

2025

Annual Report



JOHNS HOPKINS
CENTER *for* GLOBAL HEALTH

Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health



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SCHOOL of EDUCATION

BACKGROUND

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health (CGH) employs a one-university approach to global health, catalyzing activities across the University for students, faculty, and collaborators through innovative approaches to resource sharing, convening, and applied learning. Since 2006, CGH has served as a funding and resource hub by providing faculty and student grants, convening multidisciplinary teams to respond to calls for applications, supporting field-based learning, and connecting JHU researchers to each other and to international partners.



Photo by Paul Phan (c) 2025

- ▶ **Our mission:** To catalyze global health activities across the University for students, faculty, and collaborators through innovative approaches to resource sharing, convening, and applied learning
- ▶ **Our vision:** A "One University" approach to impact global health challenges
- ▶ **Core Activities**
 - Convene JHU experts to develop multidisciplinary proposals
 - Catalyze meaningful global health opportunities for faculty and staff
 - Support and coordinate applied learning experiences
 - Serve as a hub for global health resources for JHU
 - Coordinate global health activities across JHU
 - Foster equitable collaborations with international partners

This report was produced by Meagan Harrison with support from Dr. Anna Kalbarczyk. The report was published on December 17, 2025.

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR



The year 2025 will be remembered as a tumultuous period for global health financing, characterized by significant challenges and diminishing resources. The onset of this year saw a dramatic shift in the funding landscape, initiated by the closure of USAID, the U.S. withdrawal from multilateral programs—including the WHO and the Paris Agreement on Climate—and reductions in overall international aid. These developments created uncertainty in addressing global health issues, as many international research agreements were halted or canceled midway. Furthermore, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) reduced its workforce by 20%, impacting leadership at the CDC and NIH. More recently, changes in vaccine policy as directed by DHHS has also increased mistrust in our public health officials and their recommendations. This environment has fostered uncertainty in our public health policies, and worsened access to research funding, particularly as universities faced negotiations with the U.S. Administration over billions of research dollars.

The financial and policy changes exacerbated existing health inequalities, crippled health systems, and hindered disease control initiatives globally. Most notably, the funding downturn significantly affected programs targeting infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, which are prevalent in low- and middle-income countries reliant on international aid. The decrease in financial support led to reduced prevention efforts, contributing to elevated transmission rates. Treatment adherence also plummeted due to limited access to essential medications and diagnostics, threatening the progress achieved in disease management in recent decades.

Equally concerning, these funding changes undermined efforts to bolster health system infrastructure and workforce capacity. Countries dependent on international aid faced struggles in maintaining essential health services. Training programs for health workers, supply chain management, and infrastructure improvements suffered significant setbacks. This diminishing resilience in health systems curbed their responsiveness to public health emergencies and hindered the delivery of routine healthcare. As a result, morbidity and mortality rates from preventable conditions steadily increased, particularly among marginalized communities, which faced even greater barriers to care. Limited access to maternal and child health services exacerbated maternal and infant mortality rates, while critical preventive healthcare services became less available.

The constraints on research and development have also delayed the introduction of new health technologies and therapies, impeding progress in disease management and prevention. Collaborative efforts to tackle emerging health threats, such as antimicrobial resistance and zoonotic diseases, fractured under the pressure of diminishing resources.

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR



A stark example of these challenges is the PEPFAR program, one of the most impactful global health initiatives in the last two decades. PEPFAR's contributions to combatting HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis underscore its essential role in shaping the global health landscape. This initiative has provided treatment access, enhanced prevention efforts, and strengthened healthcare systems, saving millions of lives and markedly reducing the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. However, in 2025, PEPFAR faced severe challenges due to budget cuts and shifting U.S. foreign aid priorities, driven by broader political trends. The focus on fiscal conservatism raised concerns about the sustainability of PEPFAR's funding, leading to potential service reductions, particularly affecting prevention and treatment initiatives in highly impacted countries.

Despite these ongoing challenges, I remain optimistic about our commitment to addressing global health issues. Notably, there has been a resurgence of enthusiasm among students eager to engage in the field. This past summer, over 1,000 high school students participated in global health leadership seminars organized by Hopkins undergraduates, which showcased many of our university's global health experts. Endeavors like these exemplify a renewed dedication to cultivating global health leadership.

While our global health leadership is resilient, we must simultaneously also focus on future streams of training new leaders. The Center has placed its priorities on providing new leadership opportunities for our public health and medical students, advance nursing students, medical residents and fellows, and junior faculty. In this report we describe our global health international awards that enable our students to travel to impoverished areas to work with our faculty mentors to implement programs that improve health throughout the lifespan. We receive three times the number of applications for these awards than we can afford due to the need and enthusiasm of our candidates. For those that do receive the awards, the experience is uniformly transformative helping build new careers in global health. With your support, we could give other students the same opportunities to learn and to lead in our field of global health.

As we move into 2026, the Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health will continue to coordinate and enhance our global health activities. With a significant presence in over 120 countries, we strive to inform and educate through our website, newsletters, and lectures, and our global health international awards.

I wish you all success in the coming year, encouraging you to pursue the ideals of global health. Together, we can advocate for a healthier and more equitable future.

Tom Quinn, MD, MSc
Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health

CONNECTING VIRTUALLY WITH A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

CGH has cultivated a vibrant virtual community using social media, Zoom, our weekly newsletter, and the Emerging Women Leaders in Global Health Slack Workspace. We are more connected and inclusive than ever before, as virtual engagement has reduced many location related barriers to participation in our activities.



Twitter

@JHUGlobalHealth

13,022
followers



**Global Health
Bulletin**

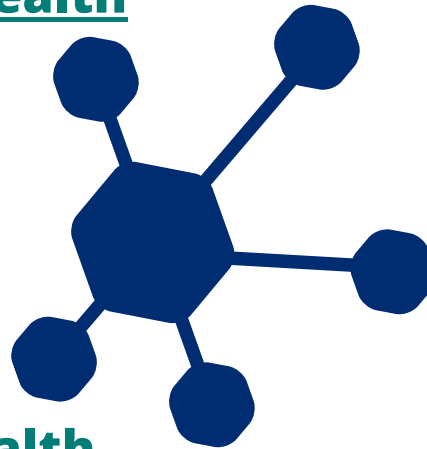
5500
subscribers



Instagram

@HopkinsGlobalHealth

811
followers



Facebook

3200
followers



Slack

1400
members

FEATURED PUBLICATION

The Use and Creation of Photographic Imagery in Global Health: Actionable Steps Towards Decolonization by Academic Institutions

Photographic imagery holds profound power in shaping narratives, identities, and perceptions in global health education. Historically, visual representation used in global health has perpetuated colonial hierarchies, reinforcing inequities and marginalizing the voices and lived realities of the communities they depict. These images can inadvertently sustain harmful stereotypes and distort the complexity of global health challenges.

In this paper, we recommend steps to advance a culture of ethical reflexivity and accountability around photographic imagery that academic institutions can take to dismantle colonial visual legacies and foster more equitable, inclusive, and humanizing global health education and practice:

- Adopt institution-wide ethical image-use policies
- Offer training programs for faculty and students
- Develop centralized image repositories that include culturally appropriate and consented visuals.
- Integrate ethical image practices into research and pedagogy
- Build meaningful, ongoing partnerships with community stakeholders around image and content creation



Harrison, Meagan, Anna Kalbarczyk, and Bareng Aletta Sanny Nonyane.
"The Use and Creation of Photographic Imagery in Global Health: Actionable Steps Towards Decolonization by Academic Institutions." Annals of global health 91.1 (2025): 54.

Section 1: A HUB FOR CONVENING

In 2025 the Center for Global Health continued convening groups with in-person, hybrid and virtual programming. We continued to build our strategic virtual programming to continue to connect with global health students and partners around the world.

RESOURCE SHARING

CGH has brought together the recordings from all of the webinars we have hosted on our [YouTube](#) channel as a resource for the global health community.





UJMT RESEARCH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Research Leadership Academy is an interactive and participatory seminar series designed to foster growth among trainees and support their transition from researcher to research leader for UJMT Fogarty Fellows. This series was purposeful in its approach to introduce participants to key research leadership topics that are often overlooked during academic coursework but can have a significant impact on the success of an individual's research career.

This seminar series is built upon three core domains: the conduct of global health research, essential knowledge and skills for global health leadership, and mentoring competencies for global health research. The format of the seminar actively engages trainees, builds skills through practice, and evolves with the trainee experience. In 2025, we added a fifth module on "What Comes Next" to cover post-fellowship learnings.

Each session is facilitated by at least one topic area expert. The modules were divided as follows:

Module 1: Pre-orientation and In-person Orientation

- 1.1 Welcome to UJMT
- 1.2 Creating your Individual Development Plan
- 1.3 IRB Planning
- 1.4 Implicit Bias (In-person Orientation)

Module 2: Pre-departure

- 2.1 Defining leadership
- 2.2 Implicit bias and cross-cultural practice
- 2.3 Stakeholder engagement

Module 3: Early fellowship

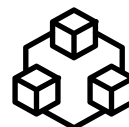
- 3.1 When things don't go right
- 3.2 Project and team management
- 2.3 Championing diverse perspectives

Module 4: Late fellowship

- 4.1 Grantsmanship
- 4.2 Capacity strengthening
- 4.3 Collaborating with external stakeholders and dissemination

Module 5: What Comes Next

- 4.1 All the things I wish I knew before becoming junior faculty
- 4.2 What Happens Next?
- 4.3 Storytelling: Communicating about your experience powerfully and effectively



5

modules



16

sessions



14

fellows

Dr. Anna Kalbarczyk, CGH Assistant Director, offers regular 1:1 leadership coaching sessions for interested fellows as a value-add component to the program.

Global Health Day 2025



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Global Health Day Symposium

April 2, 2025

Each year, the Center for Global Health celebrates Global Health Day by sharing and informing global health knowledge, expertise and experiences with the Johns Hopkins local and international communities. For Global Health Day 2025, we partnered with the MPH program to host an in-person event at BSPH.

Outstanding alumni speakers joined us to present an informative panel on the impact of their CGH field award experiences on their career trajectories and inspired current students towards their next steps after graduation. Five alumni speakers joined us from the GHEFP and Lietman programs, representing USAID, the World Bank, Johns Hopkins Medicine, and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

An in-person networking lunch and poster session followed and awards were given to the highest-scoring posters.



~110

attendees



41

Posters
Presentations

2025 GLOBAL ORAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

SAVE THE DATE! 2025 Global Oral Health Symposium

MARCH 27 - 28, 2025

JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



Join us for a groundbreaking event exploring the intersection of global health and oral health bringing together experts to discuss:

- A Baltimore Solution to Integration
- Integrating Oral Health into Medicine & Public Health
- Ethical Responsibility to Global Oral Health
- Humanitarian Oral Health Initiatives
- Expanding the Oral Health Workforce
- Innovations for the 21st Century
- Patient Quality & Safety
- Health Economics Case Study
- ...and more!



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When most people think of oral health, they think of dental health. But oral health is so much more than just teeth! Oral health is a window into overall health, and is linked to countless conditions including cardiovascular disease, pregnancy and birth outcomes, pneumonia, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, cancer, and Alzheimer's disease, among others. Yet, oral health is often left out of the Global Health agenda.

In March 2025 the Center for Global Health partnered with Solidarity Dental to host a two-day Global Oral Health Symposium. The symposium brought together over **130 experts and students** from all over the world to Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and over **150 additional participants joined on Zoom**.

The event brought together experts from oral health, global health, and medicine to explore the importance of integrating oral health into broader global health systems and included keynote speakers, panels, and working group opportunities.

[Learn more and watch the recordings here](#)

Section 2: STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND AWARDS



This year we continued to award annual student grants and fellowships. Students traveled to more than 20 countries for the **Global Health Established Field Placement** and the **Lietman Fellowship**.

In 2025 we launched two new travel grant programs:

- 1) **Medical Student Global Health Travel Grant** for JHU medical students to complete global health rotations, and
- 2) **Rishi Children's Fund Travel Grant** for graduate students to participate in research and practice experiences related to orphans and vulnerable children in India. The mission of this fund is to advance research on how investments in children and youth from disadvantaged backgrounds can unlock their potential, leading to improved health outcomes and positive societal change.



FUNDING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Lietman Fellowship

The Paul S. Lietman Global Travel Grant for Residents & Fellows supports travel for residents and fellows completing rotations in low- and middle-income countries.


18
grantees
awarded


9
countries



Photo by Sarah Bennett (c) 2024

Global Health Established Field Placement (GHEFP)

The GHEFP provides travel support to students doing practicums at Hopkins-affiliated global health placements



Photo by Ishita Mohan (c) 2025


39
grantees
awarded


17
countries
with
placements

Medical Student Global Health Travel Grant

The GHEFP provides travel support to students doing practicums at Hopkins-affiliated global health placements


10
grantees
awarded


8
countries

Rishi Children's Fund Orphans and Vulnerable Children Travel Grant

The Rishi Children's Fund Travel Grant is for graduate students to participate in research and practice experiences related to orphans and vulnerable children in India. Dr. Anita Shet and Dr. Sunil Solomon welcomed two students to their sites in India for the inaugural year of this award.


2
grantees
awarded

Global Health Travel Grant Awardee Spotlights



Anthony Bishara, Medical Student

My experience through the Medical Student Global Health Travel Grant in Mexico City touched every part of who I am as a student, as a future physician, and as a person. From the start, I was welcomed into the hospital not just as an observer, but as part of the team. I had the opportunity to first-assist and observe a wide range of cases, from resections of sarcomas to complex reconstructions. Dr. Shalkow has an extraordinary way of teaching—he never hurries through an explanation, and he models patience and grace even in the most high-pressure situations.

Perhaps the most meaningful aspect of my summer, however, was not in the operating room at all. I had the privilege of interviewing pediatric sarcoma patients and their families—in Spanish—as part of our research into functional outcomes following limb salvage or amputation. At first, I was nervous about conducting these conversations in a language that was not my own, but what quickly became clear was that connection matters far more than perfection. Families welcomed me into their stories with generosity and vulnerability. I left each interview with a renewed sense of what medicine is all about. We are invited into the most intimate, vulnerable chapters of people's lives, and our responsibility is to meet that trust with empathy, humility, and respect.

On a personal level, this summer strengthened my commitment to global surgery and more specifically, pediatric surgical oncology. This is an experience I never would have had without the Center for Global Health, and one that has left an imprint on my personal and professional journey that I know will endure for years to come.

Flora Yazigi, MD, Neonatology Fellow



Not only was my international elective in Morocco an enriching experience from medical, technical, and educational perspectives, but it was also enriching personally in shaping what my future as a neonatologist may be and inspired me to reach for further action in global health.

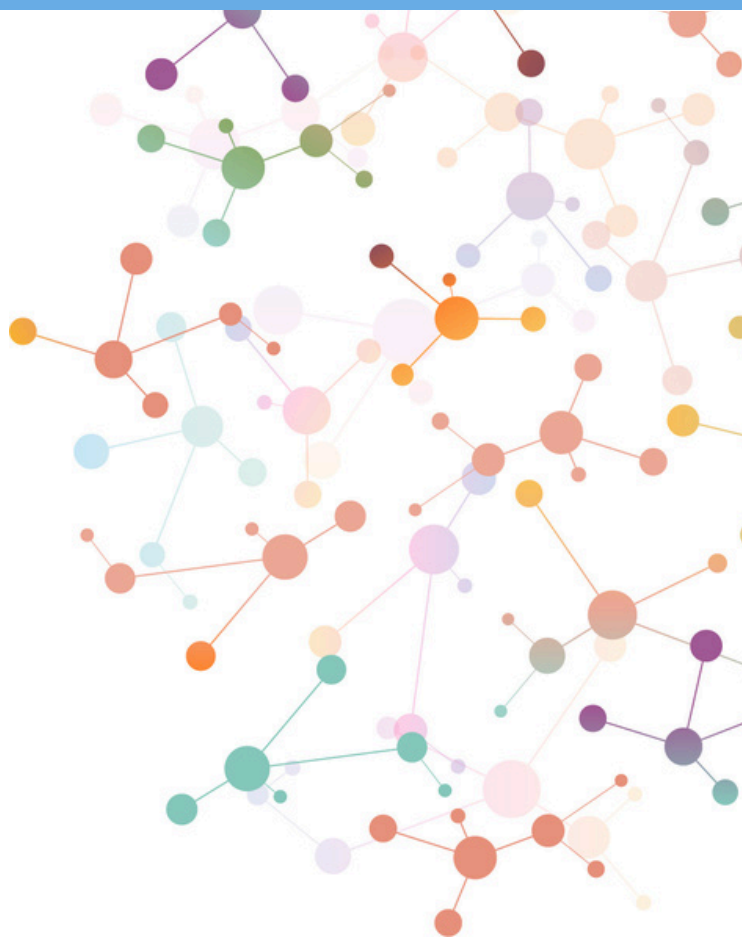
During my training I've been exposed to the highest level of technology and multidisciplinary expertise along with widespread availability of what we think of as essential tools, we take for granted what we have at our disposal to be successful in the most complex of resuscitations. Speaking to midwives from throughout Morocco was eye opening. Their access to tools is limited, especially in the more distant areas of the country, because of lack of resources or knowledge and expertise of use. It was a wonderful experience teaching basic infant resuscitation to a wide variety of trainees. It truly felt like an exchange of knowledge especially when we were taught ourselves how to make do with what was available as tools, sharing, educating. Despite differences in culture, language, backgrounds and even level of expertise in healthcare, it was a joyful enriching environment. It was a challenging time and pushed me in a positive manner to accept being uncomfortable and uncertain from a linguistic standpoint, using English, Arabic and French every day. I wish to express sincere gratitude for the grant, without which this would not have been possible.



Yuka Iijima, MSPH Student

This global health experience significantly deepened my understanding of how global health research is implemented in practice, particularly in low-resource settings. Working at the Instituto Nacional de Saúde in Mozambique highlighted the complexity of translating epidemiologic and laboratory methods into sustainable surveillance systems, and challenged assumptions I previously held about efficiency, infrastructure, and control. I learned that progress in global health depends not only on technical rigor, but also on strong partnerships, clear communication, and adaptability to local constraints. Through coordinating laboratory workflows, training colleagues, and managing data across institutions, I developed a more nuanced appreciation of equity and capacity-building as central components of effective global health work. This experience reinforced my interest in pursuing a career focused on infectious disease epidemiology and health systems strengthening, and I will carry forward both the technical skills and collaborative mindset developed during this internship.

Section 3: EMERGING WOMEN LEADERS IN GLOBAL HEALTH (EDGE)



With support from a grant from the Provost's Office, the Center for Global Health created a virtual **Women's Leadership Seminar Series** in 2020 to expose students and other members of our community to non-academic career paths in the field of global health using a women's leadership lens.

Since then, we have continued to produce this seminar series and created the Emerging Women Leaders in Global Health (EDGE) program. In 2025 we hosted seminars and expanded our EDGE Slack network,

We also continued supporting the **EDGE Student Society** at BSPH.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

In 2025 the Center for Global Health continued to host our women's leadership seminar series. The EDGE network has grown substantially and is full of brilliant emerging leaders, and we decided to host a seminar series called "Community Webinars" in which seminars were developed in partnership with and hosted by our amazing members, for our community.



community webinars
in 2025

- 1) **Navigating Career Alignment** as an Emerging Woman Leader in Global Health
- 2) **Equity in Leadership:** Women of Diverse Racial Backgrounds Shaping the Future of Global Health
- 3) **Moving Beyond Academia:** Taking your global health career in a new direction

EDGE STUDENT SOCIETY

In 2025 we continued to support the EDGE Student Society, a Hopkins Student Group branch of the EDGE network. Together we hosted a large welcome-back to school event.

During the year, the students organized multiple networking events including a head shot session and a field trip to visit the United Nations and Columbia University in New York City.

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Welcome (Back), Students!

The Center for Global Health is excited to welcome and welcome back JHU students from all schools and divisions. We can't wait to connect with you.

We invite you to:

JOIN our Global Health Bulletin Email List
Stay up to date on global health news, events, job/practicum opportunities, and more!

REGISTER for the Gender Transformative Leadership in Global Health Opportunities Showcase and Networking Event

Rapid showcase will include brief presentations from:

- Center for Global Health, Emerging Women Leaders in Global Health (EDGE) Initiative
- Gender and Work Initiative, Carey School of Business
- Center for Global Women's Health and Gender Equity, BSPH
- Gender and Health Certificate Program, BSPH
- SAIS Women Lead
- EDGE Student Society

September 8 at 12noon in Feinstone Hall
Followed by a facilitated networking lunch.

APPLICATIONS OF LEADERSHIP THEORIES TO GLOBAL HEALTH

With support from a team of EDGE volunteers, we conducted research to inform a contextually driven approach to leadership training and development in global health, tailored for and designed with women in low-resource settings. We began with a scoping review to:

- Identify leadership theories, models, and frameworks that have been applied to women's leadership development programs in global health.
- Synthesize data on the application and effectiveness of these models.
- Identify components of cultural adaptive leadership development programs.

Of 2353 articles reviewed, only 10 met inclusion criteria. Initial analyses reveal:

- **Context is often missing**—few studies describe how setting shapes program design or outcomes.
- **Models go unadapted**—contemporary frameworks are used as-is, with little tailoring to local realities.
- **Adaptation processes lack transparency**—how, why, and by whom adaptations are made is seldom explained.
- **Co-design remains underutilized**—participants and local partners are rarely engaged as co-creators.

We will continue our search in the grey literature next year!

EDGE SLACK WORKSPACE



We continued to cultivate a vibrant [Slack workspace](#) to connect attendees for virtual networking, engage members with polls and discussion posts, advertise job postings, and encourage solution-finding. We now have over **1400** brilliant women and allies in global health in our Slack network.

Each week we have a **"Member Spotlight"** that is shared in our newsletter along with information on upcoming events, opportunities, trainings, and interesting reads that are shared in our community. We also post our "Member Spotlights" on the EDGE LinkedIn group in the hopes that folks will connect with our spotlighted members and build their networks.

Section 4: RAISING SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMING

This year we created an alumni engagement strategy and launched a fundraising campaign to raise support for the Center's programs. Our initiatives like the **Global Health Established Field Placement Travel Grant**, **Paul S. Lietman Travel Grant for Residents and Fellows**, **Medical Student Global Health Travel Grant**, and **the Rishi Children's Fund Travel Grant**—each valued at \$3,500—enable students, residents, and fellows to gain invaluable in-country experience, mentorship, and collaborations with global partners committed to improving health worldwide.

Our strategy focuses on connecting with alumni to hear stories of how their CGH award travel and practicum experiences shaped their career, and sharing those stories widely. Our hope is that by highlighting the value and impact of our programs, donors will be inspired to partner with us to continue our programs.

Through our campaign, we are also offering alumni and other supporters of our programs, many of whom now work in global health careers, the opportunity to give back to the CGH program that may have helped set them on their global health career trajectory. By contributing to this campaign, donors can provide career-changing opportunities for a new generation of students and trainees.

[Click here to contribute.](#)

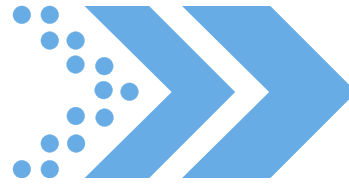


Photo by Ishita Mohan (c) 2025

Example Opportunities for Alumni Engagement

- Spotlight Series Speaker
- Event Speaker/Panelist
- Pop-up mentor
- Resume reviewer
- Career coaching
- Practicum/internship connection
- Student travel grant sponsor
- Local alumni event host

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Next year, CGH looks forward to

- Raising support for applied learning programs
- Launching the alumni engagement strategy
- Starting a global-local partnership program
- Hosting a reciprocal innovation workshop with UJMT
- Expanding the EDGE Network and EDGE student society
- Collaborating closely with doctoral students to generate a new global health student group.



Photo by Paul Phan (c) 2025

CLOSING REMARKS

As we reflect on the past year, the Center's mission—to bring together people and opportunities to solve global health challenges—remains our guiding force. Yet, the rapidly changing global health landscape reminds us that connection is more important than ever. To navigate its increasing complexity, we must intentionally strengthen the relationships that sustain our work: with our partners, our networks, our community, and our students.

This past year, we were often asked to reimagine what global health looks like. And while this brought many of us together as a field, it also created missed opportunities to stay connected amidst overwhelming competing priorities.

In the year ahead, we are deepening our commitment to connection: engaging more actively across our communities to spark dialogue, share insights, and encourage new ways of thinking. This will include a focus on reciprocal innovation, student group support, leadership programming, and spotlights on our faculty's work - all in an effort to facilitate deep connection.

I am inspired by the possibilities that can emerge when we reconnect with one another. Together, we can amplify discovery, nurture shared learning, and strengthen a global health community rooted in partnership, humanity, and collective progress.

Anna Kalbarczyk, DrPH, MPH
Assistant Director
Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you!

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health would like to thank the many faculty, students, and staff across the University who engage with us each year and make our programs possible. We could not have conducted our work this year without support from the Department of International Health, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Thank you for your support. Finally we offer a special thanks to our many international partners who continued to engage with us during a busy year.

Thank you to our many supporters for your continued contributions, financially and otherwise, to the Center.

If you would like to support the Center for Global Health, gifts can be made here.



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CENTER *for* GLOBAL HEALTH

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www.globalhealth.jhu.edu