2018 Annual Report
2018 was again a very productive year for the Center for Children’s Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition (CHLN). We have expanded our ability to provide you with more detailed information in this annual report, including the ability to collapse and analyze information across our two key partner institutions, the University of Kansas Medical Center and Children’s Mercy Hospital.

First, let’s focus on the support the Center provided to our active members this year:

**CHLN Awarded Grants**

All our grant programs are strategically focused on providing support to our more junior colleagues, in order to eventually grow the number of NIH R01 funded PIs at CHLN. This will enable us to reach our Center goals of applying for larger group grants, such as the NIH T32 training grant, or the NIH Nutrition Obesity Research Center (NORC) grant, for example. We have several support mechanisms including pilot funds, funded graduate students, student travel grants, an equipment loan program, and support from our clinical trials coordinators and other research support staff.

**CHLN Pilot Grants**

Congratulations to these CHLN members who received $33,000 for the 2018 pilot grant program:

- **Development of the microSMBG Platform for Adolescents with T2D**
  - Dr. Christopher Cushing (with Drs. Mark Clements and Susana Patton)

Pilot grants for 2019 are due March 23rd.

**Center Funded Graduate Research Assistants**

In 2018 the Center was able to fund 3 research teams to receive Center funded graduate research assistants for full support of their salary and stipend for one year. These three projects were selected for support based upon a competitive application process targeting the projects most likely to lead to significant external funding. Recipients included:

- **The Brain, Appetite, Teens and Exercise Study** – Drs. Amanda Bruce and Robin Shook

- **The Hispanic Community Health Study** – Dr. Jordan Carlson

- **The Cognitive Adaptations to Reduce Emotional Stress in Diabetes Study (CARES)** – Drs. Susana Patton & Mark Clements

**Center funded Graduate Student Travel Grants**

The Center also offers graduate student travel grants, which allow our CHLN graduate students to travel to national conferences to present data they have collected in partnership with their CHLN faculty mentors. We had several graduate students take part in this program in 2018 for travel to the Society of Pediatric Psychology annual conference, The Obesity Society meeting, and others.
Second, I’d like to focus on our 5 key programmatic areas at CHLN: Advocacy, Clinical, Community, Education and Research. A brief update on the progress in 2018 in each of these key programmatic areas follows. For an overview of leadership in each of our programmatic areas, see leadership structure figure at end of this document.

**Advocacy**: CHLN members continued institutional, local, state and national advocacy efforts in 2018. A highlight of our participation in Children’s Mercy’s severe pediatric obesity taskforce was the development and implementation of an online educational module about weight bias for clinical employees, primarily led by Dr. Amy Beck. Locally, members contributed to community promotion of children’s healthy lifestyles. Dr. Lisa Mische-Lawson gave testimony in support of year-round aquatic center availability, Dr. Kevin Finn participated in the PLAY 60 FitnessGram Project for the KC Chiefs, Dr. Ann Davis served on the Community Advisory Board of the Junior League of Kansas City, MO and as an invited panel member for the C3KC Community Leadership Development Summit. Dr. Amy Beck delivered a stress reduction and obesity prevention intervention for at-risk Head Start parents at Operation Breakthrough.

On the state level, Drs. Sarah Hampl, Meredith Dreyer Gillette and Ann Davis continued to support the anticipated MO Medicaid obesity treatment benefit through participation on a healthcare advisory group and Dr. Hampl served on a steering committee to advance the MO Children’s Services Commission’s childhood obesity recommendations. Drs. Hampl and Dreyer Gillette and Ms. Karen Stephens planned and conducted trainings for medical and behavioral health providers on childhood obesity and the new treatment benefit. Ms. Shelly Summar became the president-elect of the MO Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and helped plan this group’s bistate conference. Dr. Hampl remained chair of the MO Council on Activity and Nutrition’s healthcare working group. Ms. Summar and Drs. Jordan Carlson and Robin Shook planned the successful HRSA Region VII Factors of Health summit. Presenters at state-level conferences included Drs. Beck, Davis, Dreyer Gillette, Hampl and Dr. Brooke Sweeney.

Nationally, Dr. Ann Davis became President of the Society of Pediatric Psychology and presented at the NIH/ISPCTN Conducting Clinical Trials in Rural Populations conference. Dr. Jordan Carlson was a member of the Committee for the US Youth Physical Activity Report Card. Drs. Sweeney and Hampl served as primary care coaches for the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Section on Obesity and Dr. Sweeney served as co-chair of the Pediatric Obesity Weight Evaluation Registry (POWER) governance board and member of several other POWER committees. Drs. Beck and Hampl presented a weight bias poster at the Obesity Society’s annual conference, and along with Dr. Sweeney co-authored a textbook chapter on childhood obesity and medical neglect. Drs. Dreyer Gillette, Hampl and Sweeney were co-authors of articles guiding care of young children with obesity and children with severe obesity. (by Dr. Sarah Hampl)

**Clinical**: The clinical weight management team continues to strive to improve the services we offer and increase opportunities for research for our patients. In 2018 we had a total of 3060 clinic visits and 1242 group visits. We have increased patient volume in our metabolic/bariatric surgery program by 65% for new patients and 270% for follow up visits (total 94 new; 525 follow-up). We have completed 11 surgeries in our first year. In our group programs we worked with 139 children and families and served meals to 1000 people. Ongoing clinic quality efforts have led to recognition for improvement in several metrics of patient satisfaction and expense per visit.

In effort to ensure high quality service delivery and monitoring of outcomes, we strive to enroll patients into research protocols: locally in our Special Needs Weight Management and Metabolic Bariatric Clinics, and nationally from all our clinics into POWER (Pediatric Obesity Weight Evaluation Registry), our research and
quality improvement collaborative with over 30 sites across the country. This year we enrolled 54 participants in Special Needs Weight Management Clinic, 94 in Metabolic Bariatric, and 177 in POWER.

We continue to work to improve our outcomes, including retention and improvement in weight and metabolic outcomes. We are retaining 50% of our PHIT kids, 68% of our Special Needs and 82% of our Metabolic/Bariatric clinics’ patients for 2 visits; and 30%, 52%, and 61% for 3 visits. In PHIT kids clinic with intensive lifestyle intervention, 69% attain stable or decreased BMlz score over 3 months. In Special Needs and Metabolic/Bariatric clinics, 77% and 55% are stable or losing at 3 months and 80% and 86% at 6 months, respectively. For our 11 children in various stages post-surgery, the average monthly weight loss is 6.2 kg per month. Finally, in our group programs, 75% in PHIT and 81% in ZOOM have normal blood pressure at beginning and end of the intervention; more importantly, 16% in PHIT and 13% in ZOOM start with elevated blood pressures that normalize by the end of group.

In research, the Special Needs program has 1 publication and 5 presentations in the last 2 years. PHIT Kids clinic had 4 presentations and 2 publications in 2017-18. Our group programs also had a strong 2 years with 3 publications and 3 presentations. In this second year of the Metabolic/Bariatric clinic, we have had 3 presentations on pharmacotherapy for weight management, have ongoing research with KUMC Nutrition and Dietetics Department, and developing research with Surgery, Genetics, Pharmacology, and Exercise Physiology. Additionally, the clinical team has 6 publications and 7 presentations not using our clinical data but related to clinical activity and our national collaborations.

Community: There are many community activities and programs at CHLN, and many of our research projects target our improvements in and partnerships with our community. One of our CMH funded community programs is called Weighing In, and this year our Community update will focus on this program. Weighing In (WI) celebrated its 10th anniversary since being administratively located at the CHLN/CMH.Originally founded in 2004 from a joint grant between the Mother and Child Health Coalition, Children’s Mercy, and others, WI became a stand-alone organization at CHLN/CMH in 2008. Since 2011 the number of WI partners has increased from five to 507, representing the diverse mix of settings that is needed to enhance the health of children in Kansas City. Weighing In has received 23 grants totaling $1.4 million since 2011, which has allowed the coalition to expand to nearly every county in Missouri and develop a large resource library of materials related to our healthy lifestyles messaging campaign/behavior change plan (1-2-3-4-5 Fit-Tastic!). In order to communicate with our partners effectively, our website (https://fittastic.org/) and monthly newsletter underwent significant aesthetic and technical renovations in 2018.

During 2018, WI received a $25,000 grant to conduct strategic planning and capacity building to provide specialized outcome evaluation resources for our community partners. Our main activity included the entire WI team attending the 10-day Center for Disease Control and Prevention course Physical Activity and Public Health for Researchers and Practioners, hosted by the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health. Additionally, two members of the WI team attended the University of Minnesota School of Public Health Course Designing and Conducting Focus Groups. Knowledge and skills learned in these courses were employed in multiple evaluation of food insecurity and mobile grocery store projects, leading in the latter receiving a $25,000 grant from the Kansas Health Foundation.

On June 27-28 WI partnered with the Region VII Health Resources and Service Administration office to host the regional summit ‘Factors of Health: Addressing the Systems Influencing Childhood Obesity.’ The two-day summit featured two internationally-recognized keynote speakers (Drs. James Sallis and William H. Kohl III) and 28 regional speakers. Each session was organized by socioecological model and society sector, and was attended by 130 in-person attendees and streamed live for hundreds more. All presentations were recorded and are available on the WI YouTube channel. Additionally, we hosted four quarterly meetings and eight working group meetings related to healthy schools and early childhood. (by Dr. Robin Shook)

Education: As specified above under Community, many of our efforts there were related to education, including the Factors of Health Conference which was a huge success. We also brought in one speaker for Academic Scholarship Conference and Grand Rounds, Dr. Bob Sallis the founder of the Exercise as Medicine movement. He
spoke on “Exercise is Medicine: The Importance of Connecting Fitness with Healthcare.” For the Kemper Healthy Lifestyles annual lectureship, we brought in Dr. Peter Katzmarczyk, who spoke at Grand Rounds on “Physical Activity, Sedentary Behavior and Health in Children and Adolescents: From Evidence to Guidelines.” Both visiting scholars were extremely helpful to our ongoing work at CHLN. Our own faculty were also productive in delivering Grand Rounds, including Dr. Amanda Bruce who spoke on 12/6/18 on the topic of “Mechanisms of Food Decision Making in Youth: Moving Beyond “Apples or Donuts.” We have two current openings for postdoctoral fellows to join our team, one psychology focused and one cross disciplinary so hopefully in our next annual report we will include information about two fellows joining our team. The noon CHLN seminar remains active twice a month with various speakers from both within and outside of our Center. Our grant recipients are invited to speak annually, as our Center members with new topics and outside areas with which we are trying to build collaborations. In 2018 we worked toward developing ideas for a T32 proposal, which remains one of our long-term goals at CHLN. Our SAB suggested we wait 2 more years prior to submission, so in the mean time we will work toward strengthening our tracking of our learners and increasing our educational productivity.

**Research:** A major goal of CHLN remains our focus on increasing our NIH and other federal funding. We continued to grow in this regard in 2018 as documented by the metrics below. We have focused many of our efforts on several key junior faculty who we believe are soon to convert to NIH R01 PI funding. Our Associate Director and Scientific Directors meet monthly with the Director to generate ideas on how to improve the research environment and research productivity at CHLN, and in 2019 we look forward to continued momentum regarding research and it’s overlap with our other 4 key programmatic areas.

Third, I’d like to focus on our federal grants in 2018:

**Total Grant Awards in 2018**

In 2018, our team obtained 40 million dollars in total grant funding, and the funds obtained were primarily Federal.

![Graph showing total grant awards](Image)

![Pie chart showing FY2018 distribution of funding](Image)

In 2018, our 10 largest grants arranged in descending order were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PI Name</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Total Award</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Befort, Christie</td>
<td>PCORI</td>
<td>Midwestern Collaborative for Treating Obesity in Rural Primary Care</td>
<td>$10,074,141.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thyfault, John</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Statins, Mitochondrial Function and Aerobic Capacity</td>
<td>$3,041,884.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fourth, I’d like to focus on our most impactful publications from 2018. The 16 publications selected to best represent the high impact of our work include:


Fifth, I’d like to give a brief overview of our facilities and administrative news.

**Facilities**

The Center for Children’s Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition is located at 610 E 22nd Street in Kansas City, Missouri at the Donald Chisholm Center. It is a 14,000-square foot facility designed to support clinical and bench research, individual clinical and group educational interventions and house faculty and research staff. The Center’s 800 square foot demonstration kitchen features four prep stations, each with a GE Profile refrigerator and microwave. The kitchen contains four oven/stove/exhaust hood combinations and two dishwashers. The 500 square foot wet lab features extensive countertop space, an exhaust hood and an 80-degree freezer. Testing rooms contain an indirect calorimeter, treadmill and DXA. Clinical exam rooms and a waiting room are also available. The Center’s 2400 square foot exercise facility features treadmills, stationary bicycles, elliptical trainers and weight machines, and has a large area for group physical activity. Locker rooms, showers and laundry facilities are also available. The Center provides conference room facilities for 10-50 attendees, and a second room that can seat up to 50. Many of our faculty are housed within Don Chisholm, but we also have faculty and staff housed across the street in Children’s Mercy’s Professional Office Building, as well as over 20 faculty offices at KUMC. Our space remains highly utilized and our DXA and exercise testing equipment state of the art.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEES:** The Center has two administrative committees. Our Internal Advisory Board (assigned by the Dean and the CEO of CMH in the legal agreement that forms the Center) includes Dr. Denise Dowd (Associate Medical Director of Faculty Development, Office of Faculty Development, CMH; Director of Research, Emergency Medicine, CMH; Professor of Pediatrics, UMKC ) and Dr. Peter Smith (Professor, Senior Associate Dean for Research; Co-Director, Kansas Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center Founding Director, Institute for Neurological Disorders, Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, KUMC). On the Children’s Mercy side, the Center reports to Dr. Kathy Goggin (Ernest L. Glasscock, MD, Endowed Chair in Pediatric Education and Research; Deputy Director, Children’s Research Institute; Associate Chair for Research, Department of Pediatrics; Director of Health Services and Outcomes Research; Children’s Mercy Kansas City and Professor, SOM and Pharmacy, UMKC) who is also extremely helpful in our work.

Our Scientific Advisory Board had three active members in 2018 from clinical, basic and translational work. They participated in two annual meetings with our team (one in person and one virtual) and consulted with our teams throughout the year on specific projects. SAB members include:

**Sean Adams, PhD**
Director, Department of Pediatrics  
Section of Developmental Nutrition  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
The Arkansas Children’s Nutrition Center, a partnership of the Arkansas Children’s Hospital and the USDA-Agricultural Research Service, is a translational research center that studies child
development, especially the very early effects of diet and lifestyle on prevention of childhood diseases and adult
diseases that initiate early in life. Dr. Adams’ research interests are in the area of metabolic physiology.

**Katherine K. Christoffel, MD, MPH**
Professor Emeritus in Pediatrics-Smith Child Health Research
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Dr. Christoffel’s current research interests lie in 1) understanding the relationship between community factors and clinical ones, particularly related to childhood obesity; 2) early origins of childhood obesity; 3) means to intervene to reduce obesity and its co-morbidities in young children; 4) the effects of community-based interventions on obesity prevalence and health behaviors.

**Denise Wilfley, PhD**
Professor, Depts. of Psychiatry, Medicine, Pediatrics and Psychology
Washington University in St. Louis
Dr. Wilfley’s program of research centers on the causes, prevention, and treatment of eating disorders and obesity among children, adolescents, and adults. Current programs of research include: (1) the classification, characterization, assessment, and risk factors of eating and weight disorders; (2) the development of effective treatments for individuals suffering from eating disorders and obesity; and (3) the development of innovative and cost-effective methods for early intervention and prevention of eating disorders and obesity.

For our summer 2018 SAB meeting we added a 4th member (Dr. Kristin Nadeau from Colorado) but she resigned later in the summer for personal reasons and for the fall of 2018 and spring of 2019 we have been working to find a replacement for her. In December of 2018 Dr. Kathy Christoffel rotated off our SAB as planned, and for 2019 she will be replaced by Dr. Bill Kohl who agreed to a 4-year term.

**Leadership Structure Figure (2018):**
Our final and most important section of our annual report lists each of our active members for 2018 and highlights their current peer reviewed publications and active external grant funding for the year. These are the people (listed alphabetically by last name) who are working every day to contribute to our five key programmatic areas and we are very excited to highlight below some of their key contributions from 2018.

Center Members (Full)

**Dr. Amy Beck** is a clinical psychologist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Dr. Beck primarily provides psychological services for families involved in multidisciplinary weight management treatment. She is particularly interested in the impact of psychosocial factors in the etiology and maintenance of pediatric obesity.

Ongoing Research Support
William T. Kemper
David Woods Kemper Foundations, & Brace Charitable Trust  
Pl: Wood-Jaeger  
11/1/17 – 01/31/19
2Gen Thrives: Building Caregivers’ Capacity to Prevent Toxic Stress among Children Exposed to Early Adversity. 
Role: Co-Investigator

**Dr. Christie Befort** is an associate professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center. She is the Associate Director of Cancer Prevention & Control and Co-Leader of Cancer Control & Population Health Program at the KU Cancer Center. Dr. Befort’s research focuses on developing and implementing behavioral weight control interventions to improve cancer prevention, survivorship, and quality of life. Most of her research is targeted for residents in rural communities and for cancer survivors. Her teaching interests include behavioral medicine, counseling skills, quality improvement, survey research and behavioral clinical trial research.

Her belief is that learning is greatest when students experience high expectations and genuine enthusiasm from their instructor as well as a participatory and supportive learning environment.

Ongoing Research Support
PCORI  
Pl: Befort, C  
2015 - 2019
Multi-site cluster randomized RCT examining three delivery models of care for treating obesity in rural primary care practices across the states of KS, IA, NE, and WI.

NIH/NCI P30 CA68524  
Pl: Jensen, R  
2017 - 2022
KU Cancer Center Support Grant
A growing matrix organization that aims to leverage unique scientific assets to build a nationally significant cancer research and treatment center that will become the leading academic institution in the world for transforming discoveries in the laboratory into new therapeutic approaches. 
Role: Key Personnel. Co-Leader of Cancer Control and Population Health; Associate Director of Cancer Prevention and Control.

NCI P30 Supplement  
Pl: Jensen, R; Supplement Pl: Befort  
2018 - 2019
Developing Cancer Control Research Capacity in Rural Primary Care Networks
Infrastructure support to develop formal partnership with two Kansas Accountable Care Organizations (KCIC and Aledade) to enhance pragmatic research initiatives targeting cancer control quality care in rural primary care settings within the KUCC catchment area.
NCI P01  
Development of Disseminable Behavioral Interventions for Cancer Survivors  
Role: Consultant regarding strategies for reaching rural cancer survivors.

UL1 TR00236  
Frontiers: University of Kansas Clinical and Translational Science Institute  
CTSA to accelerate clinical research by connecting scientists to resources, providing research training, and facilitating collaboration among researchers, communities, and institutions.  
Role: Key Personnel. Mentor for trainees in behavioral science.

Publications


Dr. William (Bill) Black is a pediatric psychologist and assistant professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He completed his fellowship in pediatric pain psychology at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital and Medical Center and is interested in mechanisms underlying the development and treatment of pediatric chronic pain. He is specifically interested in the role of physical activity in chronic pain interventions, adherence to physical activity recommendations, and developing programs to promote increased physical activity and exercise engagement.

Publications


Andrea Bradley-Ewing is the Director of Community Engaged Research in the division of Health Services and Outcomes Research at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Ms. Bradley-Ewing is primarily interested in engaging patients and members of the community in the design, development, implementation, and dissemination of health science research. Ms. Bradley-Ewing has collaborated extensively with researchers, health care providers, patients and families, and community organizations to develop and test effective individual and community level strategies to promote health behavior change, particularly in underserved communities. Ms. Bradley-Ewing’s current research involves establishing partnership networks between academic health researchers, patients, and community members to improve health outcomes.

Ongoing Research Support
Midwest Cancer Alliance  
University of Kansas Cancer Center  
Adherence to AFIX Strategies and HPV Immunizations in Pediatric Practices
Major goal(s): Assess adherence to AFIX recommended immunization strategies and HPV vaccination rates among pediatric community practices in the Integrated Care Solutions network.
Role: Co-Investigator

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute  
PI: Goggin, Newland  
05-01/16 – 4/30/19
Resetting the Default: Improving provider-patient communication to reduce antibiotic misuse
The goal of this study is to compare the impact of two proven approaches for reducing inappropriate antibiotic use (one that directly targets parent and provider behavior vs. audit-and-feedback that targets provider behavior only) on the quality of parent-provider communication and parental satisfaction.
Role: Co-Investigator

NIMHHD, R01MH099981  
PI: Berkeley-Patton  
7/1/14 – 6/30/19
Increasing HIV Screening in African American Churches
Major Goal(s) a) To test a religiously and culturally-appropriate HIV screening intervention delivered by church leaders using a supportive HIV Tool Kit in African American churches; b) evaluate the role of mediators and moderators related to HIV screening behaviors of church members and community members using church outreach services; and c) conduct a process evaluation to determine intervention exposure, facilitators, barriers, and costs in order to identify essential intervention components.
Role: Project Coordinator

Publications:


Dr. Amanda Bruce is an associate professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center and a pediatric obesity researcher. She uses functional neuroimaging (fMRI) to conduct research on how the brain is involved in childhood obesity. She is also interested in the ability to delay gratification and how this contributes to obesity.

Ongoing Research Support
NIH COBRE P20 GM113109 02  
PI: Kirkpatrick, K  
2017 - 2022
Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity (C-NAP) Center
Role: Pilot project recipient; translational neuroimaging research.
SPeCTRE: The Sunflower Pediatric Clinical Trials Research Extension  PI: Bruce, A  2018-2019
An Advertising inoculation intervention against unhealthy food advertising. The purpose of this award is to fund the SPeCTRE program for extending and implementing pediatric clinical trials in rural and underserved areas of the state of Kansas.

Publications


Dr. Dave Burnett is an assistant professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He is the Chair of the department for Respiratory Care Education and co-director of the KU Asthma Center. Dr. Burnett’s primary research interests involve investigating treatment strategies for exercise induced bronchoconstriction (EIB) and asthma. Current research activity is steeped in collaboration among asthma stakeholders in order to achieve a better understanding on approaches for improving the burden of EIB and asthma.

Dr. Jordan Carlson is Director of Community-Engaged Health Research at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. His research interests include active living, school-based physical activity, neighborhood walkability, improving uptake and implementation of physical activity interventions, and physical activity measurement technology.

Ongoing Research Support
R01CA240833-01  PI: Carlson  07/01/2019-06/30/2024
Title: Behavior change strategies for scalable walk to school interventions in low-income communities
Details: The goal of this study is to develop and develop and test multi-level behavior change tools for supporting active transportation to school in children. In response to PA-16-146: Population Health Interventions: Integrating Individual and Group Level Evidence (R01 Clinical Trial).
Role: PI
Title: Characterization of Sedentary Patterns and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Markers in Hispanics/Latinos
Details: The goal of this study is to investigate associations between prolonged sedentary patterns and adiposity, insulin resistance, and blood glucose in the Hispanic Community Health Study / Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL) national cohort of adults. In response to PA-18-484: NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).

Title: Novel Computational Techniques to Detect the Relationship between Sitting Patterns and Metabolic Syndrome in Existing Cohort Studies
Details: The goal of this study is to develop and apply an algorithm to assess sedentary bout patterns from hip-worn accelerometers across the age span. In response to PAR-12-198: Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment.
Role: Co-Investigator and subcontract PI

Title: Understanding obesity-related behaviors and the role of school and non-school environments using location-based measures
Details: The goal of this study is to investigate the role location-specific and location-general multilevel factors in relation to physical activity, sedentary time, and dietary intake in young adolescents.

Title: Physical Activity in Overweight/Obese Children with ASD Participating in Sensory Enhanced Aquatics
Details: The goal of this study is to determine the extent to which Sensory Enhanced Aquatics 1) increases moderate to vigorous physical activity, and 2) improves parent/child function.
Role: Co-Investigator

Title: Measures Registry Teaching Modules
Details: The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR), a collaboration among CDC, NIH, RWJF, and USDA, manages searchable database of diet and physical activity measures relevant to childhood obesity research (https://www.nccor.org/nccor-tools/measures/). This goal of this JPB Foundation grant is to create content for a set of teaching modules related to the Physical Activity Environment User Guide.
Role: Consultant

Title: Improving Implementation of Classroom Physical Activity Programs
Details: The goal of this study is to investigate how existing classroom physical activity programs can reach a larger number of students and have greater impacts on health. We will assess materials (e.g., teacher training manuals) provided by existing programs, and collect information from end-users (e.g., classroom teachers) on
the barriers and facilitators faced when implementing such programs. Funded by the Katharine B. Richardson Award for pilot research at Children’s Mercy.

Aetna Foundation  
PI: BikeWalk KC  
8/01/2017 – 1/31/2019  
Title: Building Collective Health: Community Interventions for Northeast Kansas City  
Details: To evaluate quick build streetscape improvements projects and earn-a-bike programs and health and mode of transportation.  
Role: Evaluator and subcontract PI

R03HD088776-01  
PI: Carlson  
4/01/2017 – 3/31/2019  
Title: Implementation Strategies and Effectiveness for Walking School Bus Programs  
Details: The goal of this study is to use an Implementation Science framework to assess implementation contextual factors and implementation outcomes in existing Walking School Bus programs. In response to PAR-16-237: Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health.  
Role: Co-Investigator and subcontract PI

L40 HLI120007  
Awardee: Carlson  
7/01/2013 – 6/30/2018  
Title: NIH Pediatric Research Student Loan Repayment Program (LRP): Advancing Evidence on Built Environments and Physical Activity in Youth, Improving Uptake of Evidence-Based Strategies to Increase Physical Activity in Youth

Publications


Dr. Delwyn Catley is a clinical health psychologist and professor of pediatrics at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and at the Center for Children's Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition. His research focuses on health behavior change and motivation in the areas of smoking, medication adherence, diet and exercise, patient-provider communication, health disparities and Motivational Interviewing.

Ongoing Research Support
Health Care Foundation of GKC, Special Initiatives Grant CoPIs: Catley, Dai 6/15/17 – 6/14/20
Title: Impacts of Kansas City Area Tobacco 21 Initiative
This 3-year study will determine the impact of the Tobacco 21 Initiative on tobacco acquisition and use among middle and high-school students in Kansas.

Center for Children’s Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition Pilot Grant PI: Martin 7/01/17- 6/30/18
Title: Changing Adolescents’ Brain Responses to E-Cigarette Marketing with Media Literacy Intervention
The purpose of the study is to examine whether a brief media literacy intervention results in short-term differential brain activation in reward and cognitive control regions when adolescents view e-cigarette advertisements.

NIH R01 (CA212189) PI: Cupertino 1/10/17-12/31/21
Title: e-Decidete Mobile Cessation Support for Latino Smokers
The major goals of this study are to evaluate the impact of the culturally accommodated eDecidete program versus standard care on smoking abstinence at Month 6 among Latino smokers; to assess therapeutic alliance, pharmacotherapy utilization, and self-efficacy as mediators of the presumed treatment effect on cotinine-verified 7-day smoking abstinence at Month 6 among Latino smokers; and to conduct a process evaluation that can inform findings and future improvements.
Role: Co-Investigator

American Cancer Society PI: Martin 7/1/2016-6/30/20
Smoking Cessation and Brain Activation: How Practice Changes the Brain
The objective of the proposed project is to increase understanding of how behavioral treatment relates to our understanding of neurobiological mechanisms of addiction. This study examines the impact of practicing skills typically taught to help smokers quit smoking on activation in reward processing and cognitive control brain regions among current cigarette smokers.
Role: Co-Investigator

NICHD PI: Miller 1/01/16 – 12/31/20
Enhanced SexHealth intervention to improve adolescent outcomes: A clinical trial
The purpose of this trial is to apply newly obtained knowledge and skills to enhance and test an Emergency Department SexHealth intervention using a randomized trial of intervention versus standard information arm to determine the effect size of rates of health service uptake.
Role: Co-mentor
NIH/NHLBI  PI: Catley  3/15/16-2/28/20
Title: Adapting the Diabetes Prevention Program for a Developing World Context
The purpose of this study is to adapt and test the Diabetes Prevention Program for reducing weight and cardiometabolic risk among individuals with diabetes and cardiovascular disease in a low-income urban community in South Africa. Proposed adaptations to the program include preparing it for delivery by community health workers, enhancing facilitator communications skills training based on principles of Motivational Interviewing, and using interactive text-messaging to support program delivery.

NIH/NCI  PI: Richter  2/01/16-01/31/21
Title: Changing the default for tobacco treatment
The purpose of this study is to test the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of proactively providing all smokers with evidence-based treatment versus screening for readiness and offering differential treatment based on readiness to quit.
Role: Co-Investigator

NIDDK  PI: Clements, Moore  7/20/15-04/30/18
Title: Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet Clinical Centers
The major goal is to become a Clinical Center for Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet.
Role: Co-Investigator

Publications


Dr. Julie Christianson is an assistant professor in Anatomy and Cell Biology at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her research program is designed to understand the mechanisms underlying centralized pain syndromes related to early life stress, and clinically-applicable therapies designed to reverse or prevent these permanent changes in pain processing.
**Ongoing Research Support**

NIH, NIDDK R01 DK099611  
PI: Christianson  
2014 - 2019

Effect of neonatal and adult stress on pelvic pain disorders and comorbidity

NIH, NIDDK R02 DK103872  
PI: Christianson  
2014 – 2019

Comorbid mood and urogenital disorders in mice following neonatal maternal separation

NIH, NINDS R01 NS043314  
PI: Wright  
2015 – 2020

Painful versus insensate diabetic neuropathy  
Role: Co-investigator

Lied Basic Science Grant Program  
PI: Wright  
06/2018 - 05/2019

Pancreatic neuropathy and metabolic syndrome following cancer treatment  
Role: Co-investigator

Clinical & Translational Pilot Research Grant Program  
PI: Christianson  
06/2018 – 06/2019

Stress-induced neurochemical and structural changes in mice using in vivo MRI/MRS

**Publications**


**Dr. Mark Clements** is the Medical Director of the Pediatric Clinical Research Unit and Director, Pediatric Endocrine/Diabetes Clinical Research at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. His research interests include these factors related to type 1 diabetes mellitus: predicting risk for chronic complications, novel behavioral and technology-based interventions, impact of glycemic variability on chronic complications and autoimmune mechanisms.

**Ongoing Research Support**

Helmsley Charitable Trust  
PI: Clement  
2/1/2017 – 1/31/2020

Improving T1D care with advanced machine learning  
Major goals: Overall, the goal is to leverage advanced machine learning to develop predictive models for clinical outcomes of interest among persons with T1D. Smart risk-stratified lists of patients will be used to drive patient-level and system-level quality improvement interventions in clinical care, with a goal of better matching of
interventions to those patients who are most likely to benefit. Collaborators include S Mehta at Joslin Diabetes Center (adult T1D site) and Leonard D’Avolio at Cyft, Inc. (machine learning).

NIH (NIDDK) 1U01DK106984-01
Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet Clinical Center (U01)
Major Goals: Creation of a regional clinical trial sub-network for the TrialNet consortium. Will leverage a comprehensive business model for clinical trial management, real-time informatics, and quality improvement methodologies to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of recruitment and retention in TrialNet studies.

Jaeb Center for Health Research
Validating the mealtime insulin bolus score among adults with T1D
Major Goals: To leverage at least 3 T1D Exchange network sites to validate the mealtime insulin bolus score as an objective measure of adherence among adults with T1D.

Helmsley Charitable Trust
T1D Exchange Pediatric Vice Chair
Major Goals: To assist the T1D Exchange network and its investigators in the development of new health outcomes and interventional research protocols. To facilitate manuscript working groups and actively develop manuscripts for publication. To participate in the Operations Committee and Steering Committee for the network.
Role: Pediatric Chair

NIH NIDDK 1R01DK100779-01A1
Longitudinal Test of Adherence & Control in Kids New to T1 Diabetes & 5-9 Years Old
Major Goals: Longitudinal study of 120 children, 5-9 years old and newly diagnosed with type 1 diabetes plus qualitative study recruiting 25 families of youth 5-9 years old and newly diagnosed with type 1 diabetes.
Role: Co-Investigator

NIH NIDDK DP3
An interactive mHealth app for better glycemic control in families of young kids with T1D
Major goals: To build, refine, and pilot feasibility test a tailored diabetes education program for parents of young children. The tailored education program, called DIPPer Academy (Diabetes Information for Parents of Preschoolers) will use an online video-based and interactive micro-lecture format to deliver type 1 diabetes education and behavioral parent training to families of young children.
Role: Co-investigator

NIH NICHD UG1
SPeCTRE: The Sunflower Pediatric Clinical Trials Extension
Major goals: To improve the opportunity for children in rural and underserved areas of Kansas and neighboring states to participate in clinical trials. SPeCTRE will conduct outreach, education, and engagement activities that will extend clinical trials participation opportunities to children in rural and underserved areas of Kansas and eventually neighboring states, which will help to support the development of better care options for children.
Role: Co-investigator

Helmsley Charitable Trust
T1D Exchange Quality Improvement Collaborative
Major goals: Overall, the goal is to develop a multi-center quality improvement collaborative to improve type 1 diabetes care. My role is twofold: 1) to lead Children’s Mercy as one of 11 sites in the initial phase of development; and 2) to co-develop the EHR data extraction and data transmission model along with one other site in the collaborative (the Barbara Davis Center).
Role: Site PI

Publications


**Dr. Vicki Collie-Akers** is the Associate Director of Health Promotion Research at the Center for Community Health and Development at KU-Lawrence. Her research is primarily focused on applying a community-based participatory research orientation to working with communities to understand how collaborative partnerships and coalitions can improve social determinants of health and equity and reduce disparities in health outcomes.

Publications

**Dr. Mark Connelly** is an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine and a clinical psychologist at Children's Mercy Kansas City, where he is the Director of Pain Research for Comprehensive Pain Management and Co-Director of the Comprehensive Headache Clinic. Dr. Connelly's research interests center on the assessment and management of pain in children, with a specific focus on the integration of eHealth and mHealth technologies into chronic pain assessment and treatment.

Ongoing Research Support
1R01HD093933-01 NIH
PI: Davis, A
12/01/2017 - 11/30/2022
The Safety and Efficacy of Megesterol as part of iKanEat
Major Goals: To assess the safety and the efficacy as part of the iKanEat protocol, as well as to study parent stress and parent and child quality of life during the transition from tube to oral feeding.
Role: Site PI
Dr. Christopher Cushing is a faculty member in the clinical child psychology program at the University of Kansas. He is interested in sleep, diet, and physical activity. Specifically, he uses smartphones and body sensors as well as laboratory tasks to study the impact of these behaviors on children's mood, cognition, and social functioning.

Ongoing Research Support
Role: Co-Investigator

McMorris Family Foundation  PI: McCleery  2017 – 2019
Role: Co-Investigator

Publications


Dr. Ann Davis is a professor and pediatric psychologist who is passionate about the intersection between behavioral principles and eating/nutrition. The core of her work focuses on pediatric obesity in urban and rural children and is treatment outcome focused. She is also interested in behavioral principles as they apply to young children who do not eat enough to sustain a healthy weight.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Number</th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>Start Date - End Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIH R01 NR016255 03</td>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>01/11/17 - 11/30/21</td>
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<td>NIH 1 UG1 HD090849</td>
<td>McCulloh</td>
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<td>NIH R03 HD088776</td>
<td>Carlson</td>
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<td>NIH R21 HD088913</td>
<td>Davis, Nelson, Wambach</td>
<td>9/6/17 - 8/31/19</td>
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<td>NIH/CTSA</td>
<td>Barohn</td>
<td>9/07/2017 - 06/30/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marion Merrell Dow Clinical Scholar Award CMH</td>
<td>Shook</td>
<td>09/2017 – 08/2019</td>
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Rural Disparities in Pediatric Obesity: the iAmHealthy Intervention
The purpose of this 5-year NIH award is to assess the effectiveness of an e-health family-based intervention for tailored for rural families for the treatment of pediatric obesity.
CHLN Co-Investigators: Eve-Lynn Nelson, Meredith Dreyer Gillette, Deb Sullivan

Telehealth Rural Outreach to Children in Kansas Schools (Telehealth ROCKS2)
This award will enhance mental health and pediatric obesity related services in rural and underserved areas of south east Kansas using telehealth and the ECHO program.
Role: Co-Investigator

SPeCTRE: The Sunflower Pediatric Clinical Trials Research Extension
The purpose of this award is to fund the SPeCTRE program for extending and implementing pediatric clinical trials in rural and underserved areas of the state of Kansas.
Role: Co-Investigator

Identifying Promising Implementation Strategies for Walking School Bus Programs
The purpose of this award is to qualitatively and quantitatively assess the best practices related to successful implementation of active walking school bus programs for elementary school children around the world.
Role: Co-Investigator

MomHealth: Mobile Multiple Health Behavior change in Teen Pregnancy & Parenting
This study will pilot test an innovative education and support program to promote the health of pregnant and parenting adolescent mothers in three behavioral health areas simultaneously: breastfeeding, healthy eating and active living, and depression prevention.
Role: Co-Investigator

Improving Implementation of Classroom Physical Activity Programs
The goal of this study is to investigate how existing classroom physical activity programs can reach a larger number of students and have greater impacts on health. We will assess materials (e.g., teacher training manuals) provided by existing programs, and collect information from end-users (e.g., classroom teachers) on the barriers and facilitators faced when implementing such programs.
Role: Co-Investigator

Frontiers: The Heartland Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
The purpose of this award is to create a new academic home with training programs for clinical and translational investigators, provide an enhanced coordinated translational research infrastructure and actively engage the community in developing, testing and disseminating translational research.
Role: Key Personnel; Working Group Member
The purpose of this project is to quantify appetite and neural mechanisms of food reward in overweight/obese sedentary youth and to quantify changes following the implementation of a physical activity intervention.
Role: Co-Investigator

NIH, ECHO, ISPCTN Protocol Writing Group  
PI: Davis  
07/01/17 – 9/25/20

The iAmHealthy trial in the ISPCTN
The purpose of this contract is to provide support for writing the iAmHealthy protocol which will be disseminated through the ISPCTN network.

2018-2019 Dr. Lauren S. Aaronson Trailblazer Award, Frontiers KUMC CTSA  
07/01/18 – 06/30/19

momHealth: Mobile Multiple Health Behavior Change in Teen Pregnancy & Parenting  
The purpose of this grant is to provide additional staffing for our NIH funded R21 titled momHealth.
Role: Co-PI

Sunflower Pediatric Clinical Trials Research Extension (SPeCTRE)  
07/01/18 – 06/30/19

An Advertising Innoculation for Underserved Youth  
Role: Mentor

NIH R01 HD093933  
PI: Davis  
09/13/18 – 06/30/23

The Safety and efficacy of megesterol as part of an outpatient feeding protocol for children with chronic medical conditions.
The purpose of this project is to assess the role of megesterol in a multicomponent protocol for moving young medically complicated children from tube feeding to oral feeding.

COBRE  
Neural Plasticity after Exercise in Teens (NPET)  
PI: Bruce, AS  
06/01/18 – 05/31/19

Role: Co-Investigator

Publications


Dr. Meredith Dreyer Gillette is a pediatric psychologist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. She works primarily in the treatment and prevention of childhood obesity, with a special emphasis on the challenges that are encountered among parents of young children with special needs such as Autism Spectrum Disorders or Down Syndrome.
Publications


Dr. Sarah Edwards is a pediatric gastroenterologist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and assistant professor of pediatrics at The University of Missouri – Kansas City. Dr. Edwards specializes in treating children with feeding disorders and is the medical director of the Interdisciplinary Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Program at Children’s Mercy.

Ongoing Research Support
NIH 1R01HD093933-01 PI: Davis, A 12/01/2017 - 11/30/2022
The Safety and Efficacy of Megesterol as part of iKanEat
Major Goals: To assess the safety and the efficacy as part of the iKanEat protocol, as well as to study parent stress and parent and child quality of life during the transition from tube to oral feeding.
Role: Site PI

Dr. Kevin Finn is Department Chair and Professor in the Department of Nutrition and Kinesiology at the University of Central Missouri. He is a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine, and a member of the North American Society for Pediatric Exercise Medicine. His research interest has been in assessment of physical activity in preschool-aged children and physical activity promotion using center-based intervention. More recent his work has been in fitness assessment of school-aged children.

Dr. Daniel Forsha focuses on clinical non-invasive imaging (Echocardiogram and cardiac MRI/CT) and imaging research as a faculty member of the Heart Center at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. One area of research is the evaluation of dyssynchronous and dis coordinator ventricular contraction patterns using strain echochardiography to determine whether certain children may benefit from cardia resynchronization therapy. Another research interest is using strain echo and other tools to assess the reversibility of early obesity-related cardiovascular disease in populations of teenagers with intellectual delays. He is excited to work as part of the CCHLN to improve our understanding of the cardiovascular health consequences of obesity and how improving lifestyle may reverse this disease process.

On-Going Research Support
Children’s Mercy Hospital
AHA Career Development Award.
Cardiovascular effects of weight loss in overweight adolescents with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
Role: Extramural Investigator
Publications


Dr. Heather Gibbs is a registered dietitian and Assistant Professor in the Department of Dietetics & Nutrition at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her research focuses on nutrition literacy, which concerns an individual’s ability to use nutrition information to follow a healthy diet. Building upon the tools she has validated for measuring nutrition literacy, her current interest lies in delivering interventions to improve nutrition literacy leading to healthier diets and chronic disease prevention.

On-Going Research Support

**Research Award, School of Health Professions**
Pl: Gibbs 7/01/2018 – 6/30/2019
*Nutricity: Piloting an Intervention upon Parental and Child Nutrition Literacy*

The goal of this project is to pilot a mobile-health intervention, Nutricity, in pediatric primary care clinics. We will use mixed methods to evaluate feasibility and estimate the intervention’s effect upon parent nutrition literacy and child diet quality.

**Frontiers Pilot and Collaborative Studies Program**
Pl: Gibbs 7/01/2018 – 6/30/2019
*Measuring Nutrition Literacy in Clinical Practice: Evaluating Effects upon Providers and Patients*

The goals of this project are to operationalize nutrition literacy assessment in outpatient nutrition clinics. We will engage clinic managers and dietitians to determine implementation approaches, and we will assess whether nutrition literacy measurement in clinical practice impacts provider communication and patient nutrition literacy.

**Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network**
*Implementation of Nutrition Education Videos for Patients Undergoing Radical Cystectomy*

The purpose of this project is to develop, assess, and implement an evidence-based nutrition focused educational video series for patients undergoing radical cystectomy with or without chemotherapy.

Role: Co-Investigator

Publications


**Dr. Anna Gorczyca** is a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Physical Activity and Weight Management at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her research interests include the beneficial effects of physical activity, weight loss, and decreasing sedentary time and health outcomes. More specifically, she is interested in the impact of weight loss and physical activity in the preconception phase in women and subsequent pregnancy rates, maternal outcomes and fetal outcomes, as well as working with rural populations.

**Publications**


**Dr. Elin Grundberg** is a research faculty member at the Center for Pediatric Genomic Medicine at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. She holds the Roberta D. Harding & William F. Bradley, Jr. Endowed Chair in Genomic Research. Dr. Grundberg’s main area of investigation concerns obesity and metabolic complications and her team is applying next-generation sequencing approaches to understand genetic and environmental (epigenetic) factors underlying disease susceptibility.

**Publications**


Dr. Sarah Hampl is a member of the Section of General Pediatrics at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. She is a professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Dr. Hampl works in the areas of childhood obesity treatment, prevention, healthcare professional education and community and statewide advocacy.

Publications


Dr. Trent Herda is an assistant professor in the Dept. of Health, Sport and Exercise Sciences and the Director of the Neuromechanics Laboratory and Hawk Fitness Academy at KU-Lawrence. His primary research interests include examining the effects of acute and chronic exercise and obesity on muscle composition and motor unit behavior.

Publications


**Dr. Christina Hester** is the Research Director of the National Research Network at the American Academy of Family Physicians. Her research interests include infectious disease, beneficial intestinal flora and behavioral factors that influence health.

**Dr. Cara Hoffart** is a pediatric rheumatologist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Dr. Hoffart specializes in pediatric pain amplification syndromes.

**Publications**

**Dr. Holly Hull**, associate professor in the Dept. of Dietetics and Nutrition at KU Medical Center, is an expert in body composition assessment and analysis. Her research agenda explores how the maternal environment impacts fetal development and programs offspring disease risk. Further, she studies intervention methods to prevent excessive gestational weight gain and how pregnancy influences maternal disease risk.

**Ongoing Research Support**

**NIH R01 DK10751601 Co-PI: Andres A. Borsheim E. 08/2016 – 08/2021**
Phenotypic and metabolic characteristics in early childhood leading to obesity
Address these gaps in knowledge by measuring energy intake, total energy expenditure rates, fatty acid oxidation rates and fat mass/fat free mass accretion and distribution of infants and children during the first two years of life while controlling for important confounding factors.
Role: Co-I

**NIH/NICHD, L30 HD267419 PI: Hull, H.R. 09/2017 – 09/2019**
Promoting healthy gestational weight gain. Student Loan Repayment Program Renewal
Role: PI

**NIH R01 DK118220-01 PI: Hull 07/2018 - 06/2023**
Growth and adiposity in newborns: the influence of prenatal DHA supplementation
Understand the role of high dose prenatal DHA supplementation on offspring growth and adipose tissue accumulation.

**NCATS UL1TR000001 PI: Hull 03/2018 - 02/2019**
Does a high fiber diet during pregnancy change the maternal microbiota?
Quantify the change in maternal gut microbiota in relation to gestational weight gain and fat accrual.

**NIH P30 ES000002 PI: James-Todd 07/2017 – 06/2018**
Phthalates and infant fat mass accretion in early life
Assess the relationship between prenatal and postnatal phthalate exposure on offspring body composition.
Role: Co-I; Body composition expert


**Dr. Kelly Kreisler** is a general pediatrician with extensive experience in the safety net system of medical care. She is an assistant professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center, where her clinical and research focus is medically underserved children and families, particularly immigrants and refugees.

**Dr. Abbey Masonbrink** is a Pediatric Hospitalist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). Her research focus is to improve access to health services for high-risk adolescents, especially regarding substance use among hospitalized adolescents.

**Dr. Lisa Mische Lawson** is an associate professor of Occupational Therapy Education at the University of Kansas Medical Center and the director of KU Sensory Enhanced Aquatics, a swimming and water safety program for children with autism spectrum disorder. She is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist and her research focuses on promoting health of vulnerable populations through leisure and physical activity. Dr. Mische Lawson is a President’s Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition I Can Do It, You can Do It Advocate, bringing national resources for promoting healthy eating and physical activity to Kansans with disabilities.

**Publications**


**Ongoing Research Support**

**University of Kansas Medical Center Auxiliary Grant**

PI: Mische Lawson

11/6/18 – 4/1/19

Equipment for Sensory Supported Swimming

Role: PI
KUMC Research Institute Clinical Pilot Award

PI: Mische Lawson

7/1/18 – 6/30/19

Physical Activity in Overweight/Obese Children with ASD Participating in Sensory Enhanced Aquatics

Role: PI

Publications


Dr. E. Matthew Morris of KU Medical Center investigates the role of liver energy metabolism in the development of obesity, type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. His work centers around how the function or dysfunction of the primary energy producing cellular bodies, mitochondria, can impact liver function and ultimately systemic health. The current focus is how liver mitochondrial function can, through neural pathways to the brain, influence high fat diet-induced weight gain via changes in food intake and storage of dietary fat. Ultimately, the goal of his research is to describe mechanism and therapeutic options to reduce or prevent metabolic disease in adult and adolescent populations.

Ongoing Research Support

K-INBRE Developmental Research Program

PI: Morris

5/1/18 – 4/30/20

Reduced liver metabolism modulates neural development impacting obesity risk

Goal: To examine the role of hepatic energy metabolism during perinatal development on adult diet-induced weight gain and obesity via modulation of neural anatomy and connectivity in CNS regions involved in systemic energy homeostasis.

NIH, NIDDK K01 DK112967 02

PI: Morris

9/8/17 – 9/7/22

Hepatic mitochondrial function control of high-fat diet-induced weight gain

Goal: To examine the role of reduced liver mitochondrial function in mediating neural control of food intake, systemic macronutrient metabolism, and weight gain.

Publications


Dr. Eve-Lynn Nelson’s research interest is using outreach strategies, including technologies, to deliver best practices in children’s healthy lifestyles to rural and underserved communities. A professor of Behavioral Pediatrics at KU Medical Center, she is currently focusing on Project Extension of Community Outcomes (ECHO), a technology-supported education approach to build the capacity of rural primary care to assess/treat common conditions using evidence-based strategies. She is also interested in home-based telehealth interventions.

Ongoing Research Support

Genentech Educational Funds
PI: Nelson
2018 - 2019
Navigating Complex Treatment Decisions with Multiple Sclerosis: A Look at Patient and Provider Priorities
The systems-based approach evaluates provider education, informed by real-time input from patients and providers, and practice change strategies for advance shared decision making in MS.

HRSA Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
PI: Moser
2018 - 2021
Kansas Telebehavioral Health Network/Kansas Clinical Improvement Collaborative
The rural tele-behavioral health network includes ten network sites in Northwest Kansas. These rural hospitals and their affiliated clinics, along with the region’s only FQHC, all participate in the Kansas Clinical Improvement Collaborative, the largest rural accountable care organization participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program.
Role: Statewide Director

Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC)
Co-PIs: Klemp & Nelson
2018 - 2019
Project ECHO for Efficacy of Point of Service Testing Breast Cancer (ePOST BC)
The project utilizes a multicomponent quality improvement and Project ECHO to improve the knowledge and practice gaps among community and rural oncology providers surrounding genetic testing in breast cancer patients.

Midwest Cancer Alliance
Co-PIs: Doolittle & Nelson
2017 - 2019
Telehospice Pilot
This study evaluates the feasibility of supporting a rural hospice using iPad-based videoconferencing for professional-to-professional and professional-to-patient/caregiver sessions.

Genentech Educational Funds
PI: Nelson
2018-2019
Navigating Complex Treatment Decisions in MS: A Look at Patient and Provider Priorities
Using a national social media engagement initiative for patients/caregivers and a system-based quality improvement intervention for Kansas’ neurology clinicians, the project aims to increase guideline-adherent care

NIH R01NR015743
PI: Smith
2016 - 2019
Mobile TEEN Connections for Support from Multidisciplinary Professionals & Peers
This study tests how mobile technologies empower families in self managing complex health care at home.
Role: Investigator
HRSA Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
Telehealth Rural Outreach to Children of Kansas Schools (Telehealth ROCKS Schools)
This project assesses the impact of a multi-pronged telehealth approach to assess and treat developmental and behavioral concerns in rural schools, including behavioral health ECHOs (e.g., ADHD, The Irritable Child, Back to School, Asthma).

HRSA, MCHB
Kansas Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)
Role: Investigator (telemedicine core director)

NIH R01 NR016255 03
Rural Disparities in Pediatric Obesity: the iAmHealthy Intervention
CHLN Co-Investigators: E Nelson, M Dreyer Gillette, D Sullivan

HRSA Office for the Advancement of TeleHealth
Heartland Telehealth Resource Center
The project disseminates telehealth resources across Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. HTRC is unique among the telehealth resource centers in providing technical assistance and best practices across telemedicine and emerging technologies as well as Project ECHO telementoring approaches.

NIH R21 HD088913
MomHealth: Mobile Multiple Health Behavior change in Teen Pregnancy & Parenting
This study will pilot test an innovative education and support program to promote the health of pregnant and parenting adolescent mothers in three behavioral health areas simultaneously: breastfeeding, healthy eating and active living, and depression prevention.

Publications

Dr. Susana Patton is a professor and pediatric psychologist at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her research focuses on the promotion of health and the prevention of disease-related complications through diet, a healthy lifestyle, and improved adherence to medical treatment for children living with chronic illness. The core of her work centers on children with type 1 diabetes mellitus and she is conducting both treatment outcome and descriptive studies. Dr. Patton is also interested in child eating behaviors as they relate to child nutrition and overweight and she has an interest in research related to the treatment of common childhood digestive problems, including constipation.

Ongoing Research Support
NIH R01 DK100779 05
Longitudinal test of adherence & control in kids new to T1 diabetes & 5-9 years old.
An interactive mHealth app for better glycemic control in families of young kids with T1D

Improving type 1 diabetes care via predictive analytics and a learning health system

Dr. Lauren Ptomey is a research assistant professor in the department of Internal Medicine at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her long-term research goals are to determine the best strategies to promote physical activity, healthy eating and weight management in typically developing and special needs children and adolescents.

Ongoing Research Support

NIH-NIDDK DK114121 02 PI: Donnelly/Washburn 3/1/18 – 2/28/23
Teacher vs. remotely delivered classroom physical activity breaks
Role: Co-I

NIH R01 HD094704 01 MPI: Ptomey/Donnelly 2018 – 2023
Individual and family-based approaches to increase physical activity in adolescents with IDD
Role: MPI

University of Massachusetts PI: Ptomey 7/1/18 – 6/30/19
The Validation of Image Assisted Food Records in Adolescents with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

NIH R01 DK114121 MPI: Donnelly/Ptomey 9/5/2017 – 8/31/2022
Remote Technology for Weight Management in Adults with IDD
Role: MPI

Administration for Community Living MPI: Vidoni/Ptomey 10/1/16 – 9/30/19
Kansas City Collaborative to Enhance Access to Behavior and Physical Activity Supports for Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

NIH-R01 DK108732 03 PI: Donnelly 6/1/16 – 5/31/21
Weight Management in Rural Health Clinics
Role: Co-Investigator

NIH-R01 HD079642 04 PI: Donnelly 3/6/15 – 2/28/20
Weight Management for Adolescents with IDD
Role: Co-Investigator

Publications


**Dr. Kimberly Randell** is an attending physician in pediatric emergency medicine at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Her areas of interest are adverse childhood experiences, intimate partner violence, adolescent relationship abuse, and resilience.

**Publications**


**Dr. Brenda Salley** is a clinical psychologist and assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Kansas Medical Center and the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Dr. Salley is the Director of the Baby Lab at the University of Kansas Medical Center, which focuses on understanding developmental pathways towards adaptive and healthy outcomes in children. She is particularly interested in the early cognitive and communication development of young children and how the social world can impact learning in these areas.

**Ongoing Research Support**

NIH: NICHD

Pediatric Loan Repayment Award
The aim of this application is to develop an independent and active research program that examines these skills with much greater granularity, both in terms of developmental course and biobehavioral measurement.

KUMC Department of Pediatrics Research Committee  
PI: Salley  
2018 – 2019

Developing a manualized Book Sharing intervention for high-risk infants/toddlers to promote attention, preliteracy, and school readiness.

SHP/SON Clinical Faculty Grant  
PI: Daniels, D  
2018 – 2019

Ready, Set, Share A Book! Focus Groups  
Role: Investigator

Dr. Robin Shook is a research assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Children’s Mercy and Director of Weighing In. His research interests include both public health and clinical approaches to understanding obesity. His clinical studies focus on every balance, which is the interaction between an individual’s diet, their physical activity level and their body weight. From these studies, his team tries to develop strategies to prevent or reduce obesity on a population level using public health approaches.

Ongoing Research Support

Neural Plasticity and Exercise in Teens (NPET)  
PI: Bruce  
6/1/2018-5/31/2019

Funding: Kansas State University COBRE
Aim: Examine cognitive changes measured by tests of executive function pre- to post-exercise intervention in sedentary youth at risk for T2D.
Role: Co-Investigator

Understanding obesity-related behaviors and the role of school and non-school environments using location-based measures  
PI: Carlson  
9/4/2018-8/31/2020

Role: Co-Investigator
Funding: Eunice Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (R03)
Aim: Investigate the relative role and interplay between school and non-school settings, and context-general and context-specific (both psychosocial and environmental) factors in relation to youth’s obesogenic behaviors

Marion Merrell Dow Clinical Scholar Award  
PI: Shook  
9/2017-8/2019

Children’s Mercy Kansas City
Aim: 1) To identify associations between neural, psychological, and hormonal appetite control pathways using subjective and objective measures of appetite and neurocognitive assessments of reward pre-intervention; and 2) To assess the effectiveness of a physical activity intervention on eating behavior in adolescents; OW/OB inactive adolescents will be randomly assigned to a 3-month exercise intervention (Exercise +Newsletter), or a control condition (Newsletter).

Children’s Research Institute Research Development Award  
PI: Shook  
7/2017-6/2018

Children’s Mercy Kansas City
Aim: 1) To conduct strategic planning to establish a nationally recognized community-engaged research program; and 2) To develop organizational capacity to provide specialized outcome evaluation resources for WI community partners.

International Life Sciences Institute  
PI: Shook  
5/2017-5/2018
Use of technology to assess activity and dietary intake in underserved populations
A novel estimation of energy balance through the calibration of consumer devices in free-living, rural US children
Aim: Validate and calibrate consumer devices to estimate energy balance using gold-standard methods and a Bayesian semi-parametric approach.

Center for Children’s Healthy Lifestyles and Nutrition  
PI: Shook  
5/2017-5/2018
Brain Activity, Physical Activity, Adiposity, and Reward
Aim: To explore the neurocognitive mechanisms of appetite control.
Co-I: Bruce, A.

Center for Children’s Healthy Lifestyles and Nutrition  
PI: Shook  
5/2017-5/2018
Graduate Assistantship in Energy Balance Research
Aim: Quantify variations in metabolic characteristics.

Iowa State University, College of Human Sciences  
PI: Shook  
1/1/2016-12/31/2018
Aim: Develop a collaborative, multidisciplinary group of scientists across Iowa State University that will enhance research related to understanding energy balance.
Co-I’s: Ellingston, Hollis, Lyte

Publications


**Dr. Jane Sosland** is a clinical associate professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center and a member of the multidisciplinary team for the Healthy Hawks clinic, which serves children and adolescents with obesity. Her clinical interests include evaluation and treatment of anxiety disorders, ADHD, depression children and adolescents.

**Dr. Vincent Staggs** is a research faculty member in the Dept. of Biostatistics & Epidemiology, Health Services and Outcomes Research at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Areas of interest/expertise: Statistical/machine learning, linear and generalized mixed models, bootstrapping, predictive modeling, R, SAS, mental/behavioral health, genomics, health services, bioethics.

**Ongoing Research Support**

**Jazz Pharmaceuticals**

Pl: Chan  
1/1/2019-12/31/2021

Using Ultrasound Elastography to Predict Development of Sinusoidal Obstruction Syndrome

Major goal(s): Examine quantitative shear wave ultrasound elastography for use in more accurately diagnosing SOS and determining prognosis to guide subsequent treatment.

Role: Co-investigator

**R03HD096097**

Pl: Carlson  
9/1/2018-8/31/2020

Understanding obesity-related behaviors and the role of school and non-school environments using location-based measures

Major goal(s): Investigate the role of energy expenditure in physical activity, and multi-level factors in relation to energy balance.

Role: Co-investigator

**American Heart Association**

Forsha (trainee)  
7/1/2018-6/30/2021

Cardiovascular changes with weight loss in obese adolescents with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Role: Mentor

**KCALSI/ BCBSKC**

Pl: Jones  
5/1/2018-4/30/2019

The impact of individualized home environmental intervention on severe asthma

Major goal(s): Assess impact of home environment intervention on asthma control in children with severe asthma.

Role: Co-investigator
NASPGHAN Foundation Young Investigator Award  
**PI:** Shakhnovich  
**12/15/2017-12/14/2019**  
The impact of obesity on systemic proton pump inhibitor (PPI) exposure in children and adolescents

U54 HD090258  
**PI:** Leeder  
**9/1/2016-8/31/2021**  
Genomic- and ontogeny-linked dose individualization and clinical optimization for kids  
Specialized Centers in Research in Pediatric Developmental Pharmacology  
**Role:** Co-investigator

NICHD, R01 HD090981-01  
**Co-PIs:** Wagner, Goggin, Wanyenze  
**9/23/2016-6/30/2021**  
Integrating counseling to transform HIV family planning services  
**Role:** Co-investigator

DP3 DK108211  
**PI:** Patton  
**9/20/2015-9/19/2019**  
An interactive mHealth app for better glycemic control in families of young kids with T1D  
**Role:** Co-Investigator  
(Duplicate listing: Patton)

K23 HD083405-01A1  
**PI:** Miller  
**5/1/2016-4/30/2020**  
Enhanced intervention to improve adolescent outcomes: A clinical trial  
**Role:** Co-Investigator

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**Dr. Debra Sullivan** is department chair of Dietetics and Nutrition at the University of Kansas Medical Center and the Midwest Dairy Council Professor in Clinical Nutrition. Her research focuses on prevention and treatment of obesity and its co-morbid conditions. She also maintains a nutrition assessment laboratory in order to conduct measurement of dietary intake and body composition.

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**Ongoing Research Support**

NIH R01 AG060157 01  
**PI:** Sullivan  
**9/30/18 – 5/30/23**  
Enhanced Mediterranean diet for Alzheimer’s Disease prevention

KUMC School of Health Professions  
**PI Sharma/Sullivan**  
**7/1/18 – 6/30/19**  
Vitamin C supplementation for lumbar spine surgical pain  
**Role:** Co-PI

NIH R01 DK118220 01  
**PI:** Hull  
**08/01/18-07/31/23**  
Growth and adiposity in newborns: The influence of prenatal DHA supplementation  
**Role:** Co-Investigator

NIH R01  
**PI:** Donnelly  
**4/01/14 – 3/31/19**  
Weight management for adolescents with intellectual and developmental disabilities  
**Role:** Co-investigator

American Cancer Society  
**PI:** Hamilton-Reeves  
**7/01/17 - 6/30/21**  
Weight loss for obesity-driven biomarkers of prostate cancer progression  
**Role:** Co-investigator

R01 NR016255  
**PI:** Davis  
**01/11/17-11/30/21**  
Rural Disparities in Pediatric Obesity: the iAmHealthy Intervention
The purpose of this 5 year NIH award is to assess the effectiveness of an e-health family based intervention for tailored for rural families for the treatment of pediatric obesity. Role: Co-Investigator

NIH R01  
Kansas University DHA and autonomic nervous system  
Role: Co-Investigator  
PI: Kathleen Gustafson  
1/01/16 -12/31/20

NIH R01 DK108732 03  
Translating effective weight management in rural clinics  
Role: Co-Investigator  
PI: Donnelly  
10/01/15 – 9/30/19

NIH R01 HD083292  
Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) Supplementation in pregnancy to reduce early preterm birth.  
Role: Co-Investigator  
PI: Carlson, S  
1/19/16 – 12/31/20

University of Massachusetts Dept of Health & Services  
The validity of image-assisted food records in adolescents with IDD  
Role: Co-Investigator  
PI: Ptomey  
7/1/18 -6/30/19

NIH R03  
Understanding obesity-related behaviors and the role of school and non-school environments using location-based measures  
Role: Consultant  
PI: Carlson  
9/4/18 – 8/31/20

Publications


**Shelly Summar**, MSEd, RD, LD, is the manager of the *Weighing In* program at Children’s Mercy Kansas City, building community collaboration to prevent childhood obesity. Her work includes leading the Healthy Lifestyles Initiative (HLI) which engages partners in healthcare, government, and community working to create environments that support health.

**Dr. Brooke Sweeney** is a combined internal medicine/pediatric physician and the medical director of weight management services at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Her clinical expertise is in prevention and treatment of chronic disease, weight management, and clinical care for children with obesity. Her research interests include improving the effectiveness of weight management clinics, transitional care, and using a national registry to improve pediatric weight management.

**Publications**


**Dr. John Thyfault** is an associate professor in the Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Kansas Medical Center where he examines the effect of chronic physical inactivity, sedentary behavior, and low aerobic fitness on the development of chronic disease conditions including obesity, insulin resistance, fatty liver disease, type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. In contrast, daily physical activity and maintenance of aerobic fitness throughout the lifespan are associated with protection against chronic disease(s). The mechanism(s) underlying the development of these diseases and the role that activity and fitness status play in altering susceptibility remain largely unknown and are the focus of our research. We utilize integrative (multi-tissue and whole body), translational (cells, rodents, humans) approaches to perform studies in these areas with a focus on clinical or human relevance.

**Ongoing Research Support**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NIH Grant ID</th>
<th>MPI</th>
<th>Grant Title</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R01 AR071263 01</td>
<td>Thyfault/ Darrel Neufer</td>
<td>Statins, Mitochondrial Function, and Aerobic Capacity</td>
<td>7/20/17 – 7/19/22</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>R21 AG056062-01</td>
<td>Thyfault</td>
<td>Skeletal muscle mitochondrial Abnormalities in Alzheimer’s disease</td>
<td>5/1/17 – 4/30/19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The goal of this grant is to examine if statins negatively impact skeletal muscle mitochondrial function and aerobic capacity and if statins negatively impact exercise adaptations.
The goal of this project is to determine if Alzheimer’s disease and APOE genotype is associated with skeletal muscle mitochondrial dysfunction.

Veterans Affairs Merit Review PI: Thyfault 10/2/14 – 9/30/21
Mitochondrial mitophagy in the development and treatment of NAFLD.

NIH R01 DK107390-01A1 PI: Leidy/Thyfault 10/1/16 – 9/30/21
Title: Increased Protein at Breakfast for Weight Management in Overweight Adolescents
The goal of this proposal is to examine whether the daily consumption of a high-protein breakfast will improve weight management and glycemic control more than a typical, normal protein breakfast in overweight adolescents who habitually skip breakfast.

NIH R01 AA020518 PI: Ding/Thyfault 7/1/17 – 6/20/22
Mechanisms Regulating Autophagy in Alcohol-Induced Liver Injury
The goal of this project is to study the role of autophagy in alcohol-induced liver injury.

Publications


**Dr. Joel Waddell** is completing a dual fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Pediatric Clinical Pharmacology at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. His research is focused on the effects of obesity on antibiotic pharmacokinetics and health outcomes in children with invasive infections.

**Ongoing Research Support**

Children’s Mercy Hospital Fellowship Research Grant  
Pl: Waddell  
10/2017-present  
For support of project Comparative analysis of antibiotic dosing adequacy and clinical outcomes in osteomyelitis among obese vs healthy weight children.

**Dr. Dustin Wallace** is a pediatric psychologist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City and assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Dr. Wallace specializes in pain management, pediatric pain rehabilitation and acceptance-based treatment.

**Publications**


**Dr. David White** is an exercise physiologist at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. His focus is clinical exercise testing and prescription in children with congenital and/or electrophysiological heart defects, neurocardiogenic syncope, dyslipidemia, and abnormal cardiopulmonary responses to exercise. Advanced methodology includes oxygen consumption, EKG, oxygen saturation, exercise blood pressure, pulmonary function testing, and tilt table testing. Additional responsibilities include exercise and behavioral counseling for youth and families of children with dyslipidemia and/or obesity in the Ward Heart Center Preventive Cardiology Clinic.

**Ongoing Research Support**

Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, Kansas City, MO  
2018  
Patient Care Services  
Project: “The influence of physical activity during hemodialysis treatments and depression rates/quality of life in end stage renal patients”  
Role: Research Mentor  

Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, Kansas City, MO.  
2018-present  
Title: An Electronically Delivered, Remote Cardiac Rehabilitation Program for Children and Adolescents with Cardiac Disease: Pilot study
Children’s Mercy Kansas City  
**PI: White**  
2016-present

**The Effect of Physical Activity Bout Patterns on Blood Lipids in Youth: NHANES 2003-2006**

Children’s Mercy Kansas City  
**Role: Co-I**  
2016-present

**Frailty in Children with Cardiac Disease – A Pilot Study**

Children’s Mercy Kansas City, Pediatric Heart Network  
**Role: Site Co-I**  
2016-present

**Fontan Udenafil Exercise Longitudinal Assessment Trial (FUEL)**

Children’s Mercy Kansas City  
**PI: White**  
2016-present

**The Utility of Ratings of Perceived Exertion in Children with an Impaired Heart Rate Response**

Children’s Mercy Kansas City  
**PI: White**  
2016-present

**Parent Perception of Child Weight Status in a Pediatric Preventive Cardiology Clinic**

Children’s Mercy Kansas City  
2016-present

**Correlation of Echocardiographic Measurements to Exercise Parameters in Fontan Patients**

Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics  
**PI: White**  
2014-present

**The Effects of Second-Hand Smoke Exposure on Vasculature in Children with Dyslipidemia**

**Publications**


**Center Members (Associate)**

**Lubna Alnaim** is a PhD student in the Dietetics & Nutrition Department at KU Medical Center.

**Matt Chrisman**, PhD, is an assistant teaching professor at the UMKC School of Nursing & Health Studies. His research interests focus on the environmental determinants of physical activity in rural adults.

**Joan Delahunt**, OTD, MS, OTR/L, is an assistant professor in Occupational Therapy Education at Rockhurst University. Research interests include relationships between adolescent BMI, physical activity and sensory-processing patterns.

**Emily Meissen-Sebelius**, MSW, is project coordinator for Weighing In at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Her interests lie in non-profit leadership and community engagement.
Graduate and Undergraduate Research Staff

Carolina Bejarano is a doctoral student in the Clinical Child Psychology Program at the University of Kansas. Her research interests generally focus on understanding and promoting health behavior, such as diet, sleep, and physical activity, in youth. She is interested in examining relationships among health-related behaviors and psychosocial constructs (e.g., motivation, affect, hedonic appetite), and how this information may be applied to improve children and adolescents’ physical and mental health.

Arwen Marker is a graduate student in the Clinical Child Psychology doctoral program at the University of Kansas. Arwen is primarily interested in how chronic pediatric health conditions, such as obesity and type 1 diabetes, are related to the development of depression and anxiety. Arwen is currently working on projects examining weight-related health interventions for families of young children and treatments for parents of youth with type 1 diabetes.

Isabelle Bochard is a registered dietitian in the Kansas City area. She began her own private practice, Bamboo Nutrition, in Liberty, MO where she specializes in eating disorders and sports nutrition. Isabelle is completing her master’s degree in Dietetics and Nutrition at Kansas University Medical Center and is expected to graduate in May 2019. Serving under Dr. Robin Shook, Isabelle is a Graduate Research Assistant and has been in this position since May of 2018. She has helped Dr. Shook’s Energy Balance Team on the ILSI and AAAA study and in a new study called BATE, which began in December of 2018.

Bryce Miller is currently pursuing his master’s degree in Health Professions Education at the University of Missouri - Kansas City (UMKC) School of Medicine. Bryce was a track & field and cross-country athlete in the Health Sciences program at UMKC, where he found his passion for exercise science and public health work. He is interested in the role that diet and exercise have in weight gain, as well as how to promote healthy lifestyle modifications in children. Bryce is from Northern Wisconsin, and hobbies include running, hunting, and fishing.

Alexandra Monzon is a graduate student in the Clinical Child Psychology doctoral program at the University of Kansas. Her research interests generally focus on promoting healthy behavior and improving quality of life in pediatric populations through mobile health platforms. She is specifically interested in examining how health behaviors, such as sleep, impact mental health and the ability to cope with a chronic health condition in children and adolescents. Alex is currently working on projects examining the relationship between sleep behaviors and glycemic control in youth with type 1 diabetes mellitus.

Meggie Murray is a registered dietitian and research assistant at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her research interests include the effects of nutrition intervention and physical activity on weight status and obesity prevention among all age groups. She is currently working on a project examining a behavioral intervention among overweight and obese children in rural areas of Kansas.

Amy Noser is a doctoral student in the Clinical Child Psychology program at the University of Kansas. Broadly, her research interests include pediatric health promotion and prevention. Specifically, she is interested in how individual differences in self-processes (e.g., motivation, self-efficacy, and self-concept) and behaviors (i.e., diet, physical activity, and sleep) impact the present
and long-term health of youth. Amy is currently working on projects examining predictors of glycemic control and adherence in youth with type 1 diabetes mellitus.

Chelsea Steel earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from the University of Kansas and a Master’s degree in Public Health--Epidemiology from The University of Kansas Medical Center. She works on projects related to activity measurement and the impact of built environment on obesity outcomes. Her primary research interests are in dissemination and implementation science and translational research.

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