



Bridging the Gaps

2020 Health Action Report
30th Anniversary

AN OPPORTUNITY TO

VIEW

ENGAGE observe

combine **USE** **give** *INVESTIGATE* **LEARN**

Translate **IMMERSE** **CONTRIBUTE** witness

UNDERSTAND Experience **MEET** **WORK** **ASSIST**

DISCOVER REPRESENT **HELP** Facilitate **SOLIDIFY**

INTERACT **GROW** **hear** **UPLIFT** **PARTNER**

LISTEN BUILD *BECOME* **Connect**

enrich **GAIN** **Collaborate** TEACH

PARTICIPATE e x p a n d **Serve** Recognize

For 30 years, Bridging the Gaps interns
have used these words to describe their program experience

OUR MISSION

Bridging the Gaps (BTG) links the provision of health-related service for under-resourced populations with the interprofessional training of health and social service professionals.



Just as we entered our 30th anniversary year, the world was reeling from the impact of a pandemic and protests over racism and inequities. In collaboration with our community partners, students, institutions and grantmakers, we were able to adapt to meet the realities of the world around us. We listened to our constituents, adjusted our educational content, offered relevant resources and, perhaps most of all, made every effort to provide benefit to people in need. For 30 years, we have been part of the movement toward a better world, and for that we are grateful. Needless to say, we are so grateful for the many people and organizations that have enriched and sustained Bridging the Gaps. Especially this year, your partnership and collaboration have offered expertise, energy and resources that greatly enhanced our ability to be a contributor in this complex world.

With much gratitude,



Lucy Tuton
for the BTG Network

BTG NETWORK

Philadelphia Consortium

Louis M. Bell Jr., MD
University of Pennsylvania

Hillary Bogner, MD
University of Pennsylvania

Robert Dustin, MA
Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine,
BTG Program Director

Meshonea Fox, BS
Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Annette B. Gadegbeku, MD
Drexel University

Joan I. Gluch, PhD, RDH, PHDHP
University of Pennsylvania

Elissa Goldberg, MSS, LSW
Drexel University,
BTG Program Director

Maria Hervada-Page, MSS
Thomas Jefferson University,
BTG Program Director

Ellen Martinak, MS
University of Pennsylvania,
BTG Program Director

Bridget McCormick, MS
University of Pennsylvania

Laura Mullin, BA
Drexel University

Kathleen Reeves, MD
Temple University

**Providenza Rocco, JD, MSW,
MBE, HEC-C**
Temple University,
BTG Program Director

Lucy Wolf Tuton, PhD
University of Pennsylvania,
BTG Executive Director

George P. Valko, MD
Thomas Jefferson University

Brian Work, MD
Temple University

Vincent J. Zarro, MD, PhD
Drexel University

Cooper Medical School
of Rowan University

Mara Gordon, MD
Cooper Medical School of Rowan
University, *BTG Program Director*

Anthony L. Rostain, MD, MA
Cooper Medical School of Rowan
University, *BTG Program Director*

Lake Erie College of
Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM)

Walter Hu
Lake Erie College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Leah Labranche, MSc
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic
Medicine, *BTG Program Director*

Maricely Reyes-Cruz
Lake Erie College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Lehigh Valley Health Network

Abby S. Letcher, MD
Lehigh Valley Health Network

**Mary Ellen T. Miller, PhD, RN,
APHN-BC**
DeSales University,
BTG Program Director

University of Pittsburgh

Thistle Elias, DrPH, MPA
University of Pittsburgh,
BTG Program Director

Brandi Boak, BS
University of Pittsburgh

BTG ALUMNI NETWORK

Now gaining traction, the newly formed [BTG Alumni Network](#) provides opportunities for collaboration and mentorship among former student participants.

[Join Today!](#)



2020-21 ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Ellen Bradley, MSW
BTG Program Director Emeritus

James W. Buehler, MD
Professor
Health Management and Policy
Drexel University
Dornsife School of Public Health

Richard J. Cohen, PhD, FACHE
President and CEO
Public Health Management Corporation

Ellen H. Funk
President
Ellen Funk and Associates

Jeane Ann Grisso, MD, MSc
Professor Emeritus
Public Health, Nursing and Medicine
University of Pennsylvania

Dee Reiley Hillas
Community Advocate

Willie D. Little, MSW
Community Health Advocate

Edward Naugle, PhD
Director
Pennsylvania Primary Care Office
Pennsylvania Department of Health

Maria Pajil-Battle
Community Advocate

Sister Mary Scullion, RSM
Executive Director
Project HOME

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American Public Health Association

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Former Vice President
Merck Vaccine Division
Former Colorado State Health Director

Frances Walker-Ponnie
Community Health Advocate

Mick Weeks, MPA
Sr. K-12 Account Executive
Apple Inc.

Dwayne Wharton, MEd
Founder and Senior Advisor
Just Strategies

BTG PROGRAM COMPONENTS

CHIP (All Locations)

BTG Community Health Internship Program

Held in all locations, BTG CHIP is a summer internship that matches students with community agencies/ organizations, taking into account community site needs, professional disciplines and student interests. Whenever possible, students work in interprofessional teams.

In addition to their community-based work, students participate in didactic sessions where community members and health professionals help students gain the skills and knowledge to be effective providers for vulnerable populations.

In the fall, BTG program locations host their own symposia designed to engage community representatives, public health officials, agency personnel, grantmakers, and university faculty and staff in the work of the program and to provide students with an opportunity to present their summer projects. The Annual Philadelphia Symposium includes representation from all program locations.

BTG TO-DATE FACTS & FIGURES

CHIP TO-DATE

586 Community Sites Served

since inception

405
Philadelphia

1
Delaware

72
Erie

13
Lehigh Valley

32
New Jersey

63
Pittsburgh

5,797 Students Participated

since inception

4,640
Philadelphia

5
Delaware

433
Erie

101
Lehigh Valley

179
New Jersey

435
Pittsburgh

123,944 Days of Service Provided

from 2000-2020

93,268
Philadelphia

242
Delaware

11,636
Erie

2,658
Lehigh Valley

4,750
New Jersey

11,390
Pittsburgh

OTHER PROGRAMS TO-DATE

BTG Seminar Series

Fall 2003 – Spring 2021

2,552
Students

Attended at least 1 seminar; some attended multiple seminars

BTG Clinical Program

Fall 2003 – Spring 2021

314
Students

Completed the Clinical Program

BTG Clinical Scholars

Fall 2006 – Spring 2021

181
Students

Graduated as Clinical Scholars

PROGRAM COMPONENTS (CONT.)

BTG CHIP 2020 AT A GLANCE

Other Programs (Philadelphia)

Three BTG program components take place in Philadelphia, only:

BTG Seminar Series

This multipart series draws on the expertise of participating community partners and academic health centers. The sessions are designed to augment professional curricula in various content areas and to offer concrete strategies for addressing issues affecting under-resourced populations.

BTG Clinical Program

This advanced community clinical experience offers students a collaborative interdisciplinary approach to health and healthcare delivery for under-resourced populations.

BTG Clinical Scholars

Students who complete the BTG CHIP, Seminar Series and Clinical Program graduate as BTG Clinical Scholars.

Storytelling Project



The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated a virtual program. Thus, BTG CHIP created the [Storytelling Project](#) to help students gain perspective from a representative community member as a substitute for conversations that happen organically when students work on-site with partnering organizations. The Storytelling Project proved so successful, BTG may continue it, whether future students participate virtually or on-site. ([See the student project summaries.](#))

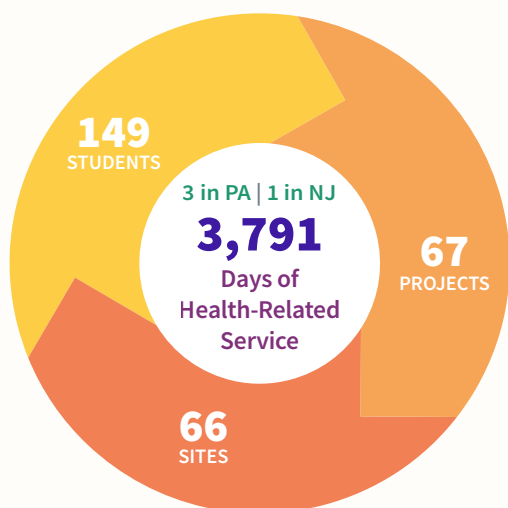
30th Anniversary Symposium



BTG held its [30th Annual Symposium](#) via Zoom on October 22, 2020. **Rashad Robinson**, the award-winning president of **Color of Change**, a leading social justice organization, received the 2020 BTG award and delivered the keynote speech. Other highlights included a video developed by the student coordinators summarizing the Storytelling Projects and a BTG alumni panel discussion.

BTG 2020 FACTS & FIGURES

CHIP 2020



Professional Disciplines:

- Creative arts in therapy
- Dental medicine
- Law
- Medical studies
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Occupational therapy
- Pharmacy
- Public health
- Social work
- Veterinary medicine

OTHER 2020

BTG Seminar Series

158 Students
Attended at least 1 seminar

BTG Clinical Program

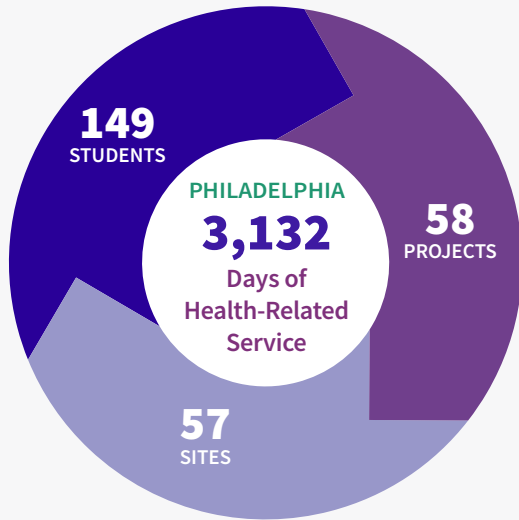
20 Students
Participated in the BTG Clinical Program

BTG Clinical Scholars

15 Students
Graduated as Clinical Scholars



An Opportunity to GROW in Philadelphia, PA



Professional Disciplines

- Creative arts in therapy
- Dental medicine
- Law
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Occupational therapy
- Pharmacy
- Public health
- Social work
- Veterinary medicine

Student Activities*

- Advocacy
- Assessing community resources
- Client interviews
- Community outreach
- Evaluation of existing programs
- Health-related client education
- Planning, organizing or implementing health/recreational activities
- Research on health/social/environmental topics

Community Health Issues*

- Access to healthcare
- Cardiovascular health
- Communication (language/literacy)
- Diet and nutrition
- Mental health
- Oral health
- Poverty
- Race/ethnicity

* The information provided here reflects only those categories reported by 40% or more of students participating at this BTG program location.

BTG CHIP Programmatic Themes



Given the prevalence and impact of **oral health, smoking and cardiovascular disease** on overall health,

BTG offers students access to mentors and tools to support health education and activities at the community level. In 2020, due to pandemic-related program limitations, students created robust educational resources on these topics.

PHILADELPHIA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Participating Institutions†

- Drexel University
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Temple University
- Thomas Jefferson University
- University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Small Group Leaders

- Roberta Balsam
- Susan Brotherton
- Tariem Burroughs
- Kevin Carter
- Patrick Dooley
- Elissa Goldberg
- Kiasha Huling
- Nakesha Moore
- Rayn Philips
- Darcie Rudolf
- Anthony Singleton
- Nicole Thomas
- Crystal Wortham

† Lehigh Valley and Cooper Medical School students participated in Philadelphia's core curricular sessions.

PHILADELPHIA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS (CONT.)

Drexel University

Program Staff and Faculty

Elissa Goldberg, MSS, LSW,
Program Director
Laura Mullin, BA

Academic Preceptors

Maya Bass, MD, MA
Susan L. Brooks, JD
Janet Cruz, MD
Blair Dickinson, MD, MS, FAAP
Annette Gadegbeku, MD
Florence Gelo, DMin, NCPsyA
Jeremiah Goldstein, MD
Barbara Hogan-Zarro, PhD
Florence Ierardi, MM, MT-BC, LPC
Renee Kottenhahn, MD
Leon McCrea II, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Michele Rattigan, MA, ATR-BC, NCC, LPC
Ryan Schroeder, MD
Sara Schultz, MD, FACP
Angela Silverman, MD, MA, MPH
Emily Spengler, MD
Daniel R. Taylor, DO, FAAP, FACOP
Vincent Zarro, MD, PhD

Community Preceptors

Michelle Abbruzzese, MSS
Maribel Lozada Arzuaga
Roberta Balsam, MS

Kevin R. Carter, MSW, LCSW
Tamara Coleman
Pamela Draper, MMT, MTBC
Jonathan Edwards
Katie Feehan, MPH, CHES
Michelle Flowers, MA
Melissa Fogg, MSW
Annette Gadegbeku, MD
Brigid Garvin, EdS, NCSP, LBS
Florence Gelo, DMin, NCPsyA
Mary Green, MSN, BSN, RN
Shahid Guyton
Renee K. Kottenhahn, MD
Marta Lynch
Arlene Malcolm-Bell, PhD
Barry D. Mann, MD
Kathleen Metzker, MPH
Laura Naylor
Michael O'Bryan
Katherine Piselli, PhD, NCSP
Lidyvez Sawyer, MPH
Emily Spengler, MD
Zsofia Szep, MD, MSCE
Daniel R. Taylor, DO
Jon Thornton, MSW
Renee Turchi, MD, MPH, FAAP
Risa Waldoks
Lori Walsh
Arkadiy Yelman, MEd

"I had the opportunity to learn from experts ... on topics that were directly affecting communities. I learned how important it is to stay client centered and build a trusting relationship. ... I learned that health and wellness are much broader concepts than I had originally thought and that all aspects of a person's life contribute to them. Learning how to research for resources and programming to meet a person's needs will help me connect my future clients with the services that are outside of my scope of practice."

Madeline Seiden

Thomas Jefferson University
School of Occupational Therapy

"As ... [a] student who intends to work with the geriatric patient population as a future primary care physician, completion of these wellness checks reiterated how important it is for me to inquire about the daily routine and support systems of elderly patients. I am grateful for the unique opportunity to gain insight on how vital support systems like the NEOAC can be to improving the quality of life for elderly community members."

Lauren Williams

Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Program Staff and Faculty

Robert Dustin, MA,
Program Director
Meshonea Fox, BS

Academic Preceptors

Robert Dustin, MA
Meshonea Fox, BS

Community Preceptors

Vernetta Burger
Cheryl Carson

Martese Clark
Valda Dawson, DC, PA-C
Lenisha Edge, MS
Melissa A. Heinlein, PhD
Sharon Herbert, RN
Barry D. Mann, MD
Jonathon Rodriguez
Sierra Savage, MAHS
Heather Stutz
Risa Waldoks
Alexis Wright-Whitley

"The [BTG] interns we've worked with for the past three years have helped to improve ongoing operations of our organization. Each summer, our interns have added to the health literacy workshops that we offer. This summer, since all operations are happening remotely, the interns created health resource pages that have been added to our website, which greatly increases the accessibility to this information for our learners. Our interns also improved our no-smoking policy by designing signs to include a no-vaping policy as well."

Kelly Griebert

Community Learning Center
BTG Community Preceptor

Temple University

Program Staff and Faculty

Providenza Rocco, JD, MSW,
MBE, HEC-C, *Program Director*
Brian Work, MD

Academic Preceptor

Providenza Rocco, JD,
MSW, MBE, HEC-C

Community Preceptors

Christopher Avery
Elizabeth R. Jackson, EdM
Nora Jones, PhD
Caitlin Mance
Barry D. Mann, MD
Providenza Rocco, JD, MSW,
MBE, HEC-C
Nina Taylor
Risa Waldoks
Se'mona Williams

Thomas Jefferson University

Program Staff and Faculty

Maria Hervada-Page, MSS,
Program Director
George P. Valko, MD

Academic Preceptor

Maria Hervada-Page, MSS

Community Preceptors

Mia Blitstein, MEd
Mary-Ellen Bolden
Beverly Bradley
Andrew Gudzelak
Christina Kubica, MSW
Ariel Ressler MacNeill, MPH
Barry D. Mann, MD
Julie Nelson
Darya Nemati
Lorraine Thomas
Marian Uhlman
Risa Waldoks
Marissa York

"I feel so grateful that I was given the opportunity to do BTG. Each week, I feel myself expanding my worldview and learning so much about the conditions of our country, our community and the healthcare profession ... and what I can do to contribute. This past week has been motivating and exciting, as we are only a few days away from the first day of the virtual summer camp, which will be an amazing opportunity to impact and empower the youth of Philadelphia."

Sejal Menghani,
*University of Pennsylvania
School of Dental Medicine*

"Bridging the Gaps has been a great complement to my academic medical education. ... One of the best parts of being at Penn is being surrounded by smart, creative individuals from so many different disciplines. BTG has been such a great way for me to broaden my horizons professionally and learn to think outside the box in healthcare."

Mia Fatuzzo
*University of Pennsylvania
Perelman School of Medicine*

University of Pennsylvania

Program Staff and Faculty

Ellen Martinak, MS,
Program Director
Louis M. Bell Jr., MD
Hillary Bogner, MD, MSCE
Zvi D. Gellis, PhD
Joan I. Gluch, PhD, RDH, PHDHP
Bridget McCormick, MS
Ann L. O'Sullivan, PhD, FAAN, CRNP
Christopher Renjilian, MD
Lucy Wolf Tuton, PhD
Brittany Watson, MS, VMD, PhD,
DACVPM

Academic Preceptors

Hillary Bogner, MD, MSCE
Zvi D. Gellis, PhD
Joan I. Gluch, PhD, RDH, PHDHP
Ann L. O'Sullivan, PhD, FAAN, CRNP
Christopher B. Renjilian, MD
Brittany Watson, MS, VMD, PhD,
DACVPM

Community Preceptors

Mia Blitstein, MEd
Alex Bonner
Beverly Bradley
Rona Buchalter, PhD
Brad Cary
Aimee Della Porta, LCSW
Beth Dougherty, JD
Katie Feean, MPH, CHES
Catherine Freeland, MPH
Kelly Griebert, BS
Stephanie Haynes
Jule Anne Henstenburg, PhD,
RD, LDN, FAND
Ty Holmberg
Kiasha Huling, MSW

Meagan Hume
Andrew Kucer
Barry D. Mann, MD
Colleen McCauley, MPH, BSN
Lynette Medley, MEd
Ed Miller
Christopher Renjilian, MD
Kaelee Shepherd, MPH
Anthony Singleton
Lorraine Thomas
Renee Turchi, MD, MPH, FAAP
Marian Uhlman
Risa Waldoks
Evangeline Wang

PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY PARTNERS

A.J. Drexel Autism Institute / Drexel School of Education Interdisciplinary Behavioral Health Clinic	Philadelphia Family Pride
American Heart Association & Breathe Free Pennsylvania	Philadelphia Futures
Center for Advocacy for the Rights & Interests of the Elderly	Philadelphia Senior Center, Arts Branch
Centro Nueva Creación	Prevention Point Philadelphia
Community Learning Center	Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY)
Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Veterans Affairs Medical Center	Sankofa Community Farm at Bartram's Garden
Councilmember Jamie Gauthier's Office	Share Food Program Philadelphia
Covenant House Pennsylvania	Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse
Depaul USA Philadelphia	Southwest Community Development Corporation
Drexel Family Medicine	Spring Garden Academy
Drexel HOPE (Health, Outreach, Partnership, Empowerment)	St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs
Gaudenzia Inc.	St. Christopher's Hospital for Children's Center for the Urban Child (CUC)
Hall-Mercer Community Mental Health Center	Stephen and Sandra Sheller 11th Street Family Health Services of Drexel University/FNC Community Learning Farm WorkReady Program
Health and Spirituality	Steppingstone Scholars
Healthy NewsWorks	Students Run Philly Style
Hepatitis B Foundation	Temple University, Center for Urban Bioethics
HIAS Pennsylvania	Temple University, Center for Urban Bioethics, Food Insecurity
John C. Anderson Apartments	Temple University, Lewis Katz School of Medicine
MANNA	The Village of Arts and Humanities
Mazzoni Center	Together for West Philadelphia
Methodist Services	UC Green
Methodist Services for Children and Families	Unitarian Universalist House (UUH) Outreach Program
Monument Village	Uplift Center for Grieving Children
Mural Arts Philadelphia's Porch Light Program	Urban Tree Connection
Nationalities Service Center	Women Against Abuse
Nationalities Service Center, INSPIRE	WorkReady Philadelphia: Educators for Education
No More Secrets: Mind Body Spirit, Inc.	
North Light Community Center	
Northeast Older Adult Center (NEOAC)	
One Bright Ray	
Philadelphia City Rowing	

"All of our experiences with BTG have been favorable. Each [intern] used their area of expertise to develop resources to address Period Poverty in underserved communities. The level of dedication was admirable, as their projects ranged from developing a social media campaign to address racism in the menstrual space to the creation of a resource pamphlet for fathers' groups to educate them about the menses. Everyone was intentional in their efforts to provide high-quality information ... for the overall growth and development of our mission."

Lynette Medley
No More Secrets MBS Inc.
BTG Community Preceptor

"Participating as a community connector this summer enriched my understanding of the social determinants of health as well as procured skills in collaborative practice. I am grateful to have taken part in this internship during today's current climate, because it challenged my perspective, educated me and provided open dialogue with experts in various fields. Two concepts that will transcend this experience and impact my future career as a provider are sustainability and forming genuine relationships with community members."

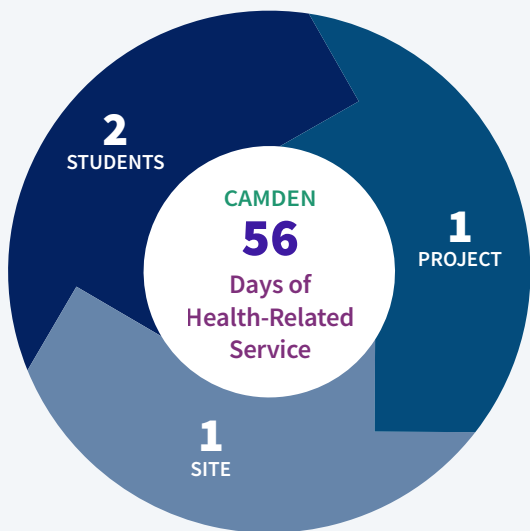
Mary Elizabeth McLaverty
Temple University
School of Pharmacy

"The benefits of participating in the BTG summer program ... have been profound, palpable and full of color. Interacting with an array of community member populations, professional staff and interdisciplinary work has compounded into an inimitable opportunity for growth. Professionally, I learned how to better quickly adapt to fast-paced and diverse working environments. Academically, I have been able to step closer to the pulse of current events and long-term issues as they relate to health in the intersecting levels of these communities."

Casey Boone
Drexel University
School of Creative Arts in
Therapy and Counseling



An **Opportunity** to **LEARN** in Camden, NJ



Professional Disciplines

- Medicine

Community Health Issues*

- Access to healthcare
- Asthma
- Budgeting/personal finances
- Cardiovascular health
- Communication (language/literacy)
- Computer literacy
- Homelessness/housing
- Immigrant issues
- Immunizations
- Insurance/social services
- Mental health
- Poverty
- Prenatal care
- Race/ethnicity
- Substance abuse
- Transportation
- Women’s health

Student Activities*

- Advocacy
- Assessing community resources
- Client interviews
- Community outreach
- Community social activities
- Evaluation of existing programs
- Research on health/social/ environmental topics
- [Miscellaneous other activities]

* The information provided here reflects only those categories reported by 40% or more of students participating at this BTG program location.

“This past summer with BTG was more rewarding than I could have imagined a virtual internship would have been. From getting to know the warm and friendly staff at the Camden Coalition and spending Wednesdays learning from the BTG community, I really gained a wealth of knowledge. While being inaugural CMSRU students definitely had its challenges, overall, Emily and I were able to gain the valuable experience of learning to start a project and bring it to fruition at our home institution. I’m sure with the valuable lessons that I have learned throughout my summer, I will be able to become a more culturally and socially competent physician.”

Nitya Dhanaraj
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

“It was a joy to work with Nitya and Emily! Supporting their efforts to conduct a feasibility assessment in conjunction with Cooper Medical School ... was a great opportunity. Reaching out to community-based organizations in Camden was a good moment for the Camden Coalition to connect with our partners across the city during the pandemic, while also seeing the excitement that our partners had over the possibility of hosting future Bridging the Gaps cohorts in future years.”

Kelly Craig
Camden Coalition
BTG Community Preceptor

Program Staff and Faculty

Mara Gordon, MD,
Program Director
Anthony Rostain, MD,
Program Director

Academic Preceptors

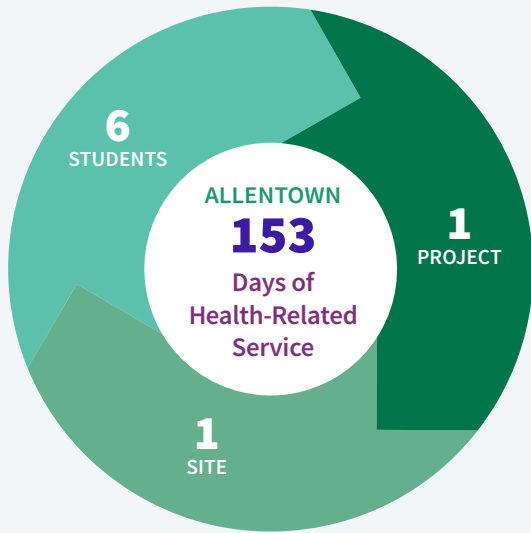
Mara Gordon, MD
Anthony Rostain, MD

Community Preceptor

Kelly Craig

Community Partner

Camden Coalition



Professional Disciplines

- Medical studies
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Social work

Community Health Issues*

- Access to healthcare
- Cardiovascular health
- Communication (language/literacy)
- Culture-specific health beliefs and practices
- Diet and nutrition
- Environmental health
- Homelessness/housing
- Immigrant issues
- Insurance/social services
- Mental health
- Oral health
- Poverty
- Race/ethnicity
- Substance abuse
- Violence

Student Activities*

- Assessing community resources
- Client interviews
- Community outreach
- Development or administration of surveys
- Evaluation of existing programs
- Health-related client education
- Literacy activities
- Research on health/social/environmental topics

* The information provided here reflects only those categories reported by 40% or more of students participating at this BTG program location.



“In the midst of a pandemic that mandates social isolation ..., interning with BTG has provided me the chance to feel more connected to my community than ever before. I have been exposed to the social determinants of a system that has failed ... brown and black people. I am grateful for the opportunity to dive into what truly matters in healthcare. BTG has ingrained in me the importance of advocacy, compassion, community and radical welcomes. Those are the values I will execute for the rest of my life and my career ... in hopes I can be an example to others so we can address and end inequity together.”

Chelsea Budde
DeSales University
School of Nursing

Participating Institutions

- DeSales University
- Marywood University
- Moravian College
- Temple University

Program Staff and Faculty

- Mary Ellen Miller, PhD, RN, APHN-BC, Program Director
- Margaret Hadinger, EdD, MS
- Abby Letcher, MD

Academic Preceptor

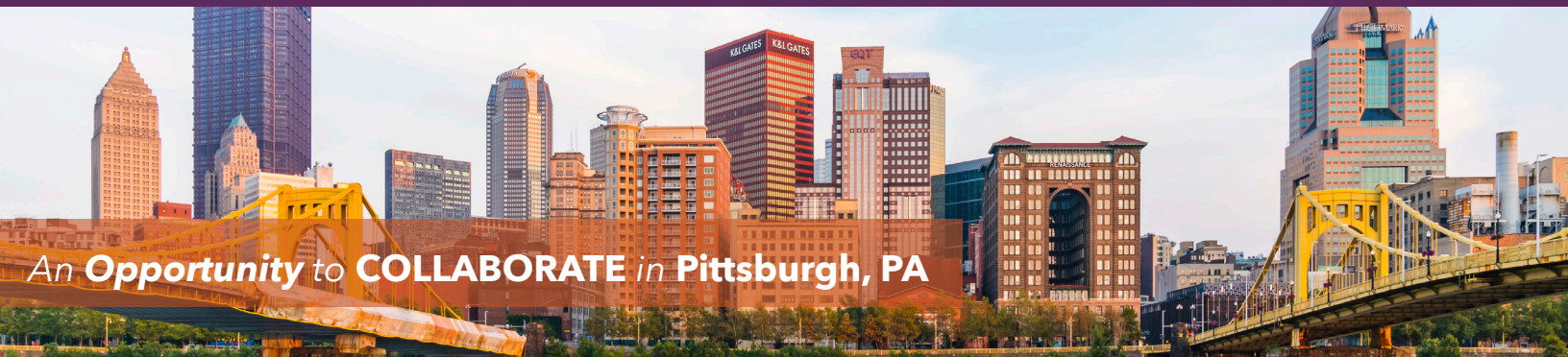
- Mary Ellen Miller, PhD, RN, APHN-BC

Community Preceptors

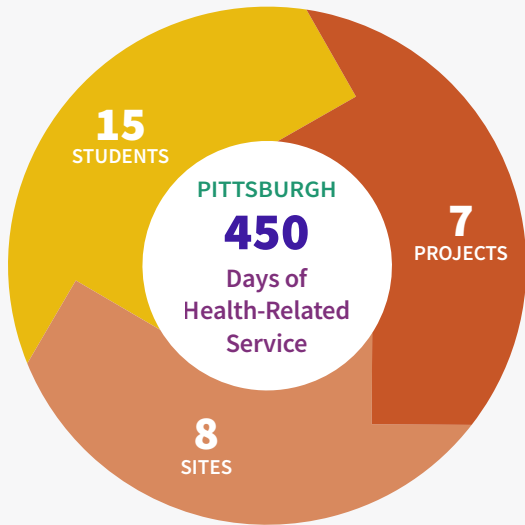
- Hasshan Batts, MSW, DHS
- Oladoyin Onawole, BA

Community Partner

- Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley



An **Opportunity to COLLABORATE** in Pittsburgh, PA



Professional Disciplines

- Medicine
- Nursing
- Public health
- Social work

Community Health Issues*

- Access to healthcare
- Budgeting/personal finances
- Childcare
- Communication (language/literacy)
- Computer literacy
- Culture-specific health beliefs and practices
- Diet and nutrition
- Environmental health
- Exercise
- Mental health
- Poverty
- Race/ethnicity
- Transportation

Student Activities*

- Assessing community resources
- Client interviews
- Community outreach
- Community social activities
- Development or administration of surveys
- Evaluation of existing programs
- Health-related client education
- Job/career counseling
- Planning, organizing or implementing health/recreational activities
- Research on health/social/environmental topics
- Teaching living skills

* The information provided here reflects only those categories reported by 40% or more of students participating at this BTG program location.

*“This experience grew my understanding of the physical and mental challenges associated with living in under-resourced areas. **The opportunity to collaborate with community members as well as health and social service professionals through BTG has better prepared me for my future.**”*

Olivia Flood
University of Pittsburgh
School of Social Work

*“Our [BTG] mentors ... were **AMAZING**. We were so impressed with their ability to adapt to remote work and still have such a positive impact on our organization through their interaction with our kids via Zoom.”*

Brandon Ziats, BS
Youth Opportunities Development
BTG Community Preceptor

Program Staff and Faculty

Thistle Elias, DrPH, MPA,
Program Director
Brandi Boak, BS

Academic Preceptors

Todd Bear, PhD, MPH
Thuy Bui, MD
Sharon Connor, PhD
Patricia Documet, MD, DrPH
John Maier, PhD, MD
Mary L. Ohmer, PhD, MSW, MPIA
Martha Ann Terry, PhD

Community Preceptors

Meghan Briggs, MA
Joy Cannon
Diana Escobar-Rivera

Debbie Gallagher
Jessica Gumbert
Denise Jones, MED
Laura Kelley
Brandon Ziats

Community Partners

Braddock Youth Project
Casa San Jose
Center of Life: Hazelwood
Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center (COTRAIC)
Heritage Community Initiatives
Sojourner House
Youth Enrichment Services (YES)
Youth Opportunities Development: Clairton

BTG 2020 PROGRAM SUPPORT*

The BTG regional programs are made possible through generous support from:

Lehigh Valley

Federal Work-Study Program

Philadelphia

Clarence A. Rowell Granting Trust through the PNC Charitable Trusts Grant Review Committee

Connelly Foundation

Federal Work-Study Program

Hess Foundation

Dee Reilly Hillas

Mildred R. Davis Charitable Foundation through the PNC Charitable Trusts Grant Review Committee

Pennsylvania Department of Health

The Edna G. Kynett Memorial Foundation

Pittsburgh

Dr. Ruben and Maria Abunto

Anonymous

Anonymous GSPH faculty

Dr. Martha Terry

Lists are in alphabetical order and may not include all sources of support.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Bridging the Gaps Program Office

Room 914 Blockley Hall
423 Guardian Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6021
215-898-4141

Lucy Wolf Tuton, PhD
Executive Director

Ellen Martinak, MS
Associate Director

Bridget McCormick, MS
Operations Manager



www.bridgingthegaps.info