

# Envisioning and Building the Public Health Workforce of the Future: The Critical Role of Partnerships

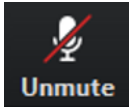


AHD Webinar  
February 28, 2022

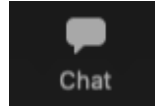
*This webinar is made possible through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under Cooperative Agreement Number NU38OT000311. The content of this webinar is solely the responsibility of the presenters and does not necessarily represent the official views of the sponsor.*



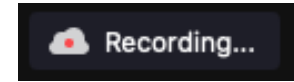
# Welcome to Our Webinar!



All participants are muted.



Please use the Chat box to ask questions and share comments.



This session is being recorded.



# Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice



Staff:



# Helping AHD Partnerships Grow

Academic Health Department Learning Community – [www.phf.org/AHDLC](http://www.phf.org/AHDLC)

- National community supporting development, maintenance, and expansion of AHD partnerships
- Venue to explore the AHD partnership concept and learn about AHD partnerships
- ~1,100 members

## Variety of Activities:

- Examples and stories of AHD partnerships
- Webinars highlighting AHD partnerships
- Partnership agreements
- Listserv
- Technical assistance

*Questions?*

Contact Kathleen Amos at [kamos@phf.org](mailto:kamos@phf.org).



# Today's Speakers

- Kathleen Amos, Public Health Foundation
- Antonia Blinn, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Tali Schiller, Massachusetts Health Officers Association
- Paul C. Erwin, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Judy Monroe, CDC Foundation



# Poll: Where Do You Work?

- ↷ State health department
- ↷ Tribal health department
- ↷ Local health department
- ↷ Territorial health department
- ↷ Federal agency
- ↷ Academic institution
- ↷ Non-profit organization
- ↷ Other





# What is an AHD Partnership?



# An AHD Partnership...



- Joins a health department and an academic institution
- Institutionalizes collaboration
- Enhances public health education and training, research, and service





# What Does an AHD Partnership Look Like?

- **Academia and public health practice working together**
- Written partnership agreement
- Collaborative public health education or training
- Joint research projects
- Shared provision of public health services
- Shared personnel or other resources



## Poll: Does Your Organization Participate in Any AHD Partnerships?

- ↵ Yes, we have lots of AHD partnerships
- ↵ Yes, we have one AHD partnership
- ↵ Not yet, but we're working on it
- ↵ No, we're not interested in AHD partnerships
- ↵ What's an AHD partnership again?



# Who is Involved in AHD Partnerships?



Figure 3.3 | LHD partnerships and collaborations in the past year

- Percent of LHDs working with organization in any way
- Percent of LHDs regularly scheduling meetings, have written agreements, or share personnel/resources with organization

Colleges or universities ————— ● 62% ————— ● 88%

## ASTHO PROFILE OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL PUBLIC HEALTH VOLUME 4

Collaborating Agencies/Organizations	Exchange Information		Work Together on Projects		State Health Agency Provides Financial Resources		State Health Agency Has Leadership Role in the Partnership		No Relationship Yet		Organization Does Not Exist in Jurisdiction	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Higher education (e.g., universities, medical schools, community colleges)	48	98%	49	100%	31	63%	24	49%	0	0%	0	0%



# Why Create an AHD Partnership?

- Enhance capacity to address community health needs
- Better prepare students for public health practice careers
- Support recruitment of qualified professionals
- Facilitate lifelong learning
- Build and use practice-based evidence
- Maximize use of existing resources
- Enhance competitiveness for new resources
- Meet PHAB and CEPH accreditation standards
- **Improve public health system and community health**



# Responding to COVID-19

Tampa Bay Times

CORONAVIRUS

MEDICARE

NEWS

SPORTS

OPINION

LIFE & CULTURE

FOOD

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Newsletters

e-Newspaper

NEWS / HEALTH

## How did Florida hire 100 epidemiologists in a weekend? Here's how.

Academics and health officials say they couldn't remember the state ever making such an effort.



Florida Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez, left, and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, looks on while Deputy Secretary for Health Dr. Shamarial Roberson, right, speaks about confirmed coronavirus cases in Hillsborough and Manatee Counties in early March. [ OCTAVIO JONES | Times ]



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Tampa Bay Times

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NEWS / HEALTH

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ROUTE FIFTY

Connecting state and local government leaders

MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE TECH & DATA SMART CITIES PUBLIC SAFETY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

## 'It Can Happen to Anybody': When Coronavirus Spreads at a Local Health Department



AP PHOTO/GERALD HERBERT

By [Kate Elizabeth Queram](#), Senior Reporter

APRIL 3, 2020

Six employees at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department tested positive for coronavirus. All were key to the department's pandemic response plan, leaving officials scrambling to find replacements.

ROUTE FIFTY

The Council on Linkages  
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# Responding to COVID-19

Harris Search Associates  
INNOVATION + TALENT

20<sup>+</sup> YEARS OF  
EXCELLENCE

## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

July 28, 2020

## COVID-19 prompts university to hire chief health officer

A just-released report suggests other U.S. postsecondary institutions would be wise to follow suit

A state university with no medical school or affiliated hospital has done what few institutions with premier medical programs and vast healthcare networks have done: hire a cabinet-level administrator with the express mission of protecting the university community from a wide range of health threats — epidemiological and otherwise.

In a move that could be a harbinger for American higher education, Bowling Green State University, a 19,000-student doctoral institution near Toledo, Ohio, has appointed its first chief health officer. The role — increasingly common in government, business, and K-12 education — is something of a rarity in postsecondary education. Bowling Green, however, added an even more unusual twist: The new administrator will not only promote the health and safety of people who study and work at the university but also flesh out a newly forged “public-public partnership” with the local county health department.

The person chosen for the role, Ben Batey, MPH, BSN, RN, would seem poised for success: Before being named Bowling Green’s chief health officer, Batey spent six years as commissioner of the department with which the university is partnering — the Wood County Health Department, which also serves as the coordinating agency for health-emergency preparedness in 18 northwest Ohio counties.

Batey starts his new job this week.

“At the very core of all that we accomplish is also a commitment to public health,” Bowling Green President Rodney K. Rogers, PhD, said in announcing the position and the partnership. “This is an opportunity for us to come together to not just overcome the COVID-19 global pandemic but to support one another and build a brighter future for our communities.”

The partnership agreement calls for Bowling Green and the 60-employee health agency to collaborate on pandemic planning, research, community outreach, grant writing, and program evaluation, as well as unspecified “public health projects.” The two entities also will explore sharing workspace and staff.

A just-released report by Harris Search Associates, a global higher education recruiting firm specializing in academic medicine and technology, suggests that other U.S. postsecondary institutions would be wise to follow Bowling Green’s lead. (The report is attached. If you prefer not to download attachments, you may view the report [here](#).)

The report revealed that although dozens of colleges and universities have “chief health officers” on their org charts, only a handful of the individuals bearing such titles have a broad-based mandate to safeguard their institutions’ students, faculty, and staff — never mind the requisite visibility, clout, and resources.

Some oversee student health services, some manage portfolios of lifestyle-improvement programs (e.g., yoga, mindfulness, weight management, and smoking cessation), and some, especially those employed by academic health centers, deal exclusively with employee burnout.

“Not many have the authority to cross departmental boundaries, speak for their institutions, or communicate directly with campus CEOs,” said the report’s lead author, Richard A. Skinner, PhD, a two-time former university president who now serves as senior consultant at Harris Search Associates. “Having a chief health officer but failing to arm him or her with the necessary organizational tools is like wearing a fishnet

### Contact:

Jeffrey G. Harris  
Founder/Managing Partner  
Harris Search Associates  
jeff@harrisandassociates.com  
Office: 614-798-8500  
Mobile: 614-354-2100

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ROUTE FIFTY

Connecting state and local government leaders

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## 'It Can Happen to Anybody': When Coronavirus Spreads at a Local Health Department



AP PHOTO/GERALD HERBERT

By [Kate Elizabeth Queram](#),  
Senior Reporter

APRIL 3, 2020

Six employees at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department tested positive for coronavirus. All were key to the department’s pandemic response plan, leaving officials scrambling to find replacements.

ROUTE FIFTY

Florida Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez, left, and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, looks on while Deputy Secretary for Health Dr. Shamari Roberson, right, speaks about confirmed coronavirus cases in Hillsborough and Manatee Counties in early March. [OCTAVIO JONES | Times ]

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DIRECTORY

## 'Everybody': When at a Local

### NEWS

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July 28, 2020

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## COVID-19: Students Collaborate with County Health Departments to Reach Rural Communities with COVID-19 Response

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Lucas County Health Department  
us. All were key to the department's  
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Public health students have been working with public health professionals in Cochise County, Graham County, Pinal County, and Yuma County to fight COVID-19 and support community health.





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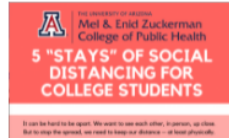
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## COVID-19: Student Academic Health Department Student Interns Produce Rural Infographics to Support COVID-19 Response

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*Student interns working through the Academic Health Department under the guidance of Emily Waldron are creating infographics to educate the community and communicate prevention practices in the fight against COVID-19.*



As the number of COVID-19 cases in Arizona continue to increase, students in the Academic Health Department (AHD) at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (MEZCOPH) are supporting faculty and staff in their response to the pandemic by creating infographics that communicate the best practices to prevent the spread of the virus.

The AHD, an initiative under Dr. Cecilia Rosales, Interim Associate Dean of Community Engagement and Outreach, functions as a formal, mutually beneficial partnership between academic departments in MEZCOPH and local health departments (such as Pima County Health Department). This collaboration enhances public health instruction, practice, research, and workforce development, and it also serves to improve health outcomes in counties throughout Arizona. During the past year, MEZCOPH has established Academic Health Departments with Pima County Health Department and Cochise County Health and Social Services. Recently, AHD student interns Kate O’Driscoll and Maxwell Allen, under the direction of Emily Waldron, Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator at MEZCOPH, have collaborated with faculty to develop research-driven infographics for local health departments, nonprofit organizations, and the University of Arizona community. The infographics deliver COVID-19 education and prevention practices in an accessible, easily comprehensible way.



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Kate and Maxwell are both seniors at the University of Arizona. Kate is a Public Management and Policy major, minoring in Nutritional Science, and Maxwell is a Communication major, minoring in Public Relations. Kate and Maxwell were working with the Academic Health Department on other projects before the pandemic, but they both quickly pivoted to meet the new challenge. Both of them are now using the internship as an opportunity to collaborate with faculty and support community partners in the response to COVID-19.

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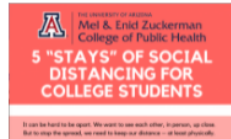
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PRACTICE FULL REPORT: PDF ONLY

## An Academic–Health Department Community Partnership to Expand Disease Investigation and Contact Tracing Capacity and Efficiency During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Leser, Kendall A. PhD; Hay, M. Cameron PhD; Henebry, Brian MS; Virden, John MS, MA; Patel, Mita MS, BSN; Luttrell-Freeman, Jordan MPH; Bailor, Jennifer MS, RN

Author Information

Journal of Public Health Management and Practice: May 13, 2021 - Volume - Issue -  
doi: 10.1097/PHH.0000000000001379

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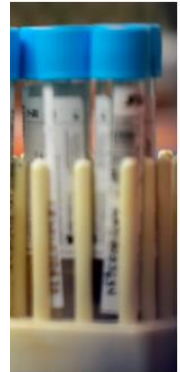
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### Abstract

Disease investigation and contact tracing are long-standing public health strategies used to control the spread of infectious disease. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, health departments across the country have lacked the internal workforce capacity and technology needed to efficiently isolate positive cases and quarantine close contacts to slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2. This article describes an innovative disease investigation and contact tracing program developed through a formalized community partnership between a local county health department and local university. This innovative new program added 108 contact tracers to the county’s public health workforce, as well as enabled these contact tracers to work remotely using a call center app and secure cloud-based platform to manage the county’s caseload of cases and contacts. An overview of the requirements needed to develop this



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New River Academic Health Department partnership mobilizes volunteers



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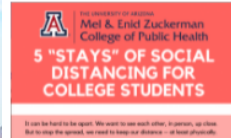
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## COVID-19: Student Academic Health Department Rural Infographics to Support COVID-19

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Student interns working through the Academic Health Department and communicate prevention practices in the fight against COVID-19



As the number of COVID-19 cases in Arizona rises, the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health has developed infographics that communicate the best practices for staying safe.

The AHD, an initiative under Dr. Cecilia Ro Outreach, functions as a formal, mutually

MEZCOPH and local health departments (such as Pima County Health Department) for practice, research, and workforce development, and it also serves to improve community health. In the past year, MEZCOPH has established Academic Health Departments with various community organizations. Social Services. Recently, AHD student interns Kate O’Driscoll and Maxwell Driscoll, AHD Coordinator at MEZCOPH, have collaborated with faculty to develop research and outreach for the University of Arizona community. The infographics deliver COVID-19 education to the community.

Public health students, faculty, and staff volunteer for local COVID-19 response efforts. Kate and Maxwell are both seniors at the University of Arizona. Kate is a Communication major, minoring in Public Relations. Kate and Maxwell were working with the Academic Health Department on other projects before the pandemic, but they both quickly pivoted to meet the new challenge. Both of them are now using the internship as an opportunity to collaborate with faculty and support community partners in the response to COVID-19.





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## UNLV COVID-19 Contact Tracing Team Has Investigated More Than 38,000 Southern Nevada Cases

School of Public Health, Health District partnership includes nearly 240 student contact tracers trained to help minimize the spread of COVID-19.

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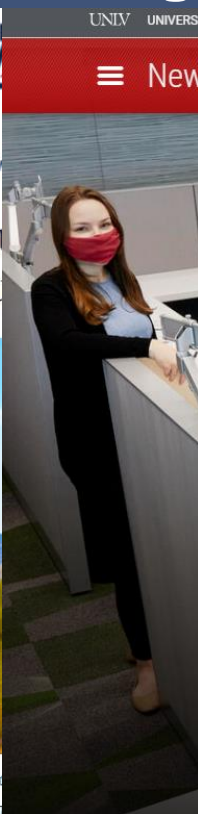
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## How Our Academic Health Department Consortium Mobilized to Meet COVID-19

Posted By *Carly Levy, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences University, School of Arts and Sciences, Wednesday, May 20, 2020*

Updated: Tuesday, May 19, 2020

In the spring of 2019, the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and seven other schools and programs in public health formed an Academic Health Department Consortium (AHD) with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to help bridge the gap between public health practice and academia. In March 2020, at the request of the Governor of Massachusetts and the COVID-19 command center, the AHD was mobilized to



they both quickly... partners in the response to COVID-19. ...to collaborate with faculty and support community

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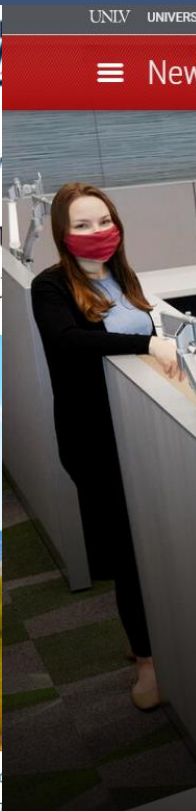
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## How Our Acad Mobilized to M

Posted By *Carly Levy, M School of Arts and Scien Updated: Tuesday, May 1*

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## Meet the student contact-tracers fighting COVID one call at a time

Matt Windsor | UAB Reporter

December 03, 2020 | Print | Email

By the time Madelyn Wild gets the number, the clock is already ticking. At the other end of the line is someone who has just been diagnosed with COVID-19, whether they know it or not. As the phone starts to ring, she has no idea whether that person will be terrified, grateful or convinced that the entire pandemic is a hoax. Still, guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) specify that each new case should be notified in fewer than 24 hours, and she has a long list to get through.

Wild is a senior majoring in public health at UAB. She also is a contact-tracer for the School of Public Health, which has a contract with the Alabama Department of Health



Madelyn Wild, a senior majoring in public health at UAB, is a contact-tracer for the School of Public Health, which has a contract with the Alabama Department of Health to help bridge the gap between public health practice and academia.



Public Health Practice

they both quickly mobilized to collaborate with faculty and support community partners in the response to COVID-19.





# THANK YOU!

Kathleen Amos  
Director, Academic/Practice Linkages  
[kamos@phf.org](mailto:kamos@phf.org)

Public Health Foundation  
[www.phf.org](http://www.phf.org)





**Partnership Perspective:  
Antonia Blinn &  
Tali Schiller**





# Massachusetts Department of Public Health

## MA ACADEMIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT RAPID RESPONDED TO ADDRESS COVID-19

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Envisioning and Building the Public Health  
Workforce of the Future: The Critical Role of  
Partnerships

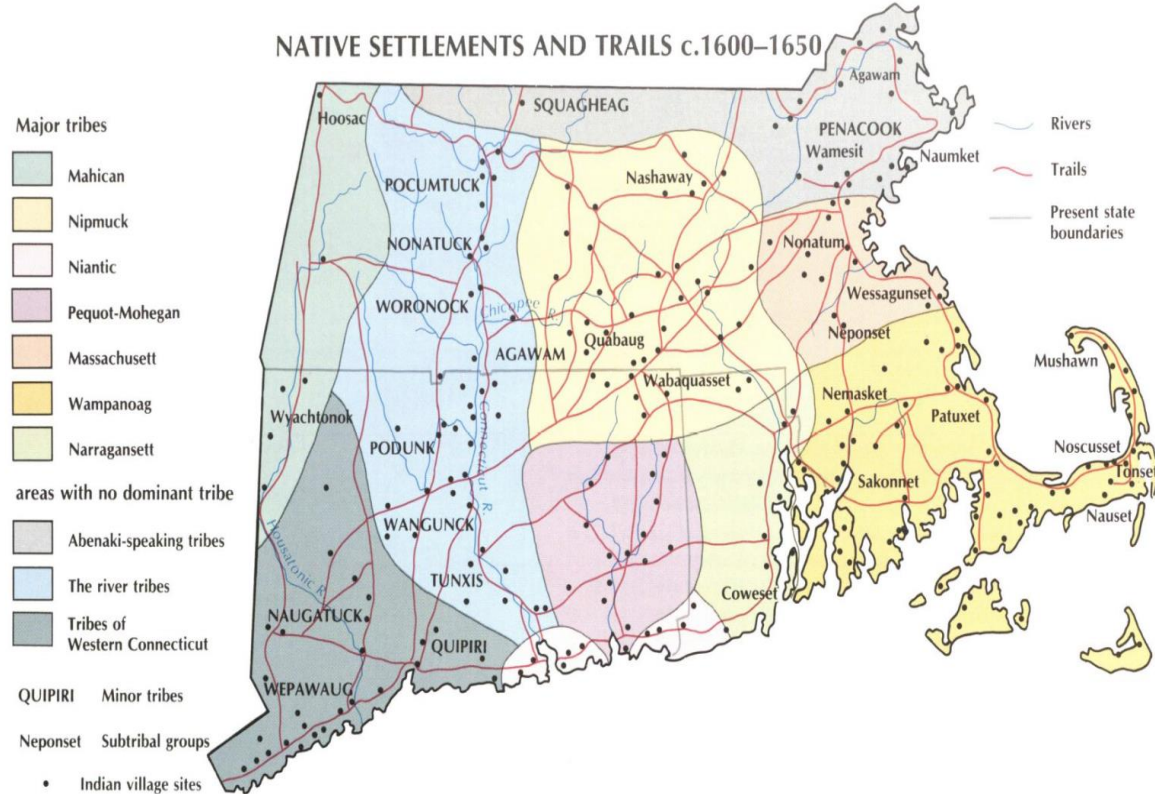
February 28, 2022

Antonia Blinn  
Academic Health Department  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Tali Schiller  
Academic Public Health Corps  
Massachusetts Health Officers Association

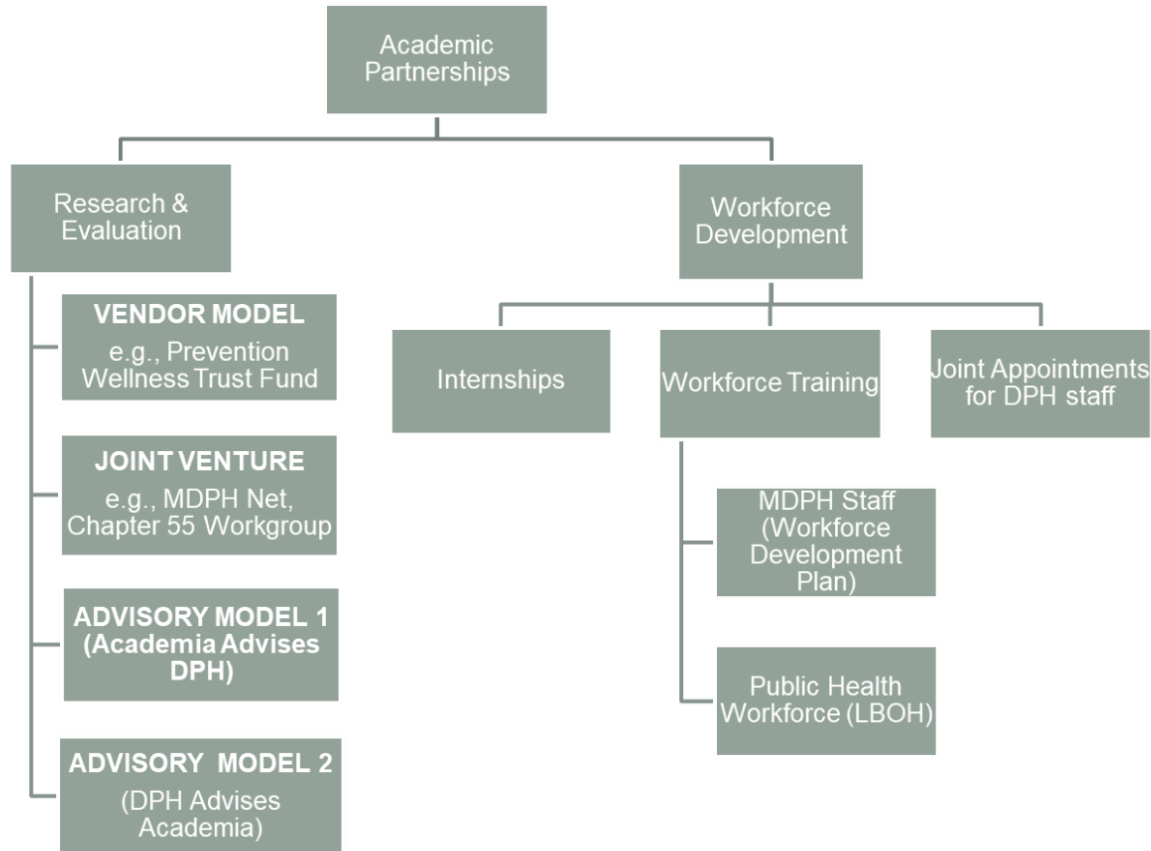
# Massachusetts Public Health Highlights

- Population 7,029,917
- 351 towns/cities
  - No county public health system
  - Decentralized public health system
  - No direct state funding for operations
- 3,200 staff including 4 public health hospitals
- 700+ direct provider contracts for services, coalitions etc.
- 200,000+ licenses of individuals, facilities, and industry



Source: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/student-affairs/november-23-2015/> Page 12 in Historical Atlas of Massachusetts, edited by R.W. Wilkie and J. Tager, 1991.

# Academic Partnerships - 2016



# Academic Partnerships I

- **Conferences/Professional Development** (Harvard Catalyst)
- **Preferred Partners**
  - UMass Lowell & Boston University School of Public Health
- **MA Medical Schools – Medical Education Core Competencies for the Prevention and Management of Prescription Drug Misuse (2015)**
  - Working Group representing the MA Department of Public Health, Massachusetts Medical Society, and all four Massachusetts medical schools – Boston University School of Medicine; Harvard Medical School; Tufts School of Medicine; and the University of Massachusetts Medical School
  - Cross-institutional consensus document regarding a set of measurable core competencies for the prevention and management of prescription drug misuse.

## Medical Education Core Competencies for the Prevention and Management of Prescription Drug Misuse

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR'S MEDICAL EDUCATION WORKING GROUP ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE

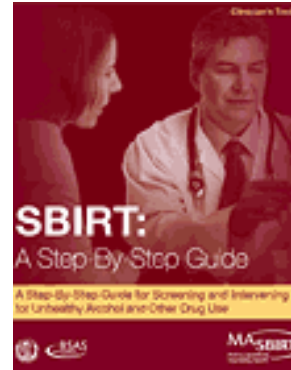


Governor's Medical Education Working Group on Prescription Drug Misuse  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Massachusetts Medical Society  
Boston University School of Medicine  
Harvard Medical School  
Tufts School of Medicine  
University of Massachusetts School of Medicine

November 2015

# Academic Partnerships II

- **MASBIRT** is the Massachusetts Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment – Training and Technical Assistance program. (2006)
  - Bureau of Substance Addiction Services contracted with faculty and staff at Boston Medical Center/Boston University School of Medicine to implement the program in 3 medical centers and 5 community health centers in the greater Boston area.
  - MASBIRT TTA builds upon the experience of the MASBIRT program to disseminate SBIRT into diverse healthcare and public health settings
  - Became a school requirement (2018)
  - Training available through BU Shield (Boston University)



# Academic Partnerships III

- **Massachusetts Public Health Data Warehouse (PHD)** is a private/public data model that has informed and driven policy working to combat the opioid epidemic, and soon, other emerging public health priorities. We have collaborated with over 50 groups from across local, state, and federal government; academic institutions; healthcare delivery; and Consulting Agencies, Foundations, Private Companies, and Think Tanks. They helped us by providing data, subject matter expertise and analytic capacity which enabled the Department to execute a robust analytic agenda to inform Massachusetts' response to the opioid epidemic.

**Source:** <https://www.mass.gov/public-health-data-warehouse-phd>

## Data Sets and Source by Department/Organization

Abbreviations: MDPH – Massachusetts Department of Public Health

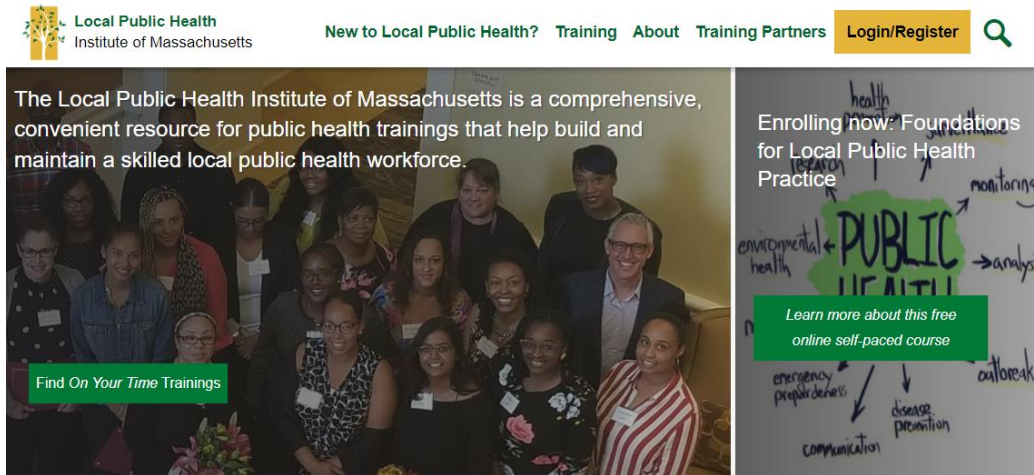
Individual Level Data Sets			
	Data Set Name	Source	Brief Description
1	Acute Care Hospital Discharge	Center for Health Information and Analysis	Inpatient hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and outpatient observation in acute care hospitals for Massachusetts residents
2	Addiction Treatment	MDPH - Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS)	BSAS funded substance addiction treatment records for Massachusetts residents
3	All Payer Claims Database	Center for Health Information and Analysis	Medical, Pharmacy, and Dental claims from commercial payers, third party administrators, and public programs (Medicare/MassHealth)
4	Birth Certificates	MDPH – Registry of Vital Records and Statistics	Birth certificates for infants born to Massachusetts residents
5	Cancer Incidence	Massachusetts Cancer Registry	All incident cancer diagnoses to Massachusetts residents
6	Circumstances of Death	Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)	Circumstances of death for Massachusetts residents whose death was referred to the OCME
7	Death Certificates	MDPH – Registry of Vital Records and Statistics	Death certificates for Massachusetts residents
8	Early Intervention	MDPH – Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition	Information about children residing in MA and under the age of three who are not reaching age-appropriate milestones, diagnosed with certain conditions, or have medical or social histories which may put them at risk for a developmental delay.
9	Family Homelessness	Department of Housing and Community Development	Subset of the records of families (heads of household) who received services from the Emergency Assistance Program



# Academic Partnerships IV

- **The Local Public Health Institute of Massachusetts** is a comprehensive, convenient resource for public health trainings that help build and maintain a skilled local public health workforce. Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH) has managed LPHI since 2010. Faculty and staff actively partner with the local public health workforce and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) on long-term vision, scope of work, target audiences, and curriculum development for new and ongoing public health challenges.

**Source:** <https://sites.bu.edu/masslocalinstitute/>



The Local Public Health Institute of Massachusetts is a comprehensive, convenient resource for public health trainings that help build and maintain a skilled local public health workforce.

Enrolling now: Foundations for Local Public Health Practice

Learn more about this free online self-paced course

Find On Your Time Trainings

health  
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analysis  
outbreak  
disease prevention  
communication  
emergency preparedness  
environmental health  
PUBLIC HEALTH

[Training Calendar 2022](#)

[Community and Population Health](#)

[Emergency Preparedness](#)

[Environmental Health and Regulatory Programs](#)

[Leadership, Management, and Communications](#)

[On Your Time Trainings](#)

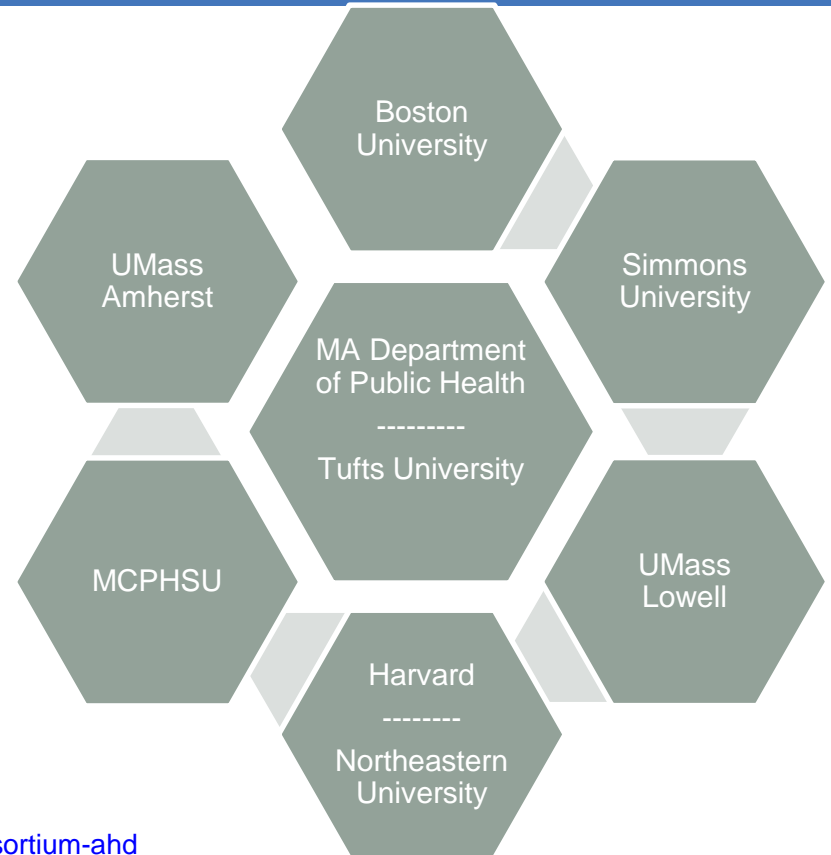
# Academic Health Department

## Formed in 2019

- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health and eight participating schools and programs of public health will collaborate to strengthen the relationships between practice and academia through workforce development, professional support, field placement, research and evaluation, and interorganizational systems communication.

## First Program

- Academic Public Health Corps
- Established March 30, 2020
- Includes 13 Academic Partners



Source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/academic-health-department-consortium-ahd>



# Mission and Purpose

The **mission** of the APHC is to support public health agencies and to advance health equity in Massachusetts by engaging with public health students, alumni, and expert participants through interdisciplinary collaboration.

The **purpose** of the APHC is to connect local health departments in MA with public health students looking for experiential learning opportunities.

- We request public health-related projects from local health departments, then pay students stipends to complete these projects
- This both gives students hands-on work experience and increases local health departments' capacity to keep their communities healthy

# AHD/APHC Racial Equity Why Statement:

## *Why is the AHD/APHC committed to racial equity?*

### The AHD:

- Leads with a racial equity lens and an intersectional perspective that acknowledges the history of structural racism and other forms of oppression.
- Is committed to fighting against the status quo by working actively to reverse and dismantle harmful and inequitable policies.
- Embeds a systematic, practical, trauma-informed, healing-centered approach into all parts of the organization. This focus must be interwoven within the bones of the organization, so that it outlives the people who comprise the organization today.
- Utilizes a culturally humble, learning-centered, adaptive, and active listening approach to conversations working toward racial equity. This focus is essential for a shared humanity, human rights, and population health approach.
- Engages in purposeful and focused outreach to communities that are traditionally oppressed and that experience structural racism and inequitable distribution of resources.

### AHD CALL TO ACTION:

- Builds racial equity work into local public health for Massachusetts.
- Brings together academia, public health, and communities to establish trust, share power, foster co-learning, enhance strengths and resources, build capacity, and examine and address community-identified needs and health problems.
- Prioritizes activities that embody healing centered engagement such as ensuring that public health guidance is culturally appropriate and accessible.
- Conducts research and actively provides education and outreach for reversal of inequitable policies.
- Incorporates humble inquiry to discern racial equity issues professionally and in practice.





# WE ARE HIRING

The Academic Public Health Corps (APHC) is hiring current public health students and recent grads for short-term Corps Member positions supporting public health across MA! Build your resume, find a practicum, and network with other public health professionals.

Job Description: <https://bit.ly/aphc9>

#### Gain experience in:

- Contact Tracing & Case Investigation
- Community Outreach & Health Equity
- Health Communications & Promotion
- Data Analysis
- And More!

#### Positions are:

- Paid
- Short-Term (2 to 7 months)
- Part-Time (5 to 19 hours/week)
- Starting Immediately

APPLY HERE: <https://bit.ly/aphc8>

The Academic Public Health Corps (APHC) is a program that leverages public health students, alumni, and expert Corps members to augment, amplify, and promote local public health efforts in Massachusetts. More info: [https://bit.ly/DPH\\_APHC](https://bit.ly/DPH_APHC)

The APHC is an Academic Health Department Program, managed by MHGA and funded by MDPH. Please contact [APHC.internal.ops@mhea.com](mailto:APHC.internal.ops@mhea.com) for more information.

Corps members are:

- Paid (\$2,400 stipend for 160 hours)
- Short-term (2-7 months)
- Part-time and flexible (5-19 hours per week)
- Required to complete >5 hours of professional development
  - Intro to Local Public Health
  - Project Management
  - Facilitation
  - Health Equity

# What kinds of projects do Corps members work on?

- Health communication (print, local TV, social media, websites)
- Community Health Assessment
- Community outreach (wellness calls, COVID-19 test result calls)
- Contact tracing
- Staff COVID and flu vaccine clinics
- Translation services (available in more than 10 languages)
- Data analysis & presentation (GIS, epidemiological, statistical analysis)
- Initiatives to address health equity
- Working with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs)
- Policy and protocols (masking and re-opening)
- Mobilizing and supporting partnerships
- Other public health activities



# Impact

ACADEMIC  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
CORPS

Since its inception in March 2020, the APHC has deployed over **910 students** to support public health across Massachusetts. They have served over **21,250 hours** in over **138** communities.

All surveyed local boards of health rated having an APHC Corps member as “**very helpful**”, and most rated their individualized experience as “excellent” (67%) or “very good” (25%).

Corps members have assisted local public health with a **wide variety of vital projects**, including contact tracing, community outreach, health communications, data analysis, and other areas of need.



# Sustaining AHD, APHC, and Additional Programs

## **Funding:**

- Identify and maintain funding to support the APHC
- Build on the Academic Health Department Trust Fund established in July 2021
- Consider grant opportunities

## **Workforce Development Opportunities:**

- Conduct an environmental scan at MDPH specific to workforce
- Collaborate with APHC
- Partner with UMass Lowell on the Public Health Informatics & Technology (PHIT) Workforce Development Program
- Build upon the Commission on Local Public Health Blueprint Recommendations
- Collaborate closely with the Office of Local and Regional Health building out Workforce Development Focus/Staffing



@aphc\_ma



Academic Public  
Health Corps



@aphc\_ma



aphc.ma

ACADEMIC  
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CORPS

Find us on Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook

# Connect with DPH



@MassDPH



Massachusetts Department of Public Health



DPH blog

<https://blog.mass.gov/publichealth>



[www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph)





**150 YEARS**  
OF ADVANCING  
**PUBLIC**  
**HEALTH**

# Massachusetts Department of Public Health

## Thank You!

Antonia Blinn

Academic Health Department

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

[antonia.blinn@mass.gov](mailto:antonia.blinn@mass.gov)

Tali Schiller

Academic Public Health Corps

Massachusetts Health Officers Association

[tschiller@mhoa.com](mailto:tschiller@mhoa.com)



**Partnership Perspective:  
Paul C. Erwin**

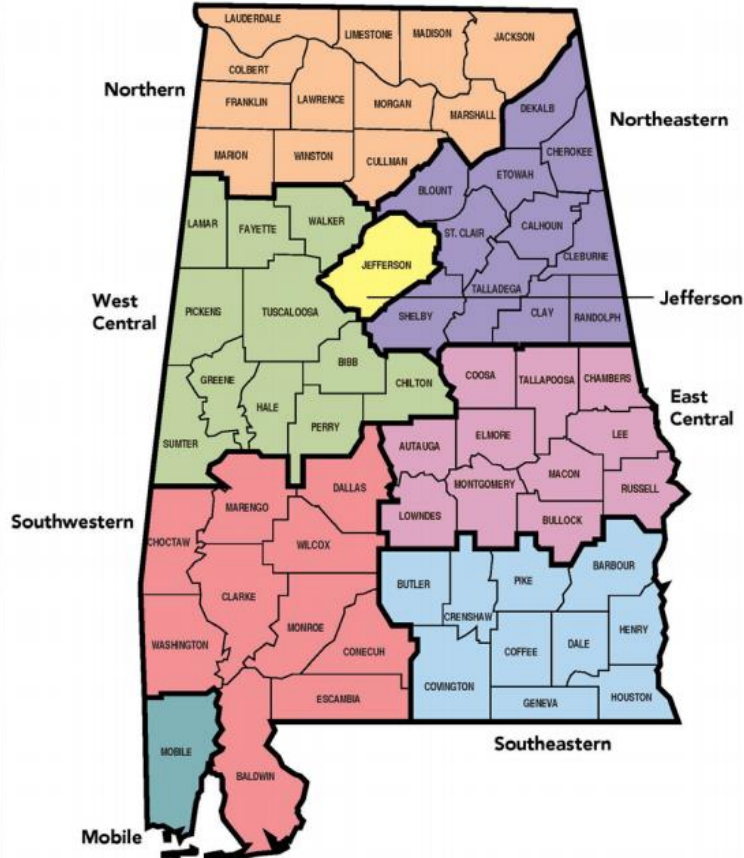
# Academic-Practice Partnerships in Alabama in the Time of COVID

Paul C. Erwin, MD, DrPH  
Dean and Professor

# Academic-Practice Partnerships in Alabama

- One accredited School of Public Health (SOPH) – University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)
- Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH)
- Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
- Mobile County Health Department (MCHD)

# Alabama Department of Public Health Districts Effective October 1, 2017



# Jefferson County Department of Health-UAB Partnerships

- Rests on a foundation of long-standing relationships, as the Academic Health Department, most recently (pre-COVID) focused on MAPP
- Close geographic proximity
- Previous directors include George Hardy, Bill Roper, Carol Samuelson
- Current Director, Dr. Mark Wilson, previously chief of staff, Cooper Green Mercy Hospital in Birmingham, affiliated with UAB

# Jefferson County Department of Health-UAB Partnerships

- February 7, 2020 – SOPH Coronavirus Panel Discussion with Experts from JCDH and UAB
- March 16, 2020 – Emergency call with **County Health Officer, local health experts,** Jefferson County Commissioners and Mayors to discuss social distancing orders
- Recruitment of student interns for surge capacity
- April 16, 2020 – Together with UAB Hospitals CEO, drafted recommendations for **re-opening** for U.S. Congresswoman Terry Sewell (7th congressional district, Alabama)
- Forecasting the Epidemic
- Participation in special class May 2020 focused on COVID, specifically, Case Investigation/Contact Tracing
- Fall Semester 2021 – COVID-19 Prevention and Mitigation Strategies (JCDH) presentation to students (x2!)

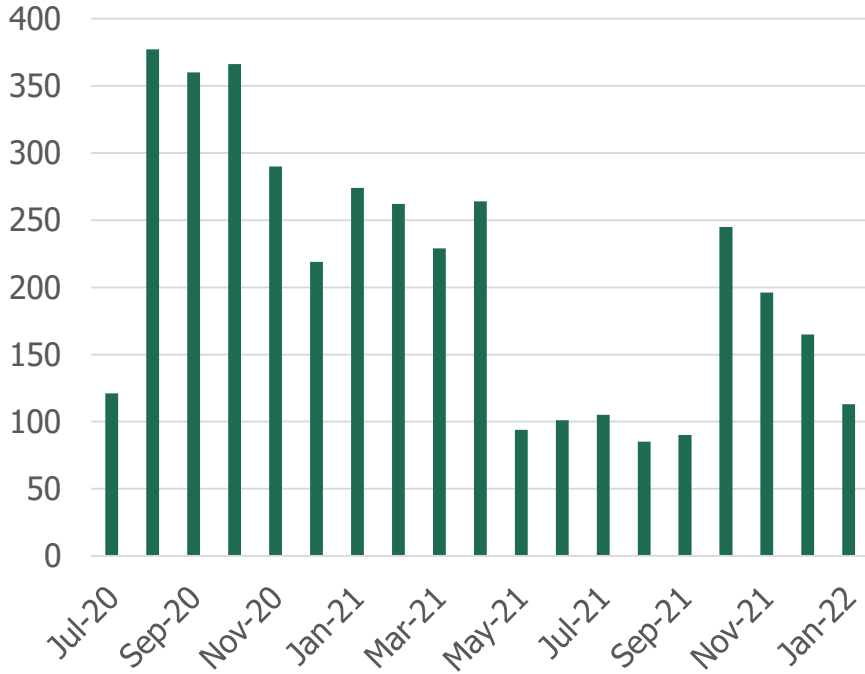
# Alabama Department of Public Health-UAB Partnerships

- **May 2020 – contract for Case Investigation/Contact Tracing**
- May 2020 – Apple/Google Contact Tracing
- April 2021 – UAB partners with ADPH to launch the Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control
- May 2021 – K-12 Screening Testing
- February 2022 – Expansion of Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control to Long Term Care Facilities

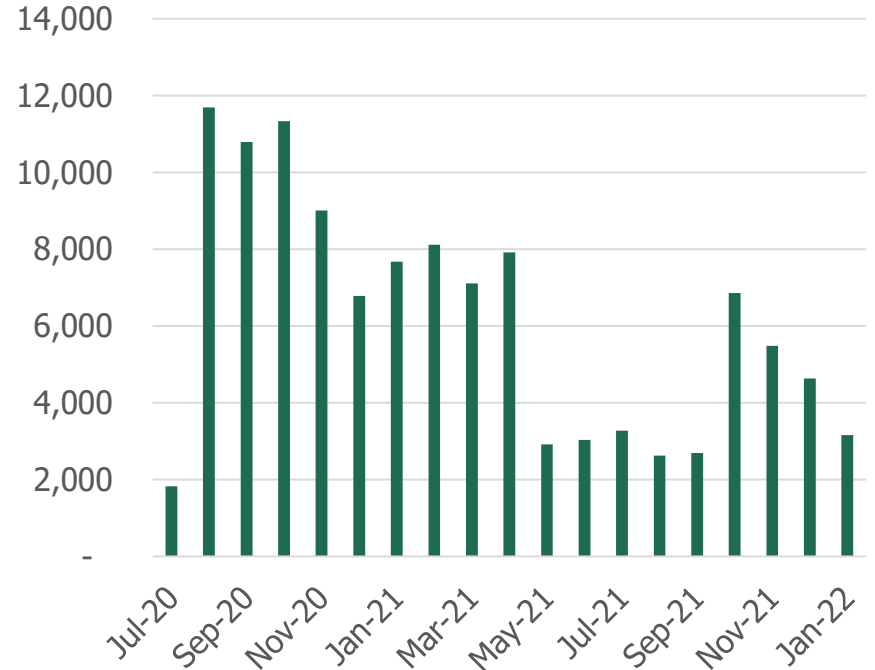


# Case Investigation/Contact Tracing productivity – case interactions (Dr. Andy Rucks-PI)

## Cases Interactions Per Day



## Cases Interactions



# Case Investigation/Contact Tracing Major Accomplishment 07/01/2020-02/09/2022

Parameter	Quantity
Case Investigations Completed	45,122
Letters to PUIs	22,205
Letters to PUIs Producing a Callback	2,226
Contacts Traced	17,017
Cases Created (Aug 2021 through Jan 2022)	41,095

# Dialing through the surges: COVID contact-tracers face burnout but stay motivated

Matt Windsor | UAB Reporter

December 29, 2021 | [Print](#) | [Email](#)

There may be few people more qualified to share the truth about COVID than ICU nurse Kelvin Ume. Fresh out of nursing school in fall 2020, Ume was immediately hired on in a Birmingham hospital, where he cares for patients fighting to breathe from the effects of COVID. Many of them do not survive. In January 2021, before vaccines were widely available, Ume and his wife, Bianca — a student at the [UAB Heersink School of Medicine](#) and part of UAB's [dual-degree M.D./MBA program](#) — both contracted COVID themselves. She had a rough time for a week or so. He nearly died.

"It was pretty bad," Kelvin admitted. "It took me a month to fully beat it and get my lungs back to normal." While he recovered, Bianca sat up beside him and studied for her classes and board exams. She also kept managing the efforts of dozens of student contact-tracers working for the



Bianca and Kelvin Ume have been pulling double duty throughout the pandemic: working as contact tracers while juggling full-time jobs as a medical student (Bianca) and an ICU nurse (Kelvin).

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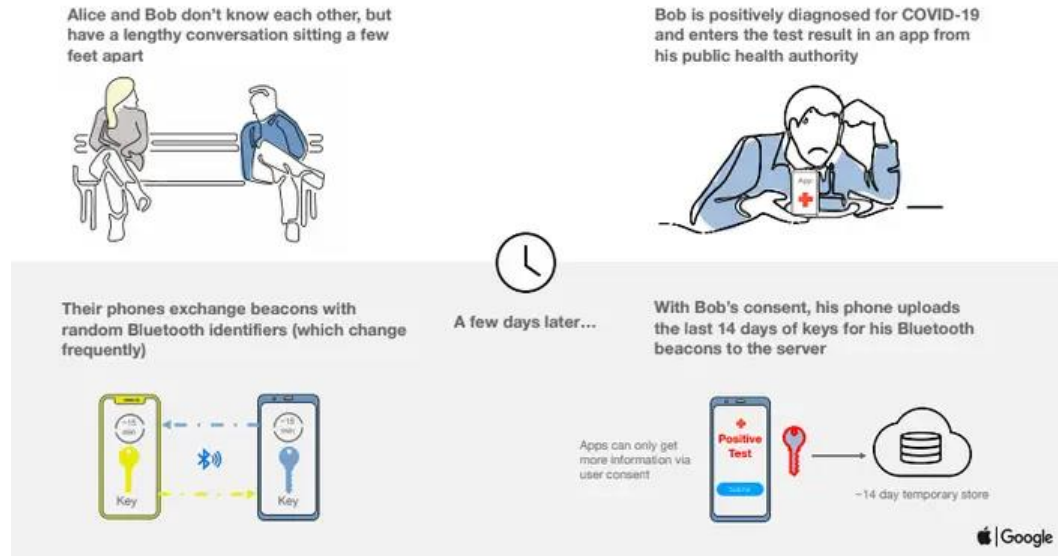
# Apple/Google Contact Tracing App with ADPH

**Trace exposure** to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 positive patients within our communities to facilitate self reporting of exposure in order to limit the spread of the virus on our campuses.

**Steps:**

1. Download and Register with the app
2. Anonymously notify others when you have a positive result
3. Others are notified of anonymous close contact to with someone who has a confirmed SARS-CoV-2/ COVID-19 diagnosis

As of January 31, 2022: 369,700 downloads, 2245 verified positive tests



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# About the ARC IPC – Dr. Lisa McCormick (PI)



- The ELC CoAg tasked ADPH with the creation of a regional center for infection prevention and control consultation and support services in Alabama
- Purpose of this regional center:
  - Enhance capacity for infection control and prevention
  - Build infection prevention and control and outbreak response expertise
- Core Activities: Needs Assessments, Training and Education, Technical Assistance, Marketing and Communication

\*Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) Cooperative Agreement



# Website and Resources



<https://go.uab.edu/arcipc> or <https://sites.uab.edu/arcipc/>



[arcipc@uab.edu](mailto:arcipc@uab.edu)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the ARC IPC website. At the top, it features the UAB logo and the text 'Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention & Control, Training and Technical Assistance (ARCIPC)'. Below this is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, RESOURCES, and CONTACT. The main header area has the ARC IPC logo and the full name of the center. A welcome message follows, stating: 'Welcome to the Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control Training and Technical Assistance (ARC IPC)'. Below the welcome message is a paragraph describing the center's mission and services. At the bottom of the page, there are three buttons: 'TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS', 'REQUEST TRAINING OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE', and 'INFECTION PREVENTION RESOURCES'.

This screenshot shows a gallery of images on the website. The images include a person washing their hands in a sink, a person in a white lab coat and mask, and a person in a blue lab coat and mask. The gallery is part of a larger page that also includes a navigation menu and a section titled 'Prevention and Control (ARC IPC) is currently developing a clearinghouse of resources on existing trainings, tools, and control for a variety of audiences.'

Below are resources on infection prevention and control from across Alabama agencies and the broader public health community.

- Alabama Specific Resources
- Biosafety
- Biosecurity
- Childcare Settings and General Pediatric Information
- COVID-19
- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Disinfection and Sterilization
- Equipment of Care

<https://sites.uab.edu/arcipc/resources/>

The logo for the Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control Training and Technical Assistance (ARC IPC) is displayed. The logo features the text 'ARC IPC' in green and white, with a stylized virus particle graphic. Below the logo is the full name of the center. To the right of the logo is the text: 'Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control Training and Technical Assistance'. Below the logo and name is the mission statement: 'The mission of the Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control Training and Technical Assistance (ARC IPC) is to provide consultation and support services to boost infectious disease prevention and control efforts across Alabama. The Center is a collaborative effort of the Alabama Department of Public Health's Infectious Disease and Outbreaks Division and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.'

## Upcoming and Recent Trainings for Healthcare Infection Prevention

### Podcasts

**Establishing an Effective Infection Prevention and Control Program: The Starting Point (Risk Assessment and Planning)**

There are many components of an effective infection prevention and control program. Janet Chance, Director of Infection Prevention, Accreditation, Quality at Cullman Regional Medical Center, and Meredith Lutz, Chief



# Alabama Department of Public Health-UAB Partnerships

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# COVID TESTING IN ALABAMA K12 SCHOOLS

Dr. Martha Wingate – PI

Working to lessen risks  
and keep schools open



# Primary Purpose

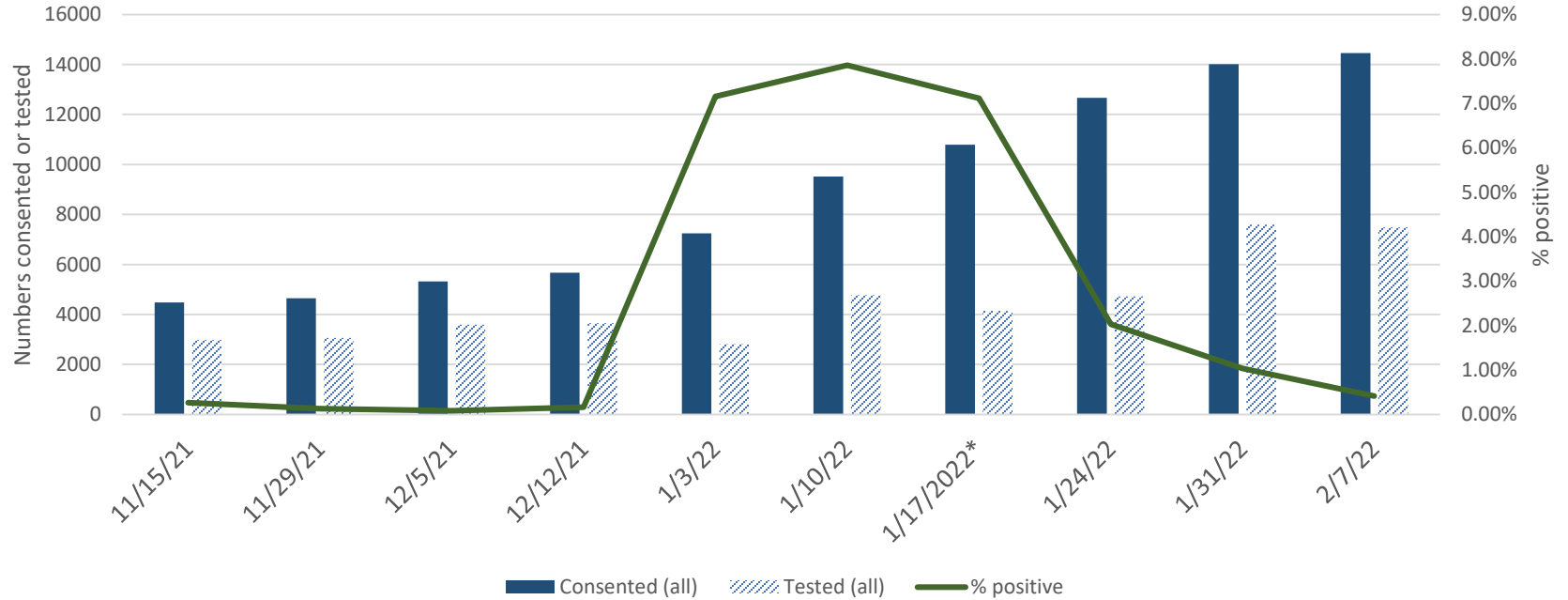
To offer free and voluntary asymptomatic COVID-19 testing in Alabama K-12 schools to students, faculty, and staff to help maintain in-person learning

# Alabama Department of Public Health-UAB Partnerships

- **January 31, 2022 Update**
  - 218 schools in 38 systems have signed testing agreements.
  - Outreach with over 1,422 schools in 188 systems with a total population of 638,852 students
- **Numbers of Students/Staff Sentinel Testing**
  - Of the 9,887 students who consented, 3,507 students (35.5%) tested the week of 01/24/2022.
  - Of the 2,777 staff who consented, 1,214 staff (43.7%) tested the week of 01/24/2022.
    - 96 positives for all individuals (2.03% positivity)
    - 69 positives for students (1.97% positivity)
    - 27 positives for staff (2.22% positivity)
  - At least one school system moved remote part of this week.

# COVID Testing in Alabama K12 Schools: Consented, Tested, and Percent Positivity

11/15/2021-2/7/2022 (weekly)



# Alabama Department of Public Health-UAB Partnerships

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# Nursing Home and Long-term Care Facility Strike Teams – Dr. Lisa McCormick (PI)

- Project will be funded through the CDC's ELC CoAg mechanism
- ADPH was tasked with providing assistance to nursing home and long-term care facilities to:
  - support nursing homes (skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities) and other long-term care facilities during their response to SARS-CoV-2
  - assist with building and maintaining the infection prevention infrastructure necessary to support resident, visitor, and facility healthcare personnel safety within these facilities
- UAB SOPH and UAB SOM will partner to provide leadership and coordination to hire/manage staff to assist with the goals of the project.



# Additional Public Health-UAB Partnerships

- March 2020 – COVID-19 Roundtable – SOPH, including JCDH
- May 2020 – COVID-19 Testing & Contact Tracing Strategy
  - Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH)
  - Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
  - Mobile County Health Department (MCHD)
  - Children’s Hospital of Alabama
  - Division of Infectious Diseases, SOM/UAB
  - SOPH
- Fall Semester 2021 – COVID-19 Prevention and Mitigation Strategies (JCDH) presentation to students (x2!)
- Fall Semester 2021 – JCDH, ADPH, MCHD, and SOPH panel with MD/MPH on careers in Public Health





**UAB** THE UNIVERSITY OF  
ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM.  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Paul C. Erwin, MD, DrPH  
Dean and Professor

The background features a light blue gradient on the left and top, transitioning to white on the right. A dark blue, arrow-shaped graphic points from the left towards the center. In the bottom right corner, there is a horizontal orange bar with a light blue shadow underneath it.

# Partnership Perspective: Judy Monroe



# Critical Role of Partnerships

Judy Monroe, MD, President and CEO, CDC Foundation

# University Partnerships:



# University Partnerships:

## W

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON



1867

**HOWARD**  
UNIVERSITY



**EMORY**  
UNIVERSITY



**NYU**

**JSU** | JACKSON  
1877 STATE  
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**GT** Georgia  
Tech.



**JOHNS HOPKINS**  
UNIVERSITY

# Our Partners Include:

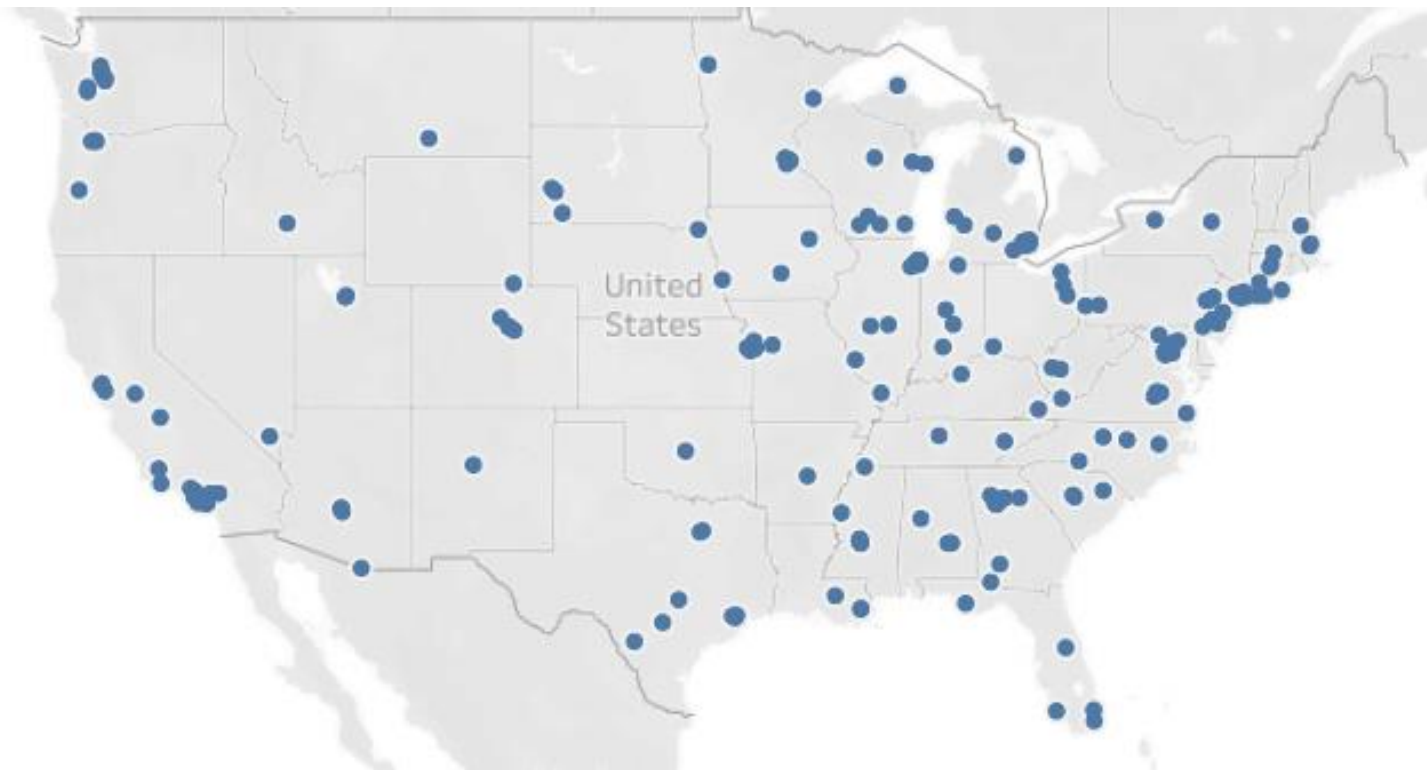


# Unique Partnerships:





# Supporting 249 Community-Based Organizations Nationwide



Source: CDC Foundation, 2/17/22

**“The best way to predict the  
future, is to create it.**

**Peter Drucker**





**CDC** Foundation  
Together our impact is greater

# Questions and Discussion



# AHD Partnership Resources

- Academic Health Department Learning Community: [www.phf.org/AHDLC](http://www.phf.org/AHDLC)
  - Peer community supporting public health practice/academic collaboration
- [AHD Webinars](#)
  - Webinars focused on AHD partnerships
- [AHD Resources and Tools](#)
  - Resources to support development, maintenance, and expansion of AHD partnerships
- Council on Linkages Update: [www.phf.org/councilupdate](http://www.phf.org/councilupdate)
  - Newsletter featuring the latest AHD partnership resources

Questions?

Contact Kathleen Amos at [kamos@phf.org](mailto:kamos@phf.org).





# THANK YOU!

[www.phf.org/AHDLC](http://www.phf.org/AHDLC)

For more information or to join, contact:

Kathleen Amos

[kamos@phf.org](mailto:kamos@phf.org)

