

Year in Review 2023-2024

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Institute for Global Health



Mahabara Clinic, Kenya



MISSION

To provide leadership in interdisciplinary research, education, health systems strengthening, and advocacy for health and development in resource-limited settings around the world

VISION

To improve health and well-being of people in local and global environments

Universidad Peruana
Cayetano Heredia,
Lima, Peru





Message from the Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This year of continued growth demonstrates our strong engagement with international partners—our work is more important than ever. I am grateful for the collaborations with peer institutions, internal departments, and among colleagues. The [Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health \(VIGH\)](#) remains committed to ensuring a healthy future for everyone, regardless of where you live.

This Annual Report highlights our new collaborations with international partners and colleagues and showcases the recent work of our faculty members and staff. We have expanded our research and training portfolio to include several new projects focusing on noncommunicable diseases like cardiovascular disease, cancer, and the humanities. These initiatives have extended our geographical reach into Central and South America and Southeast Asia. We look forward to the continued growth of these projects and the development of new areas of research and discovery.

Capacity building is a core value of the institute and is reflected in our robust commitment to training and research programs at home and abroad. Our team’s substantial education and training initiatives continue to foster and expand student and trainee interest in global health programs. Students and trainees are well-prepared for successful careers, and our graduates are making a global impact. I am grateful for the faculty’s support of our global health education programs.

To overcome the challenges of delivering equitable health care worldwide, we need to develop innovative solutions that require rigorous scientific study, a multidisciplinary approach, and a focus on community engagement. VIGH serves as a hub for international research and education programs at Vanderbilt. We are here to improve health and well-being for the most vulnerable, impact global public health, and make global health local.

Reflecting on this past year’s work and our mission of improving health in resource-limited settings and underserved communities worldwide, I am proud of the significant impact that our institute continues to make. The commitment of our exceptional and growing group of people and the broader Vanderbilt community makes this possible. I appreciate your support as we partner to ensure a healthy future for all.

Sincerely,

Muktar H. Aliyu

Muktar Aliyu, MD, DrPH, MPH
Director, Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health
VUMC Endowed Directorship in Global Health
Professor of Health Policy and Medicine,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC)

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QUICK FACTS

Grant Portfolio

Total FY24 Grant Funding

\$131 million of which
\$56 million were global

FY24 Publications

593

Faculty and Staff

149

Global Health Grand Rounds
(international guest speakers)

15

Global health at Vanderbilt is a collaborative endeavor, leveraging relationships among faculty, partners, staff, and communities to enhance health equity and well-being for underserved populations at home and abroad. Our programs are designed to develop and strengthen scientific leadership and expertise needed for research at institutions in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Vanderbilt scientists have interdisciplinary projects in the Americas, Asia, and Africa rooted in a collective approach to addressing complex global health challenges. We have over 125 faculty members with appointments spanning eight Vanderbilt schools and colleges.

Operating as an institute without walls, the [Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health \(VIGH\)](#) collaborates with Vanderbilt experts and international partners to educate and train the next generation of global health leaders. VIGH empowers researchers working in LMICs to address critical health challenges and contribute to the global body of scientific knowledge.



Leadership Team



Muktar Aliyu, MD, DrPH, MPH

Director, Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health
VUMC Endowed Directorship in Global Health
Professor of Health Policy and Medicine,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Carolyn Audet, PhD, MSci

Associate Director for Research, VIGH
Co-Director, Center for Clinical Quality and Implementation Research
Associate Professor of Health Policy,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Holly Cassell, MPH

Associate Director for Operations and Collaborations, VIGH,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Ron Jannetta, MBA

Chief Business Officer,
Vanderbilt Institute for Medicine and Public Health,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Marie H. Martin, PhD, MEd

Associate Vice President, Global Initiatives
Associate Director, Education and Training, VIGH
Associate Professor of Health Policy,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Assistant Dean, Global Health Education
Director, Global Health Track, Master of Public Health Program,
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine



Carla Parrish

Administrative Officer,
Vanderbilt Institute for Medicine and Public Health,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



C. William "Bill" Wester, MD, MPH

Associate Director, Global Health Faculty Development, VIGH
Co-Director, Global Health Pathway (Internal Medicine Residency)
Professor, Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Ryan Belcher, MD, MPH

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology; Surgical Co-Director of Vanderbilt Pediatric Thyroid Nodule and Cancer Program, VUMC



During his residency at VUMC, Dr. Belcher participated in the year-long Global Health Scholars Program. His experience included a month in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, working alongside otolaryngology staff and residents. His pursuit of a master's in public health from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, with a focus on global health, further bolstered his passion for global health. He has performed surgery internationally for cleft lip and palate, among other craniofacial syndromes, in Ethiopia, Kenya, Cameroon, the Philippines, Guatemala, and Mexico.

Paul W. Blair, MD, MHS

Assistant Professor, Medicine (Infectious Diseases), VUMC



Dr. Blair's research focuses on identifying effective and scalable solutions and rapidly diagnosing and appropriately treating severe and emerging infectious diseases in hospitalized and remote settings. He has been the PI for NIH and Department of Defense funded projects with collaborators in the U.S., Uganda, and Peru. His research focuses on characterizing severe viral illnesses and evaluating point-of-care ultrasound and molecular tools in diverse settings. His overall research goal is to address the dire need for tools to facilitate early patient triage and targeted treatments for outbreak disease in low-resource settings.

Sarah Crane, MEd

Program Manager, VIGH



In addition to her work on international projects, Ms. Crane has six years of in-country experience as an international educator and global development specialist. While working overseas, she focused on educational support, leadership development, and cross-cultural collaboration at a secondary school in Western Uganda. She works with the VIGH education and training team on education programs and training grants in Zambia and Liberia.

Kristen Dettorre, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, VUMC



Dr. Dettorre was Vanderbilt's first Emergency Medicine Global Health Fellow and is now the Global Emergency Medicine Fellowship Director and Global Emergency Medicine Division Director. She was part of the core team that developed the first Emergency Medicine Residency program in Georgetown, Guyana and has continued to work clinically and teach at Georgetown Public Hospital since 2009. Dr. Dettorre also assisted in creating and continues to teach the Vanderbilt Global Health Equity course.

Kelly Dooley, MD, PhD, MPH

Professor and Addison B. Scoville, Jr., Chair in Medicine; Director, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, VUMC



As an infectious disease specialist and clinical pharmacologist, Dr. Dooley maintains an active clinical practice in HIV care. Her research focuses on tuberculosis therapeutics with an emphasis on clinical trials of TB drugs and HIV/TB co-treatment, as well as clinical pharmacology of TB and HIV drugs. She is lead investigator for trials of therapeutics for drug-sensitive and drug-resistant TB, TB-HIV, and pediatric TB meningitis. She is on the TB scientific committees of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group and IMPAACT networks and is a consultant to the World Health Organization on TB therapeutics and pharmacology.

David Haas, MD

Professor, Medicine (Infectious Diseases), Pharmacology, Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, VUMC



Dr. Haas is an accomplished HIV clinical trialist and leader in human pharmacogenomic research relevant to HIV infection and its therapy. In recent years, his work has expanded to include pharmacogenomics of anti-tuberculosis therapy, and multidisciplinary research emphasizing the importance of human genomics for antiretroviral and anti-tuberculosis drug disposition, efficacy, and toxicity. He is co-PI of a multidisciplinary R01

entitled “Pharmacogenomics of HIV Therapy,” the director of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) clinical research site at Vanderbilt, and the associate director of the Tennessee Center for AIDS Research.

Jeana Havidich, MD, MS

Associate Professor,
Anesthesiology;
Associate Vice-Chair
for Quality, Safety, and
Outcomes/Pediatric Services,
Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s
Hospital at Vanderbilt, VUMC



Dr. Havidich’s academic interests include advancing the quality of care and safety for surgical patients, outcomes research, diasporic studies, strategies to promote global education, and health care delivery science. She actively volunteers in the Croatian Community and co--chairs the Association of Croatian American Professionals (ACAP) Health, ACAP Health and Wellness Webinar series, and Life-Style Committee. She is a member of the ACAP Board of Directors.

**April Kapu, DNP, APRN,
ACNP-BC, FAANP, FCCM,
FAAN**

Associate Dean for Strategic
Partnerships and Global
Affairs; Professor of Nursing,
Vanderbilt University School
of Nursing



Dr. Kapu is frequently consulted for her expertise in advanced practice leadership and has presented in many national and international forums authored chapters in advanced practice nursing textbooks and published manuscripts in numerous peer-reviewed medical and nursing journals. As an accomplished healthcare executive with over 30 years in the field, including 20 years as a critical care nurse practitioner, she has presented or engaged with colleagues in Australia, Brazil, Guyana, Ireland, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.

Heather Koons, MD

Assistant Professor,
Neurology, VUMC



Dr. Koons worked in Zambia, Botswana, and Guyana during her residency. She is active in

VIGH’s Global Health Education Subcommittee for GME and served as chief neurology resident in her final year. While spending a year as the Consultant Neurologist at Bokamoso Private Hospital in Gaborone, Botswana, she served as an affiliate assistant professor of Neurology at VUMC.

Zeynep Kubilay MD

Assistant Professor, Clinical
Medicine, General Internal
Medicine and Public Health;
Associate Director of Global
Health & Equity Pathway for
Vanderbilt Internal Medicine
Residency Program, VUMC



Dr. Kubilay was a consultant for the World Health Organization’s “Clean Care is Safer Care” Program (Service Delivery and Safety Department) – focusing on infection prevention and control. Her work included but was not limited to the development of updated care guidelines for prevention of surgical site infections, projects around surgical site infection prevention in Africa (SUSP), hand hygiene (mostly organizing global campaigns), and IPC response to the Ebola outbreak (developing personal protective equipment (PPE) and hand hygiene guidelines). She mentors students in the MPH program and teaches global health courses at the Vanderbilt School of Medicine.

Anisa Mughal, MD,

Assistant Professor,
Emergency Medicine, VUMC



Dr. Mughal is an emergency medicine physician and global emergency medicine researcher. Her previous work focused on substance use and mental health disorders in Hanoi, Vietnam as a Doris Duke International Clinical Research Fellow. She has also worked with the World Health Organization to implement a trauma registry at the provincial hospital in Maputo, Mozambique. She currently focuses on toxicological exposures and prehospital care in Georgetown, Guyana.

Peter Nthumba, MD, MSc

Head of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, AIC Kijabe Hospital, Kenya



Dr. Nthumba is a leading plastic and reconstructive surgeon in Kenya, focusing on research, trauma, surgical infection, reconstructive surgery, and global surgery. He is widely published in his areas of interest and started a small research non-profit, [EACH Research](#), to teach and mentor medical students and surgical residents at no cost. He is a member of the World Health Organization Technical Advisory Group on Hand Hygiene and IPC and an international ACAPS NGO member providing humanitarian data and analysis. He is the research section editor for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery – Global Open and sits on the Annals of African Surgery editorial board.

Matthew Pontell, MD

Assistant Professor, Plastic Surgery, Pediatric Plastic, Cleft & Craniofacial Surgery, Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, VUMC



Dr. Pontell travels each year to perform pediatric cleft lip and palate surgeries with health care providers at hospitals in South America. His commitment to return for follow-up care has established trust with patients, families, and in-country providers. His specific surgical interests include cleft lip and palate, craniofacial disorders, craniosynostosis, orthognathic surgery, craniomaxillofacial trauma, and pediatric reconstructive plastic surgery.



AIC Kijabe Hospital, Kenya

Digna Velez Edwards, PhD, MS

Lucius E. Burch Chair of Reproductive Physiology and Family Planning; Director, Division of Quantitative and Clinical Sciences; Director, Women’s Health Research Center; Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, VUMC



Dr. Velez Edwards’s research focuses on understanding the genetic determinants of racial disparities and the role of gene and environment interactions in the risk for complex diseases, with a specific interest in fibroproliferative disorders that include uterine fibroids and keloids and diseases that disproportionately impact women’s reproductive health. She is co-leading a genetic epidemiology project in Vietnam and a study on the genetic risk of fibroids based on regional African ancestry in Nigeria.

Mamie Williams, PhD, MPH, MSN

Senior Director, Nurse Diversity and Inclusion, VUMC Executive Nursing Services



Ms. Williams fosters collaborative partnerships with nurse leaders, staff, and faculty to ensure that VUMC’s nurse work environment exemplifies diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) best practices. She has expanded efforts to create a sustainable system for DEI in nursing at VUMC by engaging with the wider VUMC community. Her focus areas include education and training, epidemiology, public global health, and nursing.



Lwala Hospital, Kenya

Awards and Recognition

VIGH Director **Muktar Aliyu, MD, DrPH, MPH**, was elected to the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Board of Directors.

Carolyn Audet, PhD, associate professor of Health Policy and associate director of Research for VIGH, was selected for the [2024 Vanderbilt Chancellor Faculty Fellows](#) cohort.

Eden Biltibo, MD, MS, assistant professor of Medicine, was one of the first recipients of the [Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation's Scholars Program](#).

Kate Clouse, PhD, MPH, was selected as an [SEC Academic Leadership Development Program](#) Fellow for 2024-2025 from Vanderbilt University.

Kelly Dooley, MD, PhD, MPH, Addison B. Scoville Jr. Professor of Medicine and director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at VUMC, [received a MERIT Award](#) (Method to Extend Research in Time Award) from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Quentin Eichbaum, MD, PhD, MPH, MFA, MMHC, FCAP, received the 2024 AABB President's Award, the highest honor of the Association for Blood and Biotherapies (the largest organization for blood and biotherapies worldwide), for his global transfusion work. He established and led the AABB Global Transfusion Forum, edited three books on global transfusion, and chaired the AABB Global Standards Committee, leading to the publication of the Fundamental Standards for Blood Collection and Transfusion. It is extensively used in LMICs around the world.

Rondi Kauffmann, MD, MPH, FACS associate professor of Surgery and vice chair for Global Surgery, was inducted as a Fellow of the College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa.

Annet Kirabo DVM, MSc, PhD, FAHA, associate professor of Medicine, Clinical Pharmacology and an associate professor of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics in the Vanderbilt School of Medicine – Basic Sciences was appointed Chair of the American Heart Association Council of Councils Diversity Committee and was selected for the [2024 cohort of](#)

[Vanderbilt Chancellor Faculty Fellows](#) She was also chosen for the 2024 cohort of VUSM's Mid Career Leadership Development Program.

John Koethe, MD, associate professor of Medicine, was [named director](#) of the Tennessee Center for AIDS Research.

Matthew Kynes, MD, associate professor of Anesthesiology, was inducted as a Fellow of the College of Anaesthesiologists of East, Central, and Southern Africa.

John Tarpley, MD, FWACS, FACS, [presented the Martin Allgöwer Lecture Award](#) at the International Surgical Week 2024 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and at the Icons in Surgery, American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress. He also received the VMAA Distinguished Alumni Award 2024 at the VMAA Reunion.

C. William Wester, MD, MPH, received the VUSM John L. Tarpley Award for Commitment to Care of Underserved Communities.

Wei Zheng, MD, PhD, MPH, received the VUSM Kathryn M. Edwards Award for Clinical and Translational Research Impacting Disease Prevention.

2024 Star Staff Awardees:

Driving Success Award: Dana Walker, MBA
Standout Performer: Angela Paolucci, MPH



Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary Clinic, Monrovia



**Strategic engagements in 25 countries
with over 56 million in global funding for FY24**

18 New Grants

Hematology

The Doris Duke Foundation Paragon Award
for Research Excellence

Investigator(s): Michael DeBaun

Funder: Doris Duke Foundation

[Stroke Prevention in Nigeria: SPRING 2](#)

Investigator(s): Michael Debaun, Shehu Umar
Abdullahi, Mustapha Shu'aibu Hikima, Nafiu

Hussain, Allison King

Funder: National Institute of Neurological
Disorders and Stroke

Neurology/Neurosurgery

[Childhood Status Epilepticus and Epilepsy De-
terminants of Outcome \(SEED\) – EEG and MRI
Supplement](#)

Investigator(s): Ed Trevathan, Umar Sabo

Funders: National Institute of Neurological
Disorders and Stroke

Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs)

[Global Metabolomics Profiling, Dietary Factors, and
Colorectal Cancer Risk in the NIH-Consortium of
Metabolimics](#)

Investigator(s): Mary Christine Playdon,
Xiao-Ou Shu (subcontract)

Funder: National Cancer Institute

[Cardiovascular and renal function alterations
associated with Salt sensitivity of Blood pressure in
people with HIV](#)

Investigator(s): Annet Kirabo, Sepiso Masenga

Funder: John E. Fogarty International Center

Humanities

[Advancing a decolonizing agenda to address
health inequities and help build global and
local U.S. solutions](#)

Investigator(s): Ted Fischer, T.S. Harvey

Funder: The Robert Wood Foundation

Infectious Diseases

[Know your status: A cluster randomized controlled trial comparing healer-initiated HIV counseling and testing to standard of care in rural South Africa](#)

Investigator(s): Carolyn Audet

Funder: National Institute of Mental Health

[Regional Prospective Observational Research for Tuberculosis \(RePORT\) - South Africa](#)

Investigator(s): Tim Sterling, Mark Hatherill (UCT)

Funder: CRDF Global

[TB Pathogenomics Study: Interactions between Mycobacterium tuberculosis Genomics and Human Host Susceptibility Factors in Determining TB Infection or Disease Status and Treatment Outcomes](#)

Investigator(s): Rebecca Berhanu

Funder: CRDF Global

[Preclinical Design and Clinical Translation of TB Regimens \(PReDicTR\) Consortium](#)

Investigator(s): Kelly Dooley, Rada Savic (UCSF)

Funder: National Institutes of Health

[Oxford Immunotech SPOT-TB](#)

Investigator(s): Timothy Sterling

Funder: Oxford Immunotech

[Investigating Multiple PK and PD Relationships for TB-HIV \(IMPPRove TB-HIV\)](#)

Investigator(s): Kelly Dooley

Funder: National Institutes of Health

[Regional Prospective Observational Research Tuberculosis \(RePORT\) Consortium \(TB-RICC 3.0\)](#)

Investigator(s): Jerrold Ellner, Timothy Sterling, Bruno Andrade

Funder: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

[Functionally distinct human CD4 T cell responses to novel evolutionarily selected M. tuberculosis antigen](#)

Investigator(s): Joel Ernst, Tim Sterling

Funder: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

[Drug-resistant Tuberculosis in Gauteng Province, South Africa: Understanding Facilitators and Barriers to Successful Patient Treatment](#)

Investigator(s): Yuri van der Heijden

Funder: ID, VUMC

Education and Training

[Vanderbilt-Mozambique Biomedical Informatics \(VM-BMI\)](#)

Investigator(s): Martin Were, Baltazar Chilundo, Emilio Luis Mosse, C. William Wester

Funder: John E. Fogarty International Center

[Vanderbilt-Nigeria Research Ethics Training Program \(V-NET\)](#)

Investigator(s): Muktar Aliyu, Elisa Gordon, Zubairu Iliyasu

Funder: John E. Fogarty International Center

[Vanderbilt-Vietnam Training Program In Genetic Epidemiology](#)

Investigator(s): Velez Edwards, Digna R, Giang Le, Xiao-Ou Shu, Huong Thi Thanh

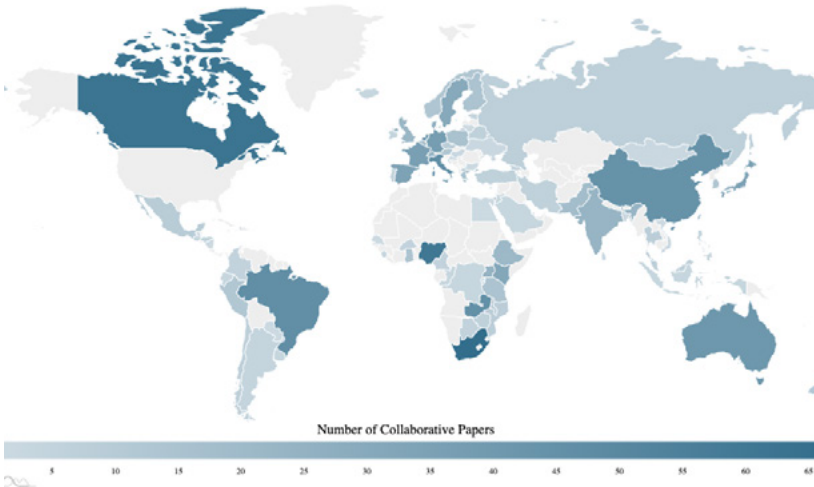
Funder: John E. Fogarty International Center



Fundación Huésped (NGO), Buenos Aires, Argentina

Publications

Author Organizations and Institutions by Country



Data were compiled using Flight Tracker for Scholars, a VICTR-supported initiative.

VIGH-affiliated faculty published **593 papers**, of which **123** included **1,241 co-authors** from organizations and institutions in **92 countries**, with South Africa having the highest number of author-affiliated (86) organizations and institutions.



The [Altmetric](#) Attention Score for research output indicates the amount of real-time attention it has received from online sources to measure engagement. Altmetrics complement traditional indicators like time to publication and citation analysis. The score is derived from an automated algorithm and represents a weighted count of the attention gathered for research output.

Liang CY, Raju S, Liu Z, Li Y, Asthagiri Arunkumar G, Case JB, et al. [Imprinting of serum neutralizing antibodies by Wuhan-1 mRNA vaccines](#). *Nature*. 2024 Jun;630(8018):950-960. doi: 10.1038/s41586-024-07539-1. Epub 2024 May 15 Altmetric Score: 687 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Crowe JE

Sumislowski K, Widmer A, et al. [Consumption of Tree Nuts as Snacks Reduces Metabolic Syndrome Risk in Young Adults: A Randomized Trial](#). *Nutrients*. 2023 Dec 9;15(24):5051. doi: 10.3390/nu15245051. Altmetric Score: 558 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Koethe JR

Simeone RM, Zambrano LD, Halasa NB, Fleming-Dutra KE, et al. [Effectiveness of Maternal mRNA COVID-19 Vaccination During Pregnancy Against COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations in Infants Aged <6 Months During SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Predominance - 20 States, March 9, 2022-May 31, 2023](#). *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. 2023 Sep 29;72(39):1057-1064. doi: 10.15585/mmwr.mm7239a3. Altmetric Score: 519 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Halasa NB

Halasa N, Zambrano LD, Amarín JZ, et al. [Infants Admitted to US Intensive Care Units for RSV Infection During the 2022 Seasonal Peak](#). *JAMA Netw Open*. 2023;23(1):e2-e21. doi:10.1016/S1473-3099(22)00291-2 Altmetric Score: 375 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Halasa NB

Johnson NV, Wall SC, Kramer KJ, Holt CM, et al. [Discovery and Characterization of a Pan-betacoronavirus S2-binding antibody](#). 2024 Jan 16:2024.01.15.575741. doi: 10.1101/2024.01.15.575741. Altmetric Score: 322 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Crowe JE

Raglow Z, Surie D, Chappell JD, et al. [SARS-CoV-2 shedding and evolution in patients who were immunocompromised during the omicron period: a multicentre, prospective analysis](#). *Lancet Microbe*. 2024 Mar;5(3):e235-e246. doi: 10.1016/S2666-5247(23)00336-1. Epub 2024 Jan 26. Altmetric Score: 320 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Chappell JD, Grijalva CG

Wang L, O'Brien MT, Zhang X, et al. [Cardiometabolic Improvements After Metabolic Surgery and Related Presurgery Factors](#). *J Endocr Soc*. 2024 Mar 14;8(5):bvae027. doi: 10.1210/jendso/bvae027. eCollection 2024 Mar 12. Altmetric Score: 312 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Shu XO

Jia G, Ping J, Guo X, Yang Y, et al. [Genome-wide association analyses of breast cancer in women of African ancestry identify new susceptibility loci and improve risk prediction](#). *Nat Genet*. 2024 May;56(5):819-826. doi: 10.1038/s41588-024-01736-4. Epub 2024 May 13. Altmetric Score: 298 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Zheng W

Lawler T, Walts ZL, Steinwandel M, et al. [Type 2 Diabetes and Colorectal Cancer Risk](#). *JAMA Netw Open*. 2023 Nov 1;6(11):e2343333. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.43333. Altmetric Score: 267 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Zheng W

Ma KC, Surie D, Lauring AS, et al. [Effectiveness of Updated 2023-2024 \(Monovalent XBB.1.5\) COVID-19 Vaccination Against SARS-CoV-2 Omicron XBB and BA.2.86/JN.1 Lineage Hospitalization and a Comparison of Clinical Severity - IVY Network, 26 Hospitals, October 18, 2023-March 9, 2024](#). Preprint. medRxiv. 2024;2024.06.04.24308470. Published 2024 Jun 5. doi:10.1101/2024.06.04.24308470 Altmetric Score: 236 VIGH-affiliated author(s): Chappell JD, Grijalva CG



Friends in Global Health (FGH)

Working in partnership with local government and civil sector organizations, [FGH](#) (a Vanderbilt Health Services entity) implements health and development programs through effective partnerships and sustainable strategies and conducts innovative research and program evaluation shaping health care delivery in low- and middle-income countries. Our impact on community health and well-being is guided by engagement with local teams and strategic partners.

FGH serves as VUMC's primary vehicle for program implementation in Mozambique. FGH and VUMC function as one team, with most of its technical expertise based in Zambézia Province, Mozambique. FGH has been registered with the Government of Mozambique for the implementation of HIV prevention, care and treatment and other health development programs for nearly 18 years. The FGH team works closely with Mozambique Ministry of Health officials at the national, provincial, district and health facility levels to implement sustainable models of community and facility-based services that cover, among other areas, the full spectrum of the HIV response.

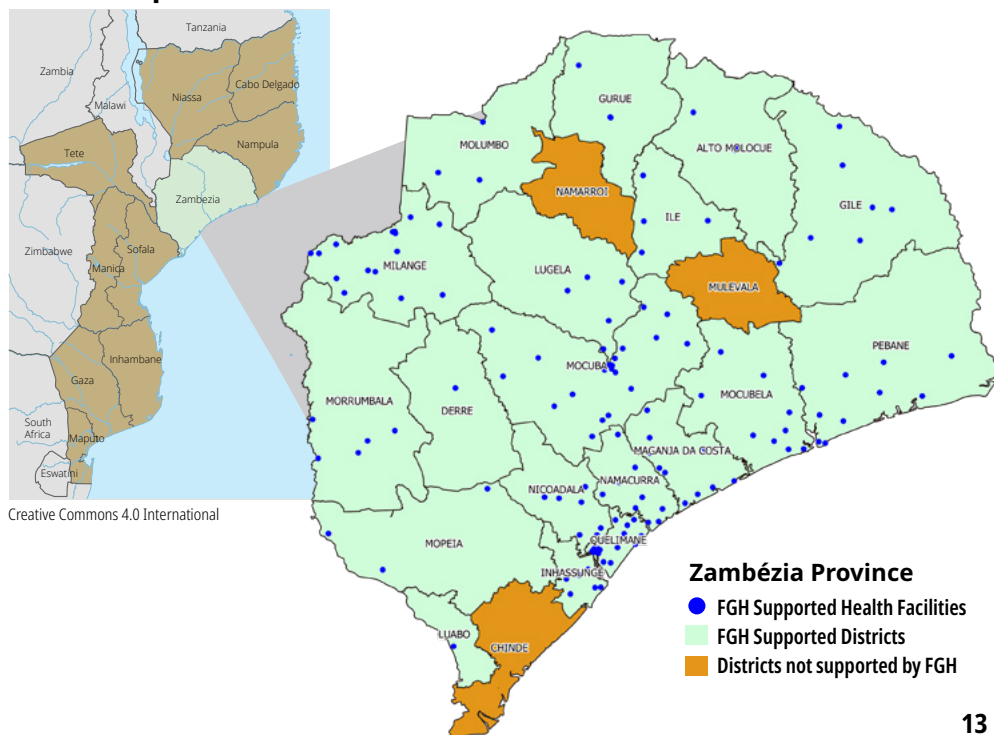


Avante ("moving forward" in Portuguese)

With support from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the [Avante](#) program works in partnership with provincial health authorities through a team based in the capital Quelimane in Zambézia Province with district-based multidisciplinary teams and health facility based managers. Provincial and district-based teams are comprised of specialists in Health Communications, HIV Counseling and Testing, HIV C&T, Psychosocial Support, Maternal and Child Health, Tuberculosis, Laboratory, Pharmacy, and Strategic Information.

- 147 health facilities support the delivery of HIV care and treatment to more than 372,000 people living with HIV in Zambézia Province, Mozambique
- 138 of the 147 facilities provide high-quality cervical cancer screening
- More than 379,000 persons currently receiving potentially life-saving antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- More than 520,000 individuals undergoing HIV counseling and testing (HTC) per quarter this past fiscal year
- Viral load suppression rate of 94% among ART-treated patients (children and adults)

Mozambique



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2023-2024: Academic Report



BY THE NUMBERS

13

MPH Global Health Track Students

26

Medical Students

5

Graduate Certificate in Global Health Awardees

33

Vanderbilt Collaborative for Global Health Equity

24

Global Health students supported through endowments



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health Student Advisory

30+

Posters presented at the Global Health Symposium

80

Global Health Case Competition Student Engagement

33

Student Organization Members

10

External Global Health Experts Serving as Mentors

The 2024 VIGH Global Health Case Competition winning team competed in Atlanta at the Emory Morningside Global Health Case Competition and won for the first time. They won the Honorable Mention Award and the Participant's Choice Award.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Anjola Ajayi, MPH'24, and Tevin Mathew, MPH'24, received a \$5,000 award as one of only twenty projects worldwide in the second-ever cohort for the "This is Public Health Global Grant Program" through the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health. They are working to build local capacity and increase male engagement, investigate health challenges, enhance programmatic interventions, and expand public health awareness in rural Guatemala and Kenya with global partners Lwala Community Alliance and Primeros Pasos. Anjola and Tevin also had the opportunity to be TIPH Global Student Ambassadors, allowing them to present their work to diverse audiences and expand their global health networks. [Learn more about their work.](#)



Primeros Pasos



VIGH Annual Retreat

VIGH faculty and staff gathered at our annual team day retreat, learning about new projects and networking with each other at the Dyer Observatory. The agenda included updates on new programs and projects, a DEI activity, review of data and contract regulations, lunch and staff awards. Global Health Bingo and staff awards were highlights of the day!



In 2024, the VIGH DEI Committee continued their work in supporting VIGH in its journey to create a more inclusive and equitable environment.

During the summer, the committee hosted six discussion sessions using materials from an anti-racism Coursera course. VIGH members discussed historical foundations of racism and applications to VIGH. The training was well received by participants.

In the fall, the committee hosted a lunch-and-learn where, along with the scholars from the VIRDE training program, reflected on a World Health Organization (WHO) podcast on decolonizing global health and applications for our international work.

Moving into 2025, the committee plans to continue their work with interactive activities at the VIGH retreat, a summer discussion series, and more lunch-and-learns.

DEI Committee: Hannah Brooks, MSc, Erin Graves, MPH, Angela Paolucci, MPH, (Co-Chair), Elizabeth Rose, EdD, MPH, MEd, Teris Taylor, MPH, MHS, Lizet Tirres (Co-Chair), MS, MBA, William Wester, MD, MPH



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