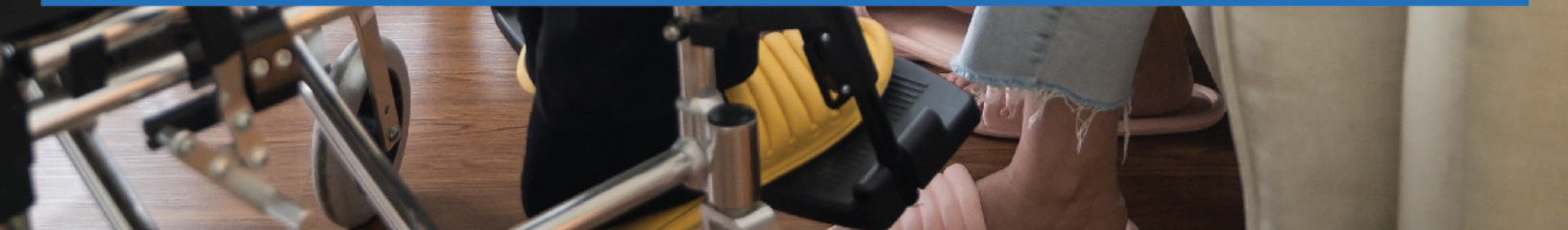


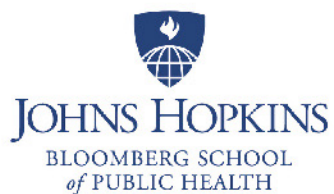


Annual Report and Review of Accomplishments

The Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy on Aging and Disability

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024





**Roger and Flo Lipitz Center
to Advance Policy
in Aging and Disability**

A YEAR IN REVIEW

This year the Center adopted a new name, The Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy in Aging and Disability, to reflect a commitment to translating evidence into policy. We are proud to welcome new staff, trainees, and faculty to our Center and remain committed to advancing our mission of conducting innovative research, educating the leaders of tomorrow, and translating discoveries into effective policies and practices to improve the quality of care and quality of life of people with complex health and social needs and disabilities.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

This year marks the end of my sixth year as Center Director. A big focus of the last year was developing our strategic plan for the next five years. An outcome of this process was the decision to [rename](#) our Center from the “Roger C. Lipitz Center for Integrated Health Care” to the “Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy in Aging and Disability” to capture the Center’s current work and new priorities. The purpose of the renaming was to better reflect the Center’s emphasis on bridging research and policy, highlight key populations, and to recognize the tremendous and sustained contributions of Flo Lipitz, her career in and contributions to the field, as well as her longstanding commitment to our Center.



The new name emerged from a four-month strategic planning process engaging the Center’s [core faculty and staff](#). This process reinforced priorities of translating evidence into policy through activities such as building partnerships, engaging trainees in practicum and internship opportunities in applied settings with key partners, and growing the Center’s communications and external presence. The Center’s new strategic plan identified priority areas in four domains: 1) strengthening the direct care workforce; 2) supporting family caregivers; 3) advancing evidence-based rehabilitative care and long-term services and supports; 4) promoting person- and family-centered systems of care. New initiatives underway include: a journal club to provide a forum for discourse on Center focal areas, a paid student fellowship to be filled through an open application process that will link students to Center policy activities, and an emerging partnership with other researchers and advocacy organizations to support national policy related to the National Family Caregiver Support Program. Stay tuned for more!

This year we welcomed several new Center members. Dr. Kate Miller joined our faculty last August as an Assistant Professor upon completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. Her work focuses on health and labor policies in the areas of the paid and unpaid family caregiver workforce. Chase Mulholland Green completed her MPH in May of 2023 and joined the Center in October in a new position as Policy Coordinator with an instrumental role in supporting new initiatives related to student opportunities and policy outreach. Claire Yang, a statistical programmer analyst who joined the Center last summer, works closely with Drs. Miller and Shen on large data analyses, including Medicaid data. It is bittersweet that Kayla Hare joined our team last summer as a Communications Specialist to elevate our work – but her time with us is already coming to an end as she transitions to a new role this fall at University of Maryland.

The Center has continued internal and external convenings and collaborations that bridge research, policy, and practice. We have sustained a monthly cross-school workgroup that focuses on contextual factors in long-term services and supports in partnership with the [Hopkins Economics of Alzheimer's Disease and Services Center](#) and the [Center for Equity in Aging](#). We have for the second year co-convened with colleagues from the University of Michigan and the [National Health and Aging Trends Study](#), a summer workshop for early-stage investigators working with the National Study on Caregiving. In June, Center faculty and trainees, Chanee Fabius, Julia Burgdorf, Andrew Jopson, and I participated in a biannual meeting in Ann Arbor on Dementia Caregiving sponsored by the National Study of Caregiving. Jeromie Ballreich continues to lead the way in bridging research and policy, both through offering congressional testimony and serving as an advisor to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on implementation of laws and projects. Finally, the [Coalition for Care Partners](#) has continued to advance efforts to support care partner engagement in health information technology.

Several exciting initiatives have been launched in the last year. A new two-year [Nexus research award](#) to Kate Miller seeks to develop a compendium of Medicaid home and community-based policies and to build a state scorecard that may be used by policymakers and others in the field. Karen Shen and Kate Miller received an [Advancing Workforce Analysis and Research for Dementia](#) (AWARD) project to evaluate the role of state policy in attenuating turnover of the direct care workforce throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Chanee Fabius, with participation of Chase Mulholland, Karen Shen, and Kate Miller, will be co-chairing the Care Workforce Subgroup of the Maryland Department of Aging's [Maryland Longevity Ready Initiative](#), which will submit recommended state actions and policies to Governor Wes Moore. With support of the [Hopkins Business of Health Initiative](#), Kate Miller, in partnership with the Milken Institute, is leading a consensus study on employer supports for working caregivers. Lisa Reider has contributed to understanding of best practices for hip fracture care through multiple literature reviews with [METRC](#) collaborators.

The maturing of our Tri-School (Nursing, Medicine, Public Health) T32 training program in [Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations](#) continues to stand out in the Center's commitment to training. As we wrap up the fourth year of the T32 training program, we celebrate many accomplishments of trainees. We recognize post-doctoral trainees who are transitioning into research careers – April Ehrlich, Jamie Smith, and Mary Lou Pomeroy – and welcome post-doctoral fellows Zhang Zhang, PhD, and Sarah Jabour, MD and pre-doctoral fellow Andrew Jopson. We celebrate a record 20 first-authored publications this year led by trainees that resulted from work completed during their appointment to our program. In addition to submitting our renewal application, a highlight of this year was welcoming our External Advisory Board Member, [Dr. Tamara Konetzka](#), health economist and Louis Block Professor of Public Health and Medicine at the University of Chicago, to meet with trainees and deliver an outstanding talk on Medicaid Home and Community-Based Supports.

Two highlights of the first five years include launching our NIA-funded cross-School training program Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations and the Hopkins of Economics of Alzheimer's Disease and Services Center. Both are up for renewal this year - a testament to the rapid pace of time! In addition to launching, and hopefully sustaining, these two new initiatives, I am especially proud of what we have accomplished in expanding, retaining, and growing our people, and strengthening our partnerships with other individuals and organizations who share our mission.

Jennifer Wolff, PhD

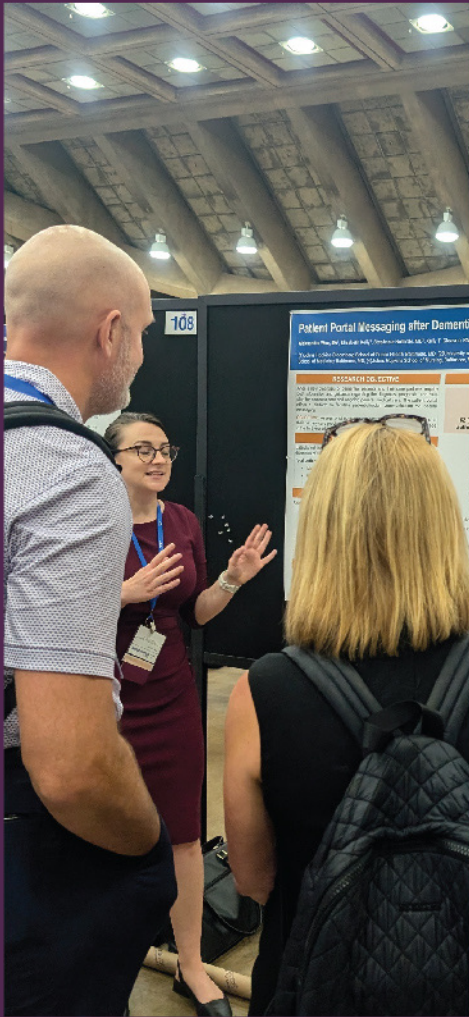
Eugene and Mildred Lipitz Professor of
Health Policy and Management

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy in Aging and Disability is an interdisciplinary collaborative engaged in conducting innovative research, educating the leaders of tomorrow, and translating discoveries into effective policies and practices that improve the quality of care and quality of life of persons with complex health needs and disabilities. The Center is situated within the Department of Health Policy and Management at the nation's top-ranked School of Public Health. With strong connections across the University, most notably with the nation's top-ranked Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology and School of Nursing, the Center is uniquely positioned as a hub of research, policy, and practice initiatives.

The Center possesses a robust research portfolio that encompasses economic evaluation and modeling, policy analysis and synthesis, epidemiological studies, observational analyses, and behavioral interventions. From 2009 through 2022, the Center was the founding home of the National Health and Aging Trends Study and its National Study of Caregiving, an important national resource that serves as the definitive source of information on disability trends and trajectories in late life. The Center also has a long history of policy work related to payment models and financing of services and supporting interdisciplinary interventional research to effect change in care delivery through such exemplar models as Guided Care, Hospital at Home, MIND at Home, and CAPABLE, some of which have been incorporated into mainstream payment models and care. Each of these lines of inquiry are important to the current and future research priorities of the Center.





"The solutions facing people who need post-acute care are becoming more and more complex. I want to make sure that policies in the future will be based on facts, not emotions."

Roger C. Lipitz

Vision

The Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy in Aging and Disability will serve as a leader in the development of policies, service delivery, and payment models that contribute to excellence in integrated care for persons with complex care needs and prepare leaders and champions of outstanding integrated care systems.

Mission

The Center strives to discover and disseminate practical, cost-effective approaches to deliver comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate care to persons with complex care needs and their families.

Long-Term Goals

1. Research

- To conduct research to promote the delivery of comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate, and affordable care to persons with complex care needs and their families.

2. Education

- To prepare the next generation of scholars, practitioners and administrators to lead the continued integration of care for adults with complex care needs.

3. Policy & Practice

- To disseminate new knowledge on integrated care to those in a position to effect change including policy officials, health care leaders, health professionals, and researchers.

History

The Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy on Aging and Disability and the Eugene and Mildred Lipitz Professorship were created in 1998 through a generous gift from Roger and Flo Lipitz and the Lipitz Family Foundation to the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The Center was established to serve as a catalyst for evidence-informed health policy to benefit the lives of persons with disabilities and complex health needs. The Professorship honors Roger's parents, who were early leaders in nursing home care. Roger continued in this career path and was instrumental in building the field in Maryland, serving as chair of the board of Meridian Healthcare, the largest provider of long-term care services in Maryland at the time, and president of both the American Health Care Association and the Maryland Nursing Home Association. Mr. Lipitz has a longstanding commitment to helping others through civic activities. He is a trustee emeritus of the Johns Hopkins University and former chair of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's Advisory Board.

Leadership

Since 2018, the Lipitz Center has been directed by Jennifer Wolff, PhD, MHS, the third Eugene and Mildred Lipitz Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management, succeeding Karen Davis, PhD (2013-2018) and Chad Boulton, MD, MPH, MBA (2003-2013).

Impact

The impact of the Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy on Aging and Disability is driven by the accomplishments of its members and their research, advocacy and academic pursuits to advance Center mission areas. Center research spans observational and policy analysis at the societal level, to interventional studies of programs and/or services at the individual level.

"The newly renamed Roger and Flo Lipitz Center is poised to draw on its longstanding strengths while evolving to meet new needs in the fields of aging and disability. By advancing innovative policies, the Center will help more people to lead healthier, engaged lives and in the process, support families, strengthen communities, and shape a better future for us all."

Dean Ellen J. MacKenzie, PhD '79, ScM, '75

OUR PEOPLE

Core Members

Jennifer Wolff, PhD, MHS
Eugene and Mildred Lipitz
Professor & Center Director

Abigail Antoine, BA
Senior Administrative
Coordinator

**Jeromie Ballreich, PhD,
MHS**
Associate Research Professor

Chanee Fabius, PhD, MA
Assistant Professor

Valecia Hanna, MS
Research Data Analyst

Kayla Hare, MA, MFA
Communications Specialist

Katherine Miller, PhD
Assistant Professor

Chase Mullholland, MPH
Policy Coordinator

Danielle Peereboom, MPH
Program Manager

Lisa Reider, PhD, MHS
Assistant Professor

Danny Scerpella, MPH
Research Associate

Karen Shen, PhD
Assistant Professor

Maureen Skehan, MSPH
Senior Research Associate

MJ Mingche Wu, MSPH
Research Data Analyst

Claire Yang, MS
Statistical Programmer

Post-Doctoral Trainees

Kacey Chae, MD
School of Medicine

April Ehrlich, MD
School of Medicine

**Emerald Jenkins, PhD-DNP,
MSN, RN**
School of Nursing

**Mary Louise Pomeroy,
PhD, MPH**
School of Nursing

Jamie Smith, PhD, RN
School of Nursing

Mfon Umoh, MD, PhD
School of Medicine

Doctoral Students

Alexa Bragg, MPH, MBA
HSR&P, 1st Year

Natalie Davoodi, MPH
HSR&P, 1st Year

Andrew Jopson, MPH
HSR&P, 4th year

Yiqing Kuang, BS
Health Economics, 1st Year

Jeff Marr, BA
Health Economics, 2nd year

**Jenni Seale Reiff, MS,
OTR/L**
HSR&P, 3rd year

**Tiffany Riser, MSN,
MPH, ANP-C**
Nursing, 2nd year

Aleksandra Wec, BA
HSR&P, 2nd year

Master-level students

Lujain Almarhouni, BS
Aki Morishima, MS
Natalie Mulmule, BA
Sharmini Rathakrishnan, MD

Undergraduate Research Assistants

Abigail Fassinger
Chloe Kim
Jadeline Rivera



Affiliates

Martha Abshire, PhD, MS, RN	School of Nursing
Halima Amjad, MD, PhD, MPH	School of Medicine
Gerard Anderson, PhD	Bloomberg School
Alicia Arbaje, MD, PhD, MPH	School of Medicine
Cynthia Boyd, MD, MPH	School of Medicine
Julia Burgdorf, PhD	Bloomberg School
Thomas Cudjoe, MD, MPH	School of Medicine
Emmanuel Drabo, PhD	Bloomberg School
Vadim Dukhanin, MD	Bloomberg School
Joe Gallo, MD	Bloomberg School
Kelly Gleason, PhD, RN	School of Nursing
Ariel Green, MD, PhD, MPH	School of Medicine
Bruce Leff, MD	School of Medicine
Joe Levy, PhD	Bloomberg School
Stephanie Nothelle, MD	School of Medicine
Katherine Ornstein, PhD, MPH	School of Nursing
Dan Polsky, PhD	Bloomberg School, Carey Business School
Mariah Robertson, MD, MPH	School of Medicine
David Roth, PhD	School of Medicine
Laura Samuel, PhD, MSN, RN	School of Nursing
Quincy Samus, PhD	School of Nursing
Nancy Schoenborn, MD	School of Medicine
Jennifer Schrack, PhD	Bloomberg School
Mariana Socal, MD	Bloomberg School
Janiece Taylor, PhD, MSN, RN	School of Nursing
Kali Thomas, PhD, MA	School of Nursing

UPDATES AND HIGHLIGHTS

Core Members: Faculty & Staff



Abigail Antoine, BA

Antoine is a Senior Administrative Coordinator in the Department of Health Policy and Management. Antoine completed her bachelor's degree in psychology at Susquehanna University in 2021 and joined the Center in May 2023 supporting administrative needs. Abigail has lived in Baltimore her entire life and enjoys exploring the city. Her favorite pastime is visiting the Baltimore Museum of Art for new exhibits and to support various artists.



Jeromie Ballreich, PhD, MHS

Ballreich is an Associate Research Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management with expertise in economic evaluation, pharmaceutical policy, and care delivery and payment policy directed at meeting the needs of high-needs high-cost patients. He also directs the MHS in Health Economics and Outcomes Research program. Highlights from this year include congressional testimony on US pharmaceutical policy and publications on pharmaceutical policy. Currently, he is advising the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act and two demonstration projects on accelerated approval and Cell and Gene Therapy access for Medicaid programs, both of which were initiated by a Presidential Executive Order.



Chanee Fabius, PhD, MA

Fabius is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management. She is a health services researcher whose work focuses on improving equity and quality in long-term services and supports. Highlights of this last year include being awarded an NIA-funded K01 Career Development Award to support her research to strengthen information sharing between direct care workers and family caregivers of older persons with dementia receiving Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services in Maryland. Fabius is also part of the 2023-2024 IMPACT Collaboratory Faculty Scholars Program. Fabius co-leads the Contextual Factors in Aging and LTSS Research Working Group, which is supported by the Lipitz Center, HEADS Center, and the Center for Equity in Aging in the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.



Valecia Hanna, MS

Hanna joined the team in 2021 as a research assistant and was promoted to research data analyst in 2022. Hanna received her bachelor's and master's degree in Sociology from Morgan State University. Hanna serves as an integral team member of multiple NIH funded studies supporting older adults with dementia, family caregivers, caregiving in the workplace, and policies on paid caregiving. Hanna's role in the Lipitz Center involves data analysis and project management, as well as onboarding and training of student researchers in the Center, and their integration in faculty research. She hopes to continue building skills in data analysis and project management within the Center's mission and portfolio of research and practice activities.



Kayla Hare, MA, MFA

Hare joined the team in August 2023 as the Center's communications specialist. She maintains its website and social media accounts and produces quarterly newsletters for internal and external audiences, along with other publications. Hare received her MFA from George Mason University in 2023, MA from Loyola Marymount University in 2018, and BA from the University of Alabama in 2013.



Katherine Miller, PHD

Miller is an Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management and health services researcher. Her research focuses on understanding how health and labor policies impact outcomes of the long-term care workforce (e.g., wages of home health aides, well-being of family caregivers); the mechanisms impacting delivery of care (e.g., turnover); and patient outcomes. Highlights of the last year include starting her faculty position at JHU, publishing papers examining the relationship between youth caregivers and education, and presenting work-in-progress examining the effect of state paid leave policies on labor force participation of caregivers at the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting. Miller leads a pilot award from the Hopkins Business of Health Initiative to conduct a consensus study on employer supports for family caregivers. Additionally, Drs. Shen and Miller received a pilot award from the Advancing Workforce Analysis and Research for Dementia Network to describe turnover among direct care workers during the pandemic and the role of state-level wage supports in mediating turnover.



Chase Mulholland Green, MPH

Mulholland Green joined Dr. Wolff's team in the fall of 2022 to support the SHARING Choices study while completing her MPH at the Bloomberg School. After graduating with her MPH in May 2023 Mulholland Green transitioned to the SHARE study to support qualitative coding and analysis. Currently, Mulholland Green serves as the Policy Coordinator for both the Center and the Hopkins Economics of Alzheimer's Disease and Services (HEADS) Center where she provides administrative leadership to the centers' collaborations and initiatives. She leverages her background in policy and community building to cultivate internal and external partnerships to advance the Center's policy objectives. She also works to provide opportunities to Bloomberg School students to encourage the next generation of researchers and advocates in careers in aging.



Danielle Peereboom, MPH

As the Center's program manager, Peereboom provides administrative leadership to Center collaborations and initiatives. Peereboom supports the Center's Cross-School Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Population T32 Training Program as well as the research arm of the Coalition for Care Partners. In this context, she collaborates and supports related research projects and initiatives to bolster effective engagement of care partners through consumer-oriented health information technologies. Peereboom's previous experience includes leading a team of practice facilitators to implement Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) in over 550 practices across Ohio and Northern Kentucky. She also managed a statewide primary care practice-based research network, supported development of a patient research advocacy initiative for cancer research, and collaborated with primary care practices and behavioral health organizations to advance tobacco treatment practices and policies.



Lisa Reider, PHD, MPS

Reider is an Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management and expert in the design and conduct of multicenter clinical trials. Lisa is the Associate Director of the Coordinating Center of the Major Extremity Trauma Research Consortium (METRC), a network of clinical centers and a data coordinating center that conducts multi-center clinical research studies. Highlights of the last year include publishing three invited reviews focusing on anesthesia, nutrition, and post-fracture weight bearing recommendations for older adults with hip fracture. Reider was selected to attend this year's Network for Investigation of Delirium: Unifying Scientists (NIDUS) bootcamp for her clinical trial proposal with METRC collaborators to examine the effect of novel anesthesia protocol on delirium and cognitive outcomes in older hip fracture patients. Reider's work also focuses on the impact of rehabilitation services on outcomes in hospitalized older adults. She was senior author on a paper recently accepted by the Physical Therapy Journal that demonstrated frontloaded home health physical therapy reduces 30-day hospital readmissions in Medicare beneficiaries. The paper was co-authored by Jenni Seale Reiff, a PhD candidate in the Department of Health Policy and Management, and former pre-doctoral trainee on the Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32 Training Program.



Danny Scerpella, MPH

Scerpella is a Research Associate and core faculty in the Lipitz Center. In the last year, Scerpella has been involved in final analyses and presenting findings from the pragmatic SHARING Choices cluster randomized trial. He has established an ongoing partnership with colleagues at Johns Hopkins Community Physicians (JHCP) to foster greater collaboration between BSPH researchers and primary care settings. This included advising to help set up, fund and sustain a funded Advance Care Planning facilitator position in primary care clinics. During the previous academic year, Scerpella served as a co-advisor on two MPH graduate capstone projects and developed and proctored a student practicum. He is currently working to revise and improve Lipitz Center outreach to Johns Hopkins students including development of a paid student fellowship, co-creation of an aging-focused journal club course, redesign of the Gerontology certificate at the Bloomberg School, and the streamlining of the student intake pipeline for working with Lipitz Center faculty.



Karen Shen, PhD

Shen is an Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management and health economist. Her research focuses on understanding how financing and workforce policies such as Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) and nursing home staffing regulations affect older adults and their caregivers. Highlights of the last year include publishing a paper on the impact of HCBS financing on the labor supply of adult daughter caregivers in the *Journal of Public Economics*, a paper on nursing home staff turnover and quality of care in *JAMA Internal Medicine*, and a paper on the impact of Medicare Advantage on skilled nursing facility finances in *Health Services Research*, as well as receiving pilot funding for two projects related to the long-term care workforce and the use of paid care across the financial resource spectrum.



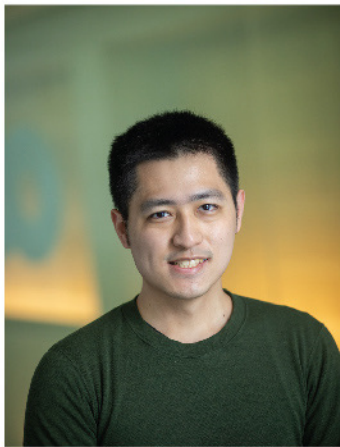
Maureen Skehan, MSPH

Skehan is a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Epidemiology and is a core member of the NHATS team. Skehan is highly involved in operational aspects of NHATS and NSOC including study design, data management, and technical assistance and support for the studies' respective research communities. Over the past year, Skehan has managed applications and disclosure analysis for over 40 research groups applying for access to NHATS-CMS restricted data in the NIA Data LINKAGE enclave. In addition, Skehan has supported the dissemination and documentation of annual data files for NHATS and NSOC.



Jennifer Wolff, PhD, MHS

Wolff is the Eugene and Mildred Lipitz Professor of Health Policy and Management, jointly appointed in the Schools of Nursing and Medicine. Her work focuses on strategies to improve quality of care and life for those living with disability and serious illness and their care partners. She leads two NIA-funded embedded trials to improve communication among older adults with cognitive impairment in primary care (SHARE and SHARING Choices) a John A. Hartford Foundation-funded initiative to evaluate the spread of organizational strategies to increase uptake of patient portal use by care partners of older adults, and a leadership award by the National Institute on Aging to better understand and address the needs of caregivers to persons living with dementia through consumer health information technology.



MJ Wu, MSPH

Wu is a senior programmer analyst who joined the team in September 2021 after graduating from the Bloomberg School's Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) program in Health Policy and Management. Wu holds a bachelor's degree in human biology from the University of California, San Diego. He is interested in quality of care, patient safety, cost effectiveness, but most importantly learning more about data science. He has been involved in projects using the NHATS/NSOC data set and electronic medical record data. His Stata and R skills aid the team with data and statistical analysis including statistical modeling, basic natural language processing of a vast number of clinical notes and MyChart messages. Outside of being a data analyst, he produces and co-hosts a podcast "Everything is Public Health" with Bloomberg School professor Dr. Cassandra Crifasi. He also enjoys making and hosting trivia.



Claire Yang, MS

Yang is a statistical programmer analyst at the Department of Health Policy and Management. She holds a master's degree in Biostatistics from New York University. In her role, Yang is responsible for the analysis of large-scale datasets, particularly focusing on Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services and Nursing Facilities. Her research focuses on the aging population, including Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD), and examines the effects of financial, health, and labor policies on older adults and their caregivers. Yang's expertise in R, SAS, and Stata is instrumental in deriving actionable insights from complex datasets, thereby advancing the team's data and statistical analysis capabilities across various projects, involving datasets such as Medicaid, Medicare, NHATS, HRS, and CPS. Her analytical skills and in-depth knowledge contribute to the team's research initiatives and policy evaluations.

Trainees



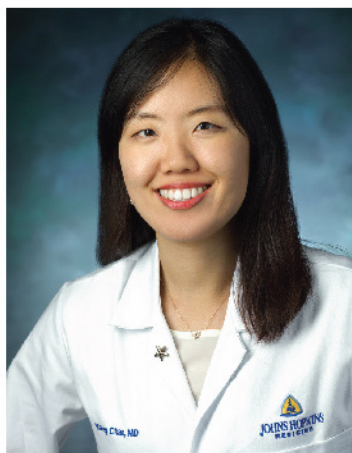
Lujain Almarhouni, BS

Almarhouni is a recent graduate of the MPH program, where she focused on Aging. A former research assistant in Saudi Arabia, her research interests include healthy aging and physical mobility. Her capstone project explored mobility programs for hospitalized older adults with Dr. Lisa Reider at the Roger and Flo Lipitz Center to Advance Policy on Aging and Disability. Her collaboration with Dr. Reider, who provided continuous support and feedback, was extremely rewarding for Lujain. After the MPH, she plans to continue working on more projects and opportunities with the Center. Upon returning to Saudi Arabia, she intends to leverage her expertise in physical mobility to improve mobility care among older adults.



Alexa Bragg, MPH, MBA

Bragg is a first-year doctoral student in Health Services Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management and predoctoral trainee in the Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32 training program. Bragg received her MPH and MBA from Boston University in 2023. Prior to pursuing her doctoral degree, Bragg supported ongoing socio-behavioral and health service research projects at Boston Medical Center within the Department of Family Medicine. During this project period, Bragg initiated a study exploring differences in caregiver networks of older adults across various racial and ethnic communities, leveraging data from the National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS). In March 2024, Bragg submitted an abstract of her findings to the Gerontological Society of America and intends to submit a full manuscript to a high-impact, peer reviewed gerontology journal this summer.



Kacey Chae, MD

Chae joined the Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32 following her Obesity Medicine fellowship in August 2023 in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Chae developed an interest in geriatrics research while participating in a summer research program called Medical Students Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) at Johns Hopkins Bayview. During residency, she provided home-based primary care to a panel of home-bound older adults in Baltimore. She also pursued elective rotations with a Medicare-funded initiative called the “Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE),” which provided comprehensive medical and social services to low-income older adults. As a clinician, she faced challenges of caring for older adults with multiple weight-related comorbidities, leading to functional decline, high healthcare utilization, and poor quality of life. The relationship between excess adiposity and health outcomes in older adults was complex and under-researched; she recognized it as an opportunity to pursue further research.



Natalie Davoodi, MPH

Davoodi is a rising second-year Health Services Research and Policy doctoral student in Health Services Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Physiology and Neuroscience from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master of Public Health from the Brown University School of Public Health. Prior to coming to Hopkins, she was a Senior Data Analyst at the Center for Gerontology and Healthcare Research within the Brown University School of Public Health leveraging claims data to assess policy questions specific to End-stage renal disease. She also worked as an Emergency Medical Technician throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Davoodi's research interests include examining policies and programs pertaining to the health care older adults in the United States, specifically in the areas of financing, delivery, spending, organization, and health outcomes.



April Ehrlich, MD

Ehrlich is a postdoctoral fellow who joined the Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32 following her clinical geriatrics fellowship in July 2022. Ehrlich is a clinician scientist with an interest in program development and implementation to improve inpatient outcomes in cognitively and functionally frail older adults, particularly following stressful inpatient events like surgery. Since joining the T32 she has continued to expand the field of aging research in her area of interest publishing two high impact manuscripts in Annals of Surgery highlighting the improvement in both clinical and cost outcomes following the implementation of a Geriatric Surgical Pathway alongside a transdisciplinary team of geriatricians, surgeons, anesthesiologists, and emergency physicians both nationwide and internationally. She has accepted a position as Assistant Professor at University of Arizona- Tucson starting in August, 2024.



Abigail Fassinger

Fassinger is a rising junior at Johns Hopkins University, dual majoring in Molecular and Cellular Biology and French on a pre-medical track. She joined Dr. Wolff's team in Fall, 2022 as a research assistant on a NIA funded study, SHARE, focusing on conducting patient and caregiver surveys for data collection to better understand communication and advance care planning between families and primary care providers. In fall of 2023, Fassinger transitioned to work with Dr. Danielle Powell and the University of Maryland where she consented individuals to participate in Powell's study focusing on communication between providers and families of patients with hearing deficits. In Spring of 2024, she partnered with Dr. Katherine Miller to work on publishing a Critical Review focusing on aging-in-place models. Fassinger participated in screening of articles, data collection, consensus, and formulating the paper.



Emerald Jenkins, PhD-DNP, AGPCNP-BC, MSN, RN

Jenkins is a postdoctoral fellow appointed to the Health Services and Outcomes Research For Aging Populations T32 Training Program. Her research focuses on developing community-engaged data driven interventions impacting physical and mental health outcomes in older adults by leveraging quantitative and qualitative methodologies. She holds masters' degrees in medical science and nursing, and dual doctoral degrees as a PhD and DNP. During her doctoral program, she served as a medical caregiver for her grandmother with dementia, a Psychiatric Registered Nurse in an acute setting, and a research assistant on several aging-related projects in pain and dementia led by Drs. Janiece Taylor, Sarah Szanton and Haera Han.



Andrew Jopson, MPH

Jopson is a fifth year Health Services Research and Policy doctoral candidate. Andrew earned his bachelor's degree at University of California, Berkeley and his MPH at the University of Washington (UW) School of Public Health. He previously worked as a research scientist in the Department of Family Medicine at UW where he focused on health workforce issues and the development of health career pathways. Over the past year, Jopson continued to support Center faculty through the NHATS Contextual Factors Geo-Linkages Working Group where he co-leads the Methods sub-working group. His dissertation examines the relationship between Medicaid managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) programs and care experiences of older dual-enrollees. Two highlights from the last year were co-authoring a publicly available directory of contextual measures and publishing a paper in JAMDA titled "Profile of Older Dual-Enrollees Living in Areas with Managed Long-Term Services and Supports" that has informed his dissertation work.



Chloe Kim

Kim is a rising junior studying Public Health on the pre-medical path at Johns Hopkins University. She is an undergraduate research assistant in the Lipitz Center and has been interested in Alzheimer's Disease/dementia, aging, neurology, and dermatology. She recently joined the center in the summer of 2024 and assists Dr. Chanee Fabius in a project focused on the connection between older adults and their caregivers.



Yiqing Kuang, BS

Kuang is a second-year doctoral student in Health Economics and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Mathematics from Boston College. Her research focuses on policies and programs related to home care for older adults in the US, examining their effects on caregivers and patient outcomes. Currently, she is exploring potential dissertation topics with her advisors, Darrell Gaskin and Karen Shen. Her research specifically investigates how self-direction policies and minimum wage laws impact caregiver supply and economic security, the health outcomes of older adults, and care quality.



Jeff Marr, BA

Marr is a third-year PhD Health Economics and Policy PhD student in the Department of Health Policy and Management. He is broadly interested in financing, organization, and delivery of health care for Medicare beneficiaries. He examines the impact of Medicare Advantage on access and quality of care, changes in Medicare supplemental coverage alongside Medicare Advantage enrollment growth, and spillovers of Medicare Advantage into other insurance markets. Marr was awarded the 2024 Judith Dellinger Kasper Dissertation Award for his project “Artificial Intelligence and Health Care Decision Making: Evidence from Post-Acute Care Prior Authorizations In Medicare Advantage. Marr has authored 9 papers during this project period, 7 as first-author. His substantive and methodological interests overlap with those of faculty members in the Department of Health Policy and Management, particularly his doctoral advisors and primary co-mentors Dan Polsky and Joe Levy.



Aki Morishima, MS

Morishima has a medical degree from Juntendo University in Japan and a master's degree in project design from the Graduate School of Business Planning. She joined the Bloomberg School in 2021. Her capstone title was “Understanding the relationship between dementia care and elder abuse in Japan: A scoping review,” and she learned under the guidance and warm support of Jennifer Wolff and Danny Scerpella. As a family physician, she has a strong interest in social issues in primary health care, geriatric medicine with issues such as dementia and long-term care, and public health related to social determinants of health. Through the MPH program and capstone, she has built skills and competencies in analyzing, reviewing, and interpreting data, planning projects, and making policy decisions based on deep analysis of health issues and community factors.



Natalie Mulmule, BA

Mulmule is a recent graduate of the MPH program at the Bloomberg School with a focus on health policy and aging. Previously, she worked as a public health analyst in the Aging, Disability, and Long-Term Care Program within the Division for Social Policy, Health, and Economics Research at RTI International. Her research interests include strengthening the long-term care workforce, as well as policies supporting family caregivers and systems and programs that facilitate aging in place. Currently, she is working on her MPH capstone project on state paid family leave policies and their impact on family caregivers with Dr. Kate Miller and Danny Scerpella. They worked together to develop a topic and a project timeline, and both have been providing her with very thoughtful feedback throughout her capstone.



Mary Louise Pomeroy, PhD, MPH

Pomeroy is a health services researcher and an NIH-funded postdoctoral research fellow in the Center for Equity in Aging at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. Pomeroy's work is supported by a National Institute on Aging T32 training grant for Health Services and Outcomes Research. Her research seeks to improve aging in place for socially isolated older adults. Her current work examines how long-term services and supports can reduce social isolation and deter avoidable health care utilization among older adults with dementia. She received her MPH from Johns Hopkins University in 2017 and her PhD in health services research from George Mason University in 2022. She has expertise in primary data collection as well as in secondary data analysis of population-based surveys, claims data, administrative data, and electronic health records. She is an active member of several professional organizations including AcademyHealth and the Gerontological Society of America.



Sharmini Rathakrishnan, MD

Rathakrishnan is a recent graduate of the MPH program at the Bloomberg School. A Preventive Medicine physician from Singapore, Sharmini's research interests include healthy aging and health equity. Her practicum experience with the Lipitz Center provided encompassed a myriad of diverse experiences such as assisting in a scoping review, being involved in a qualitative validation exercise for a study involving artificial intelligence, and working with NIH-grant recipient Dr Chanee Fabius, on her qualitative research on home and community-based support services received by people with dementia and their families. During her learning experience, Rathakrishnan was well-supported by mentors Danny Scerpella and Chase Mulholland Green, and appreciated the variety of opportunities sourced by the dynamic duo. On returning to Singapore, she aims to utilize her knowledge gained in qualitative research, to tackle health disparities among the older adult population.



Jenni Seale Reiff, MS, OTR/L

Reiff is a Health Services Research and Policy PhD candidate in the department of Health Policy and Management and former trainee appointed to the Health Services and Outcome Research for Aging Populations T32 training program. Leveraging her clinical background as a geriatric occupational therapist, she will use her doctoral training to design preventive healthcare initiatives to improve functional outcomes for older adults. Reiff presented preliminary findings from her dissertation project, entitled “An Ounce of Prevention: Characterizing and Assessing ‘Prehabilitation’ for Lower Extremity Joint Replacement Among Medicare Fee-for-Service Beneficiaries” at the 2024 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting.



Tiffany Riser, MSN, MPH, ANP-C

Riser is a third-year PhD student at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and trainee appointed to the Health Services and Outcome Research for Aging Populations T32 training program. As a Nurse Practitioner and Home-Based Primary Care Program Director in the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System, she provided primary care, palliative care and case management for homebound patients and their caregivers. She completed her BSN at the University of Pittsburgh and her MSN/MPH at Johns Hopkins University. Riser is an alumnus of the Health and Aging Policy Fellowship (HAPF) Program, and she currently serves on the Family Caregiver Alliance (FCA) Board of Directors. Her clinical and educational experience as an NP in Home Based Primary Care guide her dissertation project focused on long-term care for older Veterans. In April 2024, her application for the Veteran Health Administration’s Advancing Diversity in Implementation Leadership (ADIL) Initiative entitled, “PLI PLUS: Predicting risk of Long-term Institutionalization Plus Leveraging Use of Social data,” was selected for funding by the Veteran Health Administration’s Advancing Diversity in Implementation Leadership (ADIL) Initiative.



Jadelin Rivera

Rivera is an undergraduate at Johns Hopkins University, pursuing a BA in Public Health, with graduation expected in the spring of 2025. She joined the team in 2023 as a Research Assistant. Rivera is also Public Health Project Coordinator at Medical Revenue Cycle Specialists, where she engages in proactive optimization and consulting for public health practices to enhance operations and strategies. Following her undergraduate studies, Rivera plans to further her education by obtaining an MBA in Healthcare Management and Administration, aiming to become a leader in shaping the future of healthcare delivery.



Jamie M. Smith, PhD, RN

Smith is a postdoctoral fellow in the Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32, appointed to the School of Nursing. Smith's research focuses on improving care delivery for older adults with complex health and social needs. Smith's work draws on nearly two-decades as a registered nurse working in clinical care, policy, and education. Her long-term goal is to develop a meaningful research program that informs equitable care delivery for older adults with complex needs to maintain their independence and quality of life. She is active in professional associations including Sigma Theta Tau, Gerontological Society of America, and AcademyHealth where she serves as chair of the Interdisciplinary Research Group on Nursing Issues (IRGNI) interest group. Her current work examines how structural and social determinants influence access and use of home-based care for community-dwelling older adults. Smith will begin an Assistant Professor position in August at Widener University.



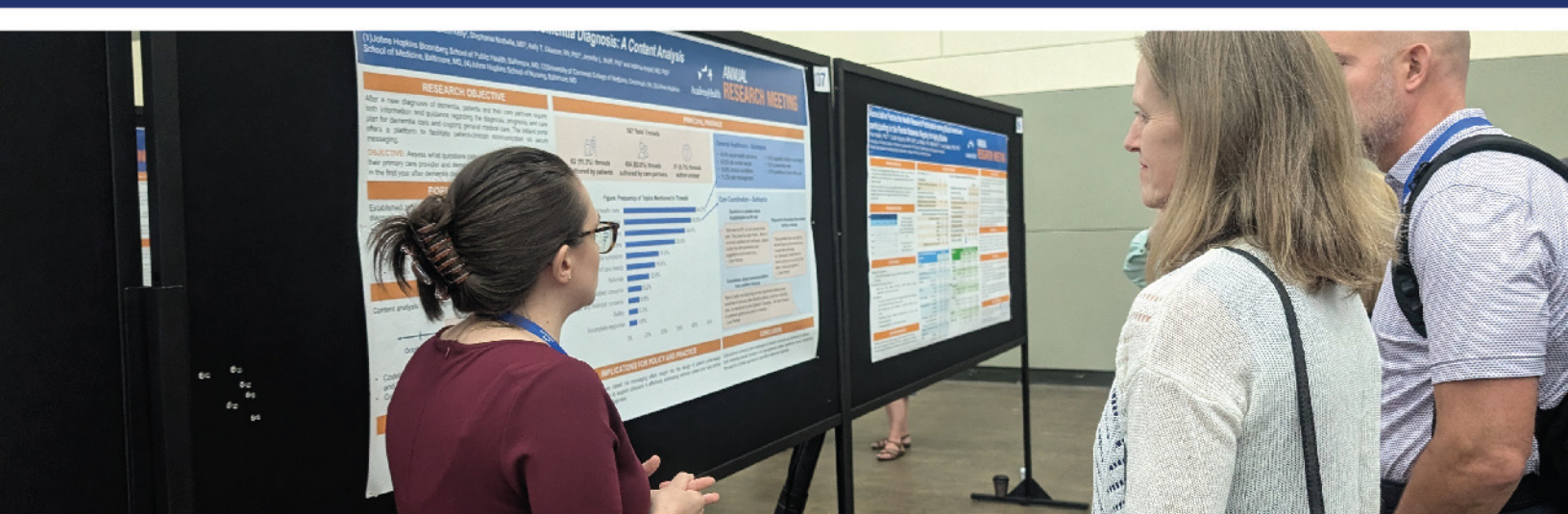
Mfon Umoh, MD, PhD

Umoh joined the Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32 training program as a postdoctoral fellow in July 2023 following her clinical geriatrics fellowship. Umoh holds a bachelor's degree in Applied Science in Bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering and Applied Science and a Doctor of Medicine and a Doctor of Philosophy in Neuroscience from Emory University. She completed her Internal Medicine residency training at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Internal Medicine Residency Program and is board certified in Internal Medicine. Umoh has a background in clinical research on aging with an interest in delirium and dementia overlap and social isolation in older adults. As part of the T32 she plans to expand her knowledge within health services and outcomes research by taking some courses within the science of clinical investigation training program and within the graduate institute of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She was selected for the John R Burton Endowed Scholarship for a project on preoperative inflammatory mediators of postoperative delirium in older hip fracture repair patients. Umoh's project, "Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Delirium and Dementia" was selected for a HEADS Center pilot grant.



Aleksandra Wec, BA

Wec is a rising fourth-year Health Services Research and Policy doctoral student in the Department of Health Policy and Management. Prior to her time at Hopkins, Wec worked as a research assistant at the Rutgers Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research and at Mathematica as a Survey Analyst. In the last academic year Wec has been involved in several research projects which have allowed her to build knowledge about communication dynamics between older adults, their care partners, and healthcare providers and the use of Health Information Technology (CHIT) to facilitate information exchange for this population. Ms. Wec worked with her primary advisor, Jennifer Wolff, to co-design a framework on the utilization of CHIT by older adults and their care partners and further applied this framework to lead a scoping review evaluating measurements, drivers, and outcomes of patient portal messaging.



RESEARCH SUPPORT

The Center's portfolio of scholarly activities is supported by 3 streams of funding: 1.) Center endowment, 2.) Departmental support of faculty teaching and service activities, and 3.) Private foundation and governmental agency funding of investigator-initiated research studies. Our research portfolio encompasses four sets of activities across domains as follows:

Domain #1: Strengthening the direct care workforce. Center faculty conduct research to characterize direct care workers and their workplace environment, develop and test behavioral and systems-level interventions to improve direct worker capacity, and undertake policy-oriented evaluations to assess the effects of legislation and programs to better support the direct care workforce.

Domain #2: Supporting family caregivers. Family (as defined by each person) and unpaid caregivers provide care and task assistance for health and functioning reasons. Center faculty conduct observational research to characterize caregivers and their caregiving contexts, lead interventions to improve caregiver capacity, and undertake evaluations to assess the effects of policies and programs to better support the caregiving workforce.

Domain #3: Advancing evidence-based rehabilitative care and long-term services and supports (LTSS). LTSS refers to critical programs that expand capacity or reduce environmental demands to enable persons with physical, mental, or cognitive limitations to undertake routine daily activities. Center faculty lead studies to elucidate the quantity and effects of LTSS on individual, payer, and care delivery systems.

Domain #4: Promoting person- and family-centered systems of care. The current care delivery environment is expensive, fragmented, unequal, and too often dehumanizing. Center faculty lead research to discover, support, and disseminate practices to promote efficient, respectful, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate, equitable care that is consistent with individual wishes.

The following text provides a list of research grants that were active or awarded in the reporting period that are led by core faculty and trainees, or for which core faculty are key personnel in a mentoring capacity. This list is ordered alphabetically by the last name of the study PI. July 2023-June 2024.

Title: Improving Information Sharing Between Caregivers and Home Care Aides Caring for Persons Living with ADRD

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Date: 1/1/2023- 12/31/2027

Principal Investigator: Chanee Fabius

Objective: To develop and refine a home care role and preference guide to improve information sharing between family caregivers of older adults living with ADRD and home care aides.

Title: Hopkins' Economics of Alzheimer's Disease and Services (HEADS) Center

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Multi-Principal Investigator: Daniel Polsky & Jennifer Wolff

Date: 7/1/2020-6/31/2025

Objective: The Hopkins' Economics of Alzheimer's Disease & Services (HEADS) Center builds the field of ADRD-related economics and health services research and its impact through training emerging and established investigators, developing research infrastructure, and forging linkages with policy and practice communities to disseminate new knowledge).

Title: The Impact of Home-based Care, Services, and Supports on Healthcare Utilization, Spending, and Care Trajectories for Socially Isolated Older Adults

Sponsor: Johns Hopkins School of Nursing Discovery & Innovation Grant

Principal Investigator: Mary Louise Pomeroy

Date: 4/2023 – 3/2024

Objective: To examine whether delivery of home-based care, services, and supports can reduce health care utilization, spending, and nursing home entry among community-dwelling older adults.

Title: National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS)

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Principal Investigator: Jennifer Schrack & Vicki Freedman (Maureen Skehan, Co-Investigator)

Dates: 9/30/2008 - 3/31/2024

Objective: NHATS is a platform for scientific inquiry to guide efforts to reduce disability, maximize functioning, and enhance older adults' quality of life.

Title: Person-Reported and Health Care Utilization Outcomes of Home and Community Based Care Recipients with and Without Alzheimer's Disease and Its Related Dementias

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Principal Investigator: Tetyana Shippee and Eric Jutkowitz (Chanee Fabius, Co-investigator)

Date: 9/1/2020-8/31/2024

Objective: To document trends in HCBS used and/or desired by clients, determine client and state-level factors that promote person-reported HCBS outcomes, and determine the association between health plan-level HCBS person-reported quality and health care use for persons with and without AD/ADRD.

Title: A Phase 2a Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluating the Safety and Efficacy of PolyEthylene Glycol (PEG) mediated fusion (PEG fusion) compared to standard of care in the repair of mixed motor-sensory acute peripheral nerve injuries (PNI) for rapid and immediate improvement in outcome

Sponsor: The Department of Defense

Principal Investigator: Jaimie Shores, MD (Lisa Reider, MCC PI)

Date: 10/1/2020- 9/30/2025

Objective: To determine the safety of PEG fusion when used with primary repair or reconstruction in patients with an acute upper extremity peripheral nerve injury and to examine the effect of PEG fusion recovery of sensory and motor function.

Title: Rehabilitation Enhanced Partial Arterial Inflow Restriction Study (REPAIR)

Sponsor: The Department of Defense

Principal Investigator: Daniel Stinner (Lisa Reider, METRC Co-PI)

Date: 9/30/2015-9/30/2023

Objective: To test the effectiveness of physical therapy using blood flow restriction compared to usual physical therapy alone after definitive treatment for closed diaphyseal femur fractures.

Title: Consumer Health Information Technology to Engage and Support ADRD Caregivers: Research Program to Address ADRD Implementation Milestone 13.I

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Principal Investigator: Jennifer Wolff (Chanee Fabius, Co-investigator)

Date: 7/15/2021-6/30/2026

Objective: This application builds a program of health services research at Johns Hopkins University to address Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Implementation Milestone 13.I to support research on technology-based dementia assessment, care, and management.

Title: Engaging Family Caregivers through Shared Access to the Electronic Health Record

Sponsor: John A. Hartford Foundation

Multi-Principal Investigator: Jennifer Wolff & Cait DesRoches of Harvard BIDMC

Date: 7/1/2021-6/30/2024

Objective: This project implements a demonstration in three health systems to increase the uptake and use of shared electronic health record access by family caregivers of older adults, evaluate its effects and disseminate best practices to promote national adoption.

Title: Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Multi-Principal Investigator: Jennifer Wolff & Cynthia Boyd

Date: 7/1/2020- 6/31/2025

Objective: to produce the next generation of researchers with robust training in person and family-centered health services and outcomes research, all applied to geriatrics and gerontology.

Title: Involving Family to Improve Advance Care Planning for Primary Care Patients with ADRD

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Principal Investigator: Jennifer Wolff

Date: 7/29/19 - 3/31/25 (NCE)

Objective: to refine and test the effectiveness of an advance care planning and communication intervention for high-risk older adults with ADRD.

Title: Pragmatic Trial to Improve Communication for Primary Care Patients with ADRD

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Multi-Principal Investigator: Jennifer Wolff & Sydney M. Dy

Date: 9/1/2018-8/31/2025 (NCE)

Objective: to refine and test the effectiveness of an advance care planning intervention for older adults with ADRD through proactive engagement of families in primary care.

Title: Trends and Dynamics in Caregiving for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias: Extending the National Study of Caregiving

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Multi-Principal Investigator: Jennifer Wolff & Vicki Freedman (Maureen Skehan, Research Associate)

Dates: 6/15/2019-6/14/2024

Objective: to collect and disseminate new longitudinal national data to enhance understanding of informal caregiving to older adults with ADRD. The study will also provide new knowledge of how informal ADRD caregivers' experiences and outcomes are changing over recent (2011-2020) and longer-term (1999-2020) time periods.

Title: Elevating Evidence-Based Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Services and Supports: A Compendium of Policies

Sponsor: Johns Hopkins University

Principal Investigator: Katherine Miller

Dates: 7/1/2024 – 6/30/2026

Objective: 1) understand the scope of Medicaid HCBS policies and regulations; 2) examine which Medicaid HCBS policies and regulations are associated with measures of high quality care; 3) develop a state Medicaid HCBS scorecard; and 4) disseminate our scorecard to policymakers and stakeholders.

Title: Caregivers in the Workplace: A Convening to Develop a Profile of Employer Best Practices.

Sponsor: Hopkins Business of Health Initiative

Multi-Principal Investigator: Katherine Miller and Karen Shen

Dates: 01/2024-12/2024

Objective: to identify attributes and scaling of best practices for employers to support working family (unpaid) caregivers.

Title: State Policy Responses to COVID-19 and Workforce Dynamics: Examining Industry Exit Trends for Direct Care Workers and Firms

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging via Advancing Workforce Analysis and Research for Dementia Network

Multi-Principal Investigator: Katherine Miller and Karen Shen

Dates: 05/2024-04/2025

Objective: to describe turnover among direct care workers and firm closures before and during the pandemic and to examine the role of state-level wage supports in mediating turnover/firm closure.

Title: Use of the Health Equity Framework to Characterize Multi-Level Factors Correlated with Pain and the Receipt of the Direct Care Workforce in Older Adults with Dementia

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging via Advancing Workforce Analysis and Research for Dementia Network.

Principal Investigator: Emerald Jenkins

Dates: 05/2024-04/2025

Objective: to describe people living with dementia who also live with chronic pain and to examine the role of the direct care workforce to support optimal care for people living with dementia and pain.

Role: Co-Investigator.

Title: VA Caregiver Support Program Partnered Evaluation Center.

Sponsor: Quality Enhancement Research Initiative and VA Caregiver Support Program

Principal Investigator: Van Houtven CH (Katherine Miller, Associate Director)

Dates: 10/2024 – 9/2027

Objective: to evaluate the impacts of the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers and the Program of General Caregiver Support Services by partnering with the VHA Caregiver Support Program and the Office of Care Management and Social Work to assess the value and use of both programs by Veterans and their caregivers.

Title: Partnered Evidence-Based Policy Resource Center.

Sponsor: Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

Principal Investigator: Austin Frakt (Katherine Miler, Co-Investigator)

Dates: 10/2023-09/2024

Objective: to provide timely, rigorous data analysis to support the development of high-priority policy, planning, and management initiatives. The Center also coordinates and supports the design and implementation of randomized program evaluations with strong potential to improve the quality and efficiency of VA healthcare.

Title: Patterns & Preferences of Home-Based Service Use for Persons with Dementia

Sponsor: Alzheimer's Association

Principal Investigator: Julia Burgdorf (Katherine Miller, Co-Investigator)

Dates: 11/1/2023-10/31/2025

Objective: to describe home- and community-based service (HCBS) use across the spectrum of payers and providers for people living with dementia, identify individual and cultural factors associated with variation in use, and gather perspectives from people living with dementia and their caregivers on challenges and preferences related to HCBS access.

Title: The Joint Warfighters Program

Sponsor: Department of Defense

Principal Investigator: Ellen MacKenzie (Lisa Reider, METRC PI)

Dates: 9/1/2017-7/31/2024

Objective: to develop Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) and criteria for the appropriate use of the guidelines through development of Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC). This grant would also support enrollment and patient follow-up in two ongoing METRC studies (TAOS and PAIN)).

Title: Effect of early weight bearing on rehabilitation outcomes in patients with unicondylar proximal tibia fractures and bimalleolar ankle fractures

Sponsor: Department of Defense

Principal Investigator: William Obrebskey (Lisa Reider, METRC PI)

Dates: 10/1/2018-9/30/2024

Objective: to compare the effects of early weight bearing versus delayed weight bearing for patients sustaining ankle and tibia plateau fractures.

Title: Multi-center phase 2 trial to test ability for stem cell therapy to induce palmo-plantar skin at the stump site of amputees

Sponsor: Department of Defense

Principal Investigator: Luis Garza (Lisa Reider, METRC PI)

Dates: 09/1/2018- 08/31/2024

Objective: to test the safety and efficacy of volar fibroblast injections for increasing epidermal thickness at the stump site in transtibial amputees.

Title: Use of Self-funded Paid Care Across the Financial Resource Spectrum Among People With and Without Dementia (Hopkins Economics of Alzheimer's Disease and Services pilot grant)

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Principal Investigator: Jennifer Reckrey (Karen Shen, Co-Investigator)

Dates: 6/1/2024-5/31/2025

Objective: to understand the prevalence and impact of self-funded paid care as well as its relationship with Medicaid-funded paid care

Title: eAlign: A Patient Portal-based Intervention to Align Medications with What Matters Most

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Principal Investigator: Ariel Green (Danny Scerpella, Co-Investigator)

Dates: 8/2022-7/2027

Objective: to implement and evaluate ALIGN in a full-scale, Stage IV effectiveness trial across Johns Hopkins Community Physicians (JHCP) This two-arm, cluster randomized pragmatic trial will test the effectiveness of the pharmacist-led, primary care-based deprescribing intervention for PLWD and their care partners on the proportion of patients who deprescribe at least one medication by 3 months.

Title: Home Health Utilization in Older Adults with Dementia in Traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging via HEADS Center Pilot

Multi-Principal Investigator: Jamie Smith and Jianhui (Frank) Xu

Dates: 7/01/2023-6/30/2024

Objective: to explore differences in home health care use by persons living with dementia between traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage

Title: Artificial Intelligence and Health Care Decision Making: Evidence from Post-Acute Care Prior Authorizations In Medicare Advantage

Sponsor: Judith Dellinger Kasper Endowment Fund

Principal Investigator: Jeffrey Marr

Dates: 6/15/2024-6/14/2025

Objective: to examine the causal effect of the use of AI-aided prior authorization on health care use and patient outcomes

Title: Variation in Characteristics and Outcomes Among Older Dual-Enrollees Living in Areas with Managed Long-term Services and Supports (MLTSS)

Sponsor: Judith Dellinger Kasper Endowment Fund

Principal Investigator: Andrew Jopson

Dates: 7/1/2023-6/30/2024

Objective: to identify differences in the characteristics of Medicare beneficiaries with LTSS needs living in areas with and without Medicaid managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) program presence and assess whether MLTSS program presence affects caregiving context and experiences of care among older dual-enrollees with LTSS needs



PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH

The following peer-reviewed publications are authored by Center members. Papers marked with a "*" were led by a Center trainee. This list is ordered alphabetically by the last name of the first author.

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Baumann ME, Haddad NR, Salazar A, Childers WL, Farrokhi S, Goldstein NB, Hendershot BD, **Reider L**, Thompson RE, Valerio MS, Dearth CL, Garza LA; Major Extremity Trauma Research Consortium (METRC). Testing the Reliability of Optical Coherence Tomography to Measure Epidermal Thickness and Distinguish Volar and Nonvolar Skin. *JID Innov*. 2024 Mar 20;4(4):100276.

Boyd CM, Shetterly SM, Powers JD, Weffald LA, Green AR, Sheehan OC, Reeve E, Drace ML, Norton JD, Maiyani M, Gleason KS, Sawyer JK, Maciejewski ML, **Wolff JL**, Kraus C, Bayliss EA. Evaluating the Safety of an Educational Deprescribing Intervention: Lessons from the Optimize Trial. *Drugs Aging*. 2024 Jan;41(1):45-54.

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EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Center is committed to educating and supporting the next generation of leaders. Center faculty teach courses that support the Johns Hopkins University Certificate in Gerontology (Fabius, Wolff), direct the doctoral program in Health Services Research and Policy (Wolff) and MHS in Health Economic (Ballreich), teach courses in Health Economics and Economic Evaluation (Shen, Ballreich) and core doctoral coursework in proposal writing (Reider). Center faculty mentor undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students, and post-doctoral fellows through a wide range of activities, including capstone projects, student practicums, dissertation research, grant-writing, and leading or contributing to peer-reviewed publications. The Center is the home of an NIH-supported T32 Training Program in Health Services Outcomes Research for Aging Populations, which bridges the Schools of Public Health, Nursing, and Medicine.

Courses Taught by Center Faculty in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School include:

Term 1: August 2023

313.601.01 Economic Evaluation I (3 credits) -Jeromie Ballreich

313.601.81 Economic Evaluation I (3 credits) -Jeromie Ballreich

309.861.01 Graduate Seminar in Health Services Research and Policy (1 credit) – Jennifer Wolff

Term 3: January 2024

309.861.01 Graduate Seminar in Health Services Research and Policy (1 credit) – Jennifer Wolff

Term 2: October 2023

300.870.01 The Research and Proposal Writing Process I (2 credits) - Lisa Reider

309.605.01 Health Issues for Aging Populations (3 credits) – Chanee Fabius

313.601.81 Economic Evaluation I (3 credits) – Jeromie Ballreich

309.861.01 Graduate Seminar in Health Services Research and Policy (1 credit) – Jennifer Wolff

Term 4: March 2024

313.790.81 Introduction to Economic Evaluation (3 credits) - Jeromie Ballreich

313.865.01 MHS Capstone in Health Economics (2 credits) - Jeromie Ballreich

300.871.01 The Research and Proposal Writing Process II (2 credits)- Lisa Reider

309.861.01 Graduate Seminar in Health Services Research and Policy (1 credit) – Jennifer Wolff

T32 TRAINING PROGRAM IN HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH FOR AGING POPULATIONS

The Health Services and Outcomes Research for Aging Populations T32 Training Program at Johns Hopkins University seeks to produce the next generation of scientists with rigorous training in person and family-centered health services and outcomes research with a focus on older adults and is led by co-directors Cynthia Boyd, MD, MPH and Jennifer Wolff, PhD, and Associate Directors Katherine Ornstein, PhD, and Nancy Schoenborn, MD, MHS. This Cross-School program, housed in the Lipitz Center, draws on the rich resources for research in health services, health economics, gerontology, nursing, health informatics, and geriatrics across the Johns Hopkins University, including the Bloomberg School of Public Health, the School of Medicine, and the School of Nursing.

During the fourth year of the T32 program, one major accomplishment was submitting a renewal application to the National Institute on Aging to continue the program's funding for another five years. As we await news on the program's renewal, we celebrate that the program's annual survey delivered positive feedback from trainees this year, specifically on the quality of mentorship and seminar experiences.

Trainees appointed to the program in the 2023 - 2024 academic year:

Post-Doctoral

Kacey Chae, MD
April Ehrlich, MD
Emerald Jenkins, PhD, DNP,
AGPCNP-BC, MSN, RN
Mary Louise Pomeroy, PhD, MPH
Jamie Smith, PhD, RN
Mfon Umoh, MD

Pre-Doctoral

Alexa Bragg, MPH, MBA
Natalie Davoodi, MPH
Jeffrey Marr, BA
Tiffany Riser, MSN, MPH, ANP-C
Aleksandra Wec, BA



"My mentors completely have my back, always prioritize my own goals and interests, are supportive, encouraging, knowledgeable, hold me accountable, and have become not only colleagues but friends."

Feedback from the Program's Annual Trainee Survey

Seminar

Former T32 postdoctoral trainee, Dr. Julia Burgdorf, leads the bi-weekly seminar that convenes trainees and core program faculty to discuss professional development topics including manuscript writing techniques, biosketches, authorship considerations, presentation skills, grant preparation, job search strategies, and trainee-led research in progress presentations. Trainees appreciated both the diversity of practical topics and the opportunity to give and receive feedback on their work from an interdisciplinary group of peers and faculty.



"The opportunity to make professional connections, get to know my peers, gain a sense of the nuanced aspects of research that aren't taught in the classroom, and get feedback on my own materials. They really were a wonderful part of my postdoc experience"

Feedback from the Program's Annual Trainee Survey

Notable Accomplishments from Current and Former Trainees

- Two graduating postdoctoral fellows have secured tenure-track faculty positions starting in August, 2024. **April Ehrlich** accepted a position with over 50% protected research time as Assistant Professor at University of Arizona Tucson. **Jamie Smith** accepted an Assistant Professor position at Widener University.
- Four postdoctoral trainees secured pilot funding to support their training. **Mary Lou Pomeroy** received a Discovery and Innovation Grant, **Jamie Smith** and **Mfon Umoh** received HEADS Center pilot awards and **Emerald Jenkins** is a 2024 AWARD Network Pilot Award recipient.
- Two predoctoral trainees have secured competitive awards to support their dissertation research. **Tiffany Riser** was awarded a VA QUERI Advancing Diversity in Implementation Leadership (ADIL) funding for her application, PLI PLUS (Predicting risk of Long term Institutionalization Plus Leveraging Use of Social data. **Jeff Marr** was awarded the 2024 Judith Dellinger Kasper Dissertation Award for his project “Artificial Intelligence and Health Care Decision Making: Evidence from Post-Acute Care Prior Authorizations In Medicare Advantage.”
- **Jeff Marr**, predoctoral trainee, has authored nine papers during this project period, seven as a first author. Aleks Wec has co-authored seven papers, including submitting two first-authored papers this summer.



“It is a great community of researchers with differing backgrounds and interests.”

Feedback from the Program's Annual Trainee Survey



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