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2015-2016

Eunice M. Areba, PhD, PHN, RN, is a first year post-doctoral fellow funded through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care (IRTCAPC) grant. Eunice earned her PhD in Nursing from the University of Minnesota and her BSN from Winona State University. Her professional experience includes, neurology and orthopedic postoperative care, community based research with refugee women and youth and teaching at the collegiate level. Her dissertation explored the associations between religious coping, mental health and well-being among Somali college students. As a public health nurse, her research interest lies in the micro to macro level issues at the nexus of health, community, environment and development, especially among refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa. Eunice is interested in developing community-based programs to promote physical and emotional well-being, prevent inter-personal violence and identify effective coping mechanisms for refugee and immigrant youth and their families. Currently, she teaches Public Health Nursing courses at the University of Minnesota, School of Nursing.

Katherine (Kate) Berg, LSW, is a pre-doctoral fellow in Social Work funded by the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She received her B.A. in Social Work from the University of Saint Thomas and is currently a practicing Social Worker focusing on children and adults with developmental disabilities and mental illness. She serves as the co-chair of the Northwest Metro Community Transition Interagency Committee (CTIC) which works to identify, develop, and promote programs and services to assist with transitioned-aged youth (14-21) with disabilities. Her primary research interests are cognitive development as it applies to researching and developing appropriate treatment programs. She is interested in further exploring how programs are developed to suit the needs of adolescents at a variety of cognitive levels.

Debanjana Chatterjee, PhD, is a second-year fellow with the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care (IRTCAPC). I completed my PhD in Population Health Science from the Department of Population Health Sciences in University of Wisconsin-Madison in August, 2014. For my dissertation research, I looked into the impact of exposure to ambient fine particulate matter in the first year of children’s lives on their cognitive functioning at the age of 2 years and potential pathways by which maternal stress and perceived neighborhood qualities can moderate this association. For my post-doctoral research, I will continue to do research on the interaction between psychosocial stress and environment on neurocognitive and behavioral development of children and young adults. Additionally, I am interested in doing research on: (i) determinants of primary health care utilization among children with adverse mental health conditions, (ii) if and to what extent parents’ experience with health care system influence children’s interaction with primary care practitioners and whether this varies by parental race, ethnicity, citizenship status, and area of residence, and (iii) cost-effectiveness of screening mechanisms to detect early signs of adverse mental health among children and youth. I am originally from Calcutta, India. I completed my Bachelors and Master’s degree in Economics from Jadavpur University,
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India. I completed my Master’s degree in Development Economics from University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Jennifer Doty, PhD, is a first-year post-doctoral fellow in Family Science funded by the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care (IRTCAPC) grant. Jennifer Doty recently received her doctorate in Family Social Science with an emphasis on prevention. Jennifer’s research interests are built around the idea that parent-child relationships are a key leverage point for improving adolescent health and well-being. She views the online environment as a potential outlet for the dissemination of parent-based prevention programming. She has authored six publications, four as first author, with a focus on parents in an online environment. In her dissertation research, she focused on the relationship between parents and adolescents prospectively over three generations in the Youth Development Study. She was awarded a Kappa Omicron Nu Research Award for this work. Jennifer’s research interests include the well-being of parents and adolescents, translational research using online tools, and parent-based prevention. Her long-term goal is to build bridges between basic research and applied prevention settings.

Myriam Forster, PhD, MPH, is a first-year post-doctoral fellow in Preventive Medicine funded by the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care (IRTCAPC) grant. Myriam recently received her doctorate in Preventive Medicine with an emphasis in health behavior research from the University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine. Her research interests center on adolescent trauma, substance abuse, violence perpetration/victimization, and risky sexual behavior. Her dissertation studies explored the role of psychosocial and sociocultural factors in unidirectional and bidirectional intimate partner violence among Hispanic adolescents and emerging adults. Myriam’s future interests include research that (i) investigates the affect of sociocultural and community stressors on access to, and utilization of, prevention and intervention services, and (ii) the interplay between risk and protective factors across contexts that can advance the development of evidence-based programs implemented in community care settings.

Diego Garcia-Huidobro, M.D., is a second-year postdoctoral fellow funded by the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. He is a family physician from Chile pursuing a second doctoral degree in Family Social Science with minors in Epidemiology and Prevention Science at the University of Minnesota. He received his medical training and specialty at Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile (2006, 2009), where he collaborated developing and evaluating a family-centered healthcare delivery system. Currently, he is a postdoctoral fellow at the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care, where he conducts transdisciplinary community-based translational research. His investigations focus on how family and other psychosocial factors influence health outcomes, and how family interventions could promote healthier behaviors to prevent chronic and mental illnesses. At the moment, he is adapting a group parenting intervention into a one-to-one format to expand the reach of these programs and contribute reducing smoking initiation and substance use among Latino youth. He has received national and international funding, his work has been recognized at national and international scientific conferences, and
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his studies have been published in several peer-reviewed journals, including *Family Medicine*, *Family Practice*, and the *British Journal of General Practice*.

Kari Gloppen, Ph.D., is a second-year post-doctoral fellow funded by the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She earned her doctorate in social welfare from the University of Washington. Her research interests center on social and environmental factors that influence adolescent and young adult health and well being, with a focus on sexual health. She is also interested in exploring ways to more effectively disseminate evidence-based programs and practices to ensure their adoption and implementation in communities.

Kari Gloppen, Ph.D., is a second-year post-doctoral fellow funded by the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She earned her doctorate in social welfare from the University of Washington. Her research interests center on social and environmental factors that influence adolescent and young adult health and well being, with a focus on sexual health. She is also interested in exploring ways to more effectively disseminate evidence-based programs and practices to ensure their adoption and implementation in communities.

Kristen M.A. Kessler, MD MPH, is a second year fellow in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics. In addition, she is currently a fellow in the Leadership and Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program. She received her BA in Hispanic Studies with a concentration in Biomedical Studies from St. Olaf College. She received her MD and Masters in Public Health in International Maternal and Child Health from the University of Arizona. She completed Pediatrics residency at the University of Minnesota in 2014. She enjoys clinical work with children and families with a variety of complex developmental and behavioral challenges. She has particular interest in parenting and the parent-child connection and how these relate to developmental and behavioral outcomes.

Christopher J. Mehus, PhD, is a first-year post-doctoral fellow in Family Social Science / Couples & Family Therapy. He will participate in fellowship activities while continuing as a Post-doctoral Associate, working on research with Dr Marla Eisenberg.

Allison Watts, MSc, PhD, is a post-doctoral fellow in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). She received her MSc in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Guelph and her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of British Columbia. Allison’s doctoral research involved examining household factors related to dietary intake in the context of an adolescent lifestyle behavior change intervention and obtained CIHR funding to conduct a photovoice study exploring the barriers teens face in making dietary behavioral changes. Allison is currently working with data collected as part of Project EAT (Eating and Activity among Teens and Young Adults; PI: Dr. Dianne Neumark-Sztainer), a longitudinal study exploring weight-related behaviors and outcomes in a cohort of adolescents and young adults in the Twin Cities. Her current research focuses on the individual, environmental and societal factors that shape adolescent and young adult eating behaviors and in turn their contribution to overweight and obesity. The aim of this research is to inform the development of obesity prevention and dietary interventions for adolescents and young adults.

2014-2015

James Afriyie, MSc
James is a research specialist/fellow at the Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health (through the Interdisciplinary Fellowship Training / Leadership
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Education in Adolescent Health or Healthy Youth Development · Prevention Research Center). He is also a doctoral student in Public Health (Epidemiology) through Walden University. His research interests center on the development of interventions for effective prevention of sexually transmitted diseases among minority adolescents, and the impact and quality of adolescent reproductive health programs for deprived communities. James received his B.Sc. degree in Biological Sciences and M.Sc. degree in Reproductive Biology from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. Before coming to Minnesota, he was a lecturer at the Department of Human Biology, in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana; where he taught courses and supervised undergraduate research projects in Public Health/epidemiology, Developmental Biology, and Reproductive Biology. He founded a children and youth organization in Ghana - the Aldersgate Foundation – that aims at giving children from less privileged backgrounds a brighter future and promoting good health among young people. The organization has two children/orphan homes, schools for needy children, and a program to support children. Currently in development is a youth and health wing of the organization (Aldersgate Adolescent Reproductive Health Program). Through the fellowship, James hopes to gain additional experience in youth development, reproductive health services, and epidemiology; build skills in program development and evaluation; and expand the capacity of the Aldersgate Adolescent Reproductive Health Program. James also likes church missions.

Kristen Aggerbeck, MD, MPH
Kristen is the Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics fellow. She earned a BA (Hispanic Studies, concentration in Biomedical Studies) from St. Olaf College, and her MPH (Family & Child Health -International Track) and MD degrees from the University of Arizona. Aggerbeck completed her Pediatric Residency training at the University of Minnesota. Her international experiences including working at La Clinica de la Guacamaya (El Progreso, Honduras) and Peruvian Medical Odyssey. Aggerbeck has gained research experience through the Cochise County Needs Assessment: Teenage Pregnancy (Cochise County Health Dept & University of Arizona College of Public Health); and Cross-Border Credentialing of Physicians in a Public Health Emergency (Arizona Dept of Health Services & the Arizona-Mexico Commission).

Debanjana Chatterjee, PhD
Debanjana is a first-year fellow with the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care (IRTCAPC). She completed her PhD in Population Health Science from the Department of Population Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin - Madison in August 2014. For her dissertation research, she looked into the impact of exposure to ambient fine particulate matter in the first year of children's lives on their cognitive functioning at the age of 2 years and potential pathways by which maternal stress and perceived neighborhood qualities can moderate this association. For her post-doctoral research, she will continue to do research on the interaction between psychosocial stress and environment on neurocognitive and behavioral development of children and young adults. Additionally, she is interested in doing research on: (i) determinants of primary health care utilization among children with adverse mental health conditions, (ii) if and to what extent parents’ experience with
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health care system influence children's interaction with primary care practitioners and whether this varies by parental race, ethnicity, citizenship status, and area of residence, and (iii) cost-effectiveness of screening mechanisms to detect early signs of adverse mental health among children and youth. Chatterjee is originally from Calcutta, India. She completed her Bachelors and Masters degree in Economics from Jadaypur University. She completed her Masters degree in Development Economics from the University of Wisconsin - Madison.

**Windy Fredkove, RN, MSN, APHN-BC**
Windy is a pre-doctoral fellow, through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. Her nursing career includes positions in hospital, academic and community settings. She has experience in maternity care, child and adolescent HIV clinical research, case management, and holistic nursing care for young, sexually exploited teens and as a Director of Community Outreach at a community clinic and human services organization. Windy is a third-year PhD student in the School of Nursing, focusing on Adolescent Public Health Nursing with a minor concentration in Integrative Therapies and Healing Practices. Her primary research interests focus on promoting adolescent health, mental health and general wellness, including the use of integrative therapies in school and community settings.

**Diego Garcia-Huidobro, MD**
Diego is a postdoctoral fellow through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. He is a family physician from Chile pursuing a second doctoral degree in Family Social Science with minors in Epidemiology and Prevention Science at the University of Minnesota. He received his medical training and specialty at Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile (2006 - 2009), where he collaborated developing and evaluating a family-centered healthcare delivery system. Currently, he is a postdoctoral dellow at the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care, where he conduct transdisciplinary community-based translational research. His investigations focus on how family and other psychsocial factors influence health outcomes, and how family interventions could promote healthier behaviors to prevent chronic and mental illnesses. At the moment, he is adapting a group parenting intervention into a one-to-one format to expand the reach of these programs, and contribute reduce smoking initiation and substance use among Latino youth. He has received national and international funding, and his studies have been published in several peer-reviewed journals, including Family Medicine, Family Practice and The British Journal of General Practice.

**Michelle Gin**
Michelle is a pre-doctoral fellow through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She is in the Masters of Public Health (MPH) degree program at the University of Minnesota focused in Maternal and Child Health with interdisciplinary concentrations in Public Health Policy and Health Disparities. Michelle earned her BA in International Studies with a minor in Global Health from the University of Iowa. She currently serves as the National Student Coordinator of the non-profit Physicians for Social Responsibility where she empowers medical and allied health professional students with advocacy skills to effectively influence policymakers to prevent the
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greatest threats to humanity that cannot be cured, such as climate change and nuclear weapons. Michelle is interested in the development of school-based intervention programs to promote healthy choices around adolescent reproductive health.

Kari Gloppen, PhD
Kari is a post-doctoral fellow through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She earned her doctorate in social welfare from the University of Washington. Her research interests center on social and environmental factors that influence adolescent and young adult health and well-being, with a focus on sexual health. She is also interested in exploring ways to more effectively disseminate evidence-based programs and practices to ensure their adoption and implementation in communities.

Melissa Horning, RN, BSN, PHN
Kari is a post-doctoral fellow through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She earned her doctorate in social welfare from the University of Washington. Her research interests center on social and environmental factors that influence adolescent and young adult health and well-being, with a focus on sexual health. She is also interested in exploring ways to more effectively disseminate evidence-based programs and practices to ensure their adoption and implementation in communities.

Kiana Johnson, MSEd, PhD
Kiana is an Educational Psychology post-doctoral fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. In 2012-2013, she was a LEND fellow (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities); and participated in our fellowship seminar series. Kiana earned three degrees from Purdue University: BA (Psychology), M.S.Ed. (Educational Psychology), and PhD (Educational Psychology). She is a 10-year volunteer for the Kids Get Arthritis Too! Family Day, an annual event where children and parents learn about various rheumatic diseases; she has led focus groups and given presentations to teens and to parents. For nine years, Kiana served as a chaperone for the annual teen retreat hosted by the Pediatric Rheumatology Department at the James Whitcomb Riley Children’s Hospital, part of the Indiana University School of Medicine. She also taught a health self-management workshop (Be Your Own Boss: BYOB) for youth ages 14-25, through a 6-week program intended to teach adolescents and young adults with chronic conditions the importance of being your own advocate and being a good self-manager of health.

Charlotte Nitardy, PhD
Charlotte is a third-year Education post-doctoral fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. Charlotte earned her bachelor, Master’s and PhD in education from the University of Minnesota. Her professional experience includes teaching and administering programs in higher education, PK-12, and conducting program evaluation of non-profit organizations serving children and their families. As an educator, she has always been concerned with social issues associated with children who fail school or drop out which subsequently lead to poor health outcomes. Her goal is to study and research the
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relationship between education and morbidity, mortality and other health conditions that are unique or more prevalent in racial and ethnic minorities. Aside from taking classes that will lead to a Master of Public Health program here at the University of Minnesota, she also teaches at Metropolitan State University where she worked full-time prior to joining the fellowship. Charlotte lives in Woodbury with her three children Eric, Michelle and Danielle and their dog Rocky. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, and trying recipes from the Food Network.

Emily Ruedinger, MD
Emily is a third-year Adolescent Medicine fellow, through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant. She came to Minnesota for the second and third years of her Adolescent Medicine fellowship, having completed the first year of her LEAH fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital, which is also where she did her Pediatrics residency. A Midwest native, Emily received both her B.S. in elementary education and her M.D. from the University of Wisconsin- Madison. One of the most rewarding experiences of her medical career so far has been working at a teen-tot clinic for adolescent mothers and their children, and she hopes to focus future research on teen parenting and/or teen pregnancy prevention. Her husband, Eric, works in finance at Boston Scientific and a transfer within his company is what brought them to Minnesota. Although they both enjoyed the East Coast, they are happy to be closer to their families; and Emily is very excited to be joining the enthusiastic folks she has met so far here at the University of Minnesota. Emily and Eric are currently settling into their new home in Woodbury with their 10 month old son, Elijah, and their two cats. Outside of work, she enjoys cooking, jogging, reading novels, and spending time with friends and family.

Chelsey Thul, PhD
Chelsey is a second-year fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training: Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. Her PhD in Kinesiology, with a focus on Sport and Exercise Psychology and Prevention Science, was awarded by the University of Minnesota. While pursuing her MA (Kinesiology) and PhD degrees at UMN, Chelsey worked as a Research Assistant at the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sports (School of Kinesiology); and as a Teaching Assistant in the School of Kinesiology. {Tucker Center is the first and only interdisciplinary research center of its kind in the world, solely dedicated to the study of females in physical activity contexts.} With her doctoral co-advisor, Dr Nicole LaVoi, Chelsey co-authored a successfully-funded grant through the Melpomene Institute for Women’s Health Research, “Unequal Opportunities, Unequal Outcomes: Reducing Physical Inactivity in East African Girls.” Based on this study, she worked with adolescent Somali girls in a culturally relevant, all-female basketball league developed by the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota, at the Brian Coyle Center in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.

Caitlyn Wright, BSW
Caitlyn is a pre-doctoral Social Work and Public Health fellow through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) program. She is currently seeking a dual MSW/MPH at the University of Minnesota, with Community Practice and Community Health Promotion concentrations, respectively. Caitlyn earned her BSW from St. Catherine University. Her interests include mindfulness-based stress reduction, the
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impact of nature exposure on youth health and developmental outcomes, and Native/Indigenous and LGBT populations.

2013-2014

James Afriyie, MSc
James is a research specialist/fellow at the Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health (through the Interdisciplinary Fellowship Training / Leadership Education in Adolescent Health or Healthy Youth Development · Prevention Research Center). He is also a doctoral student in Public Health (Epidemiology) through Walden University. His research interests center on the development of interventions for effective prevention of sexually transmitted diseases among minority adolescents, and the impact and quality of adolescent reproductive health programs for deprived communities. James received his B.Sc. degree in Biological Sciences and M.Sc. degree in Reproductive Biology from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. Before coming to Minnesota, he was a lecturer at the Department of Human Biology, in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana; where he taught courses and supervised undergraduate research projects in Public Health/epidemiology, Developmental Biology, and Reproductive Biology. He founded a children and youth organization in Ghana - the Aldersgate Foundation – that aims at giving children from less privileged backgrounds a brighter future and promoting good health among young people. The organization has two children/orphan homes, schools for needy children, and a program to support children. Currently in development is a youth and health wing of the organization (Aldersgate Adolescent Reproductive Health Program). Through the fellowship, James hopes to gain additional experience in youth development, reproductive health services, and epidemiology; build skills in program development and evaluation; and expand the capacity of the Aldersgate Adolescent Reproductive Health Program. James also likes church missions.

Melissa Horning, RN, BSN, PHN
Melissa is a pre-doctoral Nursing fellow in the Interdisciplinary Fellowship Program in Child and Adolescent Health. She received her BSN from the College of St. Benedict. When working as a local public health nurse for five years, Melissa experienced a wide array of opportunities, including assisting youth in accessing family planning services and providing nutrition education to families at WIC clinics. Additionally, she engaged with at-risk, pregnant and/or parenting adolescent mothers, their children, and their families on home visits. Currently in her third year of her PhD program in the School of Nursing, Melissa works as a graduate research assistant on the Healthy Home Offerings via the Mealtime Environment (HOME) Plus study and plans to investigate the influences on food purchasing behaviors of 8-12 year old children and their parents. In the future, Melissa is excited to continue her research, teach students at the collegiate level, and work with public health initiatives to support healthy youth and family development. Outside of school, she enjoys cooking, baking bread, running, and spending time with friends and family.

Kiana Johnson, MSEd, PhD
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Kiana is an Educational Psychology post-doctoral fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. In 2012-2013, she was a LEND fellow (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities); and participated in our fellowship seminar series. Kiana earned three degrees from Purdue University: BA (Psychology), M.S.Ed. (Educational Psychology), and PhD (Educational Psychology). She is a 10-year volunteer for the Kids Get Arthritis Too! Family Day, an annual event where children and parents learn about various rheumatic diseases; she has led focus groups and given presentations to teens and to parents. For nine years, Kiana served as a chaperone for the annual teen retreat hosted by the Pediatric Rheumatology Department at the James Whitcomb Riley Children’s Hospital, part of the Indiana University School of Medicine. She also taught a health self-management workshop (Be Your Own Boss: BYOB) for youth ages 14-25, through a 6-week program intended to teach adolescents and young adults with chronic conditions the importance of being your own advocate and being a good self-manager of health.

Nicole Kast, BA
Nicole is a pre-doctoral fellow, through the Healthy Youth Development · Prevention Research Center grant. She earned her BA degree in Sociology/Anthropology from Swarthmore College and is currently in the Masters in Public Health (MPH) degree program at the University of Minnesota.

Charlotte Nitardy, PhD
Charlotte is a third-year Education post-doctoral fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. Charlotte earned her bachelor, Master’s and PhD in education from the University of Minnesota. Her professional experience includes teaching and administering programs in higher education, PK-12, and conducting program evaluation of non-profit organizations serving children and their families. As an educator, she has always been concerned with social issues associated with children who fail school or drop out which subsequently lead to poor health outcomes. Her goal is to study and research the relationship between education and morbidity, mortality and other health conditions that are unique or more prevalent in racial and ethnic minorities. Aside from taking classes that will lead to a Master of Public Health program here at the University of Minnesota, she also teaches she teaches at Metropolitan State University where she worked full-time prior to joining the fellowship. Charlotte lives in Woodbury with her three children Eric, Michelle and Danielle and their dog Rocky. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, and trying recipes from the Food Network.

Calae Dianne Philippe, MBBS, MPH
Calae is a postdoctoral fellow in the Healthy Youth Development · Prevention Research Center (through Dec. 31, 2013). She received her MBBS from The University of the West Indies, Kingston Jamaica; and an MPH in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland. She was previously the Coordinator for Training Center in Primary Health Services in Nassau, Bahamas; and a resident in Family Medicine at The Princess Margaret Hospital, in The Bahamas. She has always had a passion to work with youth and since her love brought her to Minnesota she pursued the opportunity to follow this unrelenting dream of working in
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Adolescent Health. Calae’s research interests focus on violence in youth, provision of effective sexual reproductive health services and the role of standardized preventive education in these areas. She has worked on studies in the areas the protective and risk factors of early sexual debut in youth and the epidemiology of violence in youth in the Bahamas. Additionally, she has provided medical services to youth for over 10 years in the general practice in the Bahamas for provided focused services at the Adolescent Health Clinic and School Health Services in The Bahamas. She seeks to broaden her skills and abilities to become an advocate of healthy youth development and prevention.

Lewis Raynor, PhD
Lewis is a third-year Epidemiology post-doctoral fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. Lewis earned his MPH and doctoral in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota; and also has a MS degree in Biological Anthropology from the University of Oregon. His research centers on the genetics of chronic disease; and he is particularly interested in how the environment and evolitional patterns influence who manifests disease and the etiology behind that disease process. His hope is to make a contribution toward identifying genetic risk factors and/or environmental interactions that can be modified to reduce risk, particularly in at-risk communities.

Emily Ruedinger, MD
Emily is a third-year Adolescent Medicine fellow, through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health {LEAH} grant. She came to Minnesota for the second and third years of her Adolescent Medicine fellowship, having completed the first year of her LEAH fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital, which is also where she did her Pediatrics residency. A Midwest native, Emily received both her B.S. in elementary education and her M.D. from the University of Wisconsin- Madison. One of the most rewarding experiences of her medical career so far has been working at a teen-tot clinic for adolescent mothers and their children, and she hopes to focus future research on teen parenting and/or teen pregnancy prevention. Her husband, Eric, works in finance at Boston Scientific and a transfer within his company is what brought them to Minnesota. Although they both enjoyed the East Coast, they are happy to be closer to their families; and Emily is very excited to be joining the enthusiastic folks she has met so far here at the University of Minnesota. Emily and Eric are currently settling into their new home in Woodbury with their 10 month old son, Elijah, and their two cats. Outside of work, she enjoys cooking, jogging, reading novels, and spending time with friends and family.

Randa Soubra, BS
Randa is a pre-doctoral Social Work fellow, through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health {LEAH} grant. She is in the Masters in Social Work [MSW] degree program at the University of Minnesota. Randa earned her BS in Psychology and French from Hamline University.

Chelsey Thul, PhD
Chelsey is a second-year fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training: Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. Her PhD in Kinesiology, with a focus on Sport and
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Exercise Psychology and Prevention Science, was awarded by the University of Minnesota. While pursuing her MA (Kinesiology) and PhD degrees at UMN, Chelsey worked as a Research Assistant at the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sports (School of Kinesiology); and as a Teaching Assistant in the School of Kinesiology. {Tucker Center is the first and only interdisciplinary research center of its kind in the world, solely dedicated to the study of females in physical activity contexts.} With her doctoral co-advisor, Dr Nicole LaVoi, Chelsey co-authored a successfully-funded grant through the Melpomene Institute for Women’s Health Research, “Unequal Opportunities, Unequal Outcomes: Reducing Physical Inactivity in East African Girls.” Based on this study, she worked with adolescent Somali girls in a culturally relevant, all-female basketball league developed by the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota, at the Brian Coyle Center in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.

Michaela Bucchianeri, PhD
Michaela is a Clinical Psychology / Adolescent Nutrition post-doctoral fellow through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. She works as a member of the Project EAT research team in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health, and serves as intervention director for the UMatter program for adolescent girls at Broadway Family Medicine in north Minneapolis. Michaela received her doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Notre Dame in 2011 after completing her predoctoral internship at The University of California, Davis. Her research interests include social and cultural influences on body image, eating disorder prevention efforts, and weight bias and stigma. In her free time, Michaela loves cooking, traveling, and being with family and friends.

Amy L. Gower, PhD
Amy is a third-year Child Psychology fellow, through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. She earned her doctorate in child psychology from the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests center on the development of aggression and violence throughout the lifespan. Amy’s work through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child & Adolescent Primary Care (IRT-CAPC) grant examines adolescent bullying in Minnesota and trajectories of relational and physical violence in a high-risk sample of urban girls. She hopes to integrate bullying policy assessment in her future work to identify violence prevention programs and policies that promote the best outcomes for youth.

2012-2013

Balkhash Amanzholova, MD, a Fulbright Scholar from Kazakhstan, will be a research fellow in 2012-2013, with a focus on teen pregnancy. Dr. Amanzholova was awarded her Medical Diploma in General Medicine in 1982, from Kazakh National Medical University, where she later did her Medical Internship (1982-1983) and Clinical Residency (Ordinatura) in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (1986-1988). She is currently an Associate Professor in that department at Kazakh Medical University. Her research project is aimed at the study of family planning and education issues among adolescents, with a particular focus on the role of family medicine and
general practitioners in the field, with the ultimate goal of preventing unwanted pregnancies.

**Molly Cousin, MD**, will be a second-year Primary Care Academic General Pediatrics fellow in 2012-2013 (funded through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant). Molly earned her medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed her Pediatric residency at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Here interests in social determinants of health lead her to this fellowship, where she is completing a MPH in Community Health Promotion. Molly’s current fellowship research is on sources of sexual health information and dating violence experiences. She is interested in the role of pediatricians in promoting community health among communities facing high levels of poverty and stress.

**Calae Dianne (Dorsett) Philippe, MBBS, MPH**, is a first-year postdoctoral fellow in the Healthy Youth Development· Prevention Research Center in 2012-2013. She received her MBBS from The University of the West Indies, Kingston Jamaica; and an MPH in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland. She was previously the Coordinator for Training Center in Primary Health Services in Nassau, Bahamas; and a resident in Family Medicine at The Princess Margaret Hospital, in The Bahamas. She has always had a passion to work with youth and since her love brought her to Minnesota she pursued the opportunity to follow this unrelenting dream of working in Adolescent Health. Calae’s research interests focus on violence in youth, provision of effective sexual reproductive health services and the role of standardized preventive education in these areas. She has worked on studies in the areas the protective and risk factors of early sexual debut in youth and the epidemiology of violence in youth in the Bahamas. Additionally, she has provided medical services to youth for over 10 years in the general practice in the Bahamas for provided focused services at the Adolescent Health Clinic and School Health Services in The Bahamas. She seeks to broaden her skills and abilities to become an advocate of healthy youth development and prevention.

**Nasra Giama, BSN**, will be a pre-doctoral Nursing fellow in 2012-2013 (funded through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health {LEAH} grant). She received her BSN from the University of Minnesota, where she is now working toward her Doctor of Nursing Practice {DNP}, as a Public Health Nurse-Adolescent Health Specialty. In this fellowship, she seeks to gain experience in researching disparities in health for youth from marginalized communities and translating existing research practice. Nasra has coordinated several research studies, as well as community assessments. As part of her DNP capstone, she is piloting a health teaching, referral, and follow-up intervention on Somalis who have hepatitis B or hepatitis C. Ultimately, Nasra would like to be a leader in establishing health programs for adolescents in Kenya/Somalia borders, as well as to promote access to quality health care for refugee and immigrant youth in the United States.

**Amy L. Gower, PhD**, will be a second-year Child Psychology fellow in 2012-2013 (funded through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant). She earned her doctorate in child psychology from the Institute of Child
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Development at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests center on the development of aggression and violence throughout the lifespan. Amy’s work through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child & Adolescent Primary Care (IRT-CAPC) grant examines adolescent bullying in Minnesota and trajectories of relational and physical violence in a high-risk sample of urban girls. She hopes to integrate bullying policy assessment in her future work to identify violence prevention programs and policies that promote the best outcomes for youth.

**Abby Johnson, BS**, will be a pre-doctoral Social Work fellow in 2012-2013 (funded through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health {LEAH} grant). She is in the Social Work-Public Health dual degree program at the University of Minnesota. Abby earned her BS in Psychology from Montana State University. She is a clinical interviewer for a study that Dr Sonya Brady (faculty in SPH, as well as training faculty with our Interdisciplinary Fellowship Training Program); the purpose of the study is to examining vulnerability and resilience to stress among African American and Caucasian families. Abby would like to work in policy and best-practice program implementation related to adolescent sexual health.

**Kiana Johnson, MSEd, PhD**, will be a pre-doctoral LEND fellow (funded through the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities grant). The Minnesota LEND Program is an interdisciplinary leadership training program spanning 12 disciplines across the University. Kiana earned three degrees from Purdue University: BA (Psychology), M.S.Ed. (Educational Psychology), and PhD (Educational Psychology). She is a 10-year volunteer for the Kids Get Arthritis Too! Family Day, an annual event where children and parents learn about various rheumatic diseases; she has led focus groups and given presentations to teens and to parents. For nine years, Kiana served as a chaperone for the annual teen retreat hosted by the Pediatric Rheumatology Department at the James Whitcomb Riley Children’s Hospital, part of the Indiana University School of Medicine. She also taught a health self-management workshop (Be Your Own Boss: BYOB) for youth ages 14-25, through a 6-week program intended to teach adolescents and young adults with chronic conditions the importance of being your own advocate and being a good self-manager of health.

**Annie-Laurie McRee, DrPH**, is a second-year postdoctoral fellow on the Interdisciplinary Research Training: Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. She received her MPH in Health Behavior and Health Education from the University of Michigan and her DrPH in Maternal and Child Health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was previously the Director of Youth Services and Community Health Education at a Title X-funded organization for over 10 years. Annie-Laurie’s research centers on the services and supports adolescent need to lead healthy lives. She is particularly interested in understanding how parents and health care providers can facilitate adolescent health care and promote adolescent health. Annie-Laurie has been involved in numerous studies of HPV vaccination. She has also been involved in research on emergency contraception, sexual and reproductive health, and parent-adolescent communication. As a postdoctoral fellow, Annie-Laurie is examining positive youth development approaches to reducing sexual risk behaviors among vulnerable adolescents. She is also the PI on a study investigating opportunities to
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maximize the provision of health supervision and anticipatory guidance through the adolescent vaccination platform.

**Charlotte Nitardy, PhD**, will be a second-year Primary Care General Academic Pediatrics Fellow in 2012-2013. Charlotte earned her bachelor, Master’s and PhD in education from the University of Minnesota. Her professional experience includes teaching and administering programs in higher education, PK-12, and conducting program evaluation of non-profit organizations serving children and their families. As an educator, she has always been concerned with social issues associated with children who fail school or drop out which subsequently lead to poor health outcomes. Her goal is to study and research the relationship between education and morbidity, mortality and other health conditions that are unique or more prevalent in racial and ethnic minorities. Aside from taking classes that will lead to a Master of Public Health program here at the University of Minnesota, she also teaches she teaches at Metropolitan State University where she worked full-time prior to joining the fellowship. Charlotte lives in Woodbury with her three children Eric, Michelle and Danielle and their dog Rocky. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, and trying recipes from the Food Network.

**Lewis Raynor, PhD**, will be a second-year Epidemiology fellow in 2012-2013 (funded through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant). Lewis earned his MPH and doctoral in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota; and also has a MS degree in Biological Anthropology from the University of Oregon. His research centers on the genetics of chronic disease; and he is particularly interested in how the environment and evolitional patterns influence who manifests disease and the etiology behind that disease process. His hope is to make a contribution toward identifying genetic risk factors and/or environmental interactions that can be modified to reduce risk, particularly in at-risk communities.

**Emily Ruedinger, MD**, will be the Adolescent Medicine fellow in 2012-2013 (funded through the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) grant). She is happy to be coming to Minnesota for the second and third years of her Adolescent Medicine fellowship on the LEAH grant. Emily completed the first year of her LEAH fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital, which is also where she did her Pediatrics residency. A Midwest native, Emily received both her B.S. in elementary education and her M.D. from the University of Wisconsin- Madison. One of the most rewarding experiences of her medical career so far has been working at a teen-tot clinic for adolescent mothers and their children, and she hopes to focus future research on teen parenting and/or teen pregnancy prevention. Her husband, Eric, works in finance at Boston Scientific and a transfer within his company is what brought them to Minnesota. Although they both enjoyed the East Coast, they are happy to be closer to their families; and Emily is very excited to be joining the enthusiastic folks she has met so far here at the University of Minnesota. Emily and Eric are currently settling into their new home in Woodbury with their 10 month old son, Elijah, and their two cats. Outside of work, she enjoys cooking, jogging, reading novels, and spending time with friends and family.

**Chelsey Thul, PhD**, will be a first-year fellow on the Interdisciplinary Research Training: Child and Adolescent Primary Care grant. She will defend her thesis in September
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2012; her PhD is in Kinesiology, with a focus on Sport and Exercise Psychology and Prevention Science. While pursuing her MA (Kinesiology) and PhD degrees at the University of Minnesota, Chelsey has worked as a Research Assistant at the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sports (School of Kinesiology); and as a Teaching Assistant in the School of Kinesiology. {Tucker Center is the first and only interdisciplinary research center of its kind in the world, solely dedicated to the study of females in physical activity contexts.} With her doctoral co-advisor, Dr Nicole LaVoi, Chelsey co-authored a successfully-funded grant through the Melpomene Institute for Women’s Health Research, “Unequal Opportunities, Unequal Outcomes: Reducing Physical Inactivity in East African Girls.” Based on this study, she worked with adolescent Somali girls in a culturally relevant, all-female basketball league developed by the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota, at the Brian Coyle Center in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.

2011-2012

Meredith Hicks, MPH
Meredith Hicks is a passionate advocate for adolescent health and rights. While working for Advocates for Youth in Washington, D.C. she led a youth organizing initiative for sex education policy change at the state and local level. She recently completed her Master’s in Public Health degree in Community Health Promotion with a focus on youth development. Meredith’s fellowship research focused on the protective behavior of risk prevention communication between teens and their sexual partners, and the role of parent communication.

Annie-Laurie McRee, DrPH
Annie-Laurie earned her doctorate in Maternal and Child Health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her MPH in Health Behavior and Health Education from the University of Michigan. She was previously the Director of Youth Services a community-based family planning organization in Colorado. Annie-Laurie’s research centers on the services and supports adolescents need to lead healthy lives. She is particularly interested in understanding how parents and health care providers can facilitate adolescent health care and promote adolescent health. Annie-Laurie has been involved in numerous studies of HPV vaccination. She has also conducted research on emergency contraception, sexual and reproductive health, and parent-adolescent communication. As a postdoctoral fellow funded through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child & Adolescent Primary Care (IRT-CAPC) grant, Annie-Laurie is examining positive youth development approaches to reducing sexual risk behaviors among vulnerable adolescents. She is also the PI on a study investigating opportunities to maximize the provision of health supervision and anticipatory guidance through the adolescent vaccination platform.

Virginia Quick, PhD, RD
Virginia Quick holds her Bachelor of Science and Doctorate degrees in Nutritional Sciences from Rutgers University. Currently, she is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Minnesota being funded from the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child & Adolescent Primary
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Care (IRT-CAPC) grant. She is collaborating with the Project EAT (Eating and Activity among Teens and Young Adults) team at the School of Public health on various research projects. Dr. Quick’s main research of interest includes examining eating behaviors and disordered eating in youth and young adults, particularly those with diet-related chronic health conditions. She plans to share and build upon her previous research as she continues to pursue her dreams at becoming a respectable researcher and teacher in academia.

Kaela Glass, MSW
Kaela’s passion for adolescent health is around global populations, both in the United States and abroad. Kaela spent the summer of 2011 working with women and girls in Uganda around family planning and HIV/AIDS prevention and will be building on this work as an intern with the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in 2012. Her interest in improving access to disenfranchised populations by translating academic research into policy and program recommendations has led her to a dual degree in Social Work and Public Policy. Kaela’s fellowship research was focused on Latina adolescents in Minnesota and the protective impact of father communication and was supported by the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) Fellowship Training Program grant.

Amy Gower, PhD
Amy Gower earned her doctorate in child psychology from the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests center on the development of aggression and violence throughout the lifespan. Amy’s work through the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child & Adolescent Primary Care (IRT-CAPC) grant examines adolescent bullying in Minnesota and trajectories of relational and physical violence in a high-risk sample of urban girls. She hopes to integrate bullying policy assessment in her future work to identify violence prevention programs and policies that promote the best outcomes for youth.

Molly Cousin, MD
Molly earned her medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed her pediatric residency at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Her interests in social determinants of health lead her to the interdisciplinary training fellowship where she is completing a MPH in Community Health Promotion. Her current fellowship research is on sources of sexual health information and dating violence experiences. She is interested in the role of pediatricians in promoting community health among communities facing high levels of poverty and stress.

L. Raynor, PhD
I earned my MPH and doctorate in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota. I also have a MS in Biological Anthropology from the University of Oregon. I am currently a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the Interdisciplinary Research Training in Child and Adolescent Primary Care Fellowship Training Program in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota. My research centers on the genetics of chronic disease. I am particularly interested in how the environment and evolutionary patterns influence who manifests disease and the etiology behind that disease process. I hope to be able
to make a contribution towards identifying genetic risk factors and/or environmental interactions that can be modified to reduce risk, particularly in at-risk communities.

Charlotte M Nitardy, PhD
I earned a PhD in education from the University of Minnesota. My professional experience includes teaching and administering programs in higher education and PK-12, and conducting program evaluation of non-profit organizations serving children and their families. As a mother and an educator, I've always been concerned about health disparities, and multiple social and health problems associated with children who fail school or drop out. My goal is to study and research the relationship between education and morbidity, mortality and other health conditions that are unique or more prevalent in racial and ethnic minorities. Other research interest areas include social determinants of racial/ethnic health disparities; relationship between childhood experiences and health in adulthood; health literacy of underserved populations; and public policy approaches to reducing health disparities.