

## Center for Global Public Health | UC Berkeley School of Public Health 2017 Global Public Health Fellows



**Amanda Keller** is a first-year PhD student in molecular toxicology with an emphasis on environmental exposures and global health. Her interests began in the mountains of Guatemala where she studied Central American health care systems. Following 6-months in Guatemala, she attended UCSF to obtain her Master's in Global Health where she studied arsenic-induced epigenetic alterations in Bangladeshi children. This has brought her to her current research where she will study epigenetic alterations in a variety of biological medias to evaluate disease risk in previously arsenic exposed Chilean adults. When she is not playing in lab, she enjoys conducting experiments in the kitchen, playing soccer in local adult leagues, and eating her way around the bay area.



**Chloe Lessard** is a San Francisco native and concurrent graduate student in Public Health (Epidemiology/Biostatistics) and Journalism interested in infectious disease, women's health, and bioethics. She graduated from UC Davis with a Bachelor's in Neurobiology and Physiology in 2015. Lessard has been drawn to women's health from her experience reporting on policy, health care access, and PrEP use in California. Last year, she reported on traditional birth houses and doula work in Tokyo, Japan, and worked as assistant producer for a Bay Area science audio series called Science Today. In her spare time, Chloe likes to take butoh dance classes, read novels, and consume lots of coffee.



**Daniel Morberg** grew up in southern California and stuck around for college to study philosophy at UCLA. After graduating he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Turkmenistan before moving to China to live and work for another two years. He returned to the US and dedicated himself to pursuing medicine. During a post-baccalaureate program he did research in global global health at UCSF, taught meditation to inmates in the SF county jail system, and finally worked at a health technology start-up before enrolling in the UC Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program. Daniel's masters research is centered on healthcare access for residents of urban slums centered around rheumatic heart disease in Salvador, Brazil. He is extremely excited to work with the Center for Global Public Health and continue investigating how best to provide access and prevent disease in this population.



My name is **Joanna Vinden** and I am a first-year MPH student with specializations in infectious disease and vaccinology and global health. I completed my BSc in chemistry at McGill University. After graduating I decided to shift my career focus from chemistry to public health, to pursue a career dedicated to alleviating the tremendous burden of infectious disease in developing countries. This summer I will be researching the dynamics of malaria drug-resistance several sites Uganda.



**Melissa Carlson** is in the third year of the Political Science PhD program at U.C. Berkeley focusing on International Relations, Comparative Politics, Methods, and the Middle East. Her research interests include the impact of aid in humanitarian crisis response, migration, irregular conflict, public goods provision, and the relationship between state and non-state actors. Currently, Melissa is conducting research on why states cooperate with violent non-state actors like rebel groups and terrorist organizations and why governments use siege warfare tactics against their civilians in civil war. Melissa is also conducting research in conjunction with the Berkeley law school on circumstances under which vulnerable migrants may forgo applying for asylum and exercising their legal rights. Melissa's master's thesis focused on how different types of humanitarian relief strategies can perversely incentivize governments to eliminate vulnerable populations' access to critical services, prolonging the negative impacts of humanitarian crises. Previously, Melissa has conducted extensive research on how host government outsourcing of governance/public goods provision of protracted refugee

populations to external actors impact state sovereignty in the Middle East. Prior to beginning her PhD at U.C. Berkeley, Melissa worked as Public Information consultant for the International Organization for Migration Iraq Mission in Amman, Jordan and Erbil, Iraq.



**Royce Tsukayama** is a first-year MPH student in the Infectious Disease and Vaccinology program at UC Berkeley. Although he studied Physiological Sciences as an undergraduate, he developed an interest in the field of public health while studying abroad in Thailand and Cambodia. After receiving his bachelor's degree from UCLA, he served at a health clinic at the Thai/Burma border, where he learned the realities of health care provision in a developing region. This experience motivated him to pursue further education and to develop the skill set to reduce public health risks in low resourced areas.

An Oakland native, he now finds himself back to his East Bay roots and is excited to spend his summer internship with the Thai Ministry of Public Health.



**Esther Chung** grew up in Southern California and graduated from UC Berkeley with a BA in Public Health and a minor in Global Poverty and Practice. After graduating, she worked as a Staff Research Associate in the School of Public Health at Berkeley on research related to neighborhood environments and chronic disease as well as adverse child experiences and maternal and infant health outcomes. During her undergraduate career, Esther was involved in research focused on fishing livelihoods and nutritional outcomes in Kenya, which became the foundation for her interest in global health nutrition. In particular, she is interested in how poor access to resources (food insecurity, lack of clean water, lack of healthcare) affects the health of vulnerable populations. She is also interested in the effectiveness of combined intervention trials that target multiple areas, such as nutrient supplementation, clean water, and early childhood stimulation. In her free time, she loves to go rock climbing, hiking, and backpacking in the Sierras.

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## 2017 Global Health Reporting Fellows & Innovation for Youth (I4Y) Fellows



### **Chloe Lessard - Global Health Reporting**

#### *Eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Cuba: the maternal experience*

Chloe Lessard is a San Francisco native and concurrent graduate student in Public Health (Epidemiology/Biostatistics) and Journalism interested in infectious disease, women's health, and bioethics. She graduated from UC Davis with a Bachelor's in Neurobiology and Physiology in 2015. Lessard has been drawn to women's health from her experience reporting on policy, health care access, and PrEP use in California. Last year, she reported on traditional birth houses and doula work in Tokyo, Japan, and worked as assistant producer for a Bay Area science audio series called Science Today. In her spare time, Chloe likes to take butoh dance classes, read novels, and consume lots of coffee.



### **Anoop Jain - I4Y**

#### *Potential Benefit of a Mobile Health Application on Adolescent Girls Living in Rural India*

Anoop is the founding director of Sanitation and Health Rights in India (SHRI), a non-profit that combats open defecation in rural India. He is also a doctoral student at UC Berkeley, where he is researching the social determinants of open defecation.

The proposed research will examine what, if any, benefit adolescent girls who live in rural India, and who are married before the age of 18, gain from interacting with a community health worker using a new mobile health application. These adolescent girls are susceptible to a variety of health complications, particularly if they are nursing infants. It is important to understand which interventions help improve their health outcomes, as well as the outcomes of their children to prevent morbidity and mortality. Thus it is critically important to understand whether or not this mobile app can serve this purpose.



### **Kelly Johnson - I4Y**

#### *Minority Stressors and Psychosocial Resources Among Trans\*, Genderqueer and Non-binary Adolescents*

Kelly Johnson is a third-year DrPH student. She has 15 years of experience working with public health programs that serve marginalized populations, both internationally and domestically. She currently works with Project AFFRIM, a mixed-methods transgender identity development study. Her research interests include adolescent health, HIV prevention, qualitative methods, transgender health, stigma, and resilience. This study will explore minority stressors and psychosocial resources among trans\*, genderqueer and non-binary adolescents between the ages 16-20 who live in the Bay Area. The study will employ innovative qualitative visual methods, including "lifeline" narratives and photo elicitation, to explore participant experiences of stigma and discrimination, as well as the factors that they identify as protective against stigma and discrimination, such as social support, community resources and safe spaces. A better understanding of the lived experiences of trans\*, genderqueer and non-binary adolescents and the processes that promote resilience will facilitate the development of urgently needed mental health interventions for this population.



### **Lee Lemus Hufstedler - I4Y**

#### *Transgender Homeless Youth and Health Disparities*

Lee Lemus Hufstedler is a Chicano future family physician in the UC Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program who is passionate about ending health disparities. Lee wants to create change for marginalized populations – including LGBTQ communities, Latinos, and immigrants – through community organizing, advocacy, and research on social and structural determinants of health.