

CURRICULUM VITAE

LARA STAUB SAVAS

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EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health	NCI Postdoctoral Fellowship	Intervention Research & Cancer Prevention and Control	2009-2010
Baylor College of Medicine & VA Health Services Research	Postdoctoral Fellowship	Clinical Epidemiology & Health Services Research & Outcomes Research	2006-2009
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health	Ph.D.	Epidemiology	2006
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health	M.S.	Epidemiology	2000
Tufts University	B.A. <i>Cum Laude</i>	International Relations (Latin American Studies)	1994

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health Department of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences	Associate Professor, Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Tenure Track	9/2020-present 9/2019-8/2020
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health Department of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences	Assistant Professor, non-Tenure Track Faculty Associate	2011- 8/2019 2010- 2011
Baylor College of Medicine & VA Health Services Research	Postdoctoral Fellowship Clinical Epidemiology & Outcomes	2006-2009
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health	Project Director & Data Manager	2005 –2006
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health NCI Training Grant in Cancer Prevention (R25T)	Pre-Doctoral Fellow	2002 –2005
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health	Senior Research Assistant	2000 – 2001
UTHealth Houston Medical School	Project Director	1997 –2000
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health & U.T. MD Anderson Cancer Research Center in Cancer Prevention Education - (R25E)	Graduate Research Assistant	1996

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2023 Co-recipient, Teaching Innovation Award for PHWMD 1120 Program Evaluation, Office of Instructional Design, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health
- 2023 Excellence in Community Service Award, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health
- 2019 Health Research Mentor-Mentee Award, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health

FUNDED RESEARCH

Active (total direct costs)

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

- 2023-2028 (Savas, PD) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant (PP230038). *Salud en Mis Manos (SEMM): An Evidence-Based Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection and Prevention Program for Underserved Latinas*. This project will scale up the implementation of *Salud en Mis Manos* among underserved Latinas in a 36-county area, including existing and new counties, to increase breast and cervical screening and HPV catch-up vaccination to decrease the burden of breast and cervical cancer. (Direct \$2,374,526; Indirect \$124,971)
- 2024-2027 (Savas and Shegog, MPIs) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP240041) Expansion of the Evidence-Based Adolescent Vaccination Program in a Safety Net Clinic System to Increase HPV Vaccination Rates in Underserved Populations. (Direct \$1,423,637; Indirect \$72,556)
- 2024-2025 (Peskin & Savas, MPIs). *The University of Texas System, Office of Contracts and Procurement. External Evaluation of Texas Child Health Mental Health Consortium Initiatives*. This independent multi-level evaluation provides a comprehensive and program-specific participatory evaluation of the three mental health state-wide initiatives of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (the TCMHCC). This evaluation work aims to provide decision-makers with evidence-based recommendations to guide ongoing quality improvement and inform future initiative implementation. (Direct \$737,193, \$62,807)
- 2020-2025 (Fernandez & Savas Research Core Project, MPIs). Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. *University of Texas Prevention Research Center*. Collaborating with community partners to accelerate cancer control to decrease health disparities. (\$941,787) The Core Research project focuses on design, implementation, and examination of a multifaceted implementation strategy, designed to accelerate implementation of an evidence-based breast and cervical screening intervention. We will examine implementation outcomes of the strategy called *Salud en Mis Manos*-Dissemination and Implementation (SEMM-DIA) using a quasi-experimental study design.(1U48DP006408-01-00; Fernandez & Markham, MPIs; (Direct \$941,787, Indirect \$481,258)
- 2024-2025 Scale up of the Adolescent Vaccination Program Implementation Tool (AVP-IT). University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC). (Direct \$17,631)

CO-INVESTIGATOR

- 2025- 2030 (Fernandez and Bala, MPIs). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (DP-25-0012). *Optimizing Health Systems for Colorectal Cancer Screening: Implementation of Evidence-Based Interventions to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening in Texas Federally Qualified Health Centers (CRCCP)* The Texas Colorectal Cancer Consortium (TC3) aims to improve colorectal cancer screening rates and reduce disparities in Texas, where screening rates are low and incidence is high. Led by UTHealth Houston, TC3 will partner with Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to implement evidence-based interventions like patient reminders, provider feedback, and patient navigation. The program targets underserved areas, aiming to increase screening rates by 50%, improve adherence to guidelines, and ensure timely follow-up for abnormal results. By addressing barriers such as transportation and cost, TC3 seeks to enhance healthcare delivery, reduce disparities, and contribute to national best practices for colorectal cancer prevention and control. Renewal grant, first awarded 06/30/2020.
- 2023-2028 (Fernandez, Unger, & LaJous; MPIs). National Institute of Health (NIH; 1U54CA284109-01) *Leveraging Implementation Science To Optimize Strategies for Cancer Control*. This project aims to advance global implementation science (IS) in cancer control in Mexico and Latin America. LISTOS for Cancer Control - Leveraging Implementation Science To Optimize Strategies for Cancer Control will increase capacity for implementation science for cancer control in Mexico and Latin America. The project proposes to establish a new center in Mexico and carry out two cancer control implementation science research projects: 1) Implementing colorectal cancer screening in publicly funded health systems in Mexico, and 2) Implementation of integrated care for rapid diagnosis of breast cancer in Mexico. (Direct \$3,985,662; Indirect \$837,349)
- 2024-2028 (Cuccaro PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (PP24003). *Expanding "All for Them": A multilevel strategy for HPV-related cancer prevention*. This project maintains the current implementation of the evidence-based intervention, All for Them, in Texas communities while expanding the intervention strategies to increase HPV vaccine uptake. (Direct: \$2,409,288, Indirect \$90,682)
- 2023-2028 (Bala & Fernandez, MPIs) Mentor: *Cancer Prevention and Control Research Training and Career Development Program*. NCI/NIH (2T32CA057712-31) The long-term goal is to reduce cancer morbidity and mortality by training innovative cancer prevention scientists that will improve the quality and impact of cancer prevention research. Trainees come from across biomedical, bioinformatics, and public health disciplines and participate in mentored training on innovation and transdisciplinary team science to improve cancer prevention and control and reduce cancer-related health disparities. (\$2,412,545)
- 2022-2026 (Tao, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Research Grant. (RP220244). *AI-based conversational agent for facilitating education and communication about HPV vaccination in children and adolescents*. This study focuses on the development of an interactive conversational agent to enhance HPV vaccine awareness among decision-makers (patients or parents of patients). The dialogue system will 1) provide the agent with domain knowledge of the HPV vaccine and related topics, and 2) the intelligence for autonomous dialogue interaction. This system will allow users to use natural language questions and answer their questions about the HPV vaccine and related topics. The result of our efforts will be a software agent that protects the privacy of patients and is independent of third-party proprietary software vendors. We will pilot-test the conversational agent with parents and young adults to measure its effectiveness and feasibility. (Direct \$1,306,132, Indirect \$ \$58774)
- 2022-2025 (Fischer-Hoch PI of UT subcontract), Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas *Project ACCESS: Increasing Access to Cervical Cancer Screening & Treatment Services in Texas*. (PP220037; Subcontract: MD Anderson, PI: Schmeler.) *Project ACCESS: Increasing*

- Access to Cervical Cancer Screening & Treatment Services in Texas.* (\$288,694, Indirect \$15,194)
- 2023-2025 (Cuccaro, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (PP230033). *Expanding All for Them: A multifaceted dissemination and implementation approach to increase HPV vaccination.* The goal of this 2-year study is to develop and test Implementing All for Them (IM-AFT), a multifaceted implementation strategy to support the dissemination and implementation of AFT by schools, school districts, and CHCs or other providers. (Direct \$427,467, Indirect \$22,497)
- 2020-2025 (Fernandez and Markham Research, MPIs). Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. University of Texas Prevention Research Center. Collaborating with community partners to accelerate cancer control to decrease health disparities. The Center's mission is to increase the use of evidence-based cancer control interventions, policies, and guidelines through collaboration with academic, public health, and community partners. (1U48DP006408-01-00; (Direct \$2,285,843, Indirect \$1,087,172)

Completed

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

- 2019-2025 (Savas, PD) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant (PP190061). *Salud en Mis Manos: Delivering Evidence-Based Breast & Cervical Cancer Prevention Services to Latinas in Underserved Texas South and Gulf Coast Communities.* The goal of this study is to expand the evidence-based intervention, Salud en Mis Manos, to include 20 counties in the Texas Gulf Coast and Rio Grande Valley to further reduce the burden of breast and cervical cancer in underserved Latinas. (\$1.9 million)
- 2020-2023 (Savas, Shegog, & Vernon, MPIs). Scale up of the Adolescent Vaccination Program Implementation Tool (AVP-IT) Award: The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) HPV Initiative Project Director (10%) *Dissemination and implementation of an HPV vaccination decision support tool within two community clinic networks.* Dissemination and implementation of an HPV vaccination decision support tool within two community clinic networks. (\$284,968.)
- 2021-2023 (Peskin & Savas, MPIs). The University of Texas System, Office of Contracts and Procurement. *External Evaluation of Texas Child Health Mental Health Consortium Initiatives.* This independent multi-level evaluation provides a comprehensive and program-specific participatory evaluation of the three mental health state-wide initiatives of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (the TCMHCC). This evaluation aims to provide decision-makers with evidence-based recommendations to guide ongoing quality improvement and future initiative implementation. (\$1.4 million)
- 2020-2021 (Peskin & Savas, MPIs) The University of Texas System, Office of Contracts and Procurement. *External Evaluation of Texas Child Health Mental Health Consortium Initiatives.* This independent multi-level evaluation provides a comprehensive and program-specific participatory evaluation of the three mental health state-wide initiatives of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (the TCMHCC). This evaluation aims to provide decision-makers with evidence-based recommendations to guide ongoing quality improvement and future initiative implementation. (\$749,116)
- 2020-2022 (Savas, PI) UTHealth Center for Clinical & Translational Research Pilot Awards Program. *The Influence of Race/Ethnicity Concordance on Parent-Pediatrician Communication and HPV Vaccination Outcomes: A Mixed-Methods Study.* This project uses qualitative and quantitative research methods to understand the complex effects of race and ethnicity in

- parent-provider communications and their impact on adolescent vaccination outcomes. (\$34,992)
- 2015-2019 (Savas, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP160047) Competitive Continuation/Expansion Prevention Grant Award. *A Community-Based Program to Increase Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination to Reduce the Impact of Breast and Cervical Cancer among Latinas*. (\$1.4 million)
- 2015-2019 (Savas & Vernon, MPIs) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Research Grant. (RP150014) *Multi-Component Interventions to Increase HPV Vaccination in a Network of Pediatric Clinics in Houston, TX*. The overall goal was to increase initiation and completion of HPV vaccination among male and female patients ages 11-17 in a pediatric clinic network with 48 clinics in 5 counties in the greater Houston area. The study aims are to develop, implement, and evaluate the effect and cost-effectiveness of two multi-component evidence-informed interventions targeting providers and parents of adolescents 11-17 years of age. (\$1,451,013)
- 2014 -2019 (Savas & Vernon, MPIs) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP140183) *Multi-component Interventions to Increase HPV Vaccination in a Network of Pediatric Clinics*. The overall study goal is to develop, implement, and evaluate a multi-component evidence-informed intervention targeting providers and their healthcare systems to increase HPV vaccination. (\$1,495,389).
- 2014-2017 (Fernandez & Savas, MPIs of Subcontract, Legacy Community Health Services, PI, Megdal) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas. Evidence-Based Cancer Prevention Services. CPRIT Prevention Grant. (PP140208) *Implementing a Multilevel Intervention to Increase HPV Vaccination and Decrease Cancer Disparities among FQHC Patients in Harris and Jefferson counties*. (\$246,143, subcontract)
- 2012-2017 (Fernandez & Savas, MPI of subcontract; Cancer and Chronic Disease Consortium, PI, Valdez) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas Prevention Grant. (PP120211) *Unidas por Vida y Salud: Increasing Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening in El Paso*. (\$342,646, subcontract)
- 2013 (PI of subcontract; PI, Emory University, Kegler). National Institute of Health. Emory University Adaptation of *Brief Intervention to Create Smoke-Free Home Policies in Low-Income Households*. (\$507,771)
- 2011-2013 (Savas, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP110081) Health Behavior Change through Public and Professional Education and Training. *Using an Evidence-based Lay Health Worker Program to Increase Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening in Low-Income Hispanic Women* (\$599,724).

CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

- 2015-2018 (Fernandez and Savas, Co-PIs of subcontract: MDAnderson, PI Foxhall). Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP150054) *Alliance for Colorectal Cancer Testing (ACT) in Southeast Texas*. (Subcontract: \$517,396)

CO-INVESTIGATOR

- 2020-2025 (Fernandez and Bala, MPIs) CDC (1NU58DP006767-01-00). *Implementation of Evidence-based Interventions to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening in Texas Federally Qualified Health Centers*. The project builds on long-standing relationships with our FQHC and implementation partners and benefits from available resources to cover CRCS and follow-up for patients with no ability to pay. The program will enable a sustained increase in CRCS rates

- among FQHCs reaching severely underserved and minority populations in Texas to reduce the burden of CRC and CRC-related health disparities. (Direct \$2.4 million, Indirect \$779,851)
- 2019-2024 (Fernandez, PI) NIH (U54CA96300) University of Puerto Rico/UT MD Anderson Cancer Center: Partnership For Excellence In Cancer Research. The goal is to work with community, provider, and academic partners for cancer control implementation in both Texas and Puerto Rico (\$540,260)
- 2020-2025 (Cuccaro, PI) Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP200017) *Expanding All for Them: A comprehensive school-based approach to increase HPV vaccination.* The goal of this 3-year study is to expand the evidence-based intervention, All for Them, to three school districts in Texas to increase HPV vaccination initiation and completion in adolescents. (\$1.9)
- 2022-2024 (Wilkerson, PI) Subcontract with Harris County Public Health. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. 1NU58DP006986-01-00. Before Always Has an After Navigating Beyond the Pandemic. Intervention Evaluator. The subcontract focuses on the evaluation of an intervention to increase community health workers' capacity to conduct COVID-19 prevention and control response to support resilience in vulnerable communities. (\$713,922).
- 2022-2024 (Fernandez, Reininger, Bauer, & McPherson, MPIs) National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences/NIH/DHHS; NCATS (1U01TR004355-01). Addressing COVID-19 Testing Disparities in Vulnerable Populations Using a Community JITAI (Just in Time Adaptive Intervention) Approach: RADXUP Phase III. This study focuses on understanding factors associated with rapid SARS-CoV-2 testing through a mixed methods study (Aim 2a) and adapting our intervention messages, materials, and strategies to increase relevance, intensity, and reach. We will include a broader focus on addressing the social determinants of health experienced by our communities and on combating misinformation. (\$1,490,449)
- 2021-2024 (Fernandez, McPherson, Fujimoto, McGaha, de Oliveira Otto, & Reininger; MPIs) NIH/NCATS. (3UL1TR003167-03S3). Addressing COVID-19 Testing Disparities in Vulnerable Populations Using a Community JITAI (Just in Time Adaptive Intervention) Approach – Phase II. (\$2,333,630)
- 2020-2024 (Fernandez, McPherson, Otto, & Reininger, MPIs) NIH. (3UL1TR003167-02S10). RADXUP I: RADxUP: *Understanding and Addressing COVID-19 Testing Disparities in Vulnerable Populations: A multilevel and Multi-method Approach - Phase I. Led development of the community-engagement multi-component intervention.* (\$4,998,788).
- 2021-2023 (Cuccaro, Fernandez, & Reininger, MPIs) HRSA. (6 U3SHS45319-01-03.6) *Community-Based Workforce to Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations in Underserved Communities.* (\$7,484,003)
- 2018-2023 (Mullen PD, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (Subcontract: MD Anderson, PI: Blalock; PP180077) *Increasing Access to Smoking Cessation and Smoke-Free Home Services for Low-Income Pregnant Women in Northeast Texas* (Subcontract: \$249,093)
- 2018-2023 Mentor. National Cancer Institute Cancer Prevention and Control Research Training and Career Development Program. (\$1,964,556.)
- 2021-2022 (Fernandez & Cuccaro, PIs) CDC 6U48DP006408-01-01. *Connecting Behavioral Science to COVID-19 Vaccine Demand (CBS-CVD) Network.* \$396,825
- 2020-2021 (Boerwinkle, PI) Harris County. *SARS-CoV-2 surveillance testing program for Harris County.* This project will provide targeted SARS-CoV-2 testing in high-need communities in Harris County. (\$15,441,067)
- 2020-2021 (Cuccaro, PI) Association of Community Health Centers. *Evaluating the impact of COVID-19 on community health centers in Texas.* (\$73,056)

- 2018-2021 (Valerio/Fernandez, MPIs) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas. (PI of subcontract: PI, MDAnderson; PP170078). *Alliance for Colorectal Cancer Testing 2.0*. (Subcontract: \$542,098)
- 2016-2020 (Fernandez, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Research Grant (RP170493). *For Our Children: A Tailored Multi-level Intervention for Parents and Healthcare Providers to Increase HPV Vaccination Rates*. (\$1.4 million).
- 2013-2020 (Fernández, PI subcontract) National Cancer Institute U54 Partnership for Excellence in Cancer Research. (PI: G Lopez-Bernstein G, PI) Awarded to MD Anderson Cancer Center and University of Puerto Rico with UTSPH subcontract (\$477,986 million)
- 2015-2017 (Fernandez, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas. Prevention Grant (PP1600051). *Dissemination of an Evidence-Based HPV Vaccination Intervention in Community and Clinical Settings*. (\$300,000)
- 2013-2016 (Fernandez, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Research Grant. (RP130459) *Cancer Communication Interventions to Increase HPV Vaccination among Hispanic Adolescents*. (\$1.4 million).
- 2012-2015 (Fernandez, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP120086) *Increasing Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination among Underserved Texans: A Collaboration with the United Way's 2-1-1 Program*. (\$2,699,988)
- 2011-2016 (Mullen, Subcontract PI; PI, Emory University, Kegler). National Cancer Institute NIH (S713745/U101CA154282) *Brief Intervention to Create Smoke-Free Home Policies in Low-Income Households*. (\$615,907)
- 2010-2013 (Fernandez, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Research Grant. (RP10086) *Cancer Communication Interventions to Increase HPV Vaccination among Hispanic Adolescents*. (\$1,421,232)
- 2010-2012 (Fernandez, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Grant. (PP100077) *Increasing Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination among Underserved Texans: A Collaboration with the United Way's 2-1-1 Program*. (\$961,024)
- 2009-2014 (Fernandez, PI) Texas Prevention Research Center Special Interest Project, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (SIP 002-09) Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network
- 2005-2006 National Cancer Institute. *Predoctoral fellow* (wrote an R03 grant with advisor mentorship to support my dissertation research; Dr. Vernon, PI) *A Cancer Study among Female Veterans in Texas, 1979-2002* (NCI Funded Grant R03 CA103512-2)

Grants Under Review (2025)

1. **Savas PI.** Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (PP260069). *Adaptation and Implementation of an Evidence-Based CHW-delivered Program to Increase Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and Prevention Among Texas Women*. This project will adapt the evidence-based breast and cervical cancer prevention and early detection program for Hispanic women, *Salud en Mis Manos* (SEMM), to develop Health in My Hands (HMH) for low-income women in medically underserved areas of Texas. Submitted: June 11, 2025 (Direct \$2,499,798) Status: Under Review.
2. (Ramirez-Varela and Walker, MPIs) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Research. *Boosting Breast and Colorectal Cancer Prevention through Physical Activity Assessment, Prescription, and Referral into Clinical Care Among Communities in Need*. July 2025. Direct: \$949,964). I will serve as the lead evaluator Status: Under Review. (**Savas, Co-I**)

3. (Fenton, PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Research. (PP260072). *Advancing Cancer-prevention Through Interventions, Vaccinations, and Targeted Engagement (ACTIVATE)*. This project will leverage health IT and evidence-based strategies to address modifiable risk factors, including enhanced screenings, referrals, counseling, and Hepatitis B vaccinations, to reduce cancer burden in underserved Texas counties. Submitted: June 11, 2025 (Direct \$807,872) Status: Under Review. (**Savas, Co-I**).
4. (Fernandez and Bala, MPIs) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (PP260090). Prevention Research. *ACCESS: Advancing Colorectal Cancer Screening in East and South TX Services*. The overarching goal of this project is to reduce CRC incidence, morbidity, and mortality among underserved populations in East and South TX by increasing CRCS. Through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, clinical service delivery, and community outreach. I am the lead evaluator and developed the proposal evaluation plan. Submitted: June 2025. (Direct \$1,500,000) Status: Under Review. (**Savas, Co-I**)
5. (Varon and Schmeller, MPIs University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas. *Continuation of Project ACCESS: Increasing Access to Cervical Cancer Screening & Treatment Services in Texas*. This cervical cancer screening project uses the Salud en Mis Manos training curriculum, CHW-delivered education, and navigation protocol, which I developed and will support the MDACC team in adapting as part of their proposed expansion project (**Savas, Co-I**)

Grants In-Preparation/Planned for Resubmission 2025

- **Savas PI**, National Institute of Health. R01 (PAR-22-105, Application # P013673). *Improving implementation and sustainment of an evidence-based breast and cervical cancer screening program for Latinas: Salud en Mis Manos-Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA)*. Submitted: June 2024. (Direct: \$3,863,968) Scored 33, 22nd Percentile. Resubmission In-Progress
- **Savas & Myneni MPIs**. Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Prevention Research. (RP250427). *A digital booster intervention to address Human Papillomavirus vaccine misinformation*. This project will develop and test an mHealth intervention designed to actively combat HPV misinformation that parents encounter in social media and improve HPV vaccination uptake. Submitted: June 11, 2024 (Direct \$1,138,680) Passed First Review (Fall 2024). Scored 3.5
- (Naik, PI). National Institute of Aging (Resubmission of Application # P014413). UTHealth Houston Pepper Center for Social Adversity and Aging Science. Submission due: Oct 20, 2025. (**Savas, Co-I**)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles (reverse chronological order) (*) indicates postdoctoral or graduate student

1. **Savas LS**, Cuccaro P, Zhang K, Hernandez R, Haffey ME, Reininger B, Mendiola A, Dominguez O, Sifuentes M, Bauer C, Fernandez ME. Factors influencing COVID-19 vaccine uptake among vulnerable communities in Texas: Perceptions of 2-1-1 helpline callers. *Vaccine*. 2025 Aug 4;60 Suppl 1:127554. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2025.127554. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 40763395.

2. Li Y, Li J, Li M, Yu E, Rhee D, Amith M, Tang L, **Savas LS**, Cui L, Tao C. VaxBot-HPV: a GPT-based chatbot for answering HPV vaccine-related questions. *JAMIA Open*. 2025 Feb 19;8(1):ooaf005. doi: 10.1093/jamiaopen/ooaf005. PMID: 39975811; PMCID: PMC11837857.
3. Cuccaro P, Choi J, **Savas LS**, Gabay EK, Aguilar McBride M, Montelongo Eldridge A, Walker TJ. Development and evaluation of an implementation strategy to increase HPV vaccination among underserved youth across Texas: A protocol paper. *Implementation Science Communications*. 2024 Dec 27; 5 (143). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s43058-024-00688-4>.
4. *Hunyadi J, **Savas LS**, Zhang K, Deason JE, Ramphul R, Peskin MF, Frost EL, Bauer C. A comparison of floating catchment area parameters with applications to a dataset of clinics enrolled in a statewide child and adolescent psychiatric consultation program. *Front Public Health*. 2025 Feb 20;13:1498819. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2025.1498819. PMID: 40051515; PMCID: PMC11882419.
5. McKenzie AH, **Savas LS**, Shegog R, Mantey DS, Frost EL, Yeh PG, Healy CM, Spinner S, Shay LA, Preston SM, Vernon SW. Effect of School HPV Vaccination Requirements on Pediatricians' Recommendations. *Vaccines (Basel)*. 2024 Dec 6;12(12):1374. doi: 10.3390/vaccines12121374. PMID: 39772037; PMCID: PMC11680108.
6. *Dias EM, Padilla JR, Cuccaro PM, Walker TJ, Balasubramanian BA, **Savas LS**, Valerio-Shewmaker MA, Chenier RS, Fernandez ME. Barriers to and facilitators of implementing colorectal cancer screening evidence-based interventions in federally qualified health centers: a qualitative study. *BMC Health Services Research*. 2024 Jul 10;24(1):797. doi: 10.1186/s12913-024-11163-0. PMID: 38987761; PMCID: PMC11238502.
7. McKenzie AH., Avshman E, Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Shay LA. Facebook's shared articles on HPV Vaccination: Analysis of persuasive strategies. *BMC Public Health*. 2024. 24(1679).
8. Shay LA, McKenzie A, Avshman E, **Savas LS**, Shegog R. HPV vaccine-related articles shared on Facebook from 2019 to 2021: Did COVID make a difference? *PEC Innov*. 2024 Jun 4;4:100301. doi: 10.1016/j.pecinn.2024.100301. PMID: 38962500; PMCID: PMC11219959.
9. *Ejezie CL, Cuccaro P, **Savas LS**, Shegog R. Regional differences in provider recommendation of HPV vaccines among 13-to-17-year-old adolescents from 2019 to 2021. *Vaccine*. 2024 Aug 13;42(20):125974. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2024.05.022. Epub 2024 May 24. PMID: 38796327.
10. **Savas LS**, Shegog R, Frost EL, Healy CM, Mantey DS, Coan SP, Shay LA, Teague TA, Ferreris JJ, Preston SM, Vernon SW. Effect of an HPV Vaccination Multi-Level, Multi-Component Program on HPV Vaccination Initiation and Completion in a Pediatric Clinic Network. *Vaccines (Basel)*. 2024 May 8;12(5):510. doi: 10.3390/vaccines12050510. PMID: 38793761; PMCID: PMC11126005.
11. Moore N, Amith M, Neumann AC, Hamilton J, Tang L, **Savas LS**, Tao C. Translating motivational interviewing for the HPV vaccine into a computable ontology model for automated AI conversational interaction. *Ext Abstr Hum Factors Computing Syst*. 2024 May;2024:341. doi: 10.1145/3613905.3651051. Epub 2024 May 11. PMID: 38898884; PMCID: PMC11185982.
12. *Ejezie CL, Shegog R, Durand C, Cuccaro P, **Savas LS**. A Multivariate Probit Regression of the Uptake of Adolescent Vaccines Among Racial/Ethnic Minority Adolescents Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *The Journal of adolescent health : official publication of the Society for Adolescent Medicine*. 2024 Jan; 74(1), 28–35. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2023.08.007>. PMID: 37804299
13. *Ejezie CL, **Savas LS**, Durand C, Shegog R, Cuccaro P. The prevalence of human papillomavirus vaccination among racial and ethnic minority adolescents during the COVID-19 pandemic. *JNCI Cancer Spectr*. 2023 Aug 31;7(5):pkad065. doi: 10.1093/jncics/pkad065. PMID: 37651597; PMCID: PMC10521629.

14. Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Frost EL, Thormaehlen LC, Teague T, Steffy J, Healy CM, Shay LA, Preston S, Vernon SW. Adaptation and Formative Evaluation of Online Decision Support to Implement Evidence-Based Strategies to Increase HPV Vaccination Rates in Pediatric Clinics. *Vaccines*. 2023; July 11(7):1270. PMID: 37515085;PMCID: PMC10383429; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines11071270>
15. Aguilar C, Amith M, Tang L, Hamilton J, **Savas LS**, Rhee D, Khan T, Tao C. (2023, July). Evaluating Domain-Independent Small Talk Conversations to Improve Clinical Communication Interaction for Human and Machine. In International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction (pp. 330-343). Cham: *Springer Nature Switzerland*. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-35741-1_25
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INVITED COMMENTARIES (* Indicates student authorship)

1. *Ejezie CL, Shegog R, Durand C, Cuccaro P, **Savas LS**. The Authors Respond. *J Adolesc Health*. 2024 Apr;74(4):855-856. doi: 10.1016/j.jadohealth.2023.12.019. PMID: 38519254.

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1. **Savas LS**, Peskin MF, Rajan SS, Frost E, Hernande B, Addy R, Siceluff A, Kanipe C, Akkala S, and Castaldo-Walsh C. (2024). External Evaluation of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium: FY 2024 Report. UTHealth Houston School of Public Health; Decision Information Resources, Inc. Submitted to the University of Texas System.
2. **Savas LS**, Peskin MF, Rajan SS, Hernandez B, Addy R, Frost E, Yeh P, Siceluff A, and Kanipe C. (2023). External Evaluation of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium: Year 3, Part 2 Report. UTHealth Houston School of Public Health. Submitted to the University of Texas System.
3. **Savas LS**, Peskin MF, Rajan SS, Hernandez B., Addy R., Frost E, Siceluff A, Kanipe C, Castaldo-Walsh C, Whiting C, Jackson S, Osorio M, and Helmick J. (2023). External Evaluation of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium: Year 3, Part 1 Report. UTHealth Houston School of Public Health; Decision Information Resources, Inc. Submitted to the University of Texas System.
4. **Savas LS**, Peskin MF, Lairson D, Ranjit N, Bauer C, Ramphul R, Hernandez B, Addy R., Frost, E, Siceluff A, and Yang Y. (2022). External Evaluation of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium: Year 2, Part 2 Report. UTHealth Houston School of Public Health. Submitted to the University of Texas System.
5. **Savas LS**, Peskin MF, Lairson D, Ranjit N, Hernandez B, Add, R, Frost E, Yang Y, Munroe S, Castaldo-Wals, C, Shillingford-Cole V, Whiting C, and Valladares E. (2022). External Evaluation

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7. **Savas,LS.**, Peskin MF, Moore Q, Lairson D, Hernandez B, Frost E, Addy R, Klotz J, Deason J, Farias R, Yang Y. (2021). External Evaluation of the Texas Child Mental Health Consortium FY 20-21 Interim Report. Submitted to the University of Texas System.

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED/ UNDER REVIEW

1. **Savas LS.**, Heredia NI, Huyan Y, Coan S, Martin S, Mantey DS, Adlparvar EM, Yao KG, Alaniz A, Figueroa E, Fernandez ME. *A Randomized Controlled Trial to Evaluate an Adapted Community Health Worker-delivered Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Education and Navigation Intervention for Underserved Latina Adults*. Under Review
2. *Manuel W, *Rhee D, Hao X, **Savas L**, Agana-Norman DFG, Tao C, Tang L, Gong Y, Cui L, Amith M. *The HPV Persona Ontology: Modeling The "Why" Behind Stakeholder Vaccination Decisions*. Under Review
3. Lia, Tang L, Cui L, **Savas LS**, Tao C, Gong Y, Amith M. *Developing SUIQ-RVI: A Streamlined Usability Assessment for Modern Speech Interface and Speech Bots*. Under Review
4. Colon-Lopez V, Soto-Salgado M, Valencia-Torres I, **Savas LS**, Velez-Alamo C, Fernandez-Espada N, William C, Pattatuci A, Fernandez ME. *Effectiveness of a Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Promotion Program for Low-Income Puerto Ricans*. Under Review

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS AND PRESENTATIONS

(*) indicates postdoctoral or graduate student.

INTERNATIONAL

1. **Savas LS**, Adlparvar E, Huyan Y, Black N, Goetz M, Cuccaro P. Evaluating CHW-Delivered Navigation to Increase Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination Among Latinas Reached in Community Settings: The Salud en Mis Manos Program. 37th Annual Conference of the International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS 2025); Abstract Submission #535. October 2025. Accepted for oral presentation.
2. Shegog R., Sun H., Frost EL, Thormaehlen LC, Teague TA, Healy M, Shay LA, Azam H, Khawaja A, Vernon SW, and **Savas LS**. Online Decision Support Increases HPV Vaccination Rates in Texas Safety-net Pediatric Clinics. International Papillomavirus Society. Accepted for poster presentation.
3. **Savas LS.**, Rhee D, Tang L, Amith M, Wodstrchill K, Cui L, Tau C. Using Intervention Mapping to Develop a Speechbot to Increase HPV Vaccination among Young Adults in the United States. 36th International Papillomavirus Conference (IPVC); Poster Presented on November 12-15, 2024.
4. **Savas, LS**, Adlparvar E., Huyan Y, Black N, Goetz MM, Figueroa-Solis E, Coan S, Cuccaro PM. Evaluation of Salud En Mis Manos Scale-UP: A Community Health Worker-

- Delivered Program to Increase Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination Among Latina Women. 36th International Papillomavirus Conference (IPVC); Poster Presented on November 12-15, 2024.
5. Shegog R, Frost EL, Sun H, Thormaehlen LA, Azam H, Khawaja A, Shay LA, Healy CM, Vernon SW, Teague T, **Savas LS**. Feasibility of AVP-IT: An online tool to facilitate the implementation of evidence-based strategies to increase HPV vaccination rates in safety-net pediatric clinics in Houston, Texas. 36th International Papillomavirus Conference (IPVC); Poster. November 12-15, 2024.
 6. **Savas LS.**, Costa, C., Lin, M., Alaniz, A., Shegog, R., Valero, A., Yeh, P., Chenier, R., Fernandez, M.E. Usability testing of an implementation support strategy to increase health centers' use of a breast and cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination program for Latinas. 36th International Papillomavirus Conference (IPVC); Poster Presented on November 12-15, 2024
 7. *McKenzie A, **Savas L**, Yeh P, Shegog R, Healy CM, Shay LA, Preston S, Frost E, Spinner S, Vernon S. Pediatrician psychosocial variables associated with HPV communication strategies. 73rd Annual International Communication Association Conference, Reclaiming Authenticity in Communication. Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 25-29 May, 2023.
 8. **Savas, LS**, Shegog, R., Frost EL, Shay LA, Healy CM, Teague TA, Preston SM, McKenzie AH, Vernon, SW. Adaptation, Implementation, and Evaluation of the Clinic-Based Adolescent Vaccination. Poster presented at the 35th International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2023), Washington, D.C. April 17-21, 2023
 9. *Farris K, Preston S, Cuccaro P, McKenzie A, Vernon S, Healy CM, **Savas LS**. The Impact of Being One of Few: Black Female Pediatricians' Experiences with Microaggressions. International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Glasgow, Scotland UK, September 5-10, 2022.
 10. **Savas, L.S.**, Loomba, P., Shegog, R., Allicock, M., Costa, C, Hendrick, A.M., English, A.S., Chenier, R.S., Markham, C.M., Fernandez, M.E. Using Implementation Mapping to Increase the Adoption and Implementation of Salud en Mis Manos (SEMM), a Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination Intervention for Medically Underserved Latinas. Poster presented at the 24th Annual Conference of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE), Virtual Conference, May 15-19, 2022; Virtual
 11. Fernandez ME, Loomba P, **Savas LS**, Cuccaro PM, Welski AV, Cruz M, Valencia-Torres I, Vernon SW. Using Implementation Mapping to Develop an mHealth Intervention to Increase Provider recommendation of HPV Vaccination. Poster presented to: The 33rd International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2020), Basic Science, Clinical and Public Health Workshops. Barcelona, Spain. Jul 20-24, 2020
 12. Shegog R, *Crawford C, Frost EL, Gabay EK, *Becker ER, Coan S, **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Spinner SW, Fernandez ME, Vernon SW. HPV CancerFree: Feasibility of a mHealth intervention to influence parent HPV vaccination decision-making. Poster presented at the 32nd International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2018), Sydney, Australia, Oct 6, 2018.
 13. *Rodriguez SA, Mullen PD, Lopez DM, **Savas LS**, Fernandez ME. Individual-, provider-, and clinic-level factors associated with adolescent HPV vaccination outcomes: A multilevel framework based on a systematic review of reviews. Poster to be presented at the 32nd International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2018), Sydney, Australia, October 2-6, 2018.
 14. **Savas LS**, Heredia NI, Coan SP, Fernandez, ME. Effectiveness of a community health worker-delivered intervention to increase breast and cervical cancer screening among medically underserved Hispanics. E-Poster, Oral Presentation presented at World Cancer Congress; October 4, 2018; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

15. McGlone MS, Stephens KK, **Savas LS**, Rodriguez SA, Vernon SW, Fernandez ME. Texts for taking action: Agency assignment in text message HPV vaccination reminders. Poster presented at the 31st International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2017), Cape Town, South Africa, February 28-March 4, 2017.
16. *Rodriguez SA, Mims MK, **Savas LS**, Stevens L, Bundage K, Megdal T, Ramondetta L, Fernandez ME. Development of a provider training to increase HPV vaccination among 11-26 year olds in a federally qualified health clinic. Poster presented at the 31st International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2017), Cape Town, South Africa, February 28-March 4, 2017.
17. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Rodriguez SA, Fernandez-Espada N, Lipizzi E, Cuccaro PM, Roncancio A, Vernon SW. Development and adaptation of two educational interventions for Hispanic parents to increase HPV vaccination among adolescents. Poster presented at the 31st International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2017), Cape Town, South Africa, February 28-March 4, 2017.
18. **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Polivka KM, Coan SP, Shegog R, Healy CM, Spinner SW, Miller CA, Fernández ME, Vernon SW. Increasing HPV Vaccination in a Network of Pediatric Clinics in Houston, TX: A Baseline Assessment. Poster presentation, 30th International Papillomavirus Conference & Clinical and Public Health Workshops (HPV 2015), Lisbon, Portugal, September 17-21, 2015.
19. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Roncancio A, Khan M, Fernandez-Espada N, Rodriguez SA, Vernon SW. Evaluation of two HPV vaccination educational interventions for Hispanic parents. 30th International Papillomavirus Conference and Clinical and Public Health Workshops (HPV 2015) Lisbon, Portugal, September 17-21, 2015.
20. Fernández ME, **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Roncancio A, Khan M, Fernandez-Espada N, Rodriguez, SA, Vernon SW. Parental Recall of Daughter's HPV Vaccination Status. 30th International Papillomavirus Conference and Clinical and Public Health Workshops (HPV 2015) Lisbon, Portugal, September 17-21, 2015.
21. Fernández ME, Serra Y*, **Savas L**, Mullen PD. Innovations in health promotion: From research to practice. Presentation at Cumbre Atlántica de Promoción de la Salud y Educación para la Salud: Referentes con nombre propio, Madrid, Spain, October 19-21, 2015.
22. *Karanth SS, Lairson DR, Fernández-Espada N, **Savas LS**, Vernon SW, Fernández ME. Development cost of print and tailored interactive multimedia interventions to promote HPV vaccination. Poster presented at the 28th International Papillomavirus Conference & Clinical and Public Health Workshops, San Juan, PR. Dec, 2-6, 2012.
23. Fernandez ME, **Savas L**, Vernon SW. Cervical Cancer-Free Texas: A collaborative effort to eliminate cervical cancer among Texans. Presentation at the 28th International Papillomavirus Conference & Clinical and Public Health Workshops, San Juan, PR. Dec, 2-6, 2012.
24. Fernandez, ME, Byrd T, Arvey S, **Savas, LS**, Vernon SW. Development and Evaluation of A Lay Health-worker Delivered Interactive Program to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening among Hispanics on the Texas-Mexico Border. Poster presentation at the 20th IUHPE World Conference on Health, Equity and Sustainable Development. Geneva, Switzerland. July 12, 2010.

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25. **Savas LS**, Frost F, Peskin M. *Mapping and Analyzing Implementation Processes for Pediatric Mental Health Programs: A Multi-Level Formative Evaluation of CPAN and TCHATT Initiatives in Texas*. 18th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health; Abstract. Abstract Submission #75725. December 14-17, 2025. Accepted for Poster Presentation

26. **Savas LS**, Alaniz A., Shegog R., Alsharawy A, Rajan S, Bryant-Kendrick E, Valero A, Lin M, Chenier R., Fernandez ME. *Examination of an Online Intervention Aimed at Enhancing an Evidence-based Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination Program: Usability and Pilot Study Results*. 18th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health. December 14-17, 2025. Accepted for Poster Presentation
27. *Martin S, Alaniz A, Shegog R., Chenier R., Fernandez M.E, **Savas LS**. *Rapid Qualitative Analysis of an Online Implementation Support System for Enhancing Evidence-Based Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening in Community Health Centers*. 18th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health. December 14-17, 2025 Accepted for Poster Presentation
28. Shegog R, Frost E, Sun H, Thormaehlen L, Teague T, Healy C, Shay A, Azam H, Khawaja A, Vernon S, **Savas L**. *Feasibility of AVP-IT: An online tool to facilitate the implementation of evidence-based strategies to increase HPV vaccination rates in Texas safety-net pediatric clinics*. American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo, Washington DC, Nov 2, 2025. Accepted for Round table presentation.
29. Sifuentes M, **Savas L**, Crum M, Cuccaro P, Rahbar M, Zhang X, Tahanan A, Hessabi M, Mendiola A, Salinas S, Fernandez M. *A text message-based intervention to increase COVID-19 testing in 3 Texas regions*. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo. Nov 4, 2025. Accepted for Poster Presentation
30. Sifuentes M, **Savas L**, Crum M, Cuccaro P, Rahbar M, Zhang X, Tahanan A, Hessabi M, Mendiola A, Salinas S, Reininger B. *Community health worker interventions improved COVID-19 testing behaviors*. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo. Nov 4, 2025. Accepted for Poster Presentation
31. **Savas, LS.**, Alaniz, A., Shegog, R., Costa, C., Adlparvar, E., Valero, A., Yeh, P., Chenier, R., Fernandez, M.E. Use of Implementation Mapping and Stakeholder Engagement to Develop Implementation Strategies for the Evidence-Based Salud en Mis Manos (SEMM) Program. 17th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health; Poster. Arlington, Virginia. December 8-11, 2024.
32. Yeh P, **Savas L**, Valero Y, Lairson D, Shegog R, Alaniz A, Adlparvar E, Chenier R, Fernandez M. Methodology of collecting cost data for a comparative economic analysis of an implementation strategy for delivering Salud en Mis Manos Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA) in safety-net health centers. 17th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation. Arlington, Virginia. December, 2024.
33. Cuccaro PM., Cho, J., Aguilar McBride M., Gabay EK, **Savas LS.**, Walker T. Using Implementation Mapping to develop an implementation and dissemination strategy to increase HPV vaccination across Texas: Implementing All for Them. 17th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation, Arlington, Virginia. December 2024.
34. *Sun H, Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Frost EL, Thormaehlen LA, Shay LA, Vernon SW. Data-driven HPV vaccination assessment and feedback for health care providers in an urban ‘safety-net’ clinic network: Exploring appointment- and HL7-based approaches. HPV Consortium Meeting; Poster, Kentucky TN, April 14-17, 2024.
35. *Costa C, Allicock MA, McKenzie AH, Loomba P, Chenier RS, English A, Shegog R, Alaniz A, Adlparvar E, Valero Y, **Savas LS**, Fernandez ME. A CFIR-guided qualitative study to identify factors influencing the implementation of an evidence-based breast and cervical cancer prevention and early detection behavioral health program. American Society of Preventative Oncology (ASPO) Conference 48th Annual Meeting; Poster presented. March 17-19, 2024.
36. **Savas LS**, Alaniz A, Shegog R, Costa C, Adlparvar E, Valero Y, Yeh P, Chenier R, Fernandez ME. Engaging Stakeholders to Improve Planning for Adoption and Implementation of Evidence Based Interventions: A Salud en Mis Manos Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA)

Case Study. Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos 4th Biennial Conference; Poster presented. February 21, 2024

37. **Savas LS**, Shegog, R, Frost EL Thormaehlen L, Teague T, Healy CM, Shay LA, Preston S, Vernon SW. Design and usability of AVP-IT: An online tool to facilitate the implementation of evidence-based strategies to increase adolescent HPV vaccination rates in clinic settings. Poster presented. Clinical Care Settings: System-level Interventions" at the 16th Annual D&I Conference. December 10-13, 2023.
38. *Alaniz A, **Savas, LS.**, Valero Y., Costa, C., Shegog R, Adlparvar E, Goetz M, Valdes A, Morales P, Estrada C, Cowley B, Chenier R, Fernandez ME. Development of a Project ECHO Program to Provide Technical Assistance as Part of the Salud en Mis Manos Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA) Multicomponent Implementation Support Strategy. 16th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health; Poster presented. December 10-13, 2023.
39. **Savas LS**, Figueroa E, Adlpavar E, Goetz M. Examination of the community health worker-delivered salud en mis manos program's impact on breast and cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination among medically underserved Latinas. American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Nov. 12-15. Presentation at the CHW Roundtable of the American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference. Presented and facilitated a series of discussions among roundtable attendees on the topic of CHW interventions; Oral Presentation. November 12-15, 2023.
40. *Ejezie C, Cuccaro P, **Savas LS**, Shegog R. The influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on parent-reported provider recommendation of HPV vaccines among adolescents. American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Poster presented. November 12-15, 2023.
41. Escoffery C, Petagna C, Agnone C, Perez S, Saber L, Ryan G, Dhir M, Sekar S, Yeager K, Biddell C, Madhivanan P, Lee S, English A, **Savas L**, Daly E, Vu T, Fernandez M. A systematic review of HPV vaccination interventions globally. Atlanta, GA. Poster presented. November 12-15, 2023.
42. *Costa C., Allicock MA, McKenzie AH, Loomba P, Chenier RS, Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Fernandez ME. Enhancing implementation of an evidence-based breast and cervical cancer prevention and early detection intervention: A qualitative study guided by CFIR. American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Oral Presentation. November 12-15, 2023.
43. *Catindig J. *Padilla J, Frachiseur G. Fenton S, Poole A. Hines D, Alexander C. Chenier R. Balasubramanian B, Valerio-Shewmaker, **Savas L**, Fernandez M. Using technical assistance to facilitate implementation of evidence-based interventions to increase colorectal cancer screening in federally qualified health centers in Texas. American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Nov. 12-15. 2023. Poster Presented.
44. McKenzie A, **Savas L**, Yeh P, Shegog R, Healy CM, Shay LA, Preston S, Frost E, Spinner S, Vernon S. Pediatrician psychosocial variables associated with HPV communication strategies. 73rd Annual International Communication Association Conference, Reclaiming Authenticity in Communication. Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 25-29 May, 2023.
45. Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Frost EL, Shay LA, Thormaehlen LC, Healy CM, Hedrick AM, Teague TA, Vernon SW. Usability and Feasibility of AVP-IT: An Online Tool to Facilitate the Implementation of Evidence-Based Strategies to Increase HPV Vaccination Rates in Pediatric Clinics. Poster presented at the 35th International Papillomavirus Conference, Washington, D.C, April 17-21, 2023.
46. **Savas, LS**, Shegog, R, Frost EL, Shay LA, Healy CM, Teague TA, Preston SM, McKenzie AH, Vernon, SW. Adaptation, Implementation and Evaluation of the Clinic-Based Adolescent Vaccination. 35th International Papillomavirus Conference. Public Health, Epidemiology and Implementation Science. Poster Presentation. April 17-25, 2023. Washington D.C., USA.

47. *Teague T, Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Shay LA, Frost EL, Healy CM, Coan SP, Preston SM, Vernon SW. Development and Usability Testing of an HPV Mobile Application. Poster presented at the 35th International Papillomavirus Conference, Washington, D.C, April 17-21, 2023.
48. **Savas LS**, Alaniz A, Loomba P, Shegog R, Costa C, Adlparvar E, Chenier RS, Fernandez ME. *Salud en Mis Manos*-Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA): Developing Online Implementation Strategy Using the Systematic Implementation Mapping Approach. American Society of Preventative Oncology Conference (ASPO); Poster Presentation. March 12-14, 2023.
49. **Savas LS**, Adlpavar E, Figueroa E, Cuccaro, P. M, Fernandez ME. Evaluation of a Community Health Worker-Delivered Breast and Cervical Cancer Intervention Targeting Vulnerable Latinas: Comparing In-Person and Telephone-Based Education. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference, Session: Community Health Workers in Public Health Education and Health Promotion (organized jointly with the Community Health Worker section); Nov. 9 2022.
50. *Preston S., **Savas L.**, Shegog R., Cuccaro P., Hedrick A., Farris K., Teague T., Coan S., Frost EL., Vernon S. Effect of patient-clinician racial and ethnic concordance on adolescent HPV vaccine initiation and completion: Phase 1 results of the HEAREM project (Health Equity for Adolescent Racial/Ethnic Minorities). Poster presented at the 150th American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Boston, MA. Nov. 9 2022.
51. *Farris, K., Cuccaro, P., **Savas, L.**, Hedrick, A., Healy, C. M., Preston, S. (November 2022). “We never talked about this in medical school”: Black physicians’ experiences with cultural competence training, and an impetus for change. Poster presented at the 150th American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Boston, MA. Nov. 9 2022.
52. *Ibekwe, LN; Costa, C; Rosen, A; Valerio, M; Frachiseur, G; English, A; Allen, C; **Savas, L**; Balasubramanian, B; Walker, T; Rogith, D; Fenton, S; McGaha, P; Foxhall, L; Fernandez, ME. Using Implementation Mapping to Guide Implementation of Evidence-Based Colorectal Cancer Screening Intervention in Federally Qualified Health Centers. Virtual Poster presented at the 14th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health; December 14-16, 2021.
53. **Savas, L.S.**, Loomba, P., Shegog, R., Allicock, M., Costa, C, Hendrick, A.M., English, A.S., Chenier, R.S., Markham, C.M., Fernandez, M.E. Using Implementation Mapping to Increase the Adoption and Implementation of Salud en Mis Manos (SEMM-DIA) a Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination Intervention for Latinas. Virtual Poster Presentation at the 14th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, Virtual Conference, December 14-16, 2021.
54. **Savas LS**, Haffey M, Markham C, Reininger B, Cuccaro P, Sifuentes M, Adlpavar E, Allen C, Hernandez R, Molina J, Montgomery S, Vidal P, Goetz M, Fernandez M. Rapid development and implementation of a sars-cov-2 testing community-based intervention. Oral Panel Presentation at the 14th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, Virtual Conference, December 14-16, 2021.
55. Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Frost EL, Coan SP, Spinner SW, Gabay EK, Becker EB, Teague TT, Vernon SW. HPVcancerFree (HPVCF): A Cluster Randomized Trial to Examine a Digital Behavior Change Intervention to Impact Parent Decision Making about HPV Vaccine. Poster presented at the NFID Virtual 2021 Annual Conference on Vaccinology Research (ACVR), April 26-27, 2021.
56. **Savas LS**. Reducing the Burden of COVID-19 Disease in Vulnerable Communities: A Community Just-in-Time Adaptive Intervention (JITAI) to Increasing COVID-19 Testing. Concurrent Session 1: Leveraging PRC Infrastructure to Address COVID Research in Communities. Panel Presentation at

the 2021 Virtual Meeting of the Prevention Research Center: Re-Imagining Prevention Science during Unprecedented Times. April 27-29, 2021.

57. *Preston SM, **Savas LS**, Effect of Patient-Physician Race/Ethnicity Concordance on HPV Vaccine Initiation. Accepted as a Paper Presentation. 41st Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine. (San Francisco, CA). April 1- April 4, 2020.
58. *Teague TA, Shay LA, Healy CM, Frost EL, Preston SM, Coan SP, Ferreris JJ, **Savas LS**, Shegog R, Vernon SW. Social Media and HPV Vaccine Hesitancy: An Emergent Concern for Pediatric Providers. Poster presented at the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases Clinical Vaccinology Course, Washington, DC, Nov 16-17, 2019.
59. *Ibekwe, L. N., Cuccaro, P. M., **Savas, L. S.**, Valerio, M. A., Foxhall, L. E., Fernandez, M. E.. Implementing a colorectal cancer screening intervention in Texas FQHCs: A qualitative evaluation of provider perceptions. Poster presented at the 12th American Association for Cancer Research on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved, San Francisco, CA. September, 2019
60. *Preston SM, **Savas LS**, Coan S, Frost E, Healy CM, Spinner S, Wilber M, Fernández ME, Shegog R. Pediatricians' Self-Efficacy to Address Parental HPV Vaccine Hesitancy. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association 2019 Annual Meeting & Expo (Philadelphia, PA), November 2019.
61. Fernandez, M. E., Cuccaro, P. M., **Savas, L. S.**, Delaney, J. N., Valencia-Torres, I. M. Disseminating an evidence-based HPV vaccination intervention for parents of Hispanic adolescents. Poster presented at the NCI Rural Cancer Control Meeting, Bethesda, MD, May 2018.
62. *Becker ER, Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Gabay EK, Frost EL, Spinner SW, Fernandez ME, Vernon SW. Tech-based approach to informing mHealth product creation: Parent perspectives of HPV using online synchronous focus groups. Poster presented at the 39th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, New Orleans, LA, Apr 14, 2018.
63. **Savas LS**, Heredia NI*, Coan SP, Bartholomew LK, Fernandez ME. A randomized controlled study of a community-based intervention to increase breast and cervical cancer screening in low-income Hispanics. 41st Annual American Society for Preventive Oncology Conference. Seattle, Washington, March 11-14th, 2017.
64. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Roncancio A, Khan M, Fernandez-Espada N, Rodriguez SA, Cuccaro P, Vernon SW. "Parental Recall of Daughter's HPV Vaccination Status." Poster Presentation at the 47th CDC National Immunization Conference, Atlanta, GA, September 2016.
65. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Rodriguez SA, Fernandez-Espada N, Khan MM, Roncancio AM, Vernon SW. Evaluation of two HPV vaccination educational interventions for Hispanic parents.
 - Poster presented at the 9th American Association for Cancer Research Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic and the Medically Underserved, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, September 25-28, 2016.
 - Poster at the CDC 47th National Immunization Conference, Atlanta, GA, September 13-15, 2016.
66. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Roncancio A, Khan M, Fernandez-Espada N, Rodriguez SA, Vernon SW. Evaluation of two HPV vaccination educational interventions for Hispanic parents.
 - Oral presentation at the National Conference on Best and Promising Practices for Increasing HPV Vaccination presented by the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable, Atlanta, GA, August 29, 2016.

- Oral presentation at the National Hispanic Science Network 15th Annual International Conference, Palm Desert, CA, June 15-17, 2016.
67. McGlone MS, Stephens KK, **Savas LS**, Rodriguez SA, Vernon SW, Fernandez ME. Texts for taking action: Agency assignment in text message HPV vaccination reminders.
- Oral presentation at the CDC 47th National Immunization Conference, Atlanta, GA, September 13-15, 2016.
 - Abstract in conference booklet for the National Conference on Best and Promising Practices for Increasing HPV Vaccination presented by the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable, Atlanta, GA, August 29, 2016.
 - Oral presentation at the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY, April 14-16 2016.
68. Rodriguez SA*, Mims MK, **Savas LS**, Stevens L, Bundage K, Megdal T, Ramondetta L, Fernandez ME. Development of a provider training to increase HPV vaccination among 11-26 year olds in a federally qualified health clinic.
- Poster at the CDC 47th National Immunization Conference, Atlanta, GA, September 13-15, 2016.
 - Abstract in conference booklet for the National Conference on Best and Promising Practices for Increasing HPV Vaccination presented by the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable, Atlanta, GA, August 29, 2016.
69. **Savas LS**, Mullen PD, Cavazos J. Formative Research for a smoke-free homes intervention (SFH) for low-income Latino Households. Poster presentation at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco. Seattle, WA. February 8, 2014.
70. Lipizzi E, **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Spinner SW, Fernandez ME, Vernon SW. Stakeholder participation in the development of multi-component interventions to increase HPV vaccination in a network of pediatric clinics. Poster presented at the 29th International Papillomavirus Conference and Clinical & Public Health Workshops, Seattle, WA, Aug 24, 2014.
71. Fernandez M., Ball Ricks KA., Vernon S., **Savas L**. Advancing Dissemination and implementation research and practice: A collaboration between the CPCRn and 2-1-1. Oral presentation at The Center for Disease Control National Cancer Conference. Washington DC. Aug 20, 2012.
72. **Savas LS**, Bartholomew LK, Carpentier MY, Haddock NM, Murphy CC, and Vernon SW. Correlates of Breast Cancer Survivor Surveillance Behavior: A Hospital-Based Registry Pilot Study. Poster Presentation at the 6th Biennial Cancer Survivorship Research Conference: Translating Science to Care, Arlington, VA. June 14, 2012.
73. Tiro JA, Melhado TV, Hamann H, Argenbright K, Bartholomew LK, Carpentier MY, **Savas LS**, Vernon SW. Validation of Self-Reported Post-Treatment Screening Among Breast and Colorectal Cancer Survivors. Poster to be presented at the Cancer Survivorship Research Conference: Translating Science to Care, Arlington, VA, June 14, 2012.
74. **Savas L**, del Junco D, Bastian L, and Vernon S. Leading Causes of Cancer Mortality among Women Veterans in Texas, 1979-2002. Poster presentation at American Society of Preventive Oncology 34th Annual Meeting, Bethesda, Maryland, March 21-23, 2010.
75. Fernandez M, **Savas L**, Bryan R, Jobe D. Understanding cancer control and prevention needs of Houston Gulf Coast 211 callers. Poster Presentation at American Society of Preventive Oncology 34th Annual Meeting, Bethesda, Maryland, March 21-23, 2010.

76. White D, **Savas L**, Fitzgerald S, Graham DP, Tan G, Smith LSL, El-Serag HB. Type and Timing of Trauma History and Risk of Irritable Bowel Syndrome in Women Veterans. Poster presentation at: Digestive Disease Week Annual Meeting.; Chicago, IL. June 1, 2009.
77. **Savas LS**, Fernandez ME, Williams J, Vernon SW. Barriers to colorectal cancer screening among low income and underinsured Hispanics. Poster presentation at the AACR Science of Cancer Health Disparities Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona, February 6-9, 2009.
78. White DL, Graham DP, **Savas L**, Wieman L, Fitzgerald S, and El-Serag HB. History of trauma and the risk of IBS among women veterans. Academy Health Annual Research Meeting, Washington, DC, 2008.
79. **Savas LS**, del Junco DJ, and Vernon SW. Female Veteran Breast and Gynecologic Cancer Mortality. Poster presentation at the 40th Annual Society for Epidemiologic Research Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts. June 19-22, 2007.
80. **Savas LS**, del Junco DJ, Coan SP and Vernon SW. Mortality Ascertainment for Women Veterans: A Comparison of Vital Status Sources. Poster presentation at the Second North American Congress of Epidemiology. Seattle, Washington, June 21-24, 2006.
81. Morgenstern LB, King M, **Staub L**, Wein TH, Bartholomew LK, Chan WY, Felberg R, Burgin WS, Groff J, Demchuk AM, Saldin K, Kalra A, Hickenbottom SL, Grotta JC. Community and professional intervention to increase FDA approved acute stroke therapy: Final main results of the T.L.L. Temple Foundation Stroke Project. [meeting abstract] *Neurology*. 2001 April; 56(8 Suppl 3):A77-A77.
82. Burgin S, Chan W, Wein T, **Staub L**, Felberg R, Demchuk A, Grotta J, Hickenbottom S, Morgenstern L. Emergency department practice patterns for stroke in rural America--The T.L.L. Temple Foundation Stroke Project. American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting, May 2000. [meeting abstract] *Neurology*. 2000 April; 54(7 Suppl 3): A156-A156.
83. Felberg RA, Wein TH, Kunyosing A, **Staub L**, Bartholomew LK, Groff J, Morgenstern LB. Activation of emergency medical services in acute stroke: who calls 911? The T.L.L. Temple Foundation Stroke Project. American Heart Association Stroke Meeting, February 2000. [meeting abstract] *Stroke*. 2000 Jan; 3(1):81.
84. Morgenstern L, Wein T, **Staub L**, Hickenbottom S, Groff J, Bartholomew L. Who are the appropriate targets to increase FDA approved acute stroke therapy? The T.L.L. Temple Foundation Stroke American Heart Association Stroke Meeting, February 2000. [meeting abstract] *Stroke*. 2000 Jan; 3(1):290
85. Morgenstern L, Bartholomew LK, Groff J, **Staub L**, Hickenbottom S, Wein T, Felberg R, Grotta J. Community survey of behavioral intentions in acute stroke: The T.L.L. Temple Foundation Stroke Project. [meeting abstract] *Neurology*. 1999 April; 52(6 Suppl 2):A146-A147.

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86. Cuccaro P., Barnes R., **Savas L.S.**, Mackert M. Reaching Key Audiences through Impactful Health Education Campaigns. Healthier Texas Summit, Austin, TX. Panel Presentation Healthier Texas Conference, October 2025.
87. Oladoyin OO., Cuccaro P, **Savas LS**, Yu, R, Fokom-Domgue, J, McCurdy S, Shete S. Sources of trust for cancer information and public awareness of HPV as a cause of cervical cancer. September 2025. Texas Society for Public Health Education Conference, San Marcos, TX.

88. **Savas LS**, Alaniz A, Shegog R, Costa C, Adlparvar E, Valero Y, Yeh P, Chenier R, Fernandez ME. Engaging Stakeholders to Improve Planning for Adoption and Implementation of Evidence-Based Interventions: A Salud en Mis Manos Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA) Case Study. *Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos 4th Biennial Conference*; Poster presented. February 21, 2024
89. **Savas LS**, Shegog R, Frost EL, Shay AL, Healy M, Teague TA, Preston S, Vernon SW. Adaptation and Evaluation of the Clinic-Based Adolescent Vaccination Program (AVP): A Replication Study. Poster Presented at: *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
90. **Savas LS**, Figueroa-Solis E, Adlparvar E, Goetz M, Coan S, Expanding the Impact of the Evidence-Based Salud en Mis Manos (SEMM) Intervention: Evaluation of the Telephone-Based SEMM Education Component. Poster Presented at. *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
91. Choi J, Walker T, McBride MA, Gabay E, **Savas L**. Cuccaro P. Insights about All for Them implementation: A qualitative assessment. Poster Presented at. *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
92. Alaniz, A., **Savas, LS.**, Valero, Y., Costa, C., Shegog, R., Adlparvar, E., Goetz, M., Valdes, A., Morales P., Estrada, C., Cowley, B., Chenier, R., Fernandez, M.E. Development of a Project ECHO Program to Provide Technical Assistance as Part of the Salud en Mis Manos Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA) Multicomponent Implementation Support Strategy. Poster Presented at: *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
93. Shay LA, McKenzie A, Avshman E, **Savas L**, Shegog R. Facebook and HPV vaccine messages: What Types of Messages are Being Shared and Did These Change After the COVID Pandemic? Poster Presented at: *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
94. Gabay E, Thompson E, **Savas L**, Mullassery D, McBride MA, Saldana S, Chaulet S, Arizpe A, Casebier A, Misra S, Cuccaro P. Implementation Outcomes from an Expansion of the All for Them HPV Vaccination Initiative. Poster Presented at: *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
95. Teague TA, Shegog R, Savas L, Shay LA, Frost E, Healy M. Coan S, Preston S, Vernon S. Development and Usability Testing of an HPV Mobile Application. Poster Presented at: *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
96. Shegog R, **Savas L**, Frost EL, Thormaehlen L, Teague T, Steffy J, Healy C, Shay LA, Presto S, Vernon SW. Usability and Feasibility of AVP-IT: An Online Tool to Facilitate the Implementation of Evidence-Based Strategies to Increase HPV Vaccination Rates in Pediatric Clinics. Poster Presented at the *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
97. Moore N, Candia AC Neumann S, Muhammad “Tuan” Amith, Jane Hamilton, **Savas LS**, Lu Tang, Cui Tao. 2023. “Design of a Motivational Interviewing Dialogue Model for Conversational Agents in Improving Young Adult HPV Vaccination Counseling”. *Poster Presented at the 2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
98. Koh S, Goetz M, and **Savas L**. Developing Public Health Communication Strategies with Community Health Workers Utilizing Artificial Intelligence. Poster presented at: *2023 Ken Kennedy Institute AI in Health Conference* October 2023; Houston, TX.
99. Costa, C. Loomba, P., Chenier, R.S., **Savas, L.S.** Fernandez, M.E. Using a rapid qualitative approach to identify facilitators and barriers to implementation of an evidence-based breast and cervical cancer

screening and HPV vaccination intervention. Texas Public Health Association Conference. Oral presentation. May 20, 2022.

100. Figueroa-Solis, E., **Savas, LS**, Cuccaro, P, Adlparvar, E, Goetz, M. The Use of Cognitive Interviews in Latinas to Improve the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Detection Program, Salud en Mis Manos. Poster presentation, Healthier Texas Summit, Virtual – Zoom Meeting, October 27-29, 2021.
101. **Savas LS**, Shegog R, Frost EL, Coan SP, Shay AL, Spinner SW, Gabay EK, Becker E, Healy CM, Teague TA, Vernon SW Adaptation of the Adolescent Vaccination Program (AVP) For Use in a Novel Setting. Healthier Texas Summit. Poster presented. October 2021
102. Shegog R., **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Frost EL, Coan SP, Spinner SW, Gabay EK, Becker E, Teague TA, Vernon SW. HPVcancerFree (HPVCF): A Cluster Randomized Trial to Examine a Digital Behavior Change Intervention to Impact Parent Decision-Making about HPV Vaccine. Healthier Texas Summit. Virtual, Oct 27-29th, 2021.
103. Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Frost EL, Thormaehlen LC, Coan SP, Preston SM, Healy CM, Vernon SW. Development of a web-based decision support tool for adoption of evidence-based HPV vaccination strategies into Texas pediatric clinics. Poster presented at the Healthier Texas Summit, Austin, TX, Oct 29, 2021.
104. *Teague TA, Shay LA, **Savas LS**, Shegog R, Healy CM, Frost EL, Coan SP, Preston SM, Ferreris JJ, Spinner SW, Vernon SW. Provider Perceptions on HPV Vaccination and the Growing Influence of Social Media. Poster to be presented at the University of Houston HEALTH: A Call to Action conference, Houston, TX, Jan 30-31, 2020.
105. Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Frost EL, Coan SP, Spinner SW, Gabay EK, Becker E, Teague TA, Vernon SW. HPVcancerFree (HPVCF): A Cluster Randomized Trial to Examine a Digital Behavior Change Intervention to Impact Parent Decision-Making about HPV Vaccine. Healthier Texas Summit. Virtual, Oct 27-29th, 2021.
106. *Crawford C, *Eska J, Frost EL, Shegog R, Gabay EK, *Becker ER, Coan S, **Savas LS**, Healy CM, Lairson DR, Spinner SW, Fernandez ME, Vernon SW. HPVcancerFree mHealth Intervention. Poster presented at the 2018 Healthier Texas Summit, Austin, TX, Oct 25-16, 2018.
107. **Savas LS**, Heredia NI*, Coal SP, Sicheluff AC, Fernandez ME. Outcome Evaluation of a Community Health Worker-Delivered Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Intervention Targeting Low Income Hispanics. Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos. San Antonio TX. February 22, 2018.
108. *Rodriguez SA, **Savas LS**, Loomba P, Lopez DM, Vernon SW, Fernandez ME. Hispanic parental recall of daughter's HPV vaccination status: Findings from *Por Nuestros Hijos*. Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos Conference, San Antonio, TX, February 21-23, 2018.
109. *Rodriguez SA, Mullen PD, Lopez DM, **Savas LS**, Fernandez ME. Individual-, provider-, and clinic-level factors associated with adolescent HPV vaccination outcomes: A multilevel framework based on a systematic umbrella review. University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Celebration of Women in Science and Medicine, Dallas, TX, February 7, 2018.
110. **Savas LS.**, Farias AJ, Eska JS, Frost EL, Healy CM, Shegog R, Fernandez ME, Coan SP, Spinner S, Vernon SW. Physician-reported human papillomavirus vaccination (HPV) recommendation and initiation among adolescent patients (11-12 years): Does wording matter? Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. November 2017.
111. **Savas LS**, Delaney J, Valencia-Torres IM, Bundage K, Megdal T, Stevens L, Mims M, Ramondetta L, Fernandez ME. Development of a Provider Training to Increase HPV Vaccination

- among 11-26 Year Olds in a Federally Qualified Health Clinic. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. November 2017.
112. **Savas, LS**, Figueroa, E., Morales, P., Valdes, A., Hernandez, K., Fernandez, ME. Evaluation of a community-based breast and cervical cancer screening prevention program delivered among underserved Hispanic women. Poster presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, Nov, 13-14, 2017.
 113. *Siceluff, A., Adlparvar, E., Cuccaro, P., Fernandez, M. E., and **Savas, LS**. Using Intervention Mapping to Adapt a Breast and Cervical Cancer Education Prevention Program. Poster accepted at the Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin TX. November 2017.
 114. *Eska J, Lairson D, **Savas L**, Shegog R, Healey C, Spinner S, Fernandez M, Vernon S., Implementation costs of a multi-component intervention to increase human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination in a network of pediatric clinics. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin, TX, Nov 14, 2017.
 115. *Becker E, Shegog R, **Savas LS**, Healy C, Gabay E, Frost E, Spinner S, Fernandez ME, Vernon S. HPV vaccination in the digital age: Development of HPVcancerFree, a parent-focused smartphone app to increase HPV vaccination rates. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. November 2017.
 116. *Amith, M., Cuccaro, P., & Savas, L. Preliminary Big Data Textual Analysis of HPV-related Discourse on Reddit. Poster presented at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin TX. November 2017.
 117. Sintes-Yallen, A. R., McGaughey, K. G., Ibekwe, L., Cuccaro, P. M., **Savas, L.**, Foxhall, L., & Fernandez, M. E. Alliance for Colorectal Cancer Testing (ACT) Program: Providers' Screening Knowledge, Practices, and Barriers to Recommendation. Poster presented at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin TX. November 2017.
 118. Rodriguez SA*, **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Roncancio A, Khan MJ, Fernandez-Espada N, Vernon SW, Fernandez ME. Poster at the John P. McGovern Award Lecture in Health Promotion Student Poster Competition, Houston, TX, February 16, 2016.
 119. Healy CM, Lipizzi E, **Savas LS**, Polivka KM, Coan SP, Shegog R, Spinner SW, Miller CA, Fernandez ME, Vernon SW. Increasing HPV Vaccination in a Network of Pediatric Clinics in Houston, TX: A Baseline Assessment. Poster presented at the 2015 Texas Immunization Conference, Austin, TX, Nov 18, 2015.
 120. **Savas, LS.**, Mullen, PD., Hovell, M., Cavazos, J., Escoffery, C., Kegler, M., Jones, J., Monroy, JA., and Fernandez, ME. Formative Research for A Smoke-Free Homes (SFH) Intervention for Hispanic Texan Households. Poster presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, Nov, 9-10, 2015.
 121. Lipizzi E, **Savas LS**, Polivka KM, Coan SP, Shegog R, Fernandez ME, Healy CM, Spinner SW, Miller CA, Vernon SW. Increasing HPV Vaccination in a Network of Pediatric Clinics in Houston, TX: A Baseline Assessment. Poster presented at the Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, Nov 9, 2015.
 122. Gatus LA*, Figueroa E, **Savas LS**, Morales P, Valdes A, Hernandez K, **Fernandez ME**. Increasing Screening Prevention to Reduce Disparities in Underserved Hispanic Women. Poster presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, November 9-10, 2015.
 123. Rodriguez SA*, **Savas LS**, Megdal T, Bundage K, Khan MM, Fernandez ME. Characteristics of HPV vaccination initiation and completion among 11-26 year olds at a large urban FQHC. Poster

- presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, November 9-10, 2015.
124. Fernández ME, **Savas LS**, Lipizzi E, Roncancio AM, Khan MM, Fernández-Espada N, Rodriguez SA, Vernon SW. Evaluation of Two HPV Vaccination Educational Interventions for Hispanic Parents. Poster presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin, TX, November 9-10, 2015.
 125. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Arya RV, Dawson G, Wood R, Khan M, Jobe D, Vernon S. Evaluation of the CPRIT 2-1-1 Program to Increase Cancer Control Behaviors Among Underserved Texans. Poster Presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, November 9-10, 2015.
 126. Mullen PD, **Savas LS**, Bundy L, Haardörfer R, Monroy JA, Williams R, Hovell M, Kreuter M, Jobe D, Fernandez ME, and Kegler M. A Minimal Intervention to Promote Smoke-free Homes among 2-1-1- callers: The Texas Gulf Coast Effectiveness Trial. Poster presentation, Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, Nov, 9-10, 2015.
 127. Lipizzi E*, **Savas LS**, Polivka KM, Coan SP, Shegog R, Healy CM, Spinner SW, Miller CA, Fernandez ME, Vernon SW. Increasing HPV Vaccination in a Network of Pediatric Clinics in Houston, TX: A Baseline Assessment. Poster presentation, 2015 Texas Immunization Conference, Austin, TX, November 18-20, 2015.
 128. **Savas LS**, Rivera S, Atkinson J, Bartholomew LK, Fernandez ME. Factors Related To Prior Breast Cancer Screening Among Low-Income Hispanic Women Participating in a Community-Based Screening Intervention Program in Houston, Texas. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. Oct 23-26, 2012.
 129. **Savas LS**. CPRIT Prevention in Practice Session: Topic Implementation of a breast and cervical cancer screening prevention program targeting low-income Hispanic women in Houston, Texas. Oral presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. Oct 23-26, 2012.
 130. Lipizzi E, Fernandez M, **Savas L**, Vernon S. Cervical Cancer-Free Texas: A collaborative effort to eliminate cervical cancer among Texans. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. Oct 23, 2012.
 131. Fernández ME, Ball Ricks KA, Prasad S, Cavazos, J, **Savas, LS**. and Odeneye EO. Enhancing telephone navigation through the use of MAPS in a paperless navigation system. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. Oct 23, 2012.
 132. **Savas LS** and Goetz M. Community-Campus Partnerships for Health's 15th Anniversary Conference. Hosted community site visit for conference attendees to provide an example of an intervention project implemented using a CBPR approach. April 18-21, 2012.
 133. Fernandez ME, Kimmel B, **Savas LS**, Fernandez-Espada N, De La Fuente N, Carmack C, Roncancio A, Vernon S. A Group Randomized Intervention Trial to Increase Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Among Hispanic Adolescents: Successes and Challenges of Clinic Recruitment. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference. Austin TX. Oct 23-25, 2012.
 134. Fernandez ME, Ball Ricks KA, **Savas LS**, Prasad S, Manriquez J, and Shafer L. Delivery of Training Curriculum to 2-1-1 Risk Specialists and Cancer Navigators. Oral presentation at Texas Society for Public Health Education (TSOPHE) Fall Conference. Houston TX. Oct 9, 2012.
 135. Fernandez M, Carmack CC, **Savas L**. Vale La Pena ("It's Worth It"): A Tailored Multimedia Intervention to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening. Poster presentation at the 12th Annual American Academy of Health Behavior Meeting, Austin TX. March 18-21, 2012.

136. **Savas LS**, Carmack, CC, Fernandez ME. Parent-level correlates of HPV vaccination uptake among Hispanic and Black daughters. Poster presentation at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, Texas. Nov 15-16, 2011
137. Fernandez ME, Ball Ricks KA, **Savas LS**, Odeneye EO, Prasad S. Using Intervention Mapping to Develop an Innovative Telephone Navigation Training Program in Houston and Weslaco, Texas. Poster presentation at the Inaugural Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, Texas. Nov 15-16, 2011.
138. Ball Ricks K, Fernandez M, **Savas LS**, Manriquez J, Shafer L. Facilitating Collaboration to Improve Cancer Screening Behavior: Barriers and Challenges of a Telephone Navigation Program. Poster presented at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, Nov 15-17, 2011.
139. Fernandez, M, Ball Ricks, K, **Savas, L**, Odeneye, E, Prasad, S. Using Intervention Mapping to Develop an Innovative Telephone Navigation Training Program in Houston and Weslaco, Texas. Oral and poster presentations at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, TX, Nov 15-17, 2011.
140. Fernandez M, **Savas L**, Vernon S, Ball Ricks K, Odeneye E, Manriquez J. Increasing access to cancer prevention and screening services among low-income Texans – A collaboration between the University of Texas School of Public Health and 2-1-1 helplines. Oral presentation at the Texas Society for Public Health Education Fall Conference. Oct 14, 2011, Houston TX.
141. Fernandez ME. **Savas L**, Escobar-Chaves SL, Snipes SA. Factors Influencing HPV Vaccination among Hispanics in Texas and Development of Materials to Increase Uptake. Poster presentation at the Inaugural Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin Texas. Nov 17-19, 2010
142. Fernandez ME, **Savas LS**, Jobe D, Bryan R, Reininger B, Vernon SW. Decreasing Cancer-Related Health Disparities in Texas: A Collaboration with the 2-1-1 Texas Helpline. Poster presentation at the Inaugural Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference, Austin, Texas. Nov 17-19, 2010.
143. **Staub L**, Sweeney A, del Junco DJ, Symanski E, Cooper S, Wu X. Vietnam Veterans and Family Health Study: Phase I Preliminary Analysis. Poster presentation at the Sixth Annual Student Research Symposium, School of Public Health, University of Texas -Houston, April 2001.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS & *SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS*

- 2025 **Savas LS** SPH CPRIT Summer Internship Roundtable, Breast and cervical cancer prevention and control and HPV vaccination intervention strategies to decrease vaccine hesitancy. UTHealth School of Public Health, Houston, TX. July 2025.
- 2024 **Savas LS**. Healthy Communities Conference. Speaker on a panel titled, Direct Program Recruitment and Marketing for CHWs. Harris County Public Health. September 15, 2024.
- 2024 **Savas LS** SPH CPRIT Summer Internship Roundtable, HPV vaccination intervention strategies to decrease vaccine hesitancy. UTHealth School of Public Health, Houston, TX. July 2024.
- 2024 **Savas LS**. Examination of the community health worker (CHW)-delivered Salud en Mis Manos Program's Impact on Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination among Medically Underserved Latinas. UTHealth SPH Prevention Research Center community seminar series. June 3, 2024.

- 2024 **Savas LS.** 7th Latino Health Summit, Addressing Social Determinants of Health with a Focus on Underserved Latina Communities Presented at the conference, *Salud Para Todos: Latino Health Equity*," organized by the Hispanic Health Coalition in partnership with Harris County Public Health. March 22, 2024.
- 2023 **Savas LS.** Effect and reach of the community health worker (CHW)-delivered *Salud en Mis Manos* program on breast and cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination outcomes. Texas HPV Coalition Annual HPV Summit. December 6, 2023.
- 2023 **Savas LS:** Prevention: Strategies and Opportunities around Cervical Cancer and HPV Vaccination. Invited Presentation *2023 Innovation in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI*. Oct. 2-3, 2023.
- 2023 **Savas LS.** Implementation and scale-up of an evidence-based intervention to increase breast and cervical cancer screening, and HPV vaccination in low-income Latinas: The *Salud en Mis Manos* Program. At The UTHealth Rio Grande Valley. Department of Immunology and Microbiology & The South Texas Center of Excellence in Cancer Research's Seminar July 21, 2023.
- 2023 **Savas LS.** How the *Salud en Mis Manos* program can help increase breast and cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination rates in your community. UTHealth SPH Prevention Research Center community seminar series. May 3, 2023.
- 2014 **Savas LS & Fernandez, ME.** Patient-Focused and Directed Interventions. Oral Presentation at the 2014 HPV & Cervical Cancer Summit. United Way of Greater Houston. January 22, 2014.
- 2013 **Savas LS,** Adaptation and Implementation of a Community-Based Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program for Latinas in Houston. Oral presentation at the Breast Health Collaborative of Texas General Membership Meeting. September 12, 2013.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Primary Courses at the University of Texas School of Public Health

- PH 1120 Intro to Program Evaluation, 2013-present
Lead Instructor. Spring 2013, Spring 2014-2019; 2020; Co-Lead 2021-current
- PHD1440 Proposal Writing Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, 2021- present
Lead Instructor & Co-Developer
- PHD 1435 Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences Doctoral Seminar.
Lead Instructor, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023
- PH 5098 700 Foundations of Academic Scientific Writing in Public Health, 2015-2016
(Spring 2015 and Summer 2015, Co-Instructor; Fall 2016, Lead Instructor).

Center for Health Promotion & Prevention Research Staff Course Training

- 2017 6-Week Short Course: Developing a Manual of Procedures (MOP) for Intervention Research Projects: An Adaptation of Field Epi II Course. Course delivered to intervention research project staff, including CHPPR students, with Dr. Selwyn.

Recent Practicum Students

2023 Practicum Students/ Student Mentored Projects

- Summer 2023 Elisa Garcia. Project: A program evaluation plan for the Children's Memorial Hermann Operating Room Safety Workshop Program

- Summer 2023 Sampada Xu: Project: Adaptation of the Salud en Mis Manos breast and cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination social marketing education materials for Nepali women residing in the U.S.
- Spring 2023 Dominica Nieto. Project: A program evaluation plan for the iEducate Program.
- Spring 2023 Catherine Pulicken. Project Raising awareness of COVID-19 vaccines through the development of digital storytelling.
- Summer 2023 Scott Koh. (Informal mentee at Rice University)
Co-mentored him with Dr. Peggy Goetz on a project titled: Developing Public Health Communication Strategies with Community Health Workers Utilizing Artificial Intelligence. Poster presented at: 2023 Rice University Natural Sciences Research Fair; October 2023; Houston, TX.

Individual Study

- 2024 Spring PH 1499- IS: Epidemiology, ILE. Najha Marshall
- 2023 Spring PH 1499- IS: Health Promotion Behavioral Sciences, Mike Garcia
- 2022 Fall PH 1499- IS: Health Promotion Behavioral Sciences, Maria Papiroannou
- 2019 Spring PH 1499- IS: Health Promotion Behavioral Sciences, Joanna Hawkins
- 2018 Fall PH 1499- IS: Health Promotion Behavioral Sciences, Deidra Coleman
- 2016 Fall PH 1499- IS: Health Promotion Behavioral Sciences, Preena Loomba
- 2016 Spring PH 1499- IS: Health Promotion Behavioral Sciences, Jayson Rhoton

Course Guest Lectures

- 2024, 2025 Implementation Mapping Short Course:
- *Development of Salud en Mis Manos-Dissemination and Implementation Assistance (SEMM-DIA) Implementation Support Strategy*
- 2015-present PH1433/1434 Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences Research Seminar
Present annually, sample topics include the following:
- Mental Health Statewide Program - Evaluation Design.
 - *Adapting and Delivering a Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program to Underserved Hispanic Women in Houston, Texas*
 - *Adaptation & Effectiveness of Community-based Intervention to Increase Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening in Low-income Hispanics: 2 RCTs*
 - *Adapting and Delivering a Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program to Underserved Latinas in Houston and El Paso, Texas*
 - *The Smoke-Free Home Project: A Collaboration with the United Way Helpline.*
- PH 1224 *Disparities in Health in America: Working Toward Social Change*

MENTORING

Training Grants

Mentor

- 2021-2026 (Fernandez, M, PI) Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT). P160015.
Collaborative Training of a New Cadre of Innovative Cancer Prevention Researchers

- 2018-2025 (Fernandez & Mullen MPIs). National Institute of Health (T32). 2T32CA057712-26.
Cancer Prevention and Control Research Training and Career Development Program.
- 2014-2020 (Ness, R., PI) Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT). P160015.
Collaborative Training of a New Cadre of Innovative Cancer Prevention Researchers.

Doctoral Students (Advisees/dissertation chair/doctoral committee member)

Current

Advisor

- 2025-present Danniell Rhee, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, PhD Candidate
- 2025-present Montserrat Ayala-Ramirez, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, PhD Student
- 2024-present Shyanne Martin, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, DrPH Student
- 2014-present Carla Warneke, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, PhD Candidate

Dissertation Committee Member

- 2024-present Olajumoke Oladoyin, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences
- 2023-present Paul E. Grunenwald, Community Health, DrPH (on leave)
- 2014-present Carla Warneke, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, (Advisor)

Completed (date)

Graduated (Advisees/doctoral committee member/dissertation chair)

- 2025 Catherine Pulicken, PhD, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences,
(Advisor, Dissertation Chair)
Dissertation: Developing Strategies to Promote Clinical Adoption and Implementation of
a Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring (SMBP) Monitoring Program for
Hypertensive African American and Black Adult Patients in Safety-Net and Primary Care
Health Settings
- 2023 Chinenye L Ejezie, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, PhD.
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Uptake among Minority Teenagers aged 13
to 17 years During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings from the National Immunization
Survey Teen, 2019 to 2020.
- 2022 Sonia Gilmore, MS. Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, PhD.
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Race/Ethnic Disparities in Breast Cancer Intermediate Survivorship Care
and Follow-Up Adherence: Evidence from SEER-CAHPS Data
- 2021 Nyma Shah, A. Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, PhD.
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: It is a Big State: The Effect of Travel Distance for Treatment for Medicare
Eligible Women with Breast Cancer in Texas
- 2021 Dana Danaher, BSN, MSN, RN, DrPH Program.
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: The Healthcare Collaborative Model in Pediatrics: Do Participating
Organizations Reach Their Goals

- 2020 Alejandra Aguilar, MPH. Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences (DrPH Program)
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Examining Physical Activity and Dietary Practices of 8th and 11th Grade Students By Economic Disadvantage in Texas Public Schools
- 2020 Benjamin Lee, MPH, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences (DrPH Program)
(Advisor, Dissertation Chair)
Dissertation: Attitudes towards Computer Games for Learning and Player Archetypes: An Exploration of Measure on Pre-Intervention Player Characteristics for Serious Game-Based Interventions
- 2020 Diedra Coleman, MPH. Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences (DrPH Program)
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Religiosity and HPV Vaccine Decision-Making among African American and Latino Parents.
- 2017 Rodriguez, Serena A. Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences (PhD Program)
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Rodriguez, S. A. Individual-level and Clinic-level Factors Associated with HPV Vaccine Initiation among 11-17-year-old Adolescents.
- 2014 Nicole Haddock, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences (PhD Program)
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Clinic Capacity and Spatial Access to Mammography in Texas and their Impact on the Stage of Diagnosis in Breast Cancer Survivors
- 2014 Pratibha P. Nayak, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences (PhD Program)
(Dissertation Committee Member)
Dissertation: Comorbidity burden and adherence to preventive health behavior among cancer survivors

Master's Student Advisees

Current

- 2025 Sindi Castillo
2025 Olivia Mae Collins
2025 Jackie Foss

Graduated (Masters)

- 2025 Mary (Cathie) Chilson P.
2024 Ali Sana Syeda
2024 Sampada Xu: ILE: Adaptation of the Salud en Mis Manos breast and cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination social marketing education materials for Nepali women residing in the U.S.
2024 Raina McClintock
2022 Jizya Injil Shorts
2018 Siceluff, Andrea Health Promotion and Behavioral Science Program
Thesis: Applying Intervention Mapping to adapt a community-based education program to promote breast and cervical cancer prevention and early detection among Latinas. University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX.
2017 McPherson, Heidi M. Health Promotion and Behavioral Science Program
Thesis: Leadership and Health Promotion in Adults: A Literature Review
2016 Abada, Sharon Rose. Health Promotion and Behavioral Science Program

Thesis: Characterization of Medication Regimens in Older Adult Self-Neglect: Polypharmacy, Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use, and Potential Drug-Drug Interactions

2014 Lui, Antoinette, MPH Health Promotion and Behavioral Science Program

2014 Katharine Miller Nimmons Independent Study. MPH Student

2013 Cheng, Jacklyn. MD, MPH

Thesis: A process evaluation of the navigation component of an evidence-based community health worker-delivered health education.)

Pre-Doctoral Fellows

Completed

2015-2018 Muhammad "Tuan" Amith, MS. UTHealth Innovation in Cancer Prevention Research Predoctoral Fellow University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Biomedical Informatics. *Currently Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics & Data Science

Post-Doctoral Fellow

Completed

2019-2021 Sharice Preston, PhD. NCI Postdoctoral Fellow, Cancer Education and Career Development Program, *University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health, Houston, TX.* Grant #: NIH/NCI T32/CA057712. *Subsequent: Assistant Professor UTHealth SPH. *Deceased

Faculty

Completed

2019-2021 Muhammad "Tuan" Amith, PhD. Assistant Professor University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Biomedical Informatics.

Mentor to Undergraduate CPRIT Summer Interns

2024 Kayla Yao

2023 Matthew Lin

2022 Ella Kalapatapu

2021 Scott Koh

Intern presentation: Koh S, Savas L, and Adlparvar E. Collaborative Intervention Implementation: Determining Appropriate Reporting Strategies for Community Health Workers. Poster presented at: 2022 Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium; April 2022; Houston, TX.

2020 Emily Tovar

2019 Rohini Kumar

2018 Sarah Smith

2017 Teresa Smith

2016 Alma Almanza

2015 Fadeke Muraina

2012 Aparna Dumingo Kankana Gomes

2012 Diana Valero

2011 Nana Sekyere

INTERNAL SERVICE AT UTHSC/ UTSPH

- Grader for HPBS Qualifying Exam, 2023-current

- Member of the UTHealth SPH Admissions Committee, 2023-current
- School of Public Health Research Day Judge, 2022-current
- UTHealth CPRIT Summer Innovation in Research Intern Mentor, 2011-current
- Member of the UTHealth SPH Faculty Council, 2022-2025
- CPRIT Summer Intern Application Reviewer 2018-2023
- Member of the HPBS Faculty Search Committee member, 2020
- Member of Behavioral Science Curriculum Committee, 2017- 2018
- Student Poster Presentation Judge, UT Health School of Public Health Student Research Day L. Kay Bartholomew Eldredge Student Poster Competition (2016-2017)
- Member of Cervical Cancer-Free Texas (part of the Cervical Cancer-Free Coalition) 2013- 2014

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member, Data Dissemination and Publication Committee, The Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium, UT System. 2025-present
- Workshop Organizer: Implementation Science Pre-Conference Workshop at the International Papillomavirus Conference in Bangkok on October 22 and 23, 2025. This workshop provides an introduction to Implementation Science with a specific focus on its applications in HPV prevention and control research. [Implementation Science Workshop | IPVS 2025 \(Annual Conference of the International Papillomavirus Society\)](#)
- Expert Advisor on community needs assessment as a member of the Center for Mental Health Implementation Support program at the Stanford Center for Dissemination and Implementation in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University School of Medicine. (PI. Heather Gotham, PhD)
- Reviewer: Abstracts for the 2025 National HPV Conference on April 15-17 in Indianapolis, IN
- Delphi participant provided my expertise as a community engagement researcher for a PCORI-funded study, titled *Characterizing Engagement and Equity in Research (CHEER)*. The focus is on the science of engagement and my contributions will help inform methods for engaging communities in planning health research. Professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine (COMIRB #24-1483), 2024 (PI. Dr. Bethany Kwan)
- Member, Cancer Alliance of Texas (CAT), Screening and Early Detection Priority Area Workgroups, 2025-present
 - Member, CAT Screening and Early Detection – Colorectal Cancer Screening Workgroup
 - Member, CAT Screening and Early Detection – Breast Cancer Screening Workgroup
 - Member, CAT Cervical Cancer Elimination Workgroup
- Member, Texas HPV Coalition, 2017-present
- Member of the MD Anderson Initiative to Reduce Breast Cancer Disparities, 2022
- Judge, Poster Session of The Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 15, 2022
- Judge, Virtual Poster Session at the regional American Physician Scientist Association (APSA), Oct 24, 2021
- Member of MD Anderson Cervical Comprehensive Cancer Control workgroup, 2012
- Member of MD Anderson HPV OAG Working Group, 2014

Ad Hoc Peer Reviewer

- *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*
- *Cancer Causes & Control*
- *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*
- *Public Library of Science (PLOS) ONE*
- *The Journal of Primary Prevention*
- *European Journal of Cancer Care*
- *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*
- *Tobacco Control*

Grant Review

- 2023 Scientific Advisory Reviewer for the FY24 Permanent Health Funds
MD Anderson Cancer Center. Reviewed four research proposals
- 2015 Peer Review Health Research Board
ICE Awards, Lead agency in Ireland supporting health research

Community Service

- 2025 Board Member, ProSalud, Inc. 2025-Present
- Aug 13, 2021 Panelist at the COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Panel. Fort Bend Regional Council.
- 2020 HPBS COVID Communication and Community Outreach Group (unfunded)
Initiated and coordinated an HPBS group to conduct community outreach for COVID-19 prevention communication, focusing on vulnerable communities. Using a team science approach with fellow HPBS faculty, students, and staff, we developed a rapid public health response approach to launch a social marketing and communication outreach campaign for delivery by community organizations to reach Houston and Humble area, South Central Texas and Dallas vulnerable populations. In addition, the subgroup working on messaging for youth launched a contest for youth-led creative expression regarding COVID-19 protection, which led to a first-author publication by students. Community partnerships engaged with this group due to this work served as collaborators for RADx and other COVID-related proposals.
Created Community Health Education Fellow curriculum for the Houston Mayor initiative to increase COVID prevention and testing responses in 22 high priority communities
- Informal advisor to Baker Ripley advisory group to conduct COVID Prevention outreach to the Latinx community in Houston
- 2020 Consultant (unpaid), City of Houston Mayor's Office COVID Health Equity Response Team - Public Health Education Subcommittee. Developed community health worker curriculum and training for COVID Health Educator Fellows (CHEF) Mayor of Houston's youth initiative to provide community outreach and engagement in 22 targeted high-risk communities.
- 2020 Member, City of Houston COVID Recovery Team - Communications Group. Partnering with multisector team to develop tailored messaging to increase coronavirus testing and mitigation strategies for Houston's most vulnerable communities.
- 2017-current Member of Texas Alliance for Colorectal Cancer Testing and Population Health Group
- 2017-current Member of Texas HPV Coalition Steering Committee
- 2017-current Member of the Texas HPV Coalition Provider and Systems Improvement Workgroups
- 2017-2019 Leader of the HPV Systems Improvement Workgroup for the Texas HPV Coalition
- 2012 Hosted the *Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Conference* community site visit to present a collaborative program representing a CBPR partnership, attended by attendees of the *Community-Campus Partnerships for Health's 15th Anniversary Conference*, April 18-21, 2012 in Houston, TX USA.
- 2012-2014 Member of the Steering Committee for the HPV & Cervical Cancer Summits

Consultations for non-profit organizations

2015-2016 Evaluator, The Rose (Breast Cancer Care), Breast Cancer Screening Program

Other Previous Professional & Community Service

- 2017-2018 **Member, Board of Directors**
Amigos de Las Américas, Inc. (AMIGOS), *Houston Chapter*
- 2002-2004 **Member, Board of Directors**
Co-Chair of Volunteer Training Committee (August 2003 – July 2004)
AMIGOS, *Houston Chapter*
Worked on the Training Committee to train volunteers for international community development and health projects
- 1997 **Field Programs Representative**
National Board of Amigos de Las Américas, Inc.
- 1997-2001 **Docent**
Holocaust Museum, Houston, Texas
Provided educational tours through main exhibit
- 1994-1995 **Program Coordinator**, Crossroads a Community Partnership for Youth, a Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program, Houston, Texas.

International Volunteer Service, Amigos de las Américas, Inc.

Community sanitation, hygiene, infant hydration therapy, nutrition education, & other community health projects.

- 1997 Project Director, Ecuador
- 1994 Project Director, Paraguay,
- 1993 Assistant Project Director, Oaxaca, Mexico
- 1992 Field Supervisor, Costa Rica
- 1987 Community Health Volunteer, Paraguay

Undergraduate work at Tufts University

- 1992-1993 Associate Editor, Briefing Book
Transformations of the Global Economy Symposium, Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship (EPIIC), Tufts University
- 1991-1992 Programming Committee Member
International Security: The Environmental Dimension Symposium
Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship (EPIIC)
- 1992 Funded Student Research.
Topic: *Challenging 'Conservation by Self-Determination': The Miskito Indians of Nicaragua*, Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship (EPIIC)
Funded \$1,000 to conduct field research focused on the environmental impact of indigenous autonomy movements on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua.
Presented research at the Tufts University EPIIC Symposium Conference

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Global Implementation Society, (GIS), 2025-
- Member, International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS), 2025-
- Member, American Society of Preventive Oncology (ASPO), 2025-
- Member, ASPO Cancer Health Disparities Special Interest Group, 2025-

Member, American Public Health Association, 2023-

Member, American College of Epidemiology 2008

Member, Society of Epidemiologic Research 2007

Language Skills: English (native); Spanish (intermediate spoken and proficient written).