

Objective: Experienced public health professional seeking an operational position in government aimed to reduce health disparities among medically underserved populations to achieve health equity. Areas of expertise include qualitative research methods, survey development, health equity, and health promotion. Bringing 8+ years of analytical, operational, and leadership skills to contribute along with both public and private sector experience.

Formal Education

UTHealth School of Public Health, Houston, TX

Dec. 2020

Master of Public Health (MPH), Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences
Graduate Certificate, Health Disparities

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Dec. 2012

Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minor in Psychology

Practicum

Summer 2020

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Tu Salud ¡Si Cuenta! – Your Health Matters

Evidence-based intervention to improve overall health among Latino communities; to enroll dyad participants, and train Promotoras, Community Health Workers, to utilize Motivational Interviewing (MI). In response to COVID-19 pandemic, designed and conducted a virtual focus group with Promotoras to understand program disruptions. Final report includes focus group findings, participant quantitative data and trends, and program recommendations.

Integrative Learning Experience

Summer 2020

The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX

School Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey (SPAN)

SPAN, a state-wide obesity surveillance system to monitor BMI trends among youth and adolescents. Collected and reviewed Campus Improvement Plans (CIPs) by SPAN cycle for select Public Health Regions to measure and compare policies' strengths. Final report included notable trends, state and local tools, and guidance for CIP development.

Community Assessment Project

Spring 2020

Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX

Government Relations and Community Benefits

Drafted Texas Children's Hospital's 2020-2022 Community Health Implementation Strategy with fellow students for the institution's continuing community impact based on evidence-based methods and interventions.

Publications

- Classen, S., Szeszulski, J., Ranjit, N., Rivas-Ponce, G., & Hoelscher, D. M. "Coordinated Health in Texas Elementary Schools' Campus Improvement Plans: Analysis of Regional Differences and Trends between 2016 and 2020." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19.9 (2022), 1-12.
- Cloyes, K. G., Guo, J.-W., Tennant, K. E., McCormick, R., Mansfield, K. J., Wawrzynski, S. E., Classen, S., Jones, E. C., & Reblin, M. "Exploring social support networks and interactions of young adult and lgbtqia+ cancer survivors and care partners." *Frontiers in Oncology*, 12 (2022), 1-10.
- "Research staff 101: Fostering curiosity, creativity, and community," PolicyWise, Nov. 2021.

Professional Experience

Research Assistant II

Feb. 2021 – Jun. 2022

Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

Served as research analyst on National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded research projects in the field of Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) of genetic and genomic technologies at the Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy. In the first year of employment, received the Star Award which recognizes employees who exceeded expectations.

- Supported design and execution of survey development and data analysis plans using REDcap and STATA.
- Developed and executed processes for data quality control for +20,000 data points.
- Prepared written proposals and research reports summarizing research methods, findings, and implications.
- Provided research and writing support, including conducting literature reviews and assisting with manuscript and presentation preparation.
- Managed recruitment and conducted cognitive interviews for survey development aimed to measure patient utility of genomic sequencing.

Graduate Assistant

Aug. 2019 – Feb. 2021

The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX

School Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey

Served as Casual Data Collector and Graduate Assistant to conduct student surveys for SPAN (School Physical Activity and Nutrition). Completed over 250 surveys to date in rural and urban regions of southeast Texas.

- Assisted with school recruitment and coordination to achieve optimal participation.
- Conducted surveys and collected height and weight measurements while maintaining smooth operations.
- Assisted with data preparation and cleaning to ensure accuracy.
- Completed FERPA and survey administration training sessions for sensitive and confidential data.

Graduate Assistant

Jun. 2020 – Feb. 2021

The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX

CATCH Healthy Smiles

Served as Graduate Assistant to develop and enhance intervention and evaluation materials for CATCH Healthy Smiles, school-based oral health promotion program aimed to reduce dental caries among children. Aims of the randomized clinical trial were to assess intervention's efficacy in reducing dental caries and school implementation.

- Conducted literature reviews to inform curriculum development and evidence-based measures utilization.
- Assisted with designing intervention outreach materials to incorporate curriculum and engage end-users.
- Collaborated with the team to author valid and reliable surveys with cultural relevance and user-end feasibility.
- Recorded weekly meeting minutes and communicated action items to accomplish project timeline.

Project Director

Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center, Houston, TX

Mar. 2016 – Dec. 2018

Directed and managed the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), a Federal Senior Corps Program that connects underserved older adults with at-risk youth to serve as mentors and tutors on a weekly basis. Maintained the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) grant and secured additional program funds from fundraising and community grants including the Farb Community Service Fund. In the first year of employment, increased the program's number of volunteers and volunteer stations, strengthened networking relationships, and improved new volunteer orientation and ongoing trainings to increase volunteer engagement and competency.

- Managed and exceeded federal grant and non-profit sponsoring agency grant requirements.
- Supervised volunteers and Assistant and equipped the team with tools for self-sufficiency and confidence.
- Managed recruiting efforts in Harris County, training, evaluation, and ongoing professional development.
- Prepared and completed quarterly and annual reports to measure and accomplish project goals.
- Maintained and oversaw the program's budget and required reports to ensure accuracy and efficiency.
- Developed strong relationships with local schools and head start centers to ensure successful mentorships.
- Partnered with government and community agencies to strengthen the program's outreach and impact.

Consultant

Planning Design Research (PDR), Houston, TX

Feb. 2014 – Mar. 2016

Provided migration expertise to Fortune 500 clients by developing and implementing solutions to successfully manage facilities data for execution. Responsibilities included strategic communication, collecting and managing data, producing reports for seamless transitions, and funneling vital information to client service lines. Key colleague supporting the ExxonMobil Houston Campus Project which resulted in a successful relocation of 10K employees. Managed migration strategies by working with business lines to address future capacity and occupancy goals.

- Utilized AutoCAD and WebCentral to customize plans addressing client priorities and workspace limitations.
- Communicated effectively with Move Coordinators to verify data, customize solutions, and identify restrictions.
- Managed master distribution list to ensure accuracy for project scheduling, verification meetings, and vendors.
- Actively tracked the project timeline; scheduled executive leadership meetings and reported project progress.

Project Coordinator

Alliantgroup LP, Houston, TX

May 2013 – Feb. 2014

- Maintained team efficiency and set priorities to exceed milestones and complete tax credit studies.
- Communicated frequently with clients to coordinate meetings and answer inquiries.
- Managed tax records and reports that were confidential or technical in nature.
- Collaborated with internal cross-functional teams to ensure accurate project content.

Project Assistant Intern & Venue Coordinator

Advent GX, Bryan, TX

Jun. 2012 – May 2013

- Drafted grants for Advent GX clients and expanded presence in the community through social networking.
- Delegated operational tasks to team members for Defacto Productions and the Grand Stafford Theater.
- Interviewed artists and coordinated local media announcements to promote upcoming performances.
- Wrote social and media music reviews published in Maroon Weekly, an arts and entertainment magazine.
- Reviewed artist contracts to draft operational packets for venue staff.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Jan. 2009 – May 2010

- Prepared trials and performed experimental tests on swordtail fish in researching behavior and mate choice.
- Extracted tissue samples and performed PCR.
- Edited scientific articles using computer software programs (e.g. EndNote).

Professional Development & Organizations

Voter Engagement Chair

The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX

Aug. 2019 – May 2021

- Organized and hosted in-person and virtual events to improve voter engagement as a health priority.
- Led the campus' first Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar (VDVR) training sessions and certified 30+ individuals.
- Coordinated the campus' first Voter Information Session for 2019 local elections.
- Facilitated information sessions with the League of Women Voters and Harris County Clerk's Office.

Foster Grandparent Program Vice President

Texas Senior Corps Association, Houston, TX

Jun. 2018 – Dec. 2018

- Served as state-wide Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) representative for programs' needs for success.
- Facilitated first series of quarterly calls among FGP Directors to collaborate techniques and enhance operations.

Young Leaders Member

Houston Area Women's Center, Houston, TX

Apr. 2014 – Dec. 2016

- Planned and hosted fundraising events which raised over \$20,000 to support the Center's services.
- Raised awareness about domestic violence and sexual assault through social media and community events.

Teacher Volunteer

International Volunteer HQ, Faridabad, India

Feb. 2013

- Taught English and Math to Elementary school children in India.
- Developed lesson plans and provided materials for educational activities.

Summer Volunteer

Brazos Valley Natural History Museum, Bryan, TX

May 2011 – Aug. 2011

- Assisted the Education Coordinator with summer nature camp lessons and activities.
- Conducted informational tours of the museum and exhibits while engaging patrons.

Director of Diplomatic Communications

Aggies Learning Leadership, College Station, TX

Aug. 2009 – May 2010

- Directed, initiated, and executed programs and events on campus.
- Delivered meetings to discuss leadership skills and delegated operational responsibilities to team members.