

# Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## DrPH 2023 Residential Cohort Bios

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**Ayesha Azam, MSHIA**  
**(She/Her/Hers)**

Ayesha Azam is a healthcare strategist and leader, dedicated to reducing health disparities in vulnerable communities. She is currently an Associate Principal at Avalere Health, advising life sciences clients on policy, commercialization, and patient access strategies in response to a complex, evolving healthcare landscape.

Before joining Avalere, Ayesha served on the executive leadership team at the Patient Access Network Foundation, leading programmatic and clinical strategy and building sustainable, strategic partnerships. She also led the creation and product strategy of FundFinder, an award-winning app for patients and

healthcare professionals to receive real-time alerts about funding availability across patient assistance foundations. Her areas of expertise include mixed methods research, strategic planning, business development, stakeholder engagement, and change management to increase program impact and revenue generation. Ayesha also serves on the Board of Directors as Vice President for the South Asian Public Health Association. She began her career at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation where she developed programs and tools to increase access to care for patients. Ayesha holds a BA in liberal arts from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, an MS in health administration informatics from the University of Maryland and is a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt.



**Michael Burdan, B.A., M.Ed, M.A.**

Michael Burdan is currently a supervisor and operations manager for the Research Pod, providing oversight for GWSPH and the Law School's research enterprise. With seven years of experience in the field of research administration, he works closely with his team to ensure that the principal investigators are able to succeed with their endeavors and innovate new approaches to public health. Prior to coming to GW, Michael worked primarily in mental health and addictions treatment, and received a degree in counseling and mental health services at Penn with a goal to practice. However, he eventually chose to pivot into a leadership focused career path and received a second degree at GW in Organizational Sciences. While studying, he grew fond of the university and decided to continue his career in academia after graduating.

Michael believes in a holistic approach to empowering employees for success and sees the benefit of furthering his education to ensure he can be in the room where the decisions are made. As a metrics and spreadsheet enthusiast, he seeks to integrate solutions using technology and principles garnered from his days studying psychology. A first-generation college graduate, Michael is looking forward to furthering his education and becoming the first doctor in the family. He got the itch to return as a student and is excited to be part of the new 2023 DrPH cohort.



**Heng-Hao Chang, M.D., M.Sc.**

Heng-Hao is a physician specializing in occupational and environmental medicine in Taiwan, and has been striving to fight against the structural injustice due to unfavorable working condition, an important social determinant of health of our lifetime.

While working in National Chengkung University Hospital and Hsinchu Science Industrial Park Affiliated Clinic, he provided outpatient service for occupational disease recognition and did numerous workplace site visits for occupational risk assessment. He also worked as a former medical director at the Worker's Health Center of Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA), and coordinated multiple projects related to occupational health services, workplace mental health, as well as preparedness for

the COVID-19 pandemic at the workplace.

He was particularly devoted to research about work-related psychosocial hazard, an emerging problem in Taiwan as well as East-Asian countries. His research focus was on policy analysis of work-related cardio- and cerebral vascular disease, work-related mental disorder, and occupational disease recognition and compensation. He also strived to provide concrete policy recommendations for Taiwan to develop assessment tools and intervention guidelines.

Prior his training and practice in occupational and environmental medicine, he pursued a master's degree in the Institute of Health Policy and Management, National Taiwan University, with the focus of his thesis on "collective power of employees, and its association with health outcomes." He thereafter worked with several NGOs and unions as an active consultant, cooperating jointly for the benefits of patients and workers.

In his spare time, he loves hiking, and has been to tens of mountain peaks higher than 3,000 meters in Taiwan.



## **Ambulai Johnson, MSc., MPH**

Ambulai Johnson has a broad interest in global health systems, implementation science, climate, and the environment with a focus on improving the performance of effective health systems in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in addressing the needs of poor and vulnerable populations. Much of his practice and research focuses on reducing the global burden of disease priorities, applying climate and environmental lenses to solve complex adaptive global health systems, improving large-scale program evaluation and implementation, and strengthening capacity-building and their reforms in local and international health practice settings.

He founded the Climate Resilient Health Systems Initiative (CRHSI). CRHSI is an initiative whose mission seeks to improve population health by strengthening climate resilience within health systems through advancing science, strengthening institutional capacities, accelerating health systems reform, and providing independent public health advice at the national and global levels. Due to his passion for climate-resilient and sustainable health systems, he was recently selected as a delegate of the World Bank Youth Summit 2023 to discuss climate-driven strategies to strengthen climate resilience within communities that drive progress towards a more sustainable future.

He works as a Technical Consultant at the World Health Organization, Special Programme for Tropical Diseases Research. In his role, he develops an online Implementation Research course to facilitate research and implement evidence-informed interventions to address tropical diseases globally and strengthen global health systems. Prior, he worked as a Faculty Research Associate at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where he provided technical support across the four major global health programs (Global Primary HealthCare (PHC) Program, National PHC Program, Knowledge Generation and Management, Advocacy, and Partnership) of the International Institute for Primary Health Care - Ethiopia to strengthen health (PHC) system capacity building in Ethiopia.

Ambulai holds a Bachelor of Pre-Medical (Biology and Chemistry) from Cuttington University, Liberia, a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from Coventry University, England, MPH from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA, and a 2023 Global Health Delivery Intensive (GHDI) program scholar at Harvard T. H Chan School of Public Health, Massachusetts, Boston



## **Ornsiree Junchaya, M.S., B.S.**

Ornsiree is a healthcare innovator and Founder of the MedVentures Incubation Program, Thailand's leading incubator for academic entrepreneurs and early-stage medtech startups. She is a Founding Member of the Regulatory Affairs Education Alliance (RAEA) where she is scaling medical technology entrepreneurship education for academic and government programs across the Asia Pacific region.

With extensive experience spanning international medical device and digital health startups, health policy, regulatory affairs, consulting, academia, and executive training, her passion lies in deep tech research commercialization and startup ecosystem building. She is an avid mentor for healthcare startups, advises impact investing, and is an advocate for diversity and inclusion, and mental health awareness.

In her previous role as Deputy Director for the Chulalongkorn University Technology Center in Bangkok, Thailand, she launched the university's first center for technology transfer and venture building in two verticals: Medtech and AI. Healthcare innovation faces many challenges in developing countries, with the COVID-19 pandemic underscoring the need for rapid translational science and research commercialization. Ornsiree is publishing a paper on this complex process to provide a roadmap for future innovators.

She has served as a Committee Member for the Medical Products Consortium of Thailand (MPCT) with the Thai FDA to create the country's first Pre-Submission process for medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics approval following international standards and harmonization with ASEAN regulatory bodies.

Ornsiree holds a Professional Science Master's in Bioscience & Health Policy from Rice University where she was the Graduate Student Association's International Student Liaison. For her thesis, she worked with the MD Anderson Cancer Center on America's first Episode-Based Payment Pilot for complex cancer care. She graduated with Honors from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Chemistry & Management.

Ornsiree is excited to pursue a Doctor of Public Health degree in Health Policy & Management at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University. She is honored to join this year's cohort in becoming the next generation of public health leaders, where her goal is to create impactful and equitable innovations for society at the intersection of value-based healthcare and emerging technologies.

In her free time, she enjoys riding motorcycles, scuba diving, and crowd-surfing at metal concerts.



**Bridget Kelly, MPH**  
(She/Her/Hers)

Bridget Kelly is the Director of Research for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at the Population Institute in Washington, DC. In this role, Bridget manages the production of reports, policy briefs, and other research activities related to both domestic and international reproductive health and rights. She is also a frequent opinion contributor to major publications such as *The Hill* and *Newsweek*. Bridget was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia where she served as a Community Health Volunteer focused on implementing HIV prevention programming. This formative experience led her to pursue a master's degree in international law and human rights from the United Nations-mandated University for Peace, where Bridget was able to explore effective advocacy methodologies for the promotion of the right to health. Bridget also received an MPH from George

Washington University, an education that challenged her to think critically about how policy and systemic structures impact the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Bridget is excited to join the 2023 DrPH cohort for the opportunity to learn from, and collaborate with, some of the leading minds in the public health sphere, both in the form of faculty and student colleagues.





**Luigi Leblanc, MPH  
(He/Him/His)**

Luigi Leblanc is an electronic engineer and public health professional with over 20 years of experience in Telemedicine/Telecommunications technologies. He has served as the technical manager for many projects that require the collaborative efforts of healthcare providers, application developers, and systems engineers.

Luigi currently leads several diversity, equity and inclusion programs funded through federal and state government. He is the Zane project lead for the Public Health Informatics & technology (PHIT) workforce development program, a cooperative agreement funded through the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology to increase representation of underrepresented communities within the public health IT workforce. Additionally, Luigi consults with the Office of Health Information Technology of United State’s Virgin

Island to support the implementation of a territory wide digital health strategy and health information exchange, to improve the health and wellbeing of all Virgin Islanders.

Mr. Leblanc has led health information technology research initiatives focusing on patient self-management of diabetes and hypertension through personalized web portals, combining social networking concepts, e-learning, online collaborations, and Electronic Medical Records and Patient Health Records. He is a Certified Professional in Health Information Technology, sits on various state-wide advisory boards on MSOs and the Health Information Exchange (HIE), and is a Commissioner for the Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission (EHNAC).

With a bachelor’s degree in electronic engineering technology from Hartford University and a master’s degree in public health from the Howard University College of Medicine, Mr. Leblanc possesses a two-tiered background as an engineer and a public health professional.



**Rose Nadège Penda Noelle Mbaye, M.P.H**  
**(She/Her/Hers)**

Rose Mbaye is a project manager, public health specialist and health policy & delivery advisor dedicated to promoting health equity as an invocable pillar of social justice. She is currently supporting the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change as a policy and health response delivery Advisor for the West African Health Organization (WAHO). She is working to provide advisory support to the WAHO leadership to ensure delivery of key initiatives, policies and strategies. In particular, she is working to support the development of the regional community health guidelines and the regional laboratory systems strengthening strategic plan.

She previously served as the deputy coordinator of the National Center of the African Health Observatory Platform for Health Systems and Policies (AHOP) at the Institut Pasteur of Dakar. Rose led the design of the national strategies of the center, the recruitment and training of the team, partner and stakeholder relations, and day-to-day management. She also oversaw the production of policy research documents and the planning and organization of policy dialogues. In this role, Rose led multiple research projects such as a community engagement initiative to improve access to essential NCD diagnostic services and the evaluation of the Covid-19 vaccination acceptability in Senegal, among others.

Rose's career path so far has led her to work in infectious diseases, community health systems, maternal and child health and NCDs including mental health disorders and cardiovascular diseases in the European, North American, West, and Central-African context. Rose has supported humanitarian organizations like Doctors Without Borders, NGOs like the Clinton Health Access Initiative, Research Centers like the National Institute of Health, and multilateral organizations like the World Bank Group. Her aspiration is to become a leader in improving equitable access to essential health care services for vulnerable groups in resource-limited settings around the world.

Outside of work, Rose enjoys painting, cooking, dancing and traveling.



**Jie Min, MS**  
**(He/Him/His)**

Jie Min obtained his Master of Science degree in Environmental Science and Policy from George Mason University (2017) and a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs (Environmental Management) degree from Indiana University Bloomington (2015). He currently serves as a Research Program Analyst to support the research and educational mission of the Infectious Disease Clinical Research Program (IDCRP) at Uniformed Services University (USU). The mission of the IDCRP is to conduct multicenter infectious diseases clinical research, focusing on high-impact cohort and interventional trials, to inform and improve care of the Warfighter.

Jie's efforts are centered on research management of all aspects of scientific activities, from new research concept development to protocol dissemination. His role is focused on facilitating research advancements that inform and improve the health of service members and beneficiaries. In addition, Jie is responsible for managing the independent Scientific Review Board (SRB) of IDCRP, comprised of an NIAID Liaison, biostatistician, and extramural subject matter experts from institutions in the DoD and at academic medical centers throughout the U.S., with whom he interacts directly.

His career goal is to not only play a support role against public health threats but also be a leader and influencer to manage scientists and guide future research portfolios and program development. In the next three to five years, the GWSPH DrPH program will allow him to expand his public health knowledge, enhance his leadership skills and prepare him to be an expert and a leader in the clinical research field.



### **Chinwe Lucia Ochu, MBBS, MPH**

Dr. Chinwe Lucia is a medical doctor with over 22 years clinical experience. She is a Fellow of the African Institute of Public Health Professionals, and a Distinguished Fellow of the CDC IMPACT (Improving Public Health Management for Action) programme. She has MPH from the University of Liverpool, UK, and M.B.,B.S from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria.

She currently works at the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) as the Director of Planning, Research & Statistics. This role includes coordinating policy, planning, programme development and evaluation; research and knowledge management for evidence-based public health; and health promotion and disease prevention programmes. She supervises the

infection prevention & control (IPC) programme; antimicrobial resistance (AMR) programme; risk communication and community engagement; the Nigeria Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme (NFELTP); and other technical workforce development programmes at the NCDC. She led the establishment of a Research and Knowledge Management Division at the NCDC, a knowledge and science hub in the organization that has supported evidence-based public health response. Dr. Ochu is the Technical Lead of the National Emerging Viral Hemorrhagic Diseases Technical Working Group in Nigeria. She is leading the development of a National Public Health Workforce Strategy for Nigeria.

Dr Ochu is the Principal Investigator/Project Director of several research and non-research cooperative agreements of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with the NCDC including Advancing Infectious Disease Research across Nigeria (AIDRAN); Strengthening Epidemic Response Systems Plus (SERS-Plus); and Advancing Capacity for Epidemic Preparedness and Response in Nigeria (ACEPRIN). She is a member of the WHO Scientific Advisory Group on the Origin of Novel Pathogens (SAGO), the WHO Preventing Infectious Disease Emergence (PREZODE) expert group, and the G7 Signature Initiative for the Mitigation of Biological Threats. She is a reviewer for peer reviewed journals and funders, including the National Institute for Health and Care Research, UK. Her major career goal is to facilitate the entrenchment of good science with collaborative research in Nigeria and in the African Continent.



**Shem Opolot, MS**  
**(He/Him/His)**

Shem Opolot currently serves as the Uganda Program Manager for Duke University's Division of Global Neurosurgery and Neurology (DGNN), an organization dedicated to promoting health in low- and middle-income countries through a multi-faceted evidence-based, and collaborative approach to improving patient access to care, strengthening health systems and informing policy.

Shem has vast experience in health policy, health economics, health system strengthening, data science, and program management. Shem is passionate about universal healthcare coverage, data-driven decision-making, education, storytelling, collaborative innovation, and strategic stakeholder engagement to solve society's challenges. Shem is an analyst, writer, healthcare professional, educator, and content creator.



**Halimah Sadya Ouedraogo Wendmette, M.A.S,  
C.G.H.P.  
(She/Her/Hers)**

A Global Business Leader specialized in public health and business development, Halimah Ouedraogo works globally on communicable and non-communicable diseases through the lenses of equity and empowerment. Her experience in ideation, strategic thinking, problem-solving, and her commitment to excellence are her trademarks.

She holds a Bachelor' in Bioethics from the University of Rochester, a Master of Applied Science in Global Health Planning and Management and Certificate in Global Health Practice from the Johns Hopkins, Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is also completing her Master of Business Administration from the University of Wyoming, School of Business.

Halimah is currently a Finance and Operations Manager in the Public Health Institute's new program *Generation Next Humanitarian Fellowship Program* which aims to promote diversity sustainably within the United States humanitarian workforce through partnerships with key stakeholders. In parallel she leads research on dementia caregiving in Sub-Saharan Africa at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Center for Aging and Health. During her free time, through her non-profit Ne Taba International Inc., she conducts consultancies with non-profits and social entrepreneurs on program design, implementation sustainability, and business model scaling. She is proud to have successfully assisted clients in obtaining millions in grants from funders such as the United Nations, United States Agency for International Development, Health Resources and Services Administration, and other federal and private agencies.



**Alvaro Rivera, MD, MPH,  
MBA  
(He/Him/His)**

Alvaro Rivera is a medical doctor with over a decade of experience in the field of public health, research, and innovation in low- and middle-income countries.

Currently, Alvaro serves as the Co-founder & Chief Product Officer of Bitmec, a health technology startup based in Guatemala City. Bitmec specializes in developing cutting-

edge solutions that leverage the power of the Internet of Things and Cloud Computing, enabling better access to primary care in underserved areas.

In addition to his role at Bitmec, Alvaro is a research scientist at the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP) based in Guatemala City. At INCAP, he collaborates with both local and international researchers, leading the implementation of several research projects focused on the epidemiology and prevention of non-communicable diseases in Guatemala and other countries in the region. Furthermore, throughout his professional career, Alvaro has provided guidance and consultation to numerous healthcare providers, non-profit organizations, and public health systems in the region. The scope of this work has helped them to adopt innovative strategies and technologies that enhance healthcare access and improve patient outcomes.

To this day, Alvaro is actively involved with civil society groups that champion policies and programs aimed at improving access and quality of care in Guatemala and neighboring countries. Alvaro's diverse academic background includes a medical degree from the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, an MPH from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and an MBA earned through his studies at the University of Michigan and Tel Aviv University.



## **John Russell, MPA**

John Russell has spent the past ten years in the field of oncology, working for top academic medical centers where he has led dozens of initiatives focused on strategic planning, program development, and digital health transformation.

Most recently, he was the Director of Cancer Services at Fred Hutch Cancer Center, overseeing strategic partnerships between Fred Hutch and community oncology centers in the greater Seattle region. He was responsible for the design and execution of a multi-year strategic plan to drive patient and financial growth, improve the patient experience, and expand clinical and research programs across the community.

Prior to Fred Hutch, he worked for the Strategy and Innovation Group at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK) in NYC. He led several cross-functional strategy teams to design and implement strategic plans to expand MSK into new market segments, innovate new care delivery models, and pilot digital health tools. He spent most of his time working closely with cancer prevention and high-risk programs to design new approaches to engage populations for cancer screening and early cancer detection.

His passion for public health started when he completed an internship with the European Parliament while an undergrad. He was assigned to research and write a speech for a member of parliament advocating for increased funding toward global initiatives to combat the burden of cancer in less-resourced nations. It was an eye-opening experience for him as he learned about the very real health struggles that so many individuals and families deal with and the inequality of access to good healthcare services across nations. His research also highlighted the unevenness of good leadership and the inefficiencies among global initiatives that failed to accomplish their intended goals.

He received a Bachelor of Arts in Classical Studies from Brigham Young University, where he studied Greek and Roman history, literature, and koine Greek. He also received a Master of Public Administration in Health Policy and Management from New York University's Wagner School for Public Service, where he focused his research on understanding the challenges to the growing trend of NCDs, with a particular interest in global oncology.





**Bhakthi Sahgal, MPH**  
(She/Her/Hers)

Bhakthi Sahgal is a DrPH Candidate at The George Washington University interested in care delivery innovation, patient experience, health equity, and systems design. She is particularly interested in policy and implementation-relevant questions related to how to improve the quality and ease of interactions individuals have at various touchpoints of care.

Sahgal currently serves as Director of Design and Client Impact at Beytna Design, helping organizations solve complex problems utilizing Liberatory Design— an approach to addressing equity challenges and change efforts in complex systems. She has experience in research, policy, advocacy, and organizational + operational management. Sahgal served in a strategic role at the [Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute](#) tasked with the stewardship of a federal multi-billion dollar research fund. Prior to PCORI, Sahgal was awarded a [Women’s Congressional Policy Institute Fellowship](#) and served as a legislative aide to Rep. Lois Capps (CA-24) on the [House Energy and Commerce Committee](#), with a portfolio spanning health policy, election reform, civil rights, and addressing gun violence in the United States.

Bhakthi holds a B.A. in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College, an M.P.H. in Health Policy and Management from The George Washington University, and specialized training in Designing for Social Systems from the Hasso Plattner Institute of Design (the dSchool) at Stanford University. She is passionate about interdisciplinary partnerships and the power that research and co-design hold to foster equity in innovation.



**Lorena Segarra, DMD,  
MPH**  
**(She/Her/Hers/Ella)**

Lorena is the Senior Research Program Manager for the DC Center for AIDS Research (DC CFAR) an NIH-funded program. In her role, she leads the support and development of the DC CFAR's competitive funding and mentoring programs. These programs drive the recruitment and advancement of new and early-stage investigators to

promote their NIH-funded research careers in HIV. Throughout her work with the DC CFAR, she has supported strategic efforts and new initiatives contributing to the CFAR's ongoing commitment to promoting and supporting research to end the HIV epidemic in Washington, DC. She is an internationally trained dentist who grew up in the Dominican Republic and moved to the DC area to pursue a career in public health. In 2019, she received a Master's in Public Health in Epidemiology and in 2021 she completed a graduate certificate in Project Management from George Washington University.

Lorena is passionate about promoting health equity and access, particularly in global settings. She brings a wide breadth of experiences from her time working in the clinical dental field to her current role in academia and research focused on HIV. Throughout the DrPH program, she aims to advance her skills and knowledge to prepare her to lead high-impact public health programs. In her free time, you can find Lorena running around with her pup Archie to train for her upcoming half marathon.

**Rilwanu Sulley, MBChB, MPH, LLB, Bsc.**



Rilwanu Sulley is currently a first year Doctor of Public Health student within The George Washington University. He is a medical a Public Health Physician at the 37 Military Hospital in Ghana, his area of specialty includes medical research. He was program coordinator for the Noncommunicable Disease Program of the Ghana Armed Forces Medical Corps. He was also coordinator for the Ghana Armed Forces recruitment/enlistment medical examination and screening.

Rilwanu is a graduate of the University of Ghana where he received Bachelor of Science in Medical Sciences in 2003 and MBChB IN 2007 from the University of Ghana Medical School. He also received a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Ghana in 2017. He also has an LLB from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), 2021.

Rilwanu is also a Commander in the Ghana Navy, he belongs to the Medical Corps of the Ghana Armed Forces. He has served in several United Nations Peace Keeping Missions in Lebanon and South Sudan as the Senior Medical Officer in charge of the United Nations Level 1 Hospitals and the medical team head.



**Kelly Umana, MPH, CCHW**  
**(She/Her/Hers/Ella)**

Kelly Umaña, MPH, CCHW, is a public health professional with over seven years of experience in public, private, government, and non-profit settings. She has worked across multiple public health topics with expertise in implementing community-based programs and community engagement, focusing on health equity. Kelly has worked in maternal and child health, neuroscience research, community health center value-based care programs, grassroots community health worker initiatives, and migrant and preventative health.

Of her notable projects, at the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health she led the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI) which is a public private partnership that brings together renowned experts to detect Alzheimer's Disease at the earliest possible

stage. She was also a part of the initial team that formed the Accelerating Medicine Partnership Schizophrenia (AMP SCZ) that was launched in 2020 to identify more effective treatments for people with schizophrenia. Her next journey led her to Aledade, a value-based care organization, where she was a part of an initial team implementing value-based care in Community Health Centers. Through her work, she led a behavioral health integration pilot project to enhance behavioral health and primary care providers care coordination for improve patient care. At Aledade, she also led the first national texting campaign with the aim to ensure all Medicare patients attending a primary care clinic and community health center came in for annual wellness visit. This effort laid the foundation for future national texting campaigns for improved patient outreach and engagement with the primary care home.

In her most recent work, she led a team of community health workers to be at the forefront of COVID-19. At the grassroots community level, she partnered with faith-based organizations, local government, health systems, and the community to enable access to the COVID-19 vaccine, testing, and education to curb the pandemic. Under her leadership, her team organized over 30 vaccination clinics, leading to more than 500 community members getting vaccinated. She also led a COVID-19 test hotline where she trained CHWs on how to utilize at home kits and how to provide technical assistance support to community members. This effort led to improved health literacy and utilization of COVID-19 at home kits for a more accurate result.

Kelly received her Bachelor of Science in Public Health Science and Master of Public Health in Public Health Practice and Policy from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is the first in her family to obtain higher education. Kelly is also a Certified Community Health Worker through the Maryland Department of Health and was recently appointed to the Maryland Department of Health Community Health Worker Advisory Committee.