



ANNUAL REPORT 2023



**Center for Outcomes &
Effectiveness Research & Education**

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Director's Message



Michael Mugavero, MD, MHSc

As I reflect on the past year, I am in awe of what we have achieved collectively — a testament to our team and member's creativity and commitment to the Center and those we serve.

Our training programs including the UAB Health Services Research Training Program (AHRQ T32) and Friday Fellows have reached new heights under Emily's leadership. The aspirational vision of UAB Learning Health System continues to gain traction and become a tangible reality with the persistent leadership of Allyson bridging the health system and academic schools. Enrichment programs like GRIT and DRIVEN have officially 'arrived' and made great strides. The Methods Symposium has reached new heights and engages 100+ person audiences — a model of hybrid programming success. Emergent programs like DIISC, ORS, and GEARS have expanded the breadth of our offerings and reached new constituents.

For me, the COERE is all about building community, collaboration, and catalyzing careers and scientific advances that enhance health and equity. Our reach is extraordinary. What a year we've had in 2023 with the Stu Frank Conference Room dedication and 25th Anniversary celebration of the COERE — remembering our past as we look to our future. Tremendous gratitude to Madeline, Amber, Geri, Reid and Naomi who make all the magic happen behind the scenes — they are the glue that hold the COERE together. I also reflect on the many conflicts and challenges in our nation and around the world that can feel overwhelming. At times like these, I pause and take solace in the privilege of working with such incredible people and trying to be a force for good in the lives of those we touch.

Onwards!
Mugs

Our Team



Emily Levitan, ScD
Co-Director



Allyson Hall, PhD
Co-Director



Madeline Gibson, MPH
Deputy Director



Julie Locher
GRIT Program Director



Geri Davis
Program Coordinator



Naomi Duffort, MSW
Program Manager



Reid Eagleson, MS
Program Manager



Amber Ganoe
Program Manager

New Center Members in 2023

**Ritu Aneja
Sandeep Bodduluri
Heather Nelson-Brantley
Katia Bruxvoort
Henna Budhwani
Jin Chen
Ryan Coute
Kala Dixon
Annabelle Fonseca
Kathryn Foti
Mackenzie Fowler
Najibah Galadanci
Donald Gerke
Lama Ghazi
Theodoros Giannouchos
Smith Giri
Gaurav Goyal**

**Abbi Hernandez
Jane Banaszak-Holl
Holly Horan
Nataliya Ivankova
Lesley Jackson
Raymond Jones
Amir Karami
Elizabeth Lucas
Gabe Miller
Razan Mohty
Brittanny Polanka
Erin Shufflebarger
Rachel Skains
Kristen Allen-Watts
Rachel Wells
Hao Zhang
Xiaoni Zhang**

Associate Directors



**Greer Burkholder, MD,
MSPH**



**Crystal Chapman-
Lambert, PhD, CRNP,
NP-C, FNP-BC, ACRN**



**Ronnie "Matt" Gravett, MD
GEARS Director**



**Larry Hearld, PhD
DIISC Director**



**Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH
DRIVEN Director**



**Shea Polancich, PhD,
RN**



**Kathryn Kaiser, PhD
ORS Director**



Dustin Long, PhD



**J. Nicholas Odom,
PhD, RN, ACHPN,
FPCN, FAAN**

COERE Domains

TRAINING



The COERE education and training programs are anchored by an Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) National Research Training Award (T32), continuously funded since 2002. Our research and training base includes mentors and trainees across UAB Schools including Business, Dentistry, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

DISSEMINATION & IMPLEMENTATION



The Dissemination, Implementation, and Improvement Science Core (DIISC) is here to help. We offer advice and consultation on D&I proposal aims, D&I frameworks, theories, and logic models, D&I methodological designs, D&I measures, D&I analytic strategies, quality improvement processes, community engagement strategies, and program evaluation strategies.

ENRICHMENT



The COERE provides a range of enrichment programs to meet the needs of outcomes research investigators spanning the career arc. Our programs include: GRIT, CARES at UAB, DRIVEN, GEARs, Annual Methods Symposium and the Office of Research Synthesis.

LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEM



In response to complex clinical and operational challenges health systems must design, implement, evaluate, disseminate, and spread innovative approaches to improving quality of care and health outcomes across complex organizations. A coordinated “UAB Learning Health System” is essential to break down the “false trichotomy” that clinical care, health operations, and research function independently. Integration across these three arms of our academic medical center will allow for enhanced quality, timeliness, and dissemination of knowledge derived from ongoing clinical, operations, research, and improvement initiatives.

COERE Turns 25

The COERE celebrated 25 years of serving the community through interdisciplinary health services, outcomes research, and training. On August 31st, Founding Director Norman Weissman, Ph.D., (Professor Emeritus in Health Services Administration, School of Health Professions) kicked off the celebration by reflecting on the center's establishment and highlighting the contributions of his team, including Catarina Kiefe, M.D., Ph.D., Jeroan Allison, M.D., MS, and UAB leadership.

Kenneth Saag, M.D., MSC, (Professor and Director, UAB Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology), who served as the director from 2010-2020, followed by emphasizing the invaluable mentorship he received as a COERE member.

Current director, Michael Mugavero, M.D., MHSc, (Professor, UAB Infectious Diseases) concluded with admiration and gratitude by saying, "The COERE is the people who run the programs, as well as the members. The people make it happen! Congratulations to all of you for 25 years of innovation, training, and research".



Dedication of the Stuart J. Frank, M.D. Conference Room



The conference room “with the best view at UAB” is how many describe the new space. With an expansive window overlooking the city of Birmingham and a balcony that opens to the iconic Vulcan statue, it is easy to see why.

Like its namesake, the conference room is welcoming, opening, and transparent. It is outfitted with sliding doors, comfortable seating for 15, and teleconference technology, making it the star of the 8th floor.

Dedication speakers included Heersink School of Medicine Dean and UAB Medicine Senior Vice President Anupam Agarwal, M.D., as well as Department of Medicine Chair Seth Landefeld, M.D., Director of the COERE Michael Mugavero, M.D.

In order for the BDB 8th floor to become the modern office space it is today, Frank selflessly donated his former lab space.





TRAINING



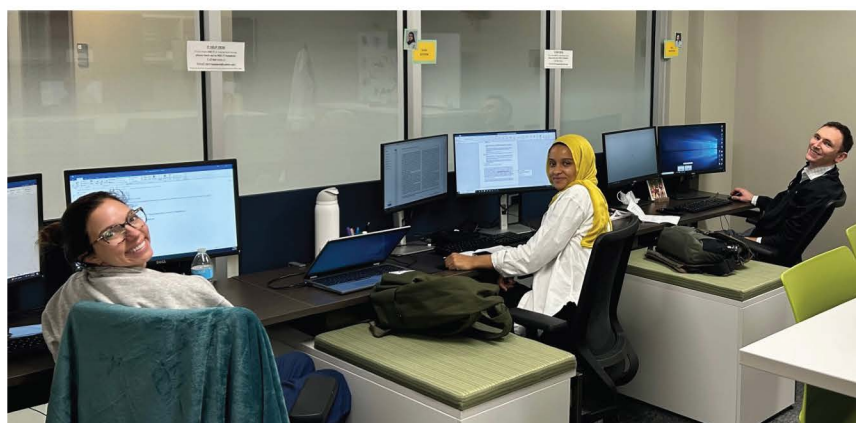
Renewed UAB HSR Training Program

For Years 2023-2027

- Impact Score of 11
- Mugavero & Levitan MPIs
- AHRQ supports 4 predocs and 5 postdocs/yr; UAB HSOM supports 1 postdoc/yr
- Added a health equity focus to Friday Fellows and monthly “academic life skills” workshops

Highlights from the last 5 years:

- 20% applicants accepted; 100% completion
- 25% URM, 64% women
- 79% of alumni remain in research; 50% as faculty or professional scientist roles
- Trainees published 125 manuscripts



HSR Training Program Core Faculty



Andrea Cherrington, MD



Larry Hearld, PhD



Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH



Gabriela Oates, PhD



Latesha Elope, MD



Patricia Patrician, PhD,
RN, FAAN



Tina Kempin Reuter, PhD



DISSEMINATION & IMPLEMENTATION



DIISC

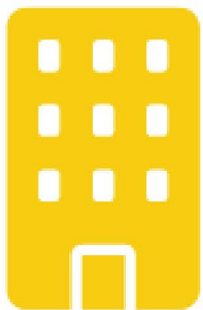
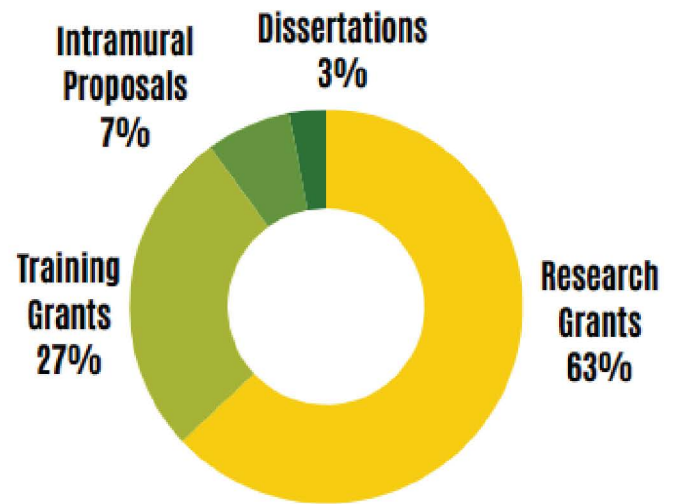
Dissemination, Implementation, & Improvement Science Core



A subsidiary of the COERE, the Dissemination, Implementation, and Improvement Science Core (DIISC) supports investigators pursuing extramurally funded research projects that examine how to implement and disseminate evidence-based interventions. DIISC helps investigators develop and refine study aims, identify implementation science theories and frameworks, establish rigorous study designs, and determine appropriate outcomes for evaluation. It does so through formal and informal consultations with investigators, resource recommendations, and referrals to other campus resources.

\$61,146,646

TOTAL FUNDING



21

UNITS/DEPARTMENTS SUPPORTED



35

ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS



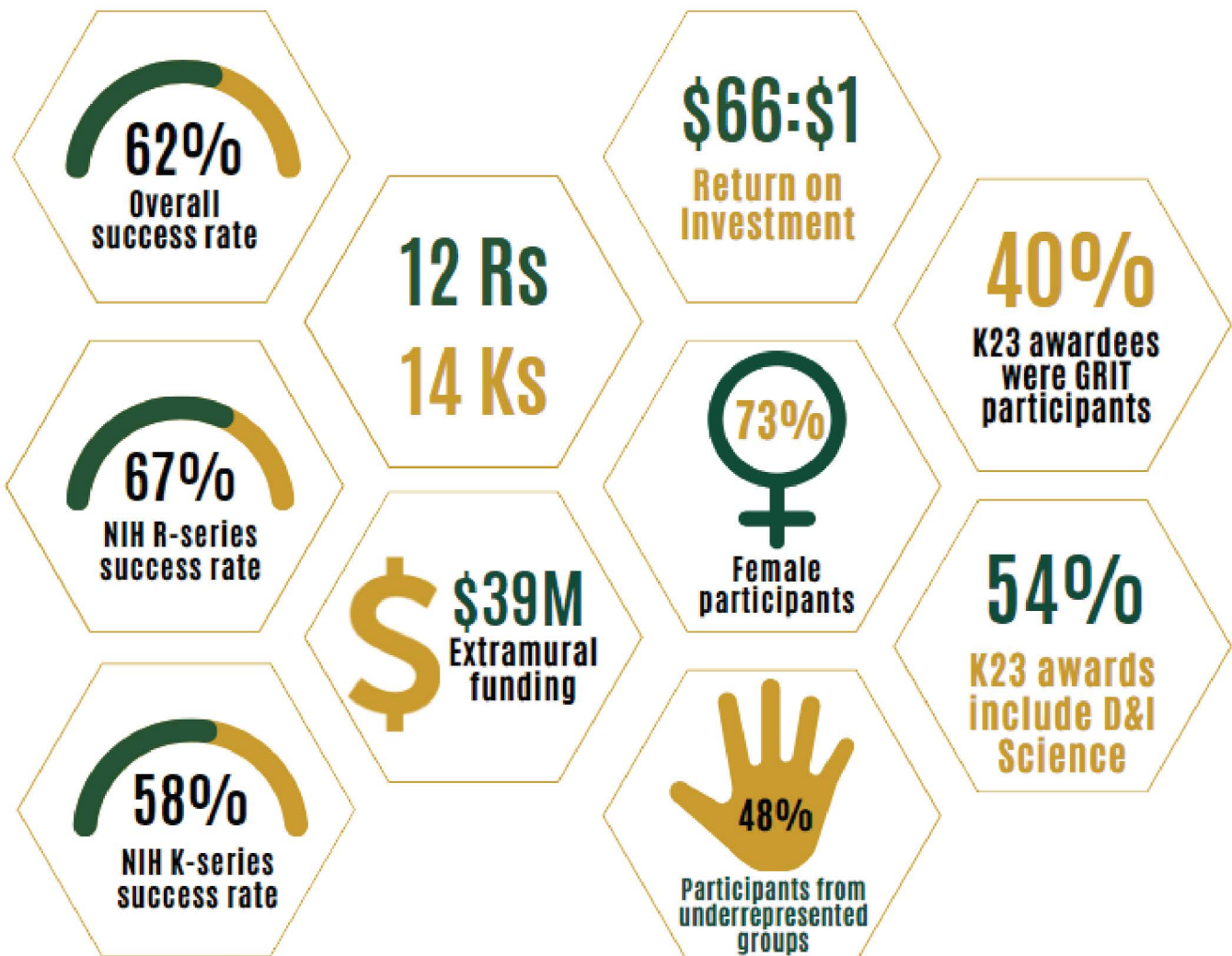
ENRICHMENT





Grant wRITing InTensive

Led by COERE and co-sponsored by CCTS, Department of Medicine, Heersink School of Medicine, School of Health Professions, and UAB Office of Research, GRIT offers scholars 6-12 months of highly structured activities focused on specific steps in the extramural grant application process. From Biosketches and Aims to mentor selection and budgeting, GRIT provides invaluable guidance, structure, accountability, and peer and one-on-one coaching to help investigators meet submission deadlines and craft exceedingly responsive resubmissions, as needed. The updated curriculum also includes instruction on literature searches and syntheses, biostatistics, data management and sharing plans as well as other non-science sections. Applicants at the Whatever to K (W2K), K to R (K2R), and Whatever to R (W2R) stages are grouped into K- and R-series cohorts and led by an NIH-experienced coach.





GEARs



Gathering to Enrich and Advance Research

To build community among residents of the 8th floor of Boshell, COERE Associate Director Dr. Ronnie “Matt” Gravett hosts a monthly GEARs session (Gathering to Enrich and Advance Research) where specific aims pages, new Institutional Cores, and tips/tricks on navigating research administration at UAB are discussed among faculty, staff, and trainees.

Topics included:

- An R61/R33 Proposal presented by Anand Iyer, Chair of T32 Alumni Council
- A brainstorm to determine how to present chart review findings for publication, presented by Will Bradford, AHRQ T32 Postdoc
- Office of Research Synthesis (ORS) Tools to Inform Grant Applications presented by Kathryn Kaiser, ORS Director
- An introduction to Social Determinants of Health (SDH) Institutional Research Core presented by Gabriela Oates, SDH Core Director

Office of Research Synthesis

June 5–9

8:30 – 11:30 AM

Five Stages in a Systematic Review: Skimming the Mountain Tops of Literature Landscapes

Day 1: Overview and Toolkit

Day 2: Friends don't let friends do systematic reviews

Day 3: HELP! I found too much or I found too little

Day 4: How can I ever synthesize this mess?

Day 5: A failure to plan is a plan to fail



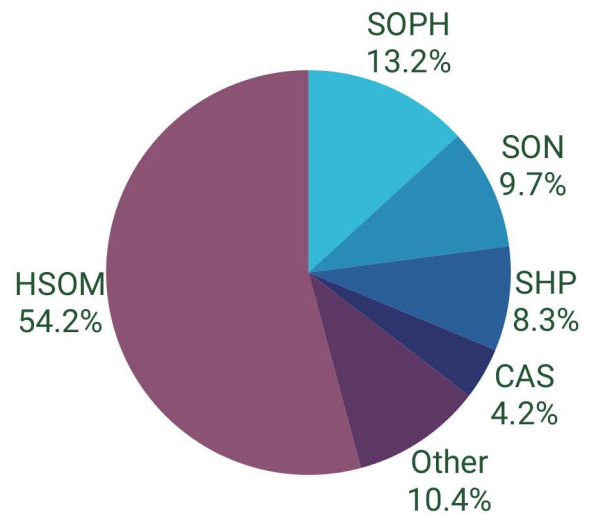
Presented by:
Kathryn Kaiser, PhD
COERE Office of Research Synthesis

In June 2023, the Office of Research Synthesis held an inaugural 5-day short course titled, *Five Stages in a Systematic Review: Skimming the Mountain Tops of Literature Landscapes*, and was extremely successful. Fifteen faculty, staff, and students enrolled with 10+ on the waitlist. Dr. Kathryn Kaiser, Director of COERE's Office of Research Synthesis, continues to follow up and consult with several short course attendees via weekly office hours on Boshell 8 (the COERE's physical footprint on campus).



Founded in 2019, DRIVEN is a university-wide program seeking to cultivate a community of interdisciplinary clinical and translational investigators and promote their individual and collective professional development, recognition, and advancement in order to foster an inclusive, equitable and diverse research workforce. Programs include The DRIVEN Academy, CARES at UAB, Microgrants, Writing Accountability Groups, a monthly newsletter, and community building events.

DRIVEN Membership by UAB School/College



The DRIVEN Academy: A Research & Coaching Symposium



DRIVEN held its inaugural *Academy* on September 21-22, 2023. This year's event focused on supporting the growth of early-career, research-interested Black and Latinx faculty, although all were welcome to attend. Drs. David Wilkes, April Carson, and Tiffany Carson were invited guest speakers and shared their career journeys and tips for career development with 37 inaugural participants.



“Helped to generate pilot data for grants and papers”
-UAB Asst. Prof.

Supported open access fees, making the findings more accessible “to persons in settings with limited access to peer-reviewed publications, especially pediatric oncology nurses practicing in resource-limited countries for which this publication is highly relevant.”
-UAB T32 postdoc

Microgrants

14 awards totaling \$26,930 have supported:

- graduate assistants
- equipment purchases
- publication and open access fees
- supplemental coursework
- scientific writing for manuscripts
- translation/interpretation services



CARES at UAB Awardees

\$1 Million in “Extra Hands” Awards to Research-intensive Faculty Caregivers


Through three rounds of awards, the COERE disbursed nearly \$1 million to funded faculty caregivers at UAB through the CARES at UAB program. CARES at UAB was initially funded through a grant from the Doris Duke Foundation. HSOM provided a 1:1 match to Doris Duke monies, while SOPH, SHP, SON, CCTS, and the Department of Pediatrics provided matching support to funded investigators in their respective units. These “extra hands” awards are intended to help faculty regain research momentum after having been deleteriously impacted by caregiving during the COVID-19 pandemic. Awardees are 71% women and include 28 physician and non-physician assistants and associate professors from the Schools of Medicine, Health Professions, Nursing, and Public Health. The impact of this program is forthcoming; awardees attribute 150+ manuscripts to their CARES funding to date.

“CARES funding has allowed me to finish analyses, manuscripts and disseminate results that I would otherwise not have been able to accomplish.”
-Asst Prof, HSOM


Methods Symposium

Centered around the theme of Scientific Methods to Support Health Equity research, the Annual COERE Methods Symposium is a half-day event featuring presentations by national thought leaders and UAB scholars in the field. This symposium aims to offer a comprehensive overview for a diverse health services and outcomes research audience while also delving into recent developments and innovative directions. The 2023 symposium featured talks on methods, models, and frameworks relevant to the field of health equity. Composed of four distinguished speakers, the 2023 symposium included Drs. Brita Roy from NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Dione King from The University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Patrick Sullivan from Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health. The symposium reached its pinnacle with the Meredith Kilgore Endowed Lectureship delivered by Dr. Olugbenga Ogedegbe from NYU Grossman School of Medicine, generously sponsored by the UAB School of Public Health. Established in 2020, the Kilgore Endowed Lectureship serves as a tribute to the late Dr. Kilgore, commemorating his substantial contributions to health services and outcomes research, as well as his impactful roles as the Co-Director of the COERE and the UAB Health Services Research Training Program. The Symposium continues to reach large local and national audiences with 63 attendees in-person and 130 attendees online.



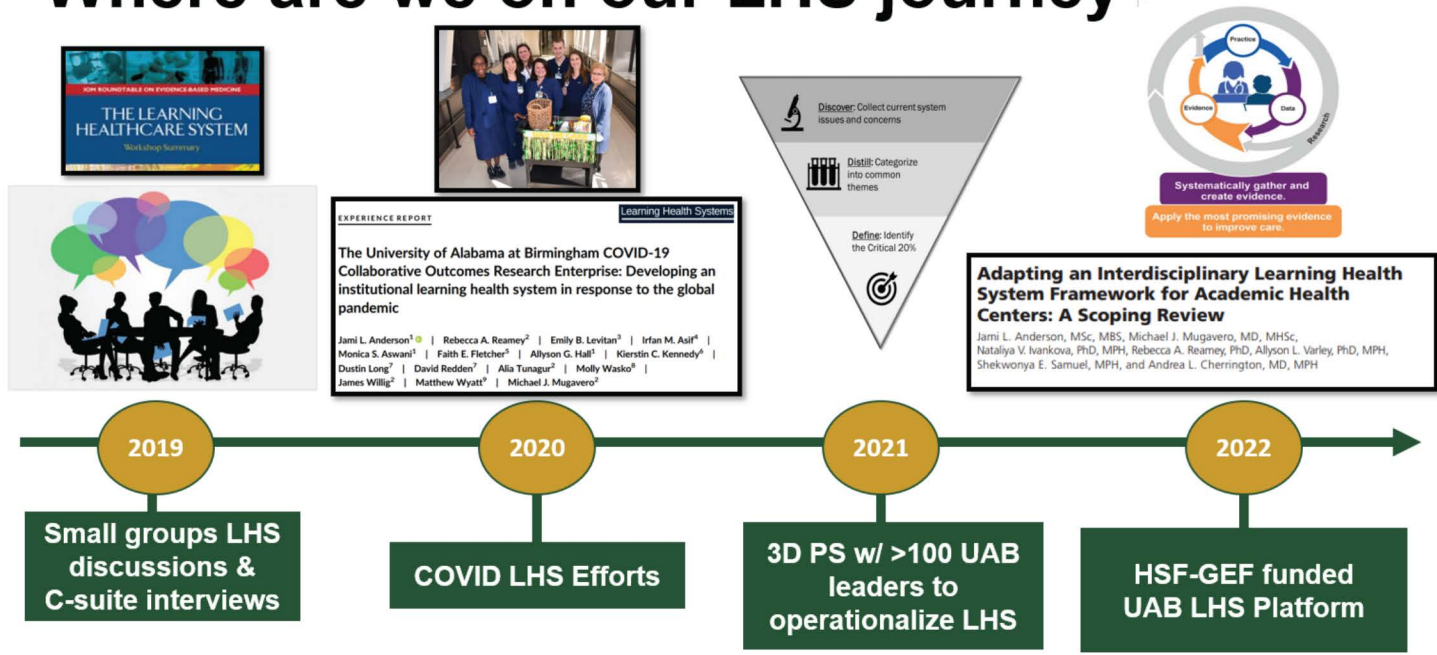


LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEM



COERE received a grant from UAB's Health Services Foundation (HSF) in December 2021 to formally launch UAB's Learning Health System. The platform consists of processes to vet academic-led research projects aspiring to use the health system as their lab, obtain health system datasets for secondary analysis, and embed researchers into quality improvement and evaluation on projects identified by health system leaders. For the grant, researchers are also embedded in 3 projects in the Emergency Room.

Where are we on our LHS journey?



WE CARE Workforce Engagement for Compassionate Advocacy, Resiliency, and Empowerment

- Patricia A. Patrician, PhD, RN, FAAN Professor & Rachel Z. Booth Endowed Chair: UAB school of nursing, Principal Investigator
- Jill Stewart, DNP, RN; Associate Vice President Department of Nursing, UAB Medicine Liaison
- Katherine Meese, PhD; Researcher, UAB Medicine Office of Wellness
- Teena McGuinness, PhD, PMHNP, FAAN; Project Faculty, CRM Facilitator, and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Consultant

- **UAB Wellness Office Survey reported high distress among:**
 - 90% of Nurses
 - 83% of PCTs
 - 75% non-clinical staff
 - 70% MDs
- **University – health system collaborators brought together through COVID CORE (UAB LHS precursor)**
- **Received \$2.3M HRSA grant for WE CARE**

WE CARE Program

- For Registered Nurses (RNs) and Patient Care Technicians (PCTs) (Years 1-3+)
- Prepare **UAB School of Nursing** faculty and students to attend to their well-being, control their sources of stress, and respond compassionately to others in distress. (Years 2-3+)
- Expand WE CARE Program training to RNs throughout the largely rural state of **Alabama**. (Years 3+)

TRANSFORMING PATIENT-CENTERED HEALTH CARE DELIVERY THROUGH AN AI-ENABLED LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEM

September 7-9, 2023
 Don CeSar Hotel
 St. Pete Beach, Florida
 Details coming soon.

Presented by:
 OneFlorida+ Clinical Research Network &
 University of Florida Clinical and Translational
 Science Institute



UAB'S LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEM MONTH

LHS month 2023 focused on equity in healthcare. A panel discussion was held on the utilization of the PRAPARE tool at UAB to study social determinants of health. Samantha Artiga discussed health disparities, racism, and discrimination in health care.



March 7, 2023
 12pm
**Learning From Each Other:
 Incorporating Social Determinants of
 Health Into the Clinical Workflow**
 Panel Discussion
 Moderated by Allyson Hall, PhD
 Panelists: Carrie Howell, PhD; Heather Bradley,
 MHQS, RN, NE-BC; Jennifer Drummonds, CRNP, DNP

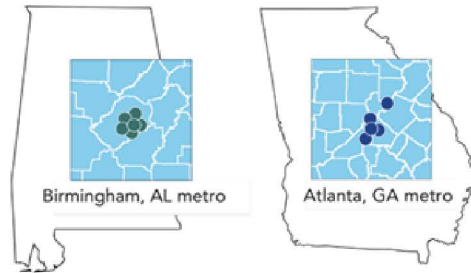
March 21, 2023
 12pm
**Use of Race in Clinical Diagnosis and
 Decision Making: Overview and
 Implication**
Samantha Artiga, MSHA
 Vice President
 Director for Racial Equity and Health Policy Program
 Kaiser Family Foundation

OneFlorida+ Partners

OneFlorida:
 Overview

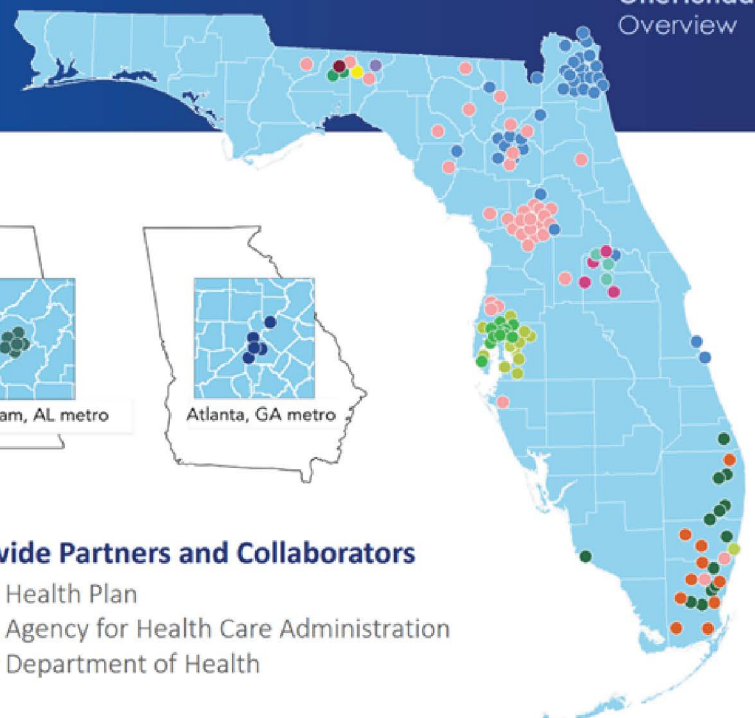
Health Care Systems and Affiliated Practices

- University of Florida and UF Health
- Florida State University
- University of Miami and UHealth
- Orlando Health System
- AdventHealth
- Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare
- Tampa General Hospital
- Bond Community Health Center Inc.
- Nicklaus Children's Hospital
- CommunityHealth IT
- University of South Florida and USF Health
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Emory University



Statewide Partners and Collaborators

- Capital Health Plan
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Department of Health



PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH

 coere@uabmc.edu

 www.uab.edu/medicine/coere/



@UABCOERE

We want to better health outcomes for all while addressing health disparities along the way. Your gift is vital to helping UAB achieve these meaningful endeavors. We're forging the future of medicine. The Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education has a bright outlook for the future. The support of visionary philanthropic partners provides the potential for major breakthroughs in caring for people, teaching, and creating knowledge.



www.uab.edu/medicine/coere/give