



# THE OZ NELSON PUBLIC HEALTH ACADEMY FUND



IN SUPPORT OF THE  
CDC PUBLIC HEALTH ACADEMY

A hands-on program offers STEM-based education for high school students pursuing careers related to public health.

# The Public Health Academy

## The CDC Museum Public Health Academy has two main goals:

1. Create a pathway for high school students to pursue a career in public health at the university level.
2. Raise awareness about the importance of public health to our economy and well-being for all citizens.

## The current program includes four elements:

- **Disease Detective Camp:** Two on-site week-long summer programs for high school juniors and seniors simulating CDC's epidemiology, laboratory and public communications activities during a mock disease outbreak.
- **Online Summer Course:** A virtual summer experience where high school students can take web-based courses on public health topics.
- **STEM Lessons for Educators:** Free teacher resources that add Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to educate middle and high school students about public health through hands-on activities.

The Disease Detective Camp has been in operation for 19 years, enrolling approximately 60 students annually in the in-person, on-campus element and 100 students in the online version of the camp.

The no-cost program is always in high demand, with hundreds of applicants received each year for the for 160 allotted student participants.

## GOALS

Additional funding will support the expansion of virtual training programs to reach up to 500 students per year over multiple years, in addition to adding students to the in-person Disease Detective Camp and increasing the number of STEM lessons and teen e-newsletters. All efforts will blend with and build upon current Public Health Academy programs.

## THE FUND

Additional operational funding will provide immediate resources to best support the program and its increase in teen participating. To ensure the program's long-term viability and success, a \$2.5 million endowment has been established to provide ongoing support.

# About Oz Nelson

Kent C. (Oz) Nelson was a champion for public health and education. As Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of United Parcel Service, he was tireless in his commitment to the betterment of the global communities that it served.

Oz chaired the CDC Foundation Board as well as that of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which focuses on strengthening families and increasing opportunities for children, youth and young adults. Oz also chaired the boards of The Carter Center, United Way of America as well as the Kentucky Governor's Commission on Education.



## FUND MANAGEMENT

The CDC Foundation oversees the stewardship of the funds, coordinating with the CDC education department and other staff in the planning for and progress of the expanded Public Health Academy.

A steering committee has been established for the planning and fundraising phases of the project, comprised of current and former members of the CDC Foundation board:

**Shirley Franklin**, Former Mayor of Atlanta; Former Executive Chair, Purpose Built Communities

**Phil Jacobs**, Founding Partner, The Pendleton Consulting Group

**Charles "Pete" McTier**, Retired Trustee and Past President, Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation and Lettie Pate Evans Foundation

**Doug Nelson**, Retired President and CEO, The Annie E. Casey Foundation

**Bob Yellowlees**, Retired Chairman, NDC Health Corporation and Global Payments, Inc.

# Lectures by CDC Experts



A CDC Museum educator uses an iron lung to teach students about the importance of vaccination to prevent diseases such as polio.



Campers learn about public health aspects of an emergency response from a CDC expert.

# Lectures by CDC Experts



A CDC laboratory scientist instructs the students on laboratory safety prior to beginning their own lab exercise at the CDC Laboratory Training Facility.



During the public health fair, campers learn from CDC professionals about their work.

**Left:** CDC experts share information about their field experiences. **Right:** A CDC professional explains her contributions to public health programming in Africa.

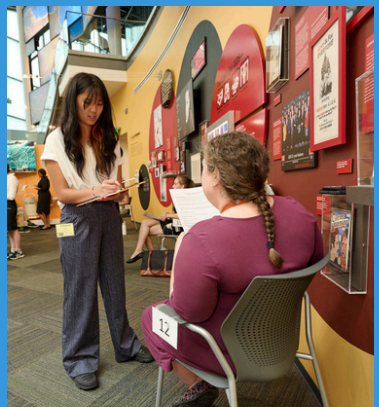
# Classroom



Students have just received and are reviewing a packet of information related to a mock outbreak they will solve together. Each team of three students create a questionnaire to use during the outbreak interviews.



# Case Studies



From zoonotic diseases like Swine Flu to various other outbreaks and public health challenges like Ebola, Measles and Hantaviruses, the PHA students learn about disease detection and public health response from infectious disease experts.

# Laboratory



*Above:* A CDC food borne scientist (seated) preps a team of students as they begin work on the lab component of a mock food borne outbreak.

*Right:* A once student participant turned Disease Detective Camp counselor, this student carefully manipulates lab equipment during the lab exercise.



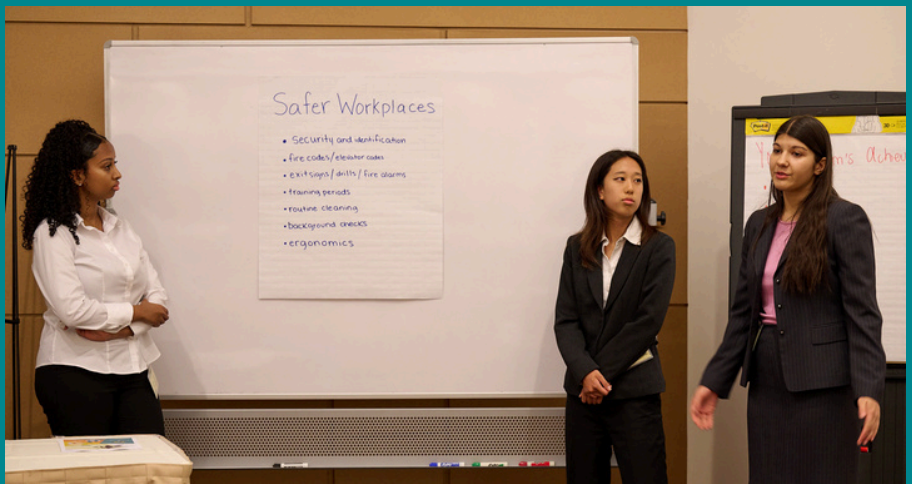
# Student Presentations

Subjects including:

- Thinking Like an Epidemiologist
- Meningococcal Outbreak
- CDC Labs PulseNet
- Public Health Policy



# Presentations



As part of the public health law session, each team of students is assigned one of 10 great public health achievements and are asked to brainstorm any laws or policies they can think of related to that achievement.

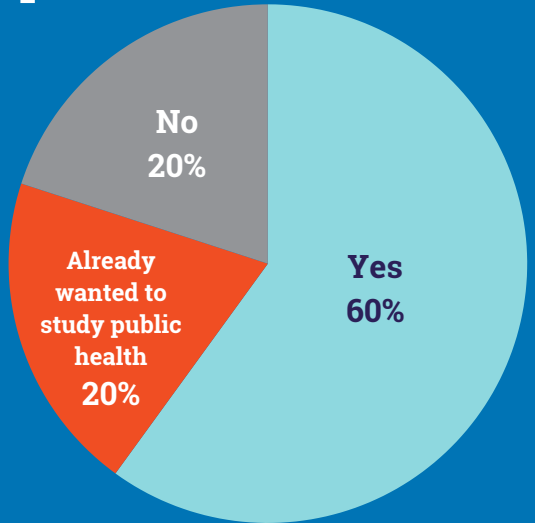
# Final Reports

Students presenting reports on the subjects investigated and their conclusions. High school campers have come to Atlanta to participate from dozens of U.S. states and even Puerto Rico. Each year approximately 50% of participants are from the state of Georgia and the other half are from other nationwide locations.



# Impact

Question to PHA  
Participants:  
Did camp impact  
your choice of  
college major?



## Program Graduate Comments

"Exposure to public health through camp was fundamental in shaping my academic interests."

"The camp had such a profound impact on my career path."

"I am now an emergency medicine physician with a special passion for international medicine and public health."

"I minored in public health in college. I am about to begin my fourth year of medical school."

"Exposure to the intersection of medicine and public health shaped a lot of my current research. I am starting a vascular surgery residency at Penn."

"The camp helped me understand inequities in healthcare access. I chose to study civil engineering to understand how to help increase access for all communities to healthcare."

"I am currently a 4th year medical student in Europe. I really appreciate the opportunity given six years ago to a little high schooler living in Japan."

"It has driven me to dedicate the rest of my medical career to underserved communities."

"I am beyond lucky to have experienced the camp. The biggest lesson was giving back and supporting others."



The CDC Foundation is an independent nonprofit authorized by Congress to mobilize philanthropic partners to support the public health system, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in preventing and responding to threats to health. In this role, we are focused on one priority: building catalytic, flexible and impactful partnerships—with corporations, philanthropies, individuals and organizations—to help improve the health and lives of people in all communities, everywhere. Visit [www.cdcfoundation.org](http://www.cdcfoundation.org) for more information.

The CDC Foundation is actively seeking investors for this important public health workforce pipeline development program offered to youth. For additional information, contact our Advancement department at [advancement@cdcfoundation.org](mailto:advancement@cdcfoundation.org), or visit [cdcf.link/OzNelsonFund](https://cdcf.link/OzNelsonFund)



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