

GUATEMALA PROJECT TEAM



Edwin J Asturias, MD, Director of Latin American Projects at the Center for Global Health and Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Section of Pediatric Infectious Disease and Epidemiology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Dr. Asturias graduated as a medical doctor from the San Carlos University in Guatemala in 1989 and was board certified in pediatrics at the University Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in 1995. Trained in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, he has been working in the area of vaccine research and policy in Guatemala and the Latin American region since 1998. Through the conduction of epidemiological studies and the inquiry into efficacy and safety issues of vaccines against poliomyelitis, pertussis, Haemophilus influenzae type b, pneumococcus and E. coli, the Center for Health Studies under his direction has provided answers to important implementation questions, especially for resource poor countries in Central and Latin America.

Dr. Asturias has served on the Guatemalan National Committee for Immunization Practices, the Poliovirus Contention Commission, and advisory groups for the World Health Organization, including the Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety. He is the technical coordinator of the Immunization Group of the Mesoamerican Health Initiative, and a member of the Committee of Vaccines of the Latin American Society of Pediatric Infectious Diseases.



Kendra Downer, BA, Guatemala Project Specialist at the Center for Global Health

Kendra is the Project Specialist for the Center's Trifinio project in Guatemala and assists in managing the logistics and coordination of the program.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2012 and has spent the past four years living in South America working on diverse community development, health, education and tourism projects with various international organizations. Most recently she lived in Lima, Peru working with a non-profit organization dedicated to providing quality healthcare to underserved communities in Peru, Ecuador and Tanzania.



Stephen Berman, MD, FAAP, Director of the Center for Global Health and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Professor of Epidemiology at the Colorado School of Public Health and holds an endowed chair in Academic General Pediatrics at Children's Hospital Colorado.

Dr. Berman has been honored for his community service and medical activities by local, state, national and international organizations and is a past President of the American Academy of Pediatrics. A practicing primary care pediatrician, he is a leader in international health, child advocacy, child health policy, clinical and outcomes research, and pediatric education.

An effective child advocate, Dr. Berman helped draft six child health bills enacted by his state legislature. These laws provide health insurance to low-income children, require seat belt use, and mandate immunizations and preventive care in insurance plans.

He was the principal investigator for the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) grant that created the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS) that has become the statewide immunization registry.

Dr. Berman has served as special advisor to WHO and Pan American Health Organization and consultant to many countries throughout the world. The program for managing acute respiratory infections that he helped design for WHO, has been implemented in more than 80 developing countries. He has also developed a disaster course for pediatricians in developing countries in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics and the World Health Organization.



Gretchen Heinrichs, MD, DTMH, Director of Maternal Health Programs at the Center for Global Health and Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at University of Colorado School of Medicine Anschutz Medical Campus and Denver Health.

Dr. Heinrichs is an OBGYN physician and researcher who completed a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene at the Gorgas Course in Lima, Peru and a Certificate in Public Health in 2011 from the Colorado School of Public Health. She has been in academics since 2006 and has received several teaching awards for her work with residents and medical students. She works clinically at Denver Health with a special focus on refugee and asylum seeking patients and her Global Health work is currently focused on projects in Guatemala through the Center for Global Health.

She has worked in India, Mexico, Rwanda and Nigeria training physicians, nurses, and health care workers on gender-based violence, family planning, and obstetric and gynecologic conditions, as well as adapting international practice recommendations to local and low resource settings. She recently completed a mission with Doctors Without Borders in Northern Nigeria in Emergency Obstetrics. Her scholarly interests include Maternal Mortality, Female Genital Mutilation, Infectious Diseases and Refugee health services.



Antonio Bolaños Ventura, MD, Clinic Director at the Center for Human Development in the Southwest Trifinio Region of Guatemala.

Originally from Coatepeque near the Trifinio clinic, Dr. Bolaños received his medical degree from the University of San Carlos of Guatemala. He has held leadership positions within the Ministry of Health as well as served as the lead physician on several Pan American Health Organization and USAID initiatives in the region, especially around HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention.

Dr. Bolaños was a member of the Doctors without Borders Emergency Committee during Hurricane Stan and holds international certifications in Epidemiology, Emergency Care, HIV/AIDS, and Tropical Pediatrics. Currently he serves as the technical advisor for the multisectoral HIV networks Retalhuleu and Coatepeque San Marcos through USAID.



Saskia Bunge Montes, MD, MPH, Director of Community Programs and Education, Guatemala

Saskia completed her Bachelors in Science and received her Medical Degree at Universidad Francisco Marroquín in Guatemala City, Guatemala. Dr. Bunge Montes completed her Masters in Public Health from the Colorado School of Public Health summer 2016.

She is interested in medical education and maternal and infant health, specifically the creation of systems that involve both subjects by creating sustainable preventative health programs that integrate community participation and effective education methods.

Wilson Serrano, Administrative Director of the Fundación para la Salud Integral de los Guatemaltecos (FSIG).

Wilson is responsible for all accounting, human resources and logistics at the Center for Human Development Clinic (CHD) as well as all accounting and logistics required to maintain the Buff's House lodging facility.

Originally from La Blanca, a town near the Trifinio Project Site, Wilson is a graduate of the Business Administration Program at Rafael Landivar University. He previously worked for Banasa, the banana sector of AgroAmerica where he gained extensive experience in management of personnel, accounting, budget management and program logistics.



Bernardo Roehrs works at AgroAmerica as Corporate Director (CSR), Compliance, People and Corporate Affairs.

Mr. Roehrs is also a professor at the Business School at Universidad del Istmo, in the Executive Master's Program in Guatemala.

He has a degree in agronomy from El Zamorano in Honduras and a MBA from INCAE (Costa Rica), as well as a Master's in Education oriented to Family Counseling. He has worked for companies like Walmart, Pantaleon, and Export Association. His main experience is in: CSR, Corporate Affairs, People, Communications, and Operations.

Mr. Roehrs is a board member of several organizations as Centrarse (CSR); founder of the first food bank in Guatemala; and President of the Banana Producers Association, among others. He is married and has five children.

Maureen Cunningham, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Dr. Cunningham is a pediatrician and researcher. Dr. Cunningham earned her medical degree in 2007 and completed residency in 2010 at the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine. She completed a Primary Care Research Fellowship and earned her Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology from the Colorado School of Public Health in 2014.

Dr. Cunningham works clinically as a pediatric hospitalist at Children's Hospital Colorado. Her current global health work is focused on child health and development in Guatemala. Her other research interests include health outcomes research for children with hearing loss.



Roberto Delgado Zapata, MD - Celgene Global Health Fellow

Roberto received his medical degree at Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Peru. During his undergraduate years, he was part of health interventions in rural and suburban communities along the highlands of Peru. He also took part of the rapid needs assessments in the region of Iquitos, Peru, with the Center for Global Health.

He is interested in maternal and child health care, and also in child growth and development, taking special interest in community-based education strategies for sustainable programs.



Andrea Jimenez-Zambrano, MPH, Senior Professional Research Assistant - Adult and Child Center for Health Outcomes Research and Delivery Science and Center for Global Health

Ms. Jimenez-Zambrano, a native Peruvian, completed her undergraduate education in Biology and Spanish at the University of Colorado Denver. She received a Master of Public Health degree in Community and Behavioral Health at the Colorado School of Public Health.

She has experience working with Latino population in the Denver Metro Area. After completing her MPH in 2012, Ms. Jimenez-Zambrano has been working in qualitative data methods, facilitating focus groups, developing and doing data collection through surveys, and analyzing data in SPSS.

She has also worked on international rapid needs assessments in Guatemala and in Peru with the Center for Global Health. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Health and Behavioral Sciences at University of Colorado Denver.



Claudia Luna-Asturias, LGSW, Investigator and CHA/PA Liaison with the Center for Global Health, Adjunct Faculty in the Physician Assistant Program and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado, School of Medicine

Claudia Luna-Asturias is a licensed Social Worker who is currently faculty in the Child Health Associate Physician Assistant Program (CHA/PA) at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

She is originally from Guatemala where she spent 13 years working as a school and college counselor. She was Director of the Counseling Center and faculty of the Psychology department at Universidad del Valle de Guatemala for 8 years. Now at CHA/PA she co-teaches the Psychosocial and Diversity series program in the first year and supervises the CU Unite track students.

In the past two years Claudia has worked in developing the first on-going international experience to Guatemala's "signature site" with University of Colorado; she assists in the process of placing CHA/PA students in clinical rotations in healthcare centers and the new University of Colorado/Trifinio clinic.



Jodie Malhotra, PharmD, International Affairs Coordinator and Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Dr. Malhotra graduated with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry from Lake Forest College. She then continued on to receive her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Massachusetts College of Pharmacy. She completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency with an emphasis in Primary Care at the Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center and a Psychiatric Pharmacy Practice Residency at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System.

Dr. Malhotra was an Assistant Professor in Pharmacy Practice at the University of the Incarnate Word and an Assistant Professor in Pharmacy Practice and the Experiential Education Director at Regis University School of Pharmacy. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy, she served as the Psychiatric Clinical Pharmacy Specialist for the Behavioral Health Services and in the Managed Care department at the Denver Health Medical Center.

Dr. Malhotra's teaching focuses primarily on psychiatric pharmacy and patient centered communication in the school's traditional and distance-based programs. As the international affairs coordinator for the school, she is responsible for leading communication and relationship-building with international contacts, promoting international academic programs, serving as a liaison with local and international pharmacy faculty to develop didactic and/or experiential curricula, coordinating the clinical training and development of international faculty, and coordinating the development of site-specific international programs.

She is also currently enrolled in the Global Public Health Certificate program at the Colorado School of Public Health.



Amy Nacht, CNM, MPH, Senior Instructor and Director of the University Nurse Midwives, University of Colorado College of Nursing.

Amy has worked with the University Nurse Midwives since 2008.

She completed her training at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH and completed her MPH at the Colorado School of Public Health.

Prior to joining the University Nurse Midwives, Amy worked in rural Colorado for 6 years. Her professional interests include global health, quality improvement projects, perinatal mood disorders, and medical education.

She lectures for both the College of Nursing and the School of Medicine and is actively involved with the Center for Global Health at the Colorado School of Public Health.



Elizabeth Shick, DDS, MPH, Assistant Professor of Pediatric Dentistry, University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Shick is a Board Certified Pediatric Dentist who completed her DDS, Residency in Pediatric Dentistry and Masters of Public Health degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

After spending four years in private practice, she moved to Denver to begin an academic career. For three years she was Director of the Cavity-Free at Three Program at the Children's Hospital Colorado's Dental Clinic focusing on reducing dental caries in underserved children 0-3 years old.

Since joining the School of Dental Medicine in 2012 she has served as Director of Global Health Initiatives. Her projects include starting a Spanish language study abroad program for dental students and working with the Center for Global Health on the Trifinio Project in Guatemala.

In July 2014 she opened a fully functional 2-chair dental clinic within the Trifinio medical clinic to serve the workers of the Banasa Plantation and the community at large in this region. Her research focuses on oral health of perinatal women and children in underserved regions in the US and developing countries and Global Health education in the dental school curriculum.