

Rx One Health Field Institute

# IMPACT REPORT

2017-2024





# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

Greetings from Davis, California! We are proud to present the inaugural Rx One Health Field Institute Impact Report. In the following pages, you'll find highlights showcasing an innovative approach to graduate level experiential education that expands minds, catalyzes life-long professional and personal relationships, and exemplifies experiential learning. Part field course and part leadership development intensive, Rx One Health is intentionally designed and thoughtfully curated to train the current and next generation of One Health leaders from around the world. With inspiration from the popular Envirovet course (1991-2010), the Rx One Health Field Institute was first offered in Tanzania and Rwanda in 2017, and has continued annually.

After a pause in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, course leadership pivoted to offer the course in California in 2021. Vibrant biodiversity, nuanced cultural connections, vast landscapes, and a diverse participant body bring Rx One Health to life. Highly competitive, each cohort is deliberately selected to reflect a range of professional disciplines, nationalities, and



educational level. This diversity is reflected in our course alumni demographics. Alumni have gone on to enroll in, or complete graduate education programs, work in public health departments and ministries around the world, lead research programs, manage conservation non-profit organizations, and more. Stay connected with us through our website, [www.rxonehealth.org](http://www.rxonehealth.org), and through our social media platforms through the One Health Institute.

Sincerely,

Jennie Lane  
*Field Institute Director*

Woutrina Smith  
*Faculty Lead*

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Grounded in experiential, placed-based One Health education, the Rx One Health Field Institute (RxOH) contributes to the development of future leaders working to address complex challenges facing our planet. Climate change, food insecurity, and infectious and emerging diseases all threaten our collective health and well being. Solving these issues will require teamwork, vision, leadership and working across cultural, professional, and national boundaries. The RxOH approach uses experiential education to teach One Health core competencies, and encourages participants to leverage their own technical skill sets in new ways to work across disciplinary boundaries.



(2017-2024)

# ONE HEALTH FUNDAMENTALS

Participants are immersed in settings that illustrate the health of people, animals and the environment are inextricably linked. Rx One Health provides participants with direct access to mentors, tools, and knowledge to allow them to apply a One Health approach to their lives' work.

## ONE HEALTH CORE COMPETENCIES COVERED`

- Zoonotic Diseases
- Health Equity
- Social & Cultural Determinants of Health
- Community Engagement
- Cultural Competency
- Leadership
- Biosafety & Biosecurity
- Food Safety & Security
- Risk Communication
- Ecosystem Health & Climate Change
- Epidemiology & Surveillance

***"The best part of this course was the connections I made and the lessons I learned. One Health is about people and being able to discuss challenging situations with them and work together to find solutions. That is exactly what this course had us do and it really developed my ability to work in a team setting and understand different perspectives."***

– Participant 2021

## CAPSTONE PROJECT`

A participatory and collaborative effort with other course participants, the RxOH Capstone project provides a platform for participants to showcase their knowledge gained and apply it to real life scenarios while allowing for diverse expression of understanding.



### 2023 CAPSTONE HIGHLIGHT

Scan the QR code to watch the capstone video produced by Julia Cho, Maya Homsey-King, and Laura Gonzalez Vileta





# SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Rx One Health Field Institute is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and we have taken explicit steps to increasing participation by those not as well represented in the STEM disciplines. Since our inception, we have awarded more than 50 full or partial scholarships to help ensure a diverse participant body. Scholarship support helps to foster access to training opportunities specifically designed to break down communication barriers across professional disciplines and silos. A few of our recent scholarship recipients are highlighted below:



## Jessica Watts

A third-year PhD candidate in the Development, Disease Models, & Therapeutics program at Baylor College of Medicine, Jessica is involved in a variety of community outreach opportunities including mentorship programs for undergraduate and high school students from underrepresented populations. Jessica impressively led one of the group capstone projects focused on Addressing Inequities in Black Maternal Healthcare in Texas.



## Ricardo Rodríguez

A wildlife veterinarian from Mexico, Ricardo leads a non-profit organization focused on natural resource conservation through scientific and community-based activities. Recently completing a master's studies in natural resources management focused on ecology, Ricardo is crafting a career path that allows him to combine passions for animals, nature, and working with a wide variety of cultures.



## Maria Hammet

From Merced, California Maria is medical student at the University of California, Davis, c/o 2026. A passionate advocate for LGBTQ+ and environmental issues, Maria hopes to incorporate both passions in their future practice as a primary care physician in California's Central Valley.

## SUCCESS STORY

It is very exciting to report that as a result of the relationships built during RxOH 2023, two participants have since collaborated on a grant proposal and received funding to pursue their research. Led by Dr. Abrrar Karan (USA, Infectious Disease Fellow, Stanford University) and Dr. Peter Kimeli (Kenya, Veterinarian, University of Nairobi), they have received funding to conduct a pilot investigation of potential viral spillover events between wildlife and humans in Western Kenya. This work is an immediate result of the capstone project they worked on for their capstone project "Improving early detection systems for novel pandemic prone pathogens in East Africa".



## GET IN TOUCH!

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