



Center for Bioethics and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

PARTNERSHIPS



Annual Report

2023



Birds of a Feather, from *The Human Touch*, 2023

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Cover:

Fly to Heal mural team: Frank Garza, Juls Mendoza, pup Mantequilla, Josina Romero O'Connell, and David Weil - Story on P. 19

Director's Message



Dr. Wynia speaking to School of Medicine students at the "**White Coat Ceremony**" on July 28, 2023. Wynia was recognized with the Faculty Professionalism Award at this event.

Dear Friends of the Center –

This year our annual report highlights our work, but it is also a celebration of partnerships. We have outstanding researchers (page 5); we have educators who teach learners from every school on our campus (page 24); we have clinical ethics teams that serve the hospitals on our campus and beyond (page 12); and we have Arts and Humanities programs that elevate the *care* in health care (page 17).

But tying all of these together are our partners, who enrich our research, teaching and clinical work, and who give our center its unique reach into communities in and outside of our campus.

Recently, for example, we worked with the ABPD (a group of 100 top bioethics centers) to survey centers like ours across the US and Canada. The topic was community engagement, and the results were revealing because they show just how unique our focus on partnerships is. Only six centers nationwide reported that they have a community board that represents the public and helps to shape their programs (see ours on page 33). And few approach the scale of our outreach programs; we did 35 publicly-accessible programs in 2023, reaching not just students, staff and faculty on our campus, but thousands of people from around the country and the world.

Of course, these high-quality programs would not be possible without the expertise and work of our incredible faculty and staff. But they are achieving far greater reach and impact because of our partners, supporters and friends.

So, to all of our partners, thanks for everything you do to make our center stronger, wiser, and more useful to the communities we serve.

Sincerely,



Illustration by Sydney Mukonoweshuro, from a training toolkit, *Decolonizing & Democratizing Global Health Research Training*, developed by Matthew DeCamp and colleagues. [Learn more](#)

New Greenwall Trust Grant

PI: Matthew Wynia

Co-investigators: Christine Baugh, Eric Campbell, Matt DeCamp, Hannah Scotch, Brian Bacak, Lindsay Fish, and Linda Montgomery

Trusting patient-clinician relationships should be mutual. A patient may trust or mistrust a doctor, but a doctor may also trust or mistrust a patient. The vast majority of prior research on trust in health care has focused on understanding patient trust. This project is focused on two areas that haven't been studied nearly as much: (1) clinician trust in patients, including how that can help build reciprocal patient trust in the clinician, and (2) the roles of organizational and system policies and practices on building up or tearing down mutually-trusting relationships in health care.

Research Highlights: Grants & Contracts

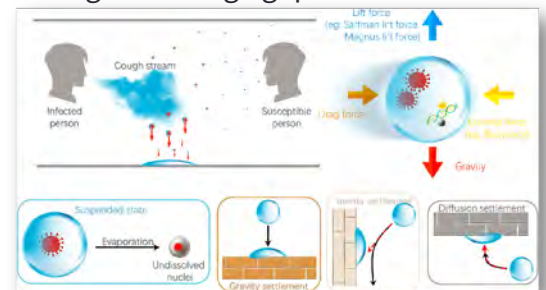
Our growing research team has been busy with projects, grants, and new team members!

New Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Contract

PI: Lisa Bero

Co-investigators: Eric Campbell, Amiran Baduashvili, Claire Brickson, Leela Chockalingam, Louis Leslie, Stephanie Pease, and Jeffrey Wagner

The Respiratory Health Division in the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has asked Dr. Bero and an interdisciplinary team of scholars to conduct a scoping review of the world's literature on one of the most controversial issues emerging from the pandemic. Which infection control practices are best suited to diminish indoor transmission of respiratory infections through the air? The knowledge gained from this scoping review can be used to make recommendations about best practices and to articulate a research agenda to close remaining knowledge gaps.



Quantitative evaluation of precautions against the COVID-19 indoor transmission through human coughing, *Nature*, 12/22

Research Rounds

An ongoing series featuring leading national scholars examining ground-breaking bioethics research.



Holly Fernandez Lynch, JD, MBe, Assistant Professor of Medical Ethics and Law at University of Pennsylvania on *Academic Oncologists and the Expanded Access Pathway to Investigational Drugs*. Presented on February 6.



Sunita Sah, MD, PhD, MBA, Professor of Management Studies at Cornell University on *A Deep Dive into Professionalism: Policy Solutions to Conflicts of Interest*. Presented on June 19.



Lauren Taylor, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine on *50 Years of Studying Trust in Health Care: Our Methods Have Deceived Us*. Presented on October 30.

Invited Lecture: Joseph Fins, MD



On August 1, invited scholar Joseph Fins, MD, presented *Neuroethics and Brain Injury* co-sponsored by the CU Department of Neurology, the CU Department of Medicine-Palliative Care Service, and the Marcus Institute for Brain Health. Dr. Fins is the E. William Davis, Jr. MD Professor of Medical Ethics, Chief of the Division of Medical Ethics at Weill Cornell Medicine, and President of the International Neuroethics Society.



Researcher Profile: Lauren H. Nicholas, PhD, MPP

Dr. Nicholas joined the Center in September of 2023. She is a health economist whose research focuses on the role of public policy in improving health and healthcare quality for the elderly. Dr. Nicholas's work uses clinical and econometric approaches to answer questions in medical and health economics, particularly for dementia, surgery and end-of-life care. Read her article ["How do Surrogates Make Treatment Decisions for Patients with Dementia"](#)

Matt DeCamp, MD, PhD Emerging Expert on AI Ethics in Health Care with "Hat Trick"

Matthew DeCamp, MD, PhD, achieved an academic “hat trick,” with articles published in *Science*, *Nature* and *Annals of Internal Medicine*, all in June and July 2023. The *Nature* article explores how new technologies on the frontier of promising large scale proteomics research are raising new privacy concerns. In *Science*, DeCamp argues that implementation of algorithms can introduce bias even if care was taken to remove bias from the data sets used in training. Finally, DeCamp takes on chatbots in *Annals of Internal Medicine*, examining how chatbot and virtual assistant characteristics such as skin color, age, perceived gender identity, body size, dialect, personality, or perceived attractiveness, could have positive or negative influences following chatbot encounters.



Professional Research Assistants (PRAs)



Rosa Lawrence, BA, Ahmed Alasmar, BS, Hannah Scotch, BA, Marisa Debell, BA, Stephanie Pease, MS, MPH, and Jessica Ellis, BSA

PRAs are tasked with executing research, taking it from conceptual to realized. This often includes project management, data collection and analysis, as well as publishing research results. In their current work, PRAs are investigating the ethics of artificial intelligence in health care, trust in the physician-patient relationship, and COVID testing and treatment in communities across Colorado. In October, PRAs presented their findings at the *American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Conference* in Baltimore, MD.

Senior PRA **Ahmed Alasmar** presenting at the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Conference in October, 2023.



Research Awards

Distinguished Professor of Health Equity Award

Jennifer Oshita, PhD, CCC-SLP, and Megan Morris, PhD, MPH, CCC-SLP, were awarded the Distinguished Professor of Health Equity Best Poster Presentation Award for their poster titled “Communication Disability Accommodation Programs in US Healthcare Organizations,” at the Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Conference.



Megan Morris and Jennifer Oshita with their award-winning poster.

CU General Internal Medicine (GIM) Excellence in Research Awards

Matthew DeCamp, MD, PhD, and Christine Baugh, PhD, were among this year's recipients of the GIM Research Excellence Awards.

Journal Club

Stephanie Pease, Jessica Ellis, Marisa Debell, Yun Hsiu Lu, Hannah Scotch and Anna McLean discuss low-income housing and public health during a recent meeting.



The research team meets bimonthly for Journal Club, where they focus on contemporary topics in bioethics. Each meeting is led by a member of the research team, and includes topics specific to the research grants, areas of individual expertise, or general bioethics topics to acquaint the team to new concepts. Each meeting leader chooses documents and materials to share and discuss. The Club helps expand team members' knowledge and foster relationships with researchers and scholars outside of the Center.

13th Annual CCTSI Research Ethics Conference



Keynote **C.K. Gunsalus, JD**, Director of the National Center for Principled Leadership and Research Ethics Professor Emerita of Business at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign presented *Creating a Culture of Excellence & Equity in Research* at the Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute Research Ethics Conference on November 2, 2023.

Flash Presentations

- *What can research tell us about research integrity and culture?* by **Daniel Acuña, PhD**
- *How can diversity in research teams and research training improve research integrity?* by **Sonia Flores, PhD**
- *What is the role of the research integrity office & institutional policy in fostering a culture of excellence?* by **Kimberly Cox-York, PhD**
- *ChatGPT and Research Integrity: Promise, Peril, or Both?* Panel discussion led by **Lisa Bero, PhD**

Gunsalus invited the audience to think about the important values that underlie integrity in science. The event was attended by over 105 faculty, staff, and students from across the country and organized by Center faculty Dr. Matthew DeCamp.

Special thanks to the organizing committee: Matthew DeCamp, MD, PhD, David Badesch, MD, Curtis Coughlin II, PhD, MS, MBE, HEC-C, Teri Hernandez, PhD, RN, Brian Jackson, MD, MA, HEC-C, and Gianna Morales, CRRS, IBD.



Select Faculty Publications



Adoption and Value of the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit: A Mixed-Methods Study

Mika K. Hamer, Matthew DeCamp, Cathy J. Bradley, Donald E. Nease Jr., and Marcelo C. Perrillon

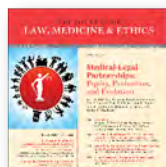
Medical Care Research and Review, August, 2023



Death by Ableism

Megan Morris

New England Journal of Medicine, Perspective, January, 2023



Decisions about College Football During Covid-19: An Ethical Analysis

Christine M. Baugh, Leonard Glantz, and Michelle M. Mello

Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics, May, 2023



Health as a Human Right:

A Position Paper From the American College of Physicians

Matthew DeCamp, Lois Snyder Sulmasy, and the ACP Ethics Professionalism and Human Rights Committee

Annals of Internal Medicine, November, 2023



Health Effects of High-Concentration Cannabis Products: Scoping Review and Evidence Map

Lisa Bero, Rosa Lawrence, Jean-Pierre Oberste, Tianjing Li, Louis Leslie, Thanitsara Rittiphairoj, Christi Piper, George Sam Wang, Ashley Brooks-Russell, Tsz Wing Yim, Gregory Tung, and Jonathan M Samet

American Journal of Public Health, December, 2023



Spheres of Morality: Is There a Point?

Brian M. Jackson and Matthew K. Wynia

American Journal of Bioethics, December, 2023

THANK YOU JACKIE GLOVER, PhD

Professor Glover retired after 20 years at the Center.

Dr. Glover came to the Center in 2003, one year after it was established. She was originally a religion major planning on going into the ministry as a Lutheran pastor. Life happened and she changed majors to Philosophy with a Bioethics concentration and fell in love. She graduated in 1988 from Georgetown University and the Kennedy Institute of Ethics. She served as a philosopher ethicist in 1983 at The George Washington University and Children's National Hospital, followed by Loyola University and West Virginia University.

Dr. Glover feels fortunate to have forged a career that included her love of knowledge, her values, and her faith. She says "a career in clinical ethics is an awesome combination of tough philosophical questions, challenging relationships, and conflict resolution with real world impact." What's next? "REST and more REST. And then travel. I'm convinced if I stay open – the next adventure will find me!"



Welcome Chelsey Patten, DBe, HEC-C



Dr. Patten joined CBH as our new Director of Clinical Ethics in Fall 2023

Dr. Patten supports clinical ethics consultation work at Children’s Hospital Colorado and University of Colorado Hospital as a Lead Consultant. In addition to these clinical responsibilities, she will guide strategic growth of CBH’s clinical ethics programming, services, and reach. Shortly after joining CBH, Dr. Patten was chosen to serve as co-chair of the University of Colorado Hospital Clinical Ethics Committee and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Colorado Healthcare Ethics Forum.



Gianna Morales, Anne Dondapati-Allen, Curtis Coughlin, Karen Jones, Kristin Furfari, Chelsey Patten, and Brian Jackson

Looking Ahead to 2024

"Inheriting a well-established program is truly a gift. Without the incredible work of Dr. Glover and team, we would be spending time establishing a solid foundation of a program and slowly building on it. Instead, we are presented with the exciting opportunity to dream big and ask, "What will distinguish us from the rest?" Over the upcoming year, our team will consider ways to expand our consult service bandwidth, increase education offerings, and foster intentional collaboration across CBH’s mission areas and beyond. Our aim is for CBH to emerge as the preeminent center for clinical ethicists and ethicist trainees, and 2024 is poised to be the year where we envision boldly and carve out our unique identity. I'm thrilled to be joining CBH during this period of expansion and couldn't have asked for a more dedicated team to embark on this journey!"

Clinical Ethics Consultation

Clinical Ethics Consultations are services provided by an individual or group in response to question from patients, families, surrogates, healthcare professionals, or other involved parties who seek to resolve uncertainty or conflict regarding value-laden concerns that emerge in health care.

Moral Distress Rounds are designed to promote discussion of the experience of having a sense of the right thing to do but feeling impeded from fulfilling that ethical obligation due to internal or external constraints.



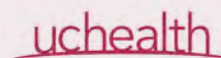
Curtis Coughlin, PhD, MS, MBE, Devon Jenson, RN, Stephan Mokrohisky, MD, and Angie Romani, RN, discuss a challenging case.

2023 Consult Volumes



40 Ethics Consults

82 Moral Distress Rounds



194 Ethics Consults

- 14.8% increase from 2022

17 Moral Distress Consults

- 112.5% increase from 2022

CBH Ethics Ambassador Program



Susan Bauchat, RN, Case Manager, Piere Iskandar, MSW, SWC, and Ethics Ambassador Stephanie Bigley, OT

Ambassadors Train as Liaisons for the Ethics Consult Service

The Clinical Ethics Team at CBH is currently training 11 UCHealth Ethics Ambassadors in common ethical challenges related to decision-making capacity, substitute decision-makers, safe discharge, professional integrity, non-beneficial intervention, self-directed discharge, conflict mediation, and moral distress. The 2023 cohort consists of 4 RNs, 2 Social Workers, 2 Coordinators, 2 Spiritual Care Providers, and 1 Occupational Therapist.

Occupational Therapist Stephanie Bigley, who works at University Hospital's Emergency Department explains, "Being an ethics ambassador has helped me refine so many skills; problem-solving, utilizing cognitive screens to provide objective data for MD's to use towards their capacity evaluations, advocating for patients who don't have family or social support, especially geriatric patients who are facing such fragile situations. This role is an opportunity to be part of the solution, not just bringing up a problem. Gathering our multidisciplinary team where everyone plays such a pivotal role to work together and find what might be best for a patient that day and for the long term, so they don't end up coming back to the ED."

The mission of the Ethics Ambassador Program, inspired by the Ethics Liaison Program at Children's Hospital Colorado, is to empower individuals within various clinical units and departments with fundamental ethics concepts, equipping them to proactively identify and address ethical concerns within their spheres of influence. By fostering a community of Ethics Ambassadors, we aim to create a network of knowledgeable and vigilant professionals who serve as catalysts for early recognition and resolution of ethical challenges. Through collaborative education and open dialogue, our program seeks to further enhance the ethical climate of the UCHealth system.

"Considering Justice in an Unjust World" 24th Annual CHCO Pediatric Ethics Conference

This conference at Children's Hospital Colorado in April 2023, examined the concept of justice in healthcare and the impact of racial, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic disparities on access to care. Through case-based discussions led by ethics faculty and healthcare leaders, the 149 participants investigated complex cases illuminating disparities and systemic barriers to equitable care, while exploring advocacy methods and enacting their moral agency to improve just delivery of pediatric health care services.



Chara Kurtz, RN in NICU with Bricelyn Carrick, RN

Ethics Liason Program at Children's Hospital Colorado

The CHCO Ethics Liaison Program consists of 77 liaisons who provide a vital role in fostering compassionate, ethical care.

Ethics Liaisons train in ethical discernment, communication, decision-making approaches, conflict resolution, and addressing moral distress. Ethics Liaisons like **Chara Kurtz, RN** proactively address ethical "hotspots," preempting conflicts, facilitating open discussions while rounding, and connecting staff to helpful resources during times of moral distress. Chara stated, "We truly are a liaison between the nurse, the rest of the medical team, and the parents. You are trying to bring people together collectively to share a similar vision to best care for the patient."

With their natural curiosity and focus on bringing diverse perspectives together, Ethics Liaisons are invaluable in navigating the ethically challenging cases that are inevitable in a leading children's hospital. Their work promotes consistent, collaborative patient-centered care and supports the resiliency of the remarkable staff.

This program at Children's Hospital Colorado is a national model and served as a template for the UHealth Ethics Ambassador Program.

Welcome Dr. Katie Rhine New Director of the Arts and Humanities in Healthcare Program



Kathryn Rhine, PhD, joined CU in September of 2023 from the University of Kansas, where she spent several years establishing a global health and medical humanities curriculum. Her passion is building the infrastructure needed for the arts and humanities to flourish, especially in health care settings. She is eager to work with faculty, students, staff, and community members in interrogating what makes us human, speaking truth to power, and contextualizing our practices and processes. Rhine believes the arts and humanities are uniquely positioned to offer a skillset that enhances the delivery of healthcare—including deep listening, close observation, person-centered communication, compassion, empathy, personal growth, and much more.

Current Projects and Upcoming Initiatives:

- Continuing programming around 2024 exhibitions: *Raw Material: Quilts by NedRa Bonds* and *7,000 Babies: The Legacy of Justina Ford, MD*.
- Implementing a Delphi study that will allow the Anschutz campus community to discuss and prioritize the central learning outcomes of social justice programming, funded by a President's DEI grant.
- Assessing the impacts of arts-based educational programs on medical students' observation skills, empathy, and racial bias, funded by a Rymer Innovation Award from the CU Academy of Medical Educators.
- Planning upcoming exhibition by painter Jeffrey Kent, inspired by the story of Henrietta Lacks.

Advocating for Children in Migration

Warren Binford, JD, Ed.M, the W.H. Lea for Justice Endowed Chair in Pediatric Law, Ethics & Policy and Director for Pediatric Law, Ethics & Policy at the Kempe Center is an international children’s rights scholar and advocate.



Art as Advocacy, launched at the Fulginiti Pavilion in June 2023, highlighted four artistic projects that were inspired by the sworn testimonies of children arriving to the United States in 2019. The children reported being taken into custody by the U.S. government shortly after arrival and having almost all their belongings taken away. When the children’s sworn declarations with their brutal details were made public, the artistic community responded with fiery indignation and determination to ensure that the children’s voices would be heard.

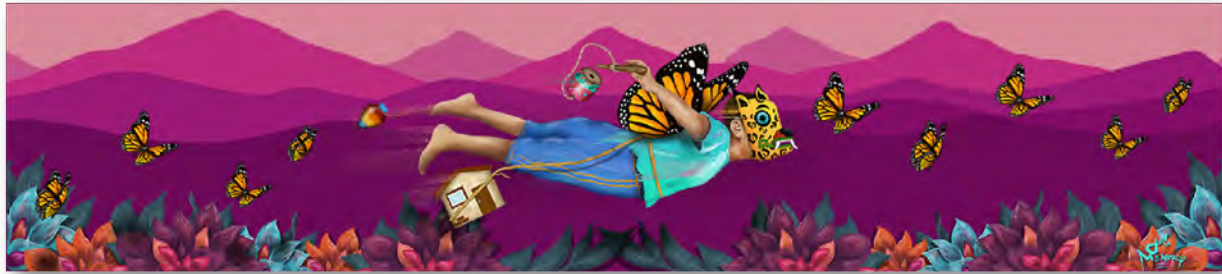


Keynote speaker ACLU attorney **Lee Gelernt** said, "It’s almost impossible to fully describe the harm," regarding children separated from their families at the border.

On September 21, 2023 CBH and the Kempe Center held a bilingual multidisciplinary symposium at the Fulginiti Pavilion that included panels focused on a variety of approaches to advocacy including arts and literature, law, medicine and behavioral health, music, and the performing arts. These discussions emphasized the moral imperative all of us have to speak out when we witness injustice. The symposium concluded with the world premiere of *Soul Echoes*, an immersive vocal and dance drama by J.E Hernandez about family separation at the border.



Fly to Heal Mural



When asked, *What did you feel when you saw the mural?*, one survey respondent said, "**Awe, beauty, sorrow, empowered.**"

The Center led the initiative to bring the first mural to the Anschutz Medical Campus. *Fly to Heal* was installed on the west wall of the Fulginiti Pavilion, and it was made possible through partnership with Colorado Area Health Education Center.

The selection committee developed an international call for submissions, received 96 proposals, and selected a local artist, Juls Mendoza.

When Mendoza and his family left Mexico, he lost a childhood filled with play, friendship, and adventure. He thus chose to create a mural depicting a spirit of courage and hope. When asked what he wanted people to take away from his mural, Mendoza replied: "healing."

We hope that this is the first of many murals to bring culturally informed, publicly accessible art to our campus, to engage students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community in emerging issues in health care and society.

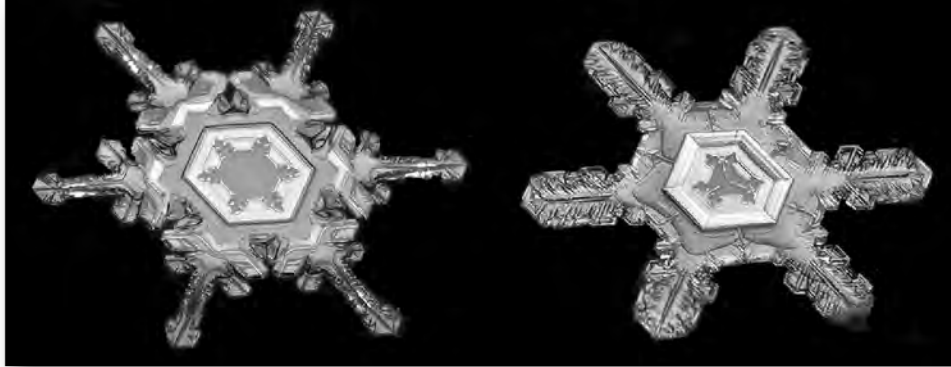
Mural Committee:

- David Weil - Chair, Manager of Operations and Educational Technology, CBH
- Warren Binford - Co-chair, CBH faculty & Director for Pediatric Law, Ethics & Policy at the Kempe Center
- Steven Burton - Office of Diversity, LGBTQ+ Hub Program Manager
- Jasmine Chu - Art Coordinator, Children's Hospital Colorado
- Arturo Garcia - Denver artist and gallery owner
- Frank Garza - Loveland-based muralist and Manager of AHEC Mural Program
- J.E. Hernandez - Mexican-born composer who immigrated to the U.S. with his mother at age 11.
- Theresa Nino - Senior Instructor, CU College of Nursing
- Josina Romero O'Connell - Program Director, Colorado AHEC



Juls and his parents, with David Weil

Every One is Unique



"Looking at snowflakes is a way to reconnect to nature, its inventiveness, its creative force," says Persoff.

Over winter 2023, the Fulginiti Gallery hosted a photography exhibition featuring the work of **Jason Persoff, MD, SFHM**, an internationally renowned storm chaser, father of three amazing forces of nature, husband to his soul mate, erstwhile stand-up comedian, and Assistant Director of Emergency Preparedness at University of Colorado Hospital.

"Medicine and meteorology overlap for me," said Persoff, "There's an anatomy and physiology to a storm, and both tap into my passion for complex thinking."



Campus Choir and Orchestra

The CU Anschutz Choir (directed by Jackie Penell) and Orchestra (directed by Matthew Witt) are part of the Center's Music and Medicine Initiative. This program provides the CU Anschutz campus with a resource for understanding and using music as a conduit to advance healthcare, education, and research.



The Anschutz Campus Choir has grown considerably over the past few years, which has allowed a wider repertoire and more small group performances, including a piece dedicated to the *Art as Advocacy* exhibit, "I Choose Love."



The CU Anschutz Orchestra increased its membership to a total of 54 members including students, faculty, staff, patients, and community members.



On the evening before Halloween, the orchestra performed a selection of spooky selections, including a guest performance by **CT Lin, MD**, of "The Hospital of the Rising Sun."

Mark Kissler, MD, MS, Hosts Author Series



Ricardo Nuila, Megan Morris and Mark Kissler

Mark Kissler, MD, MS, the Center's Academic Leadership Council Representative for the School of Medicine, led a series of author talks in 2023 in partnership with the Division of Hospital Medicine.

In May, Kissler spoke with **Ricardo Nuila, MD**, about his debut book, *The People's Hospital*, about uninsured patients and the Ben Taub Hospital in Texas.

In April, Kissler interviewed **Cindy Weinstein, PhD**, the Eli and Edythe Broad Professor of English at the California Institute of Technology, who discussed her book, *Finding the Right Words*. The text reflects upon Weinstein's father's experience with early-onset Alzheimer's disease.



Cindy Weinstein and Mark Kissler



Susan Oakie and Mark Kissler

In November, Kissler joined **Susan Okie, MD**, for a reading from her award-winning book of poetry, *Woman at the Crossing*. Okie is a family medicine physician by training, a former medical reporter and editor for the *Washington Post* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

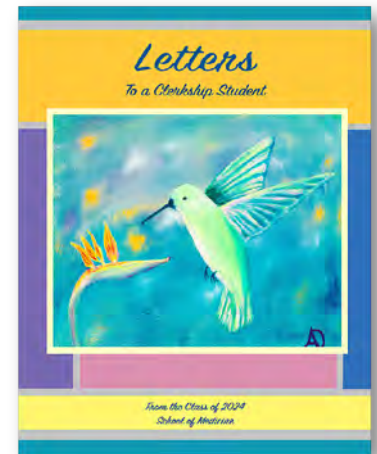
When I tugged on the flexor digitorum tendons, her fingers partly closed and her thumb crooked in. I seemed to see the two of us as if from outside, and could no longer name the tendons. I felt my fingers from inside her hand.

From Oakie's debut book
WOMAN AT THE CROSSING
Winner of the 2023
Off the Grid Poetry Prize

Letters to a Clerkship Student

"Just as these letters provide a mirror of the experiences and emotions for the medical students, they are also a window for the rest of us looking in at them and looking out for them as they make the journey."--Tess Jones and Anjali Dhurandar, publication founders.

Letters to a Clerkship Student is a collection of letters given to the medical students as they commence their first clinical year, as inspired by Rainer Maria Rilke's small volume, *Letters to a Young Poet*. For our collection, the letters are written by students after completing their clinical year and contain practical advice, helpful suggestions, and personal reflections about the year ahead. Read [Letters to a Clerkship Student](#)



"There will be days that you will be so unsure. Will I be a good doctor? But hopefully, there will be many more days – more and more and more – that you are certain. Yes. I will."-- Laura Meimari, MD
Candidate Class of 2024

The Human Touch

The Human Touch is the Center's annual anthology of original prose, poetry, graphic arts, photography, music, and video created and contributed by the students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends of the CU Anschutz campus.

This publication was founded in 2008 by renowned immunologist Henry N. Claman, MD, and his wife Janet Claman, MD. This 16th edition continues to provide a mechanism for reflection and expression for the campus and the community.

Read [The Human Touch](#)



Education



Public Health Ethics & Law (PHEAL)

Advancing Health Justice in New Collaborative

PHEAL launched in February as a joint initiative of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities and the Colorado School of Public Health. Including law within public health curricula provides future practitioners with critical tools to identify and address legal issues to advance public health. Importantly, this foundational education supplies public health students with understanding and skills to confront the structural drivers of health inequities. In June, the Public Health Ethics and Law (PHEAL) Program convened a workshop at CBH entitled “Teaching Public Health Law Outside of a Law School.” The first output of the workshop was the "Centering Law in Public Health Education" commentary published in *Health Affairs Forefront*.

2023 Highlights

- Website launch and brand development.
- Held on-campus workshop with national leaders in public health law who work primarily on health sciences campuses.
- Published Casebook on Public Health Ethics (supported by an educational resource grant from the Strauss Health Sciences Library). The casebook fills a gap in the field and is intended for teachers all over the world to use, free of charge, in their classes.
- Education Director Daniel Goldberg, JD, PhD, was interviewed for the story Program Merges Bioethics and Public Health in Search of Justice, in the Aug 15 edition of *CU Anschutz Today*.

Bioethics and Humanities Trail

New Specialization Offered for 4th Year Medical Students

In 2023, the School of Medicine launched the Bioethics and Humanities Trail, one of five areas of specializations (known as trails) in the new curriculum for fourth year students.

Trail co-directors Brian Jackson and Daniel Goldberg spent most of 2022-23 designing and building the Trail. Dedicating such a substantial amount of curricular space to bioethics and humanities content is rare among U.S. medical schools and presents unique opportunities for the Center for Bioethics and Humanities. The trail covers a wide variety of fields and topics, including clinical, research, and public health ethics, as well as the history of medicine, literature and medicine, visual arts, and performing arts.

"I was able to look back at my clinical experiences with a new perspective and consider new ways to approach similar situations in the future with new insight on how arts & humanities are vital to the understanding of the human experience with health."--B&H Trail Student, 2023



**"We are builders"--
Daniel Goldberg,
JD, PhD, Center
for Bioethics and
Humanities
Education Director**



Health Ethics & Humanities Certificate



The Graduate Certificate in Health Humanities and Ethics (HEHE) offers timely courses geared towards enriching health professions students and working health professionals. Mark Kissler, MD, MS, Center Academic Leadership Council member from the School of Medicine, taught the *Foundations of Health Humanities* course in Spring 2023. The popular elective, *Pain, Paradoxes and the Human Condition*, also returned in the Spring. In Fall 2023, Daniel Goldberg, JD, PhD, taught *Introduction to Public Health Ethics*. Students continue to report high satisfaction with the Certificate and the original courses designed and delivered by Center faculty. The Certificate Program matriculates approximately eight new students each year and has a two-year completion rate of over 90 percent.

Policy Education & Training

In partnership with the Farley Health Policy Center (FHPC), the Center Education team is building programs and curricula for Policy Education & Training. In 2022-23, the team designed and delivered a Core Health Policy Education Training Curriculum. In 2023-24, the team launched the Learner-in-Residence Program that creates protocols and pathways for all policy learners with the FHPC.

Education Awards

Annual Honors for Outstanding Medical Students in Arts and Humanities



During medical school, **Linh K. Nguyen, MD**, worked on the *Senior Storybook* project and served as its co-lead editor, did editorial work for the *Letters to a Clerkship Student* publication and created a video about the project, and served on the editorial board of *The Human Touch*.

Linh K. Nguyen, MD (SOM '23)
Henry N. Claman, MD Medical Humanities Award



Valerie Gao, MD, was recognized as a writer and editor for several creative publications. In particular, she served as co-lead editor for the *Senior Storybook* project, and contributed writings to *The Human Touch* and *Letters to a Clerkship Student*.

Valerie Gao, MD (SOM '23)
Narrative Medicine Award



Bioethics and Humanities Student Group

An opportunity for all CU Anschutz students to network, explore, and lead.



The Center sponsors an interprofessional group of students who come together once a month to explore topics in bioethics and humanities through group discussion. During 2023 the group established and elected officers, held monthly discussions with bioethics and humanities faculty, and formed a planning group for an upcoming special event on the ethical applications of CRISPR technology to treat diseases.

2023-2024 Officers and Leaders:

President: Blake VanderPloeg, SOM DPT Student, Class of 2025

Vice President: Ekshika Patel, SOM MD Student, Class of 2027

Secretary: Tamara Corley, SOM MD Student, Class of 2027

Treasurer: Arjun Singh, SOM MD Student, Class of 2027

Skaggs School of Pharmacy Liaison: Joshua Semock, PharmD Student, Class of 2025

New Pharmacy & Dental Medicine Partnerships

Pharmacy and Ethics Speakers Series



This new series was created as a collaboration between the Center and the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences to explore issues in ethics and pharmacy. Launched in Fall 2023 with *Community Pharmacy: Ethical Challenges and Opportunities*, the series will offer three to four programs each year.

Center Leads New National Collaborative on Humanities & Ethics in Dentistry



The newly formed National Collaborative on Humanities and Ethics in Dentistry aims to create opportunities for reflection, learning, and teaching on ethical issues in dentistry and to stimulate progress nationwide in using arts and humanities to improve dental practice, research, policy and education. This speaker series will also feature three to four programs each year.

Partners:

- University of Texas Houston Health Sciences Campus
 - McGovern Center for Ethics and Humanities at the McGovern Medical School
- University of Rochester Medical Center
 - Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics
 - Eastman Institute for Oral Health



Silvers Fellowship & A Triumph Over Injury



Stacy Gallin, Maimonides Institute for Medicine Ethics and the Holocaust, PhD, Mark Levine, MD, Center Community Board Chair, Matt Wynia, MD, Center Director, William S. Silvers, MD, Silvers Fellowship Founder and Creator of the Dr. William S. Silvers Holocaust Genocide and Contemporary Bioethics Program Fund, and **Silvers Fellows Joseph Andrew Legan, MD and Rev. Phillip H. Shearin.**

In April, the Center launched the Silvers Fellowship in Holocaust Genocide and Contemporary Bioethics. This initiative, generously funded by William Silvers, MD, brought two exceptional fellows, Rev. Phillip H. Shearin and Dr. Joseph Andrew Legan, to the CU Anschutz campus. Over two weeks, these fellows explored the medical legacy of the Holocaust and its implications for medicine and society. Dedicated to incorporating their acquired insights into their professional domains, Rev. Shearin and Dr. Legan are positioned to enhance awareness and foster deeper understanding with their peers and communities.

“I was able to do a presentation this past fall at a church on the impact of the eugenics movement, which was a direct result of my participation in the fellowship program. This fellowship program has changed my life!”

-Rev. Phillip H. Shearin

As the program was forming in April of 2022, Dr. Silvers was involved in a sporting accident that left him paralyzed. Still, he stayed engaged, offering ideas from his hospital bed. Dr. Silvers was well enough to actively participate when the Fellows arrived. His grace, determination, and humor have been energizing to all who work with him. The son of Holocaust survivors, he finds wisdom in their resilience. "As long as you're breathing, you can do good in the world."

Lancet Commission Teacher Training Fellowship



The Silvers Fellowship laid the foundation for the year-long International Lancet Commission Teacher Training program on Medicine, Nazism, and the Holocaust. Administered by the Center with a committee of leading Holocaust and medicine scholars, this initiative aims to develop medical faculty to become experts on the history of medicine and the Holocaust with 15 international fellows. Read [The Report of the Lancet Commission on Medicine, Nazism, and the Holocaust](#)

Holocaust Genocide and Contemporary Bioethics Program



S. James Anaya and Philippe Sands take student questions.

Professor **Philippe Sands** presented a keynote for our Federal Days of Remembrance Program in April. The author of *East West Street: On the Origins of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity* spoke at both CU Anschutz and in Boulder at CULaw, in partnership with the Program in Jewish Studies.



This program continued its mission of interdisciplinary collaboration with a combined total of 800 participants from our community.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27, 2023:

- *How Healers Became Killers: Nazi Doctors and Modern Medical Ethics*, Matthew Wynia, MD, MPH
- *Professional Complicity in the Holocaust: What can the professions of today learn from each other?* A panel discussion among medicine, law, clergy, academic, and business leaders.

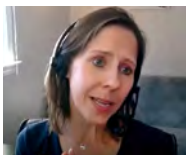
Aspen Ethical Leadership Program

This year's fall program hosted a cohort of 50 health executives and leaders from across the country to discuss the theme, *Leading Toward Justice*. Keynote Colorado Attorney General **Phil Weiser, JD**, presented on "Enhancing Justice in Law and Healthcare." Other speakers included Dean **Dayna Bowen Matthew, JD**, from the George Washington University School of Law on "A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care," and **Charisse Madlock-Brown, PhD**, from the University of Iowa on "Tackling Bias in Healthcare in an Age of AI."



**"We need to promote connection as healthy human behavior."
-Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser**

American Jewish Women in Healthcare



The Dr. Helen Morris American Jewish Experience in Medicine Program launched, ***Unexpected Insights: A Conversation Series with American Jewish Women in Medicine.***

- ***Resilience & Reflections: A Conversation with Lilly Marks***, June 6, 2023, former Vice President of Health Affairs & Executive Vice Chancellor of the CU Anschutz campus.
- ***A Conversation about BRCA and Genetic Testing***, October 24, 2023. Rachel Rabinovitch, MD, Michelle Springer, MS, CGC, and Paul Wolpe, PhD, explored BRCA gene mutations, genetic testing, and the contributions of Jewish scientists and ethicists.

Community Board



Downtown Aurora Visual Arts (DAVA) students at comic workshop for local teenagers, taught by MIT faculty **Mauricio Cordero**, creator of the book *BorderX*, a comics anthology about the migrant crisis. Board member **Krista Robinson** is the Executive Director of DAVA and worked with our faculty and staff to arrange this free workshop.

Board Expansion and Ambassadors

In 2023 the board expanded and diversified its membership to 15 seats. Board members have taken an ambassadorial role in learning the work of the Center missions and fostering pathways for enrichment between the work of the Center and the community.



"The work of the Center has real-world impacts that are improving lives in communities throughout the state of Colorado. As chair of the community board, I'm honored to support these vital efforts."
- Mark Levine, MD

New Board Members in 2023



John R. Demboski, PhD
Senior Vice President of Science & Chief Curator, Denver Museum of Nature and Science



Dr. Shakari Hood
Executive Director, Colorado Black Health Collaborative



Dennis Ryerson
Retired newspaper editor who served at *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *The Denver Post*, and *The Des Moines Register*

Thank You To Our Supporters

- **Total Funds Raised: \$44,016**
- **New Benefactors: 12**
- **Loyal Benefactors: 60**
- **Two Gifts of Significance (\$10k+)**

2023 by the Numbers



66 Publications by CBH faculty

37 Articles in the Media



35 Events with **4,474** Registrants and **4,312** YouTube Views

Exhibition visitors: *Every One is Unique* **1,126**, *Art as Advocacy* **3,661**



Exhibition visitors since opening in 2012: **78,122**

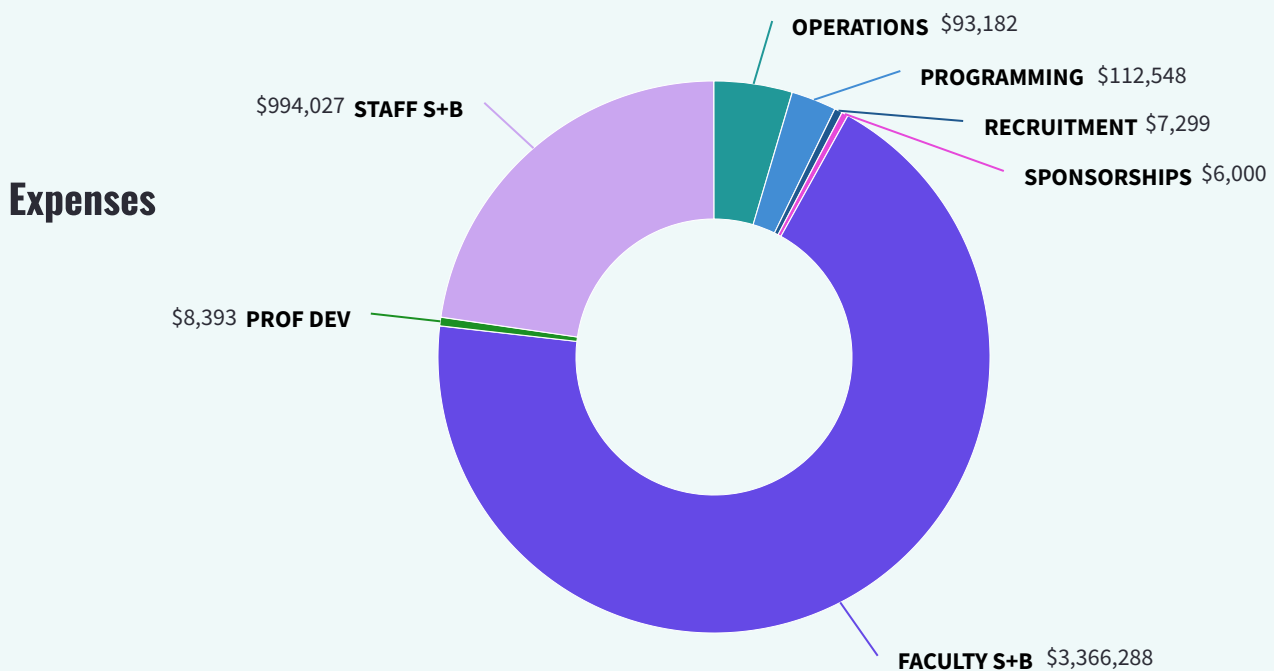
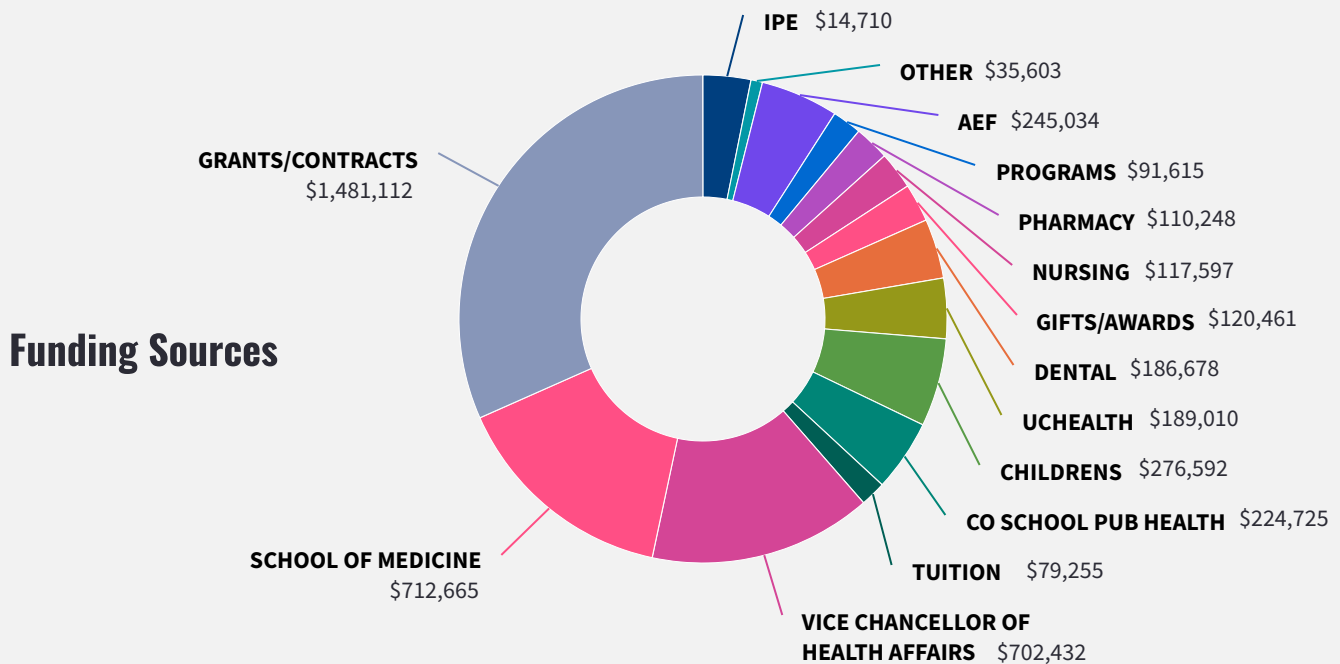
303 Meetings in the Gossard Forum



22 Core Faculty, **17** Faculty Affiliates, **8** Staff, **8** PRAs, **5** Student Workers



Center Funding Sources and Expenses



Looking forward to next year

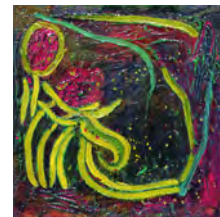
2024 exhibits:



Raw Material:
Quilts by NedRa Bonds



7,000 Babies
Justina Ford, MD



Henrietta Lacks
Art by Jeffrey Kent

Updated Audio-Visual Systems in the Gossard Forum and UPI Conference Rooms.

"Mind of the 'Maestro: Inside the Head of Leonard Bernstein"
Psychiatrist and pianist Richard Kogan, MD, on October 17th.



CBH is part of a \$65.67 million grant from the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health to explore ethical issues of new ingestible devices that deliver mRNA and electric stimuli to treat obesity and diabetes.

Clinical Ethics initiatives will enhance consult service bandwidth and increase education offerings through newly formed Clinical Ethics Education Council.

New Course: "Race, History, and Health in Brazil"
10-day study abroad in Salvador, Brazil.





Center for Bioethics and Humanities

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

www.coloradobioethics.org



Aurora Science and Technology Middle School students singing carols at the Fulginiti, December 2023, with teacher Maria Hendrick.