



THE OZ NELSON PUBLIC HEALTH ACADEMY FUND



IN SUPPORT OF THE DAVID J. SENCER CDC MUSEUM PUBLIC HEALTH ACADEMY

To meet the high demand for public health professionals, an expanded program is required to increase the number of high school students pursuing careers related to public health.

The Public Health Academy

The CDC Museum Public Health Academy has two main goals:

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

The current program includes four elements:

- **Disease Detective Camp:** Two on-site week-long summer programs for high school juniors and seniors simulating CDC's epidemiology, laboratory and public communications activities, including a mock disease outbreak and interactive sessions on global health, public health law, emergency preparedness, and other public health topics.
- **Online Summer Course:** A week-long web-based course for high school juniors and seniors that includes virtual epidemiology, laboratory and public health communications activities, and other interactive sessions on public health topics.
- **Teen Newsletter:** A monthly newsletter that introduces teens to public health topics and CDC's work, featuring highlights from the CDC Museum Collection and Teen Talks with CDC experts.
- **STEM Lessons for Educators:** Free teacher resources that use Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) hands-on activities to educate middle and high school students about public health.

The Disease Detective Camp has been in operation for 19 years, enrolling 60 students annually in the on-campus element and 100 per summer in recent years with the addition of the virtual element. The newsletter reaches 2,500 high school students.

The program is in high demand, with more than 700 applications received in 2024 for 160 available positions.

GOALS

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

THE FUND

Additional operational funding will provide immediate resources to support program expansion. To ensure the Public Health Academy's long-term viability and success, a \$2.5 million endowment is being established to provide ongoing support.

About Oz Nelson

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

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



FUND MANAGEMENT

The CDC Foundation will be responsible for the stewardship of the funds, coordinating with the CDC Museum's director and education department in the planning for and progress of the expanded Public Health Academy.

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

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

Phil Jacobs, Founding Partner, The Pendleton Consulting Group

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

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

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

Lectures by CDC Experts



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



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

Lectures by CDC Experts



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



During the public health fair, campers learn from CDC professionals about their work. *Left:* CDC experts share information about their work in the field. *Right:* A CDC professional explains her contributions to public health programming in Africa.

Classroom



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

Case Studies



Campers solve a mock outbreak to learn the importance of data collection and analysis in public health. Here campers are using their questionnaires to interview CDC volunteers posing as members of the public affected by the outbreak.

Laboratory



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

Right: A student carefully manipulates lab equipment during the lab exercise. This participant is returning as a counselor for the June 2024 camp.



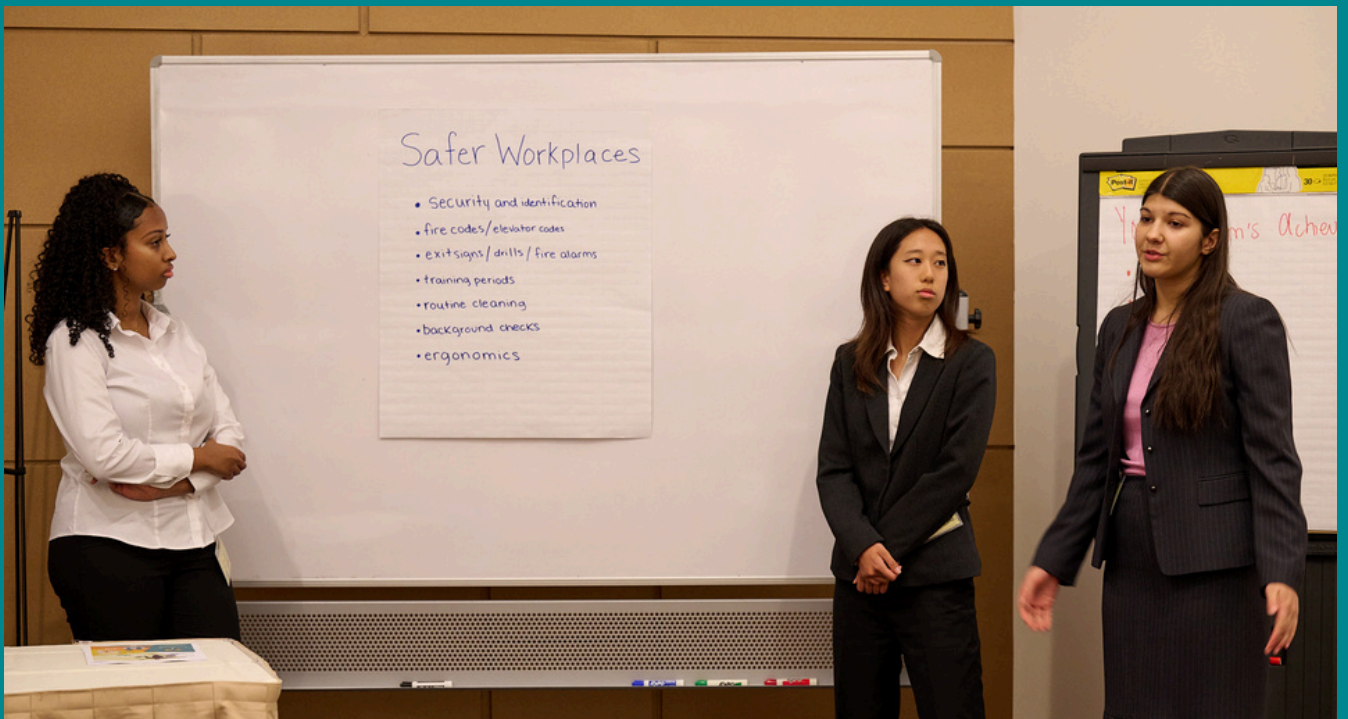
Presentations

Subjects including:

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



Presentations



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

Final Reports

Students presenting reports on the subjects investigated and their conclusions. 2023 program participants included students from 19 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico, with hometowns including:

Palmer, AK
Oakland, CA

Gulf Breeze, FL
Lithia Springs, GA

Rosemont, MN
Cary, NC

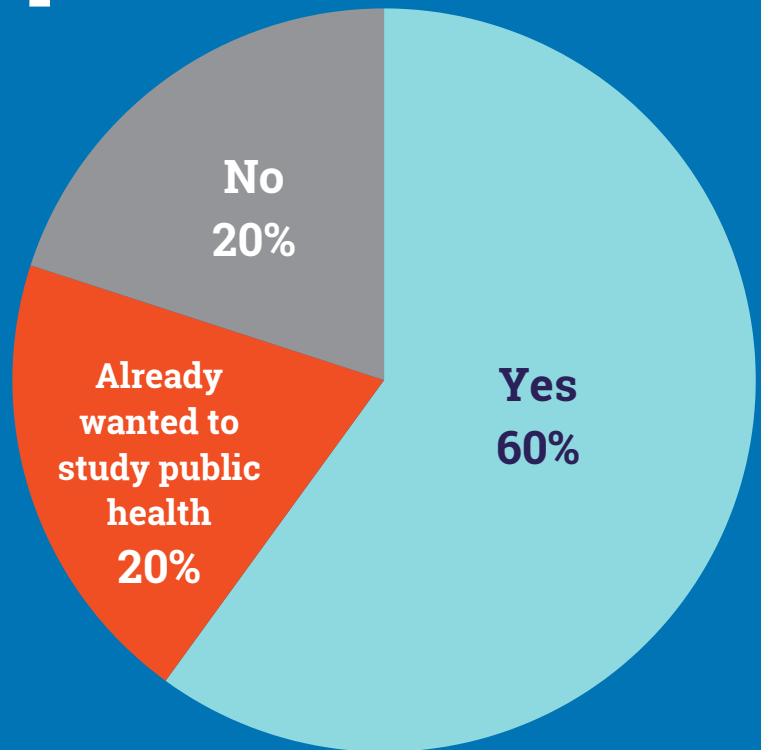
Delaware, OH
Bend, OR

Dallas, TX
Sterling, VA



Impact

Question:
**Did camp impact
your choice of
college major?**



Program Graduate Comments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



The CDC Foundation helps CDC do more, faster by forging partnerships between CDC and others to fight threats to health and safety.

The CDC Foundation is actively seeking investors for this important public health pipeline development program for youth. For additional information, contact Helene Erenberg at herenberg@cdcfoundation.org or 404.443.1139, or visit cdcfdcf.link/OzNelsonFund



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