

Editor's Note

Welcome to our long-awaited issue! It is long-awaited because the Journal has undergone some changes, this year: our beloved editor Jen Jones from DBHDS has moved on after earning her doctorate and supplying the technical backbone of the Journal. I have also moved on, retiring to the bedside after 25 years of academic life. We are glad to re-welcome Marilyn Bartholmae from EVMS who now provides just about everything from reviews to technical management. And we are grateful for our VPHA volunteer, Jami Hinton, who is helping out while we make needed transitions. But here it is finally! We've got a beautiful set of papers for you:

Sonal Sathe and Adati Tarfa, contribute commentary to the Journal's "Notes from the Field" section, publishing on the importance of social determinants, telehealth, and related support for HIV/AIDS control efforts in Virginia.

Kurtis Anthony, with interdisciplinary colleagues, and using the Virginia Violent Death Reporting System, discusses the importance of spatial variation in suicide rates for targeting preventive measures where they are most needed.

Sophie Wenzel and UVA, Carilion Clinic, Va Tech, and Inova Health System colleagues have patiently awaited publication of their Lessons Learned from Community Health Research Partnerships grants programs. Noteworthy recommendations are made from these lessons so that others may build on their work implementing small grants programs successfully.

Patel, Blackstone, and Hauck were also very patient awaiting the publication of their manuscript regarding access to COVID-19 health information for refugees. This was and is a very important topic for those of us who worked during and continue to work after the pandemic in this population with special resource needs. Barriers are significant in both information and access to prevention and care for people who may be excluded from mainstream public health and health care efforts.

Batheja and colleagues from VCU, University of Florida, and UVA use the Community Health Assessment Survey to explore predictors of lung cancer screening in Virginia. Predictors may not be all that predictive, it seems, and a look at the evidence of smaller groups along the trajectory of their disease process may be necessary to improve health disparities in screening.

Attin and colleagues from Liberty discuss Community Health Workers, their utility, and education for health screening programs in Guatemala but their findings were equally applicable to CHWs in Virginia and elsewhere. Education allowed for the continuation of independent CHW screening programs which contributes much needed prevention efforts.

That's the line-up for this issue. Enjoy these important works in public health!
Best regards,

Maria deValpine

