



ENDOWMENT IMPACT SUMMARY

Research Endowments

Thank you for your support of the MetroHealth Research Institute. Your generosity enables us to be a national leader in translating innovations and discoveries into improved health and better lives for patients, especially at-risk populations. The Research Institute classifies its work in three major domains: Basic Sciences, Clinical Sciences and Population Health Research. I am pleased to focus this year's highlights on the achievements in Population Health Research.

OUR INSTITUTE

L. Charles McClure Cancer Research Endowment

The Population Health and Equity Research Institute (PHERI) is comprised of three notable centers supported by a Biostatistics and Data Sciences Division:

- Center for Health Equity, Engagement, Education and Research (CHEEER)
- Center for Health Care Research and Policy (CHRP)
- Center for Clinical Informatics Research and Education (CCIRE)

Our shared vision is to be trusted and renowned for innovation and discoveries that foster thriving, healthy, equitable communities. Our collective efforts will establish powerful new models of how to improve the health of different communities in the region, state and nation.

OUR 2023 ACTIVITIES

- **38** active grants led by PHERI principal investigators (PIs) totaling more than \$31 million – an 82% increase in funding since 2020
- **29** collaborative grants with PHERI co-investigators totaling an additional \$24 million
- **129** publications in key areas including health disparities, social drivers of health, cardiovascular health and health informatics – a 122% increase since 2020
- **17** invited national/international presentations with more than 125 other regional and national conference talks
- Over **80** research trainees (medical students, residents, fellows and other scholars) mentored by PHERI faculty

New Grant Highlights

Five-year \$3.75 million Centers for Disease Control grant titled “Heart Health Equity in Cuyahoga County Communities” to improve hypertension and cholesterol equity by addressing social drivers of health and enhancing access to clinical care in neighborhoods with the highest cardiovascular risk (Shari Bolen, MD, and Aleece Caron, PhD, in collaboration with a host of healthcare, community and payor partners)

Five-year \$540,000 National Institutes of Health Research Education grant to increase the diversity of the scientific workforce titled “An Intensive Summer Education Program in Translational Research for Underrepresented Students (INSPIRE-US)” (Daryl Thornton, MD, and Ronald Hickman, Jr., PhD)

Five-year \$1.29 million National Institute on Aging grant titled “Digital Twin Neighborhoods for Research on Place-Based Health Inequalities in Mid-Life” will use data from place-based research to inform, prioritize, evaluate and implement population health strategies that close health disparities (Adam Perzynski, PhD, and Jarrod Dalton, PhD)

THE ENDOWMENTS

Alfred F. Connors, Sr. Health Services & Population Health Research Endowment – Supports research, education and the recruitment of key personnel focused on population health research.

Duncan V. Neuhauser, PhD Professorship in Community Health – In addition to the academic research efforts of chair-holder Ashwini Sehgal, MD, this fund sponsors an annual symposium and lecture focused on quality improvement, allowing junior faculty and trainees to share their work and receive feedback from nationally recognized quality improvement experts. In 2023, the lecture was presented by Eugene C. Nelson, DSc, MPH, Director, Population Health Measurement, Professor, Community & Family Medicine, The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, Geisel School of Medicine.

Randall D. Cebul, MD Visiting Professor Endowed Lectureship – Honoring the legacy, leadership and commitment of Randall D. Cebul, MD, (1950-2023) to improving health quality and outcomes and eliminating disparities in care, this endowment supports an annual visiting professor lecture, as well as professional development activities in population health research. This year's seminar was presented by Joyce Lee, MD, MPH, Robert P. Kelch Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Endocrinology, Susan B. Meister Child Health Evaluation and Research Center, University of Michigan.

PHERI IMPACT

The accomplishments of the Institute's three Centers – CHRP, CHEEER and CCIRE – have positively impacted healthcare in Ohio and beyond:

- CHRP's evaluation of the Medicaid Waiver program paved the way for Ohio's Medicaid expansion. CHRP has also spearheaded large-scale collaborative improvement efforts that have led to improved blood pressure and blood sugar control for high-risk individuals across the region and state.
- CHEEER's authentic engagement with a cadre of community partners has accelerated the translation of research findings to communities experiencing health disparities.
- CCIRE's trailblazing use of electronic health record data has yielded healthcare quality improvement, patient-centered care delivery advancements and costs savings, putting MetroHealth at the forefront of informatics optimization.

As healthcare delivery continues to move toward value-based care, the population health model will be increasingly dependent upon identifying innovative and effective delivery models for diverse populations and analyzing trends in health, quality and costs. PHERI is at the forefront of identifying and addressing disparities in care and outcomes across populations, as well as informing and implementing novel clinical and community interventions that influence patient health outcomes including the impact on well-being. PHERI is a respected leader in the national effort to achieve health equity in our communities.



Thank you again for your role in making these activities possible through your wonderful support. The echo of your generosity can be heard for years to come, and for that, we are infinitely grateful.

With gratitude,

Shari Bolen, MD, MPH

Director, Population Health and Equity Research Institute

Alfred F. Connors, Sr. Health Services & Population Health Research Professor