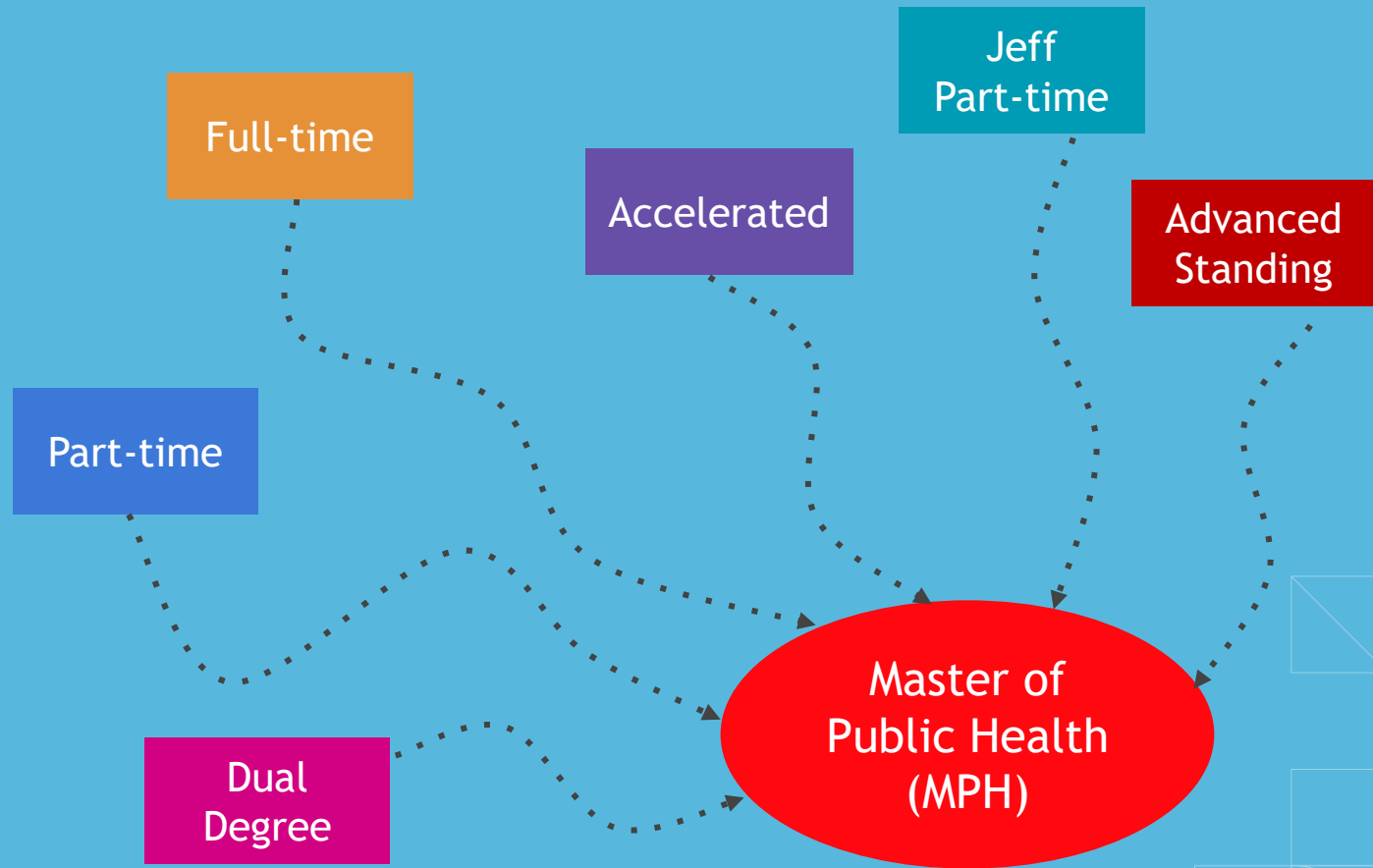


## Public Health Practice (Generalist)

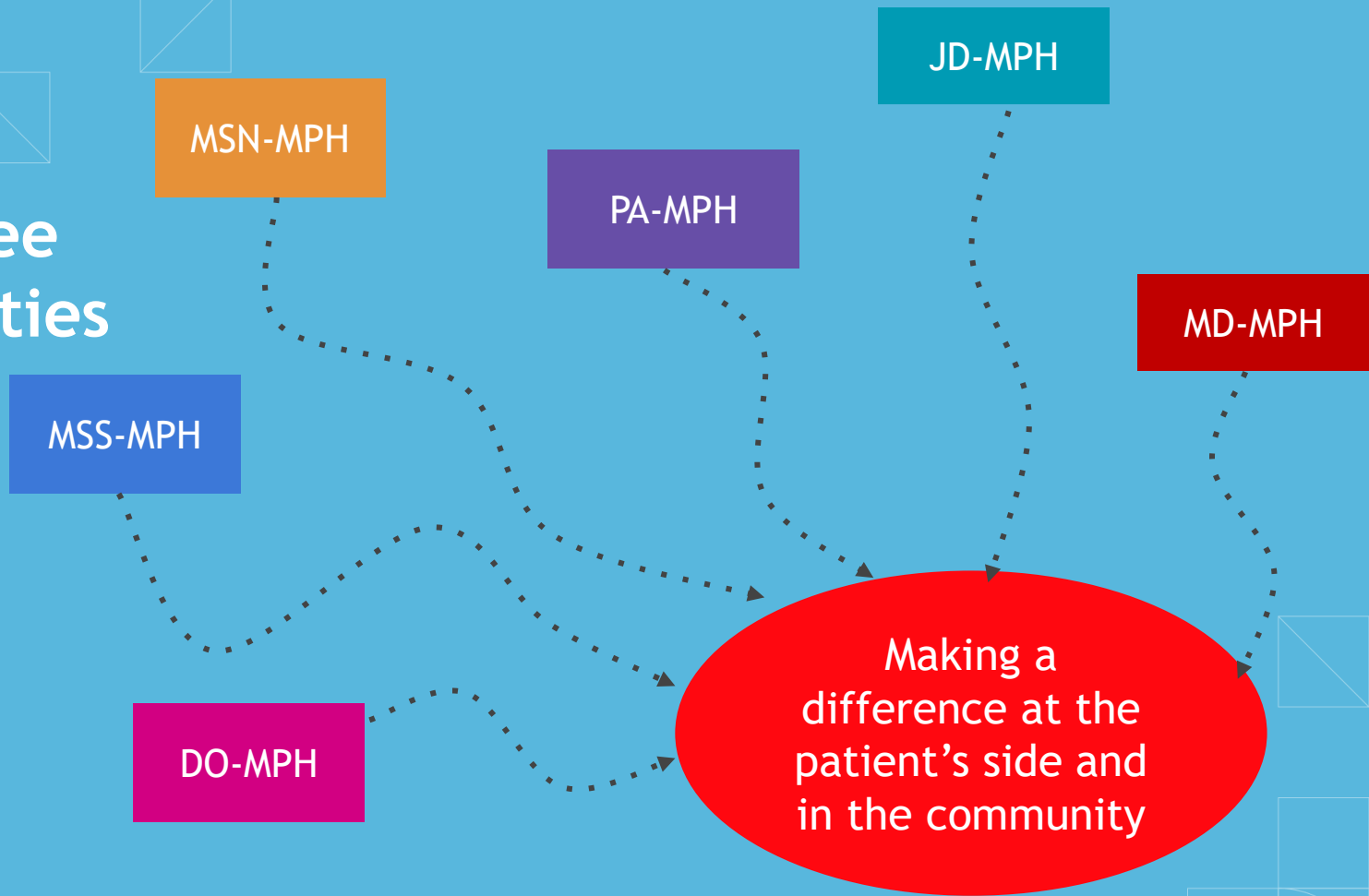
Gives students the freedom to choose electives that support their career goals

# 6 free-choice electives

# Multiple Pathways to Degree Completion



# Several Dual Degree Opportunities



# Typical Academic Year



Fall

12 weeks

September to  
December



Spring

12 weeks

January to  
March



Summer

12 weeks

April to  
June



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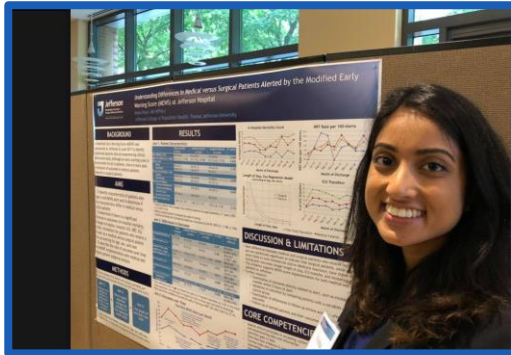
# C-APE Sites:

## Flexible and tailored to your career goals



# Capstone - Integrative Learning Experience (C-ILE)

Supervised &  
supported  
scholarship



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# Jefferson is full of opportunities!

## Leadership LIVE

[Register Now](#) | [Leadership Resources](#) | [Leadership Team](#)

Leadership LIVE is a student leadership development program at our Center City Campus which consists of a series of

- Workshops
- Special events
- Community Service Opportunities

The program is guided by our philosophy of leadership, the mission statement, student learning outcomes, and leadership curriculum.

Leadership LIVE is a free program that is open to all matriculated students at Thomas Jefferson University.

[Register Now!](#)



## Jefferson Student Interprofessional Hotspotting Program

What is Student Hotspotting?

- New/emerging method for reducing healthcare cost while improving patient health/patient experience.
- Identification of patients overusing ED and inpatient hospital care. Teams provide individualized, hands-on interventions to reduce hospital admissions.
- Interventions address social determinants of health and promote collaboration among the various healthcare providers for these complex patients.



# Creative Research Opportunities

- People who panhandle are visible members of our community and even though they are “counted” they are rarely asked to share their lived experiences
- Their signs point to common hardships:
  - Housing
  - Food insecurity
  - Unemployment
  - Substance use disorders





# To learn more about Public Health



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

*For science. For action. For health.*

<https://www.apha.org/>



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- American Public Health Association
    - [www.apha.org](http://www.apha.org)
  - Public Health Learning Network
    - [nnphi.org/phln](http://nnphi.org/phln)
  - Society for Public Health Education
    - [www.sophe.org](http://www.sophe.org)
- 

# Tiara Halstead

CLASS OF 2021 (MPH)



## Achievements

I am currently working as a Graduate Assistant, where in the past few months I have worked on multiple projects regarding tobacco retail density and cancer incidence. Recently, a poster I helped create was presented at a poster session for the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco European conference, titled, “Residential Proximity to Tobacco Retailers and Cessation among Ever-smoking Adults: Differences by Neighborhood Social Capital”

## Cool Projects

One of the coolest classes I have taken during my time in the program is GIS Mapping, where I learned how to use Geographic Information System software to analyze public health data and identify trends by census tract, county, state, and more. In my final project, my partner and I completed a proximity analysis of SNAP retail locations and HUD housing in Philadelphia.

## Lightbulb moments

Now that I am nearing the end of the LPHT program, I realize that I have gained so many useful tools for analysis of public health issues. I think this program has helped me enhance my analytic thinking and problem-solving skills so quickly; I feel so much better equipped than I did one year ago at the start of the program. (I am on the analytics track)

# Julianne LaRosa

CLASS OF 2021 (MPH)



## Achievements

I am a Graduate Assistant for Jefferson College of Population Health. Currently, I am working on a project that employed a photo elicitation methodology to examine the student experience during COVID-19. Recently, I drafted a report with preliminary study findings for dissemination to faculty and staff at Thomas Jefferson University.

## Cool Courses

Classes such as Epidemiology, Statistics, and Health Research Methods have helped me foster critical data analysis skills and master several software programs. Classes like, U.S. Healthcare and Program Planning, have provided me with a deeper understanding of our healthcare system, health disparities, and how to plan effective interventions to promote health and wellness.

## Lightbulb Moments

At Jefferson, students hit the ground running. In the classroom, I am learning practical skills that are preparing me to address health disparities in the community. I work very closely with my professors and mentors and have made important connections with classmates and alumni. I have established relationships and networks within the public health field that I am sure will serve me well after graduation.

# Olusegun Bakare

CLASS OF 2021 (MPH)

## Achievements

I am a Graduate Assistant for Jefferson College of Population Health. Currently, I am working on a healthcare innovation project. This is really interesting as it allows me to compare healthcare in the US to Nigeria, where I was a practicing physician.

## Cool Courses

Classes such as GIS Mapping and Epidemiology have helped me foster critical data analysis skills and master several software programs. I worked on a GIS project that was accepted for presentation at a diversity conference.

## Lightbulb Moments

Retrospectively, I'm grateful I took the step to join the program. I have acquired skills that has helped me merge my clinical training with public health. I feel better prepared to design programs to improve health here and in Nigeria and I am ready to be an effective advocate for change.



# Victor Chen, MD

CLASS OF 2021 (MPH)

## Brief Bio

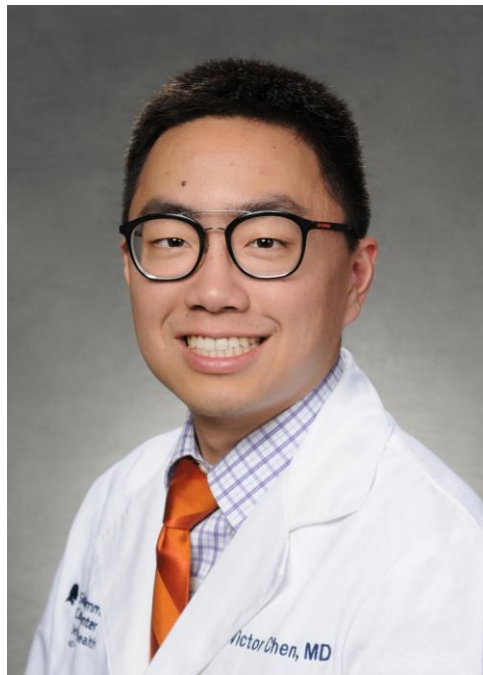
I am a PGY-4 radiation oncology resident at Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, and I will be completing my MPH degree in spring/summer 2021, and my residency training in June 2022. My residency program is structured to include a one-year research/elective block, and I chose to pursue an MPH degree during this time. I started taking one online class per term in June 2019 while still working in the clinic, and as of this term, I've transitioned to being more of a "full-time" student. Doing an MPH has given me valuable skills in doing research and statistical analyses (as I'm particularly interested in health equity and cost-effectiveness research), and I've also gained insight into the fields of healthcare quality and safety and health economics.

## Favorite Part about the Program

One of my favorite parts about the MPH program is how involved the professors and program leadership is in making sure that each student has the MPH experience that fits their goals and objectives the best. Rosie Frasso and Katherine Puskarz are extremely supportive and are always available to address any issues that may come up. The professors in the program are knowledgeable, open to feedback, and do their best to make the course material as entertaining as possible.

## Why Do an MPH?

The MPH degree is designed such that you can/will interact with people from very diverse backgrounds as you complete the coursework. Seeing different perspectives from other students is eye-opening, and there are multiple opportunities to interact with PA students, MD or DO students, established clinicians, as well as future epidemiologists / biostatisticians / public health advocates. Being in this interprofessional environment is excellent training and experience for anyone going into a health-related field!







Thomas Jefferson University

September 27 at 2:27 PM · 🌐

...

Meet our Student: Adrea Cope, a Master's of Public Health student in the Jefferson College of Population Health - Thomas Jefferson University and a Jefferson employee in the Leaders Trained in Public Health Transformation program. (Jefferson LPHT offers employees from across the Enterprise the opportunity to earn an MPH through part-time study.)

Why did Adrea choose Thomas Jefferson University?

I started working in the Office of Institutional Advancement (OIA) at Jefferson, r... [See More](#)



Thomas Jefferson University

August 9 · 🌐

...

Meet our Student: Toni Caldwell, a Master's of Public Health student in the Jefferson College of Population Health - Thomas Jefferson University

Why did Toni choose Thomas Jefferson University?

I am a Registered Respiratory Therapist and the COPD Coordinator at Abington - Jefferson Health. I attended one of the information sessions about the MPH program and I was very impressed with the enthusiasm of Dr. Rosie Frasso, and the structure and flexibility of the program. ... [See More](#)



Jefferson College of Population Health - Thomas Jefferson University

July 2 · 🌐

...

Public Health has never been more relevant & Rose Milani is a TJU employee & student in our MPH program who is truly making a difference. Read her story and tell your Jefferson friends & colleagues about our program. Application deadline extended!

Contact Public Health Program Director, Rosemary Frasso for more details and visit [Jefferson.edu/JEFFLPHT](http://Jefferson.edu/JEFFLPHT).





# Application Process



# Application - Full- and Part-Time Applicants

- Online Application
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Resume
- Personal Statement
- English language proficiency exam if appropriate

<https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>



## Welcome to SOPHAS

### Welcome!

Welcome to the SOPHAS, the centralized application service for public health. SOPHAS is a service of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) which represents CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health. Prior to beginning your application, visit [www.sophas.org](http://www.sophas.org) for more information about participating programs.

Sign in with your username and password below. First time here? Select Create an Account to get started.

 Username

 Password

Sign In

Create an Account



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# Application Process - Jefferson Employees, Dual Degree, Graduate Certificate in Public Health

- Submit the following via SOPHAS Express:
  - Online Application
  - Personal Statement
  - Letters of recommendation (varies by type of applicant)
  - CV/Resume
- Submit the following to JCPH, Admissions
  - Official transcripts
  - English language proficiency if appropriate



The screenshot shows the SOPHAS Express login interface. At the top is a dark blue header with the 'sophas express' logo. Below the header, the text 'Welcome to SOPHAS Express' is displayed in a large, dark blue font. On the left side, there is a dark blue rectangular box with the heading 'Welcome!' and a paragraph: 'SOPHAS Express is a companion application used by SOPHAS schools and programs of public health to exclusively offer non-degree and dual-degree programs.' On the right side, there is a white box containing the login instructions: 'Sign in with your username and password below. First time here? Select Create an Account to get started.' Below this text are two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password', each with a corresponding icon (a person for username and a key for password). Under the input fields are two buttons: a blue 'Sign In' button and a white 'Create an Account' button with a blue border. At the bottom of the white box, there are two links: 'Forgot your username or password?' and 'Reapplying to SOPHAS Express?'. The background of the page is a blurred image of people.

# Application Deadlines

- Summer - February 15
- Pre-Fall - April 1
- Fall - July 1
- Spring - November 1





# Financing Your Education



# Tuition and Fees

- For more information, please visit <https://www.jefferson.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid.html>

# Thank you for attending!

## April Smith

Admissions & Recruitment  
Manager  
[April.Smith@jefferson.edu](mailto:April.Smith@jefferson.edu)



## Rosie Frasso, PhD, CPH

Professor  
Program Director, Public Health  
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## Katherine Puskarz, MPH

Assistant Program Director  
Clerkship Director  
[Katherine.Puskarz@jefferson.edu](mailto:Katherine.Puskarz@jefferson.edu)





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Thomas Jefferson University