Brandon Talley
Vice President for Non-Infectious Disease Programs

Brandon Talley is the vice president for non-infectious disease programs for the CDC Foundation. In this role he is responsible for the organization’s data modernization initiative; domestic and global divisions focused on preventing the leading causes of death such as heart disease, cancer, and stroke; and impact evaluation efforts.

While at the CDC Foundation, Talley has led several impactful programs. He operationalized tobacco surveillance activities in high-burden countries to monitor and improve tobacco control policies that protect nearly 1.7 billion people. He managed multiple emergency response efforts, including the 2016-2017 Zika response in Puerto Rico that—for the first time—provided nearly 30,000 women access to highly-effective, free, reversible contraception. With fast-approaching deadlines for health data systems improvements made possible by the 21st Century Cures Act and recent Executive Order on a Data-Drive Response to COVID-19, he’s leveraging the CDC Foundation’s unique multi-sectoral partnership model to help accelerate development, deployment, and adoption of modern interoperable approaches to health data through mutually reinforcing collaboration between public health and other sectors.

In addition to his work at the CDC Foundation, Talley is the inaugural and sitting board chair for the Georgia State University (GSU) School of Public Health Alumni Board of Directors and serves on the school’s Board of Advisors. Talley is a 2018 honoree for Georgia State University’s inaugural 40 under 40 alumni. He also sits on the executive committee of Digital Bridge, which creates a forum for health care experts, public health professionals and industry partners to collaborate on ideas and solutions for a nationally consistent and sustainable approach to using electronic health data.

Talley has a BS from the Georgia Institute of Technology and MPH from GSU. A PhD candidate at GSU, his current research focuses on tobacco use among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth and young adults. He recently co-authored a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report with CDC and the Truth Initiative that helped show how gaps in the federal e-cigarette ban created opportunities for youth to switch from mint to menthol products. With 3.6 million U.S. youths currently using e-cigarettes in 2020 and with more than eight in 10 reporting use of flavored e-cigarettes, this research can help protect vulnerable populations from a lifetime of nicotine addiction.