California Department of Public Health
Cal-EIS Fellows 2014-15

Danny Allgeier, MPH

Danny received his MPH from the University of California, Berkeley, concentrating in Epidemiology/Biostatistics. During his time at Berkeley, Danny worked for Cardno ChemRisk, a consulting firm specializing in occupational health, environmental exposures, and risk assessment. For his thesis he conducted a meta-analysis to determine the dose response curve between arsenic in drinking water and lung cancer. Danny's fellowship placement is with Contra Costa Health Services, Emergency Medical Services, and he hopes to continue working as an epidemiologist for a local or state health department following the fellowship.

Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptor – Dr. Abigail Kroch

Jaynia Anderson, MPH

Jaynia is placed in the Safe and Active Communities Branch at the California Department of Public Health. She completed her MPH in Epidemiology with a certificate in Maternal and Child Health at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. During her studies she worked with the Birth Defects Branch at the CDC and on the FUCHSIA Women's Health research study at Emory University. For her MPH internship she designed and conducted a study in Cape Town, South Africa looking at barriers experienced by women accessing reproductive health services. Previous public health experience includes working on California's West Nile virus surveillance program with CDPH. Jaynia hopes to pursue a career as an epidemiologist at the state or local level.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Steve Wirtz

Madhurima Gadgil, MPH

Madhurima's fellowship placement is in the Chronic Disease Control Branch at the California Department of Public Health in the Oral Health Unit. As a second-year fellow, Madhurima is working on an oral health burden report for California. Her projects also include a GIS hotspot analysis of preventable dental conditions using emergency department data. Before the fellowship, Madhurima completed her MPH at UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, where she pursued a dual focus in epidemiology and program planning. Madhurima's interests include nutritional epidemiology, environmental health, and the use of GIS for disease surveillance. After the fellowship, she hopes to work as an epidemiologist for a public agency.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Caroline Peck

Sindana Ilango, MPH

Sindana will be completing her fellowship in the Chronic Disease Control Branch at the California Department of Public Health. She is interested in better understanding the role of the State in preventing cancer and cardiovascular disease. Prior to this placement, she received her MPH in Epidemiology from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. During her graduate program, she completed her practicum at the County of San Diego Community Health Statistics Unit and Emergency Medical Services where she analyzed emergency department visits for behavioral health diagnoses. Sindana's career goals include pursuing a doctoral degree in epidemiology and practicing epidemiology and public health in the public sector.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptors - Dr. Shannon Conroy and Dr. Janet Bates

Kathryn Jeanfreau, MPH

Kathryn has been placed in the Public Health Division of Yuba County Health and Human Services Department. Prior to starting this fellowship, she completed her MPH in Epidemiology at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Public Health. She worked for the Louisiana Breast and Cervical Health Program and completed projects with the HIV Outpatient Program in New Orleans during her time at LSUHSC. Through her studies, she developed interests in the areas of chronic disease, environmental, and social epidemiology. Kathryn plans to explore more areas of public health during her time in Yuba County, and upon completion of her Cal-EIS fellowship, she hopes to pursue a career in epidemiology at the local or state level.

Stipend provided by Yuba County Health and Human Services. Preceptors – Dr. Michael Kinnison and Bill Smith, MPH

John Kaufman, MPH

John's fellowship placement site is with Contra Costa County Environmental Health. Prior to his fellowship he completed his MPH in global environmental health at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health in Atlanta, GA. During his program he worked for CDC's National Center for Environmental Health analyzing data for an investigation of childhood lead poisoning linked to gold mining in rural Nigeria. He completed his master's practicum working for the NGO CARE in Mozambique, where he collected and analyzed data for an evaluation of a water and sanitation program. His fellowship projects will include piloting a set of performance measures to be adopted by local health departments statewide and improving foodborne illness surveillance in Contra Costa County. John plans to pursue a doctoral degree next fall.

Stipend provided by Contra Costa Environmental Health. Preceptor – Dr. Marilyn Underwood

Gael Lamielle, DVM, MPH

Gael was born and raised in France and moved to the US right before college. He studied veterinary medicine at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, CA and graduated in 2009. Since then, he completed an MPH at the University of Minnesota and worked as a veterinarian in a small animal clinic. Gael has been working in Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Veterinary Public Health (VPH) program for almost 2 years and recently became a Diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. During his time with VPH, he has had a wide variety of experiences working with animal disease outbreaks, puppy inspections at Los Angeles International Airport and human diseases outbreak such as tuberculosis and pertussis. He enjoys working with issues at the interface of animal and human health, especially with zoonotic diseases. Gael plans to remain in the veterinary public health field for his future career.

Stipend provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Preceptor – Dr. Karen Ehnert

Vijay Limaye, PhD

Vijay completed a Ph.D. in Epidemiology/Environmental Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2014 under the direction of Dr. Jonathan Patz, a pioneer in the field of environmental health. His dissertation focused on the dual aims of assessing the health impacts of climate change-driven air pollution, as well as quantifying how chronic exposures to high levels of air pollution impact life expectancy in India. He is broadly interested in environmental health problems in the U.S. and India, particularly the links between climate change, exposures to extreme heat and air pollution, and population health. He graduated with High Honors from the University of California-Berkeley in 2007, completing a B.A. in Environmental Sciences with a minor in Spanish Language and Literature. He then worked as an Environmental Scientist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 office in San Francisco on Tribal Clean Water Act programs. Vijay's Cal-EIS placement is in the Environmental Health Investigations Branch, CDPH Richmond campus, and he is working on several projects assessing the health impacts of wildfire-driven air pollution and urban greening programs. After the fellowship, he is interested in continuing work in the public sector to advance environmental health research and policy.

Stipend provided by the Sequoia Foundation. Preceptor – Sumi Hoshiko, MPH

Marijoyce Naguit, MPH

Marijoyce is entering the second year of her Cal-EIS fellowship with Solano County Public Health. During her first year, she worked on various projects such as: the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Needs Assessment, training hospital providers to use Cal-REDIE, and analyzing STD trends in the county. For her second year, she plans to focus on Solano County's Community Health Status Assessment. Marijoyce received her MPH in Epidemiology at Florida International University, School of Public Health and Social Work. Prior to her fellowship, she conducted research on indicators of heart disease in women and analyzed the impact of consultation planning on cancer patients' decisional self-efficacy and anxiety in Mendocino County. Upon completion of her fellowship, she plans on pursuing a DrPH in Epidemiology and continuing her career in public health as an Epidemiologist at the local or state level.

Stipend provided by the Solano County Public Health Department. Preceptors – Dr. Michael Stacey and Meileen Acosta, MPH

Sarah Park, MPH

Sarah is entering her second fellowship year with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. She completed her MPH in General Epidemiology with a Certificate in Global Public Health at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Her current major project is to explore the early impact of the Affordable Care Act by analyzing trends in readmission rates for Heart Failure, Acute Myocardial Infarction, and Pneumonia from 2007 to 2013. To date, she has been involved in several different projects, including investigating a Norovirus outbreak and providing analytical support to the Emergency Medical Services Authority. Her long-term future career goals include pursuing a doctoral degree in epidemiology and serving as an epidemiologist either abroad or domestically at the state or national level.

Stipend provided by the Office of Statewide Health Planning & Development (OSHPD). Preceptors – Dr. Merry Holliday-Hanson and Dr. Holly Hoegh

Kyle Rizzo, MPH

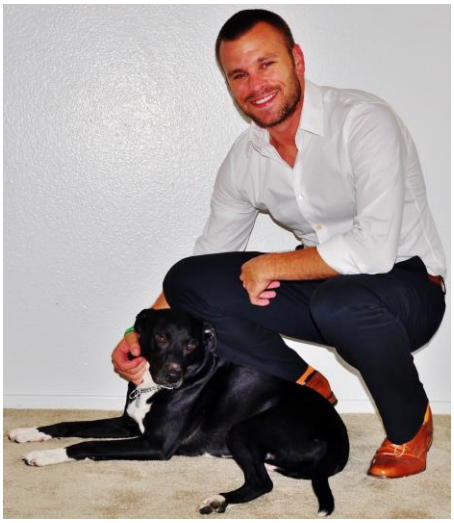
Kyle is completing his fellowship with the California Department of Public Health Healthcare-Associated Infections Program. He earned his MPH from the Division of Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology (IDV) within the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. During graduate school, Kyle worked for the CDPH Office of Viral Hepatitis Prevention and also completed projects with the City of Berkeley Public Health Division. He served as a teaching assistant in IDV Division, and was an executive board member for the graduate student group Cal STAPH. Kyle is an active member in The Berkeley Free Clinic Lab Section Collective, and plans to continue studying and working in the field of infectious disease epidemiology after his fellowship.

Stipend provided by the CDPH Healthcare-Associated Infections Program. Preceptors – Dr. Jon Rosenberg and Lynn Janssen, MS, CIC, CPHG

TaNisha Roby, MPH

TaNisha is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Public Health where she received her MPH in General Epidemiology. She is a second year fellow at the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Healthcare Outcomes Center. Her personal and professional research interests include the epidemiology of malnutrition, as well as metabolic and endocrine disorders, mainly types 1 and 2 diabetes; disparities in prevalence and outcomes of these and like conditions; lifestyle and socio-demographic factors associated with disparities; and barriers to and beliefs around a healthy lifestyle. Following the completion of her fellowship year, TaNisha plans to seek employment at a state or local public health agency prior to pursuing doctoral studies in Epidemiology or an allied research field. Her passion is to apply the outstanding education and training she has received, both inside and outside the classroom, for public service.

Stipend provided by the Office of Statewide Health Planning & Development. Preceptors – Dr. Merry Holliday-Hanson and Dr. Holly Hoegh



Matthew P. Shearer, MPH

Matt is working in Communicable Disease Programs for Contra Costa County Health Services. He recently graduated with a Master of Public Health in epidemiology from the University of Michigan. While in Ann Arbor, he focused his studies on emergency preparedness and infectious disease outbreak response and transmission modeling. As part of an internship with a local health department in Michigan, he coordinated a full-scale Strategic National Stockpile exercise and conducted the state investigation for the largest norovirus outbreak in Michigan history. As part of his fellowship, he will be helping prepare and train for a regional anthrax attack exercise in the San Francisco Bay Area. Matt hopes the Cal-EIS fellowship will be the beginning of a career in emergency preparedness, particularly policy development for bioterrorism and infectious disease outbreak response.

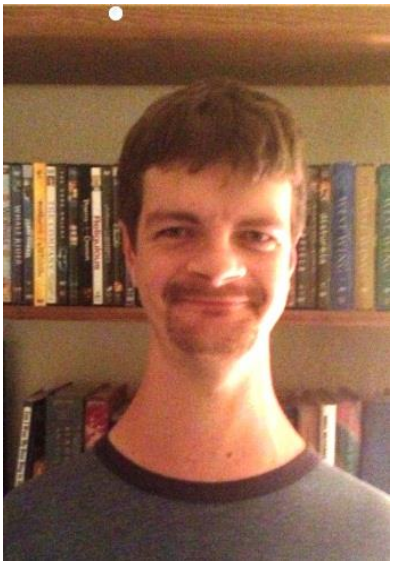
Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptors – Dr. Wendell Brunner and Erika Jenssen, MPH

Marion Tseng, PhD, MPVM

Marion received her Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine at National Taiwan University in Taipei, Taiwan, and then went on to complete her Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine at University of California, Davis. After working on epidemiology of infectious diseases in wildlife and domestic animals, Marion continued to complete her PhD at Michigan State University. Her doctoral research focused on epidemiology of Shiga toxin producing *E. coli* in finishing swine and human in Michigan. For the Cal-EIS fellowship program, Marion is placed with the Science and Education Section, Food and Drug Branch at the California Department of Public Health. She will be working on food safety research projects under the guidance of Dr. Laurence Upjohn. Marion plans to work in the field of applied epidemiology after her fellowship year, and become an epidemiologist at a local or state health department.

Stipend provided by the CDPH Food and Drug Branch. Preceptor – Dr. Laurence Upjohn

California Department of Public Health
Cal-EIS Fellows 13-14



Brendan Darsie, MPH

Brendan has been placed with the Safe and Active Communities Branch of the California Department of Public Health. Before entering the fellowship, he received his MPH in Epidemiology from Oregon State University. During his time at Oregon State, he worked as a research assistant, and completed projects relating to chronic diseases and aging. He also completed an internship at the Benton County Health Department where he completed the Benton County Health Status Report, a comprehensive report on the health statistics of the county. Brendan's career goals are to work as an epidemiologist at the state or federal level.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Steve Wirtz

Alexandra Lee, MSPH

Alex has been placed in the Chronic Disease Control Branch at the California Department of Public Health. She recently received her MSPH in Epidemiology from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. While in Atlanta, she worked at the CDC in the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention. She also completed an internship at UCSF, where she analyzed healthcare utilization of diabetic patients in a self-management program. Her interests lie in cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and nutritional epidemiology. Alex's career goals include pursuing a doctoral degree in epidemiology and serving as an epidemiologist at a public agency.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Shannon Conroy

Monica Murphy, DVM, MPH

Monica is entering her second Cal-EIS fellowship year with Contra Costa Public Health Communicable Disease Programs. Prior to entering the fellowship, Monica was a writer and a practicing veterinarian. She received her MPH from Johns Hopkins in 2010. During the first year of her fellowship, Monica worked on a variety of projects including zoonotic and enteric disease investigation, rabies prevention, and tuberculosis (TB) program improvement. In her second year, Monica hopes to concentrate more deeply on her major project which uses TB genotyping data for retrospective program analysis. Following the fellowship, Monica hopes to practice public health at the state or local level.

Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptors – Dr. Wendel Brunner & Erika Jenssen

Lauren Nelson, MPH

Lauren completed her MPH in Epidemiology at Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. While a student, she worked in the Developmental Disabilities Branch of the CDC on an autism study. For her thesis she did a spatial analysis of the combined effect of preterm birth and neighborhood socioeconomic level on developmental and educational outcomes of children in early elementary school. Lauren is placed in the Environmental Health Investigations Branch (EHIB) of the California Department of Public Health. She is interested in learning how environmental factors influence health and contribute to health disparities. After this fellowship, Lauren hopes to continue working as an epidemiologist at a state or local health department in California.

Stipend provided by the CDPH Environmental Health Investigations Branch. Preceptors – Dr. Daniel Smith & Sumi Hoshiko

Mayuri Panditrao, PhD, MPH

Mayuri received her PhD in Epidemiology and her MPH in Infectious Diseases from the University of California, Berkeley. For her doctoral dissertation Mayuri studied the effect of in utero HIV exposure on postnatal growth in HIV-exposed uninfected children in India. Further, she also studied the barriers associated with utilization of continued HIV-related treatment in women who had previously received prevention of mother-to-child treatment (PMTCT) services in India. For her MPH internship, Mayuri carried out a population-based study to identify the risk factors for Chikungunya fever in Sewagram, India. As an MPH student, Mayuri also lead a team of graduate students to India to study the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in predicting malaria outbreaks. Mayuri's interests include the epidemiology of new and emerging infectious diseases, and the use of geospatial surveillance techniques in investigating disease outbreaks. Following the completion of her Cal-EIS fellowship Mayuri's goal is to pursue a career in infectious disease epidemiology at the state or federal level.

Stipend Provided by the CDPH Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program (IBTPP).
Preceptors - Dr. Stephen Arnon, Dr. Jessica Khouri & Jessica Payne

Elizabeth Roberts, DVM, MPH

Elizabeth completed her MPH at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and her DVM at the University of California, Davis. Her MPH concentration was in infectious diseases, with a project that examined the epidemiology of H5N1 in migratory birds. Following her MPH she worked in shelter medicine, including medical and surgical outreach in underserved communities. For the past two years she worked as a public health veterinarian for San Mateo County, primarily with the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Communicable Disease Departments. Her interests include all things public health, and her goals are to practice public health at the state or federal level.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Curtis Fritz

California Department of Public Health
Cal EIS Fellows 12-13

Sara Sowko, MPH

Sara is in her second fellowship year and has been placed with the Contra Costa County Public Health Communicable Disease Programs. Before entering the fellowship, she completed her MPH in Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases at Yale School of Public Health. During her first fellowship year, she worked on a wide variety of projects including: conducting outbreak and disease case investigations and outbreak investigations, helping generate relevant disease control and prevention suggestions, developing disease education materials and participating in infectious disease emergency preparedness planning activities. As an independent project, she conducted a retrospective review of all the reported pertussis cases in Contra Costa County during the California epidemic in 2010-2011. Sara's goals include furthering her academic knowledge in Public Health and serving as an Epidemiologist at the local or state level.

Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptors – Dr. Wendel Brunner & Erika Jenssen

Tu My To, MPH

Tu My received her MPH in Epidemiology from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Her previous experience in public health includes interning at the Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory and working with the Parasitic Diseases Branch at CDC to subtype *Cryptosporidia* species in samples from a pediatric cohort study. For her master's thesis, she analyzed the effectiveness and clinical impact of using the GenoType® MDRTB*plus* line probe assay (a rapid diagnostic test) to detect multi-drug resistant tuberculosis for routine testing in a mycobacteriology laboratory in Manila, Philippines. Tu My's goals include pursuing a career in infectious disease epidemiology at the state or federal level.

Stipend provided by the CDPH Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program (IBTPP).
Preceptor – Dr. Haydee Dabritz

Roza Tammer, MPH

Roza has been placed in Acute Communicable Disease within the Division of Communicable Disease Control & Prevention (DCDCP) at the Alameda County Public Health Department. Before completing her MPH in Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases at the Yale School of Public Health, Roza worked for the Community and Economic Development Agency of the City of Oakland, and completed internships at the San Francisco and Berkeley Departments of Public Health. While at Yale, Roza completed research projects with practical applications in unintentional prescription opioid poisonings and hepatitis C surveillance and follow-up. Her work experience included assistantships at the New Haven Health Dept. and the Connecticut Emerging Infections Program. Roza's interests include harm reduction, vaccine-preventable disease, emerging infections, and field epidemiology. Her career goals include pursuing a DrPH in community health and infectious disease epidemiology, and serving as an epidemiologist at a public agency.

Stipend provided by the Alameda County Public Health Department.

Preceptors - Dr. Sandra Huang & Dr. Jane Martin

California Department of Public Health
Cal EIS Fellows 11-12

Sharon Brummitt, MPH
Sharon is now in her second fellowship year and has been placed with Santa Cruz County Department of Public Health. She completed her MPH at the University of Texas School of Public Health. For her MPH thesis, she completed an epidemiologic study on cryptosporidiosis. She completed her practicum and was later hired as an epidemiologist with Dallas County Health and Human Services where she participated with case investigations of Cryptosporidiosis and West Nile Virus, outbreak investigations, and surveillance for the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Sharon plans to earn her PhD in epidemiology and would like to become an EIS officer with the CDC.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Poki Stewart Namkung

Abigail Kroch, PhD, MPH
Abigail completed her MPH at UC Berkeley concentrating in Epidemiology. Before that she completed a postdoctoral fellowship at University of California, San Francisco in the cellular and molecular biology. She did her doctoral work in biology and biophysics at Johns Hopkins University. She has worked for the Center for Weight and Health at UC Berkeley, carrying out data collection at California public schools and data analysis for several child nutrition intervention evaluations. She did her MPH thesis comparing nutrition and physical activity behaviors in students of varied acculturation. She plans to work in epidemiology and community health assessment.

Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptor – Dr. Wendel Brunner

Danny Kwon, MPH

Danny Kwon completed his MPH at the Loma Linda University School of Public Health in Environmental/Occupational Health and Epidemiology. During his field practicum project, Danny worked on an epidemiologic study evaluating the use of Betel quid with Oral Cancer rates in Cambodia through spatial analyses of the exposure and disease. Prior to the start of the Fellowship, Danny worked as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health. He is very interested in understanding how environmental factors affect health and disease, and would like to pursue a career as an Environmental Epidemiologist at a local or state health department in the state of California.

Stipend provided by the CDPH Environmental Health Investigations Branch. Preceptor – Dr. Daniel Smith

Alexander Marr, MPH

Alex completed his MPH in epidemiology at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. As a participant in Tulane's Masters Internationalist Program, Alex served with the US Peace Corps in Botswana from 2009-2011. His experience in Botswana focused on coordinating and planning HIV and AIDS programs with local organizations in the Kanye Administrative Authority. With his epidemiology background, he was able to strengthen district level data collection and management techniques which allowed the districts to use localized data in order to actively monitor activities and produce strategically targeted annual plans. After Fellowship, Alex is interested in pursuing a PhD in epidemiology and hopefully to work at a city/county-level health department or for the CDC. In the future, Alex would like to use his training and experience in international development and public health projects.

Stipend provided by the Alameda County Department of Public Health. Preceptor – Dr. Jane Martin

Mina Mohammadi, MPH

Mina is now in her second year of fellowship and has been placed with CDPH Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Mina obtained her MPH from UC Davis with a concentration in General Public Health. During her studies, she worked under the auspices of the Veteran Immigrant and Refugee Trauma Institute of Sacramento on a seed project conducting a mental health needs assessment of Afghan immigrants living in Northern California. Her previous experiences in public health include interning at a county health department, a non-profit organization and a community health clinic. Mina plans to work as a health program epidemiologist in the public or private sector.

Stipend provided by the Healthy Communities Grant.
Preceptor – Dr. Neil Maizlish & Pam Ford-Keach

Jaspreet Samra, MPH

Jaspreet is now in her second fellowship year and has been placed with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). She completed her MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at USC. During her first fellowship year with CDPH Safe and Active Communities Branch, she worked in the Injury Surveillance & Epidemiology Section. While assisting with other Injury Control programs, her main project focused on monitoring and analyzing data for the FCANS (Fatal Child Abuse and Neglect Surveillance) Program's statewide Reconciliation Audit. Jaspreet's goals include advancing her academics in Public Health and being an epidemiologist serving at the state or national level.

Stipend provided by the Office of Statewide Health & Planning Development.
Preceptor – Dr. Merry Holliday-Hanson

Tamerin Scott, DVM, MPH

Tamerin completed her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, CA. She practiced small animal veterinary medicine in The Bay Area for two years while completing her Master's in Public Health from the University of Minnesota. Her interests are in zoonotic diseases, especially disease control and prevention in developing countries. Tamerin has also done a fair amount of international work in Morocco, Peru, South Africa, Thailand, Uruguay, and Mexico. After completing her Cal-EIS fellowship, she plans to get a fulltime veterinary public health job.

Stipend provided by the Los Angeles County Department Public Health. Preceptor – Dr. Karen Ehnert

Gail Sondermeyer, MPH

Gail completed her MPH from the University of California, Berkeley concentrating in Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology. Her previous experience in public health includes interning with an international medical non-profit in Uganda and working on an HPV and cervical cancer surveillance program with the CDPH STD Control Branch. For her MPH thesis, she analyzed the results of a statewide survey of CA physicians regarding the HPV vaccine. Gail's goals include becoming an EIS officer with the CDC and pursuing a career in infectious disease epidemiology.

Stipend provided by the Office of Statewide Health and Planning Department (OSHPD).
Preceptors – Dr. Merry Holliday-Hanson & Dr. Holly Hoegh

California Department of Public Health
Cal EIS Fellows 10-11

Sharon Brummitt, MPH

Sharon completed her MPH at the University of Texas School of Public Health. For her MPH thesis, she completed an epidemiologic study on cryptosporidiosis. She completed her practicum and was later hired as an epidemiologist with Dallas County Health and Human Services where she participated with case investigations of Cryptosporidiosis and West Nile Virus, outbreak investigations, and surveillance for the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Sharon plans to earn her PhD in epidemiology and would like to become an EIS officer with the CDC.

Start date 11-1-10

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Poki Stewart Namkung

Leah Carlon, MPH

Leah is now in her second year of fellowship and has been placed within Solano County Public Health. Before that, she completed her MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at USC. During her first fellowship year, she has been working on a wide variety of projects within Solano County including H1N1 emergency response, outbreak investigations, infant mortality analysis, STD tracking and analysis, and intern supervision. She plans to continue working as an Epidemiologist at the local level before obtaining a PhD.

Stipend provided by the Solano County Dept of Public Health. Preceptors – Jill Cook & Dr. Michael Stacey

Mina Mohammadi, MPH

Mina obtained her MPH from UC Davis with a concentration in General Public Health. During her studies, she worked under the auspices of the Veteran Immigrant and Refugee Trauma Institute of Sacramento on a seed project conducting a mental health needs assessment of Afghan immigrants living in Northern California. Her previous experiences in public health include interning at a county health department, a non-profit organization and a community health clinic. Mina plans to work as a health program epidemiologist in the public or private sector.

Start date 11-1-10

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Cassius Lockett

Elizabeth Rodgers, MA, MSPH

Elizabeth Rodgers received her Master of Science degree in Society, Human Development and Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Her interests are in the social determinants of health, particularly obesity and chronic diseases. Prior to her public health graduate program, Elizabeth served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Uzbekistan where she developed and implemented nutrition-education and anemia-prevention programs for young pregnant women. She has also worked as a Peace Corps trainer in Washington, DC and as an administrator for a USAID maternal health program based in Afghanistan. She received an MA in philosophy at the University of Texas in 2008. Elizabeth is now settled in California, where she plans to pursue a career with the state in program planning and evaluation for chronic disease prevention.

Start date 11-1-10

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptors – Pam Ford-Keach & Dr. Jillian Martin

Jaspreet Samra, MPH

Jaspreet completed her MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at USC. As part of her practicum, she assisted with research study design and analysis for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. She recently served as an intern with the Children's Hospital Los Angeles, where she managed data and conducted research on psychosocial outcomes among childhood cancer survivors. Jaspreet's goals include advancing her academics in Public Health and being an epidemiologist serving at the state or national level.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor – Dr. Steve Wirtz

California Department of Public Health
Cal EIS Fellows 09-10

Paul Adamson, MPH
Paul completed his MPH in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UC Berkeley. He served as a Public Health Research Institute (PHRI) Intern in India, in which he performed data collection and conducted hospital-based chart reviews in the field. Paul has a strong interest in infectious disease epidemiology and his long-term goal is to work as a medical epidemiologist. Start date 7-1-09

Stipend provided by the San Francisco Dept of Public Health. Preceptor – Dr. Jeffrey D. Klausner

Leah Carlon, MPH
Leah recently completed her MPH in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at USC, Los Angeles. During her time as a student she analyzed SEER data of Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma for her research project. Leah plans to obtain a PhD and enter the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service.
Start date 10-19-09
Stipend provided by the Solano County Dept of Public Health. Preceptors – Jill Cook & Dr. Michael Stacey

Catherine Gilmore Zarate, MPH
Catherine has a MPH from UC Berkeley, with a concentration in Maternal and Child Health. She worked for eight years with the Sacramento County Public Health Department in which she conducted epidemiologic surveys, program planning, community outreach and intervention evaluation and worked on various health issues. Catherine plans to work as an epidemiologist at a state or local health department. Start date 10-1-09

Stipend provided by the CDPH MCAH Division. Preceptors – Dr. Michael Curtis & Dr. Chris Krawczyk

Kate Kelsey, MPH
Kate recently completed her master's degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UC Berkeley. During her time as a student she served as a Graduate Student Researcher with UC Berkeley's Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, where she analyzed complex survey designs. Kate's goals focus on becoming a biostatistician/epidemiologist at a local or state health department. Start date 11-1-09

Stipend provided by the CDPH Environmental Health Investigations Branch. Preceptor – Dr. Daniel Smith

Darryl Kong, MPH
Darryl completed his MPH with an emphasis on Infectious Disease at UC Berkeley. His past experience includes work as a Research Assistant with the California Emerging Infections Program where he gained first-hand experience with disease surveillance systems. Darryl also served as an intern with Thailand's Field Epidemiology Training Program where he engaged in outbreak investigations and fieldwork. Darryl plans to focus on a career in disease surveillance, either at the local, federal or international level. Start date 7-1-09

Stipend provided by the CDPH Tuberculosis Branch. Preceptor – Dr. James Watt

Sanaa Shabbir, MPH
Sanaa completed her master's degree in Epidemiology at UCLA. She has worked as a volunteer Diabetes Health Educator with the UC Davis Medical Center student-run Shifa Clinic. Sanaa served as an Intern with the Los Angeles County DPH where she conducted research and analysis on childhood obesity among Asian and Pacific Islander Students in Los Angeles County. Sanaa's goals include being an epidemiologist leader at the federal or international level. Start date 10-1-09
Stipend provided by the Office of Statewide Health Planning & Development (OSHPD).

Preceptors – Dr. Merry Holliday-Hanson & Dr. Joseph Parker

Allison Stone, MPH
Allison completed her master's degree in Epidemiology at UC Davis and has a strong interest in infectious disease control and prevention and obesity. She has worked as a Staff Research Associate with the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory (UC Davis) where she developed and validated a PCR assay for blue tongue virus in sheep. Alison desires a career in epidemiology at CDPH. Start date 10-1-09

Stipend provided by the CDPH Center for Infectious Disease. Preceptor – Dr. Gil Chavez

Casey Tsui, MPH
Casey completed his master's degree in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at UC Berkeley. He previously served as a Public Health Preparedness Intern with the City of Berkeley Public Health Division. Some of his duties included analyzing datasets for influenza and pneumonia emergency room cases to develop a baseline rate of hospitalization for pandemic influenza preparedness. Casey plans to eventually obtain his PhD in epidemiology and work in the public sector. Start date 10-1-09

Stipend provided by the Marin County Dept of Health & Human Services. Preceptor – Rochelle Ereman

Megan Wall, MPH
Megan completed her master's degree at Emory Rollins School of Public Health in Atlanta, GA. Her previous experience includes a summer practicum with CARE Sierra Leone (SL) Child Survival Project (CSP) in Kabala, in which she planned and conducted training; performed fieldwork and analysis for program evaluation. She has recently completed an internship with the CDC Physical Activity and Health Department. Megan has a strong interest in nutrition and physical activity. Megan's goals include obtaining a PhD in nutrition epidemiology and working for CDPH. Start date 10-1-09

Stipend provided by the CDPH Physical Activity and Nutrition Branch. Preceptor – Dr. Katie Tharp

California Department of Public Health
Cal EIS Fellows 08-09

Catheryn Salibay, MPH
Catheryn's major project is the coordination of a statewide hospital medical records audit of prenatal records to evaluate screening and prevention for vaccine-preventable disease. Catheryn is in the second year of the Fellowship, having started in 2007.

Stipend provided by the CDPH DCDC Immunization Branch. Preceptors – Kathleen Winter & Dr. Howard Backer

Olympia Anderson, MPH
Olympia completed her master's degree in Epidemiology at Florida A&M University, and has a strong interest and prior public health experience in birth defects.

Stipend provided by the CDPH MCAH Division, Birth Defects Monitoring Program. Preceptors – Kate Cordell & Dr. Marcia Ehinger

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Jenny Brodsky, MPH
Jenny's major project at the CDPH MCAH was an analysis of hospitalization for asthma prior to pregnancy and perinatal outcomes. Jenny has obtained a job as an epidemiologist working for CDPH STD Branch.
Stipend provided by CDPH MCAH. Preceptor - Dr. Mike Curtis

Kathreen Khavari, MPH
Kathreen's major project within the CDPH VBDS was a survey of mosquito control and water treatment agencies for Cal Trans. Kathreen has obtained a job working as an epidemiologist for California Emerging Infections Program in the Bay Area.
Stipend provided by CDPH DCDC VBDS. Preceptor – Dr. Curtis Fritz

Christine Lee, MPH
Christine's major project is the updating and refining of the CDPH Food Drug and Radiation Branch Outbreak Database, including a GIS mapping component. Christine is investigating job opportunities in California and Boston.
Stipend provided by the CDPH EH FDRB.
Preceptor – Dr. Jeff Farrar & Benson Yee

Brian Malig, MPH
Brian's major project is a study of the health effects of exposure to air pollution at OEHHA; in particular, the impact of particulates on mortality. Brian would like to continue to work in this area.
Stipend provided by OEHHA. Preceptor – Dr. Bart Ostro

Sharon Minnick, PhD
Sharon's major project in the CDPH VBDS was field surveillance for nymphal ticks and creation of a spatial database of nymphal tick locations. Sharon has obtained a job as an epidemiologist working for Sutter County DPH.
Stipend provided by CDPH DCDC VBDS. Preceptor – Dr. Curtis Fritz

Catheryn Salibay, MPH
Catheryn's major project is the coordination of a statewide hospital medical records audit of prenatal records to evaluate screening and prevention for vaccine-preventable disease. Catheryn is pursuing fellowship opportunities for next year.
Stipend provided by the CDPH DCDC IZB. Preceptor – Dr. Kathleen Winter, Dr. Howard Backer

Nana Tufuoh, MD, MPH
Nana's major project in the CDPH Every Woman Counts Program was an analysis of breast cancer detection patterns and costs. Nana has obtained a job as a research scientist within the Every Woman Counts program.
Stipend provided by the CDPH CDIC CDS.
Preceptor – Dr. Farzaneh Tabnak

Jackie Valle-Palominos, MPH
Jackie's major project in the CDPH Statistics and Surveillance Section is coordination of efforts between California and Mexico on food-borne diseases and the creation of a database of binational cases. Jackie is actively looking for employment in the Bay Area.
Stipend provided by CDPH DCDC SSS.
Preceptors – Dr. Mark Starr & Dr. Ben Sun