



# 17th Annual CHOP Pediatric Global Health Conference **Health for Every Child: Strengths-Based Approaches Locally and Globally**

Friday, October 10 –  
Saturday, October 11, 2025

CHOP HUB for Clinical Collaboration

## Course Overview

This conference will bring together child health experts from around the world to explore strengths-based approaches to address current and emerging threats to child health and well-being.

## Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of the conference, participants will be equipped to:

- Describe strengths-based approaches to enhance child and adolescent health
- Identify tools, interventions, or strategies to educate caregivers and the public to promote child and adolescent health and well-being
- Conduct strengths-based assessments of children, families, communities, and health systems
- Identify at least three collaborative approaches that can be implemented to build bridges with patients, families, and their communities
- List up to five high-priority health research topics affecting children and youth in low- and middle-income settings

## Target Audience

Physicians, advanced practice nurses, nurses, social workers, allied health professionals, mental health professionals, public health professionals, researchers, human rights activists, educators, policymakers, trainees, students, and anyone working or interested in the fields of global health or public health.

## Joint Accreditation Statement



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™  
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

## Designation of Credit

**Physicians:** Children's Hospital of Philadelphia designates this live activity for a maximum of 10.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Nurses:** This program provides 10.75 ANCC contact hours.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia reserves the right to cancel or postpone any course due to unforeseen circumstances. In the event of cancellation or postponement, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia will refund any registration fees, less a service charge, but is not responsible for any related costs, charges, or expenses to participants, including cancellation charges assessed by airlines/travel agencies. To process refunds for course withdrawals, cancellations must be received in writing by Friday, October 3, 2025. Please email [cmeoffice@chop.edu](mailto:cmeoffice@chop.edu). No refunds will be issued thereafter.

## Services for People With Disabilities

Participation by all individuals is encouraged. If arrangements are required for an individual with special needs to attend this meeting, please contact the **CHOP CME Department at 215-590-5263** at least two weeks in advance so that we may better serve you during the conference.

## Lactation Facilities

Each office floor of the CHOP HUB for Clinical Collaboration (Hub), where the main conference sessions will be held, has a lactation room. Lactation rooms are also available in the Buerger Center, which is adjacent to the Hub. Please contact the CHOP CME Department at [cmeoffice@chop.edu](mailto:cmeoffice@chop.edu) at least two weeks in advance so we may ensure the rooms remain accessible on the weekend days of the conference.

## General Information and Registration Fees

The registration fee includes registration materials, continental breakfast, lunch, breaks, and dinner. The conference syllabus will also be available online as part of our green initiative.

Physicians.....	\$225
Other Healthcare providers.....	\$145
Students (In-person and Virtual).....	\$25
Virtual for High-Income Countries.....	\$75
(According to World Bank Rankings)	
Virtual for Low and Middle-Income Countries.....	\$0
(According to World Bank Rankings)	
OPTIONAL Post Conference Dinner.....	\$45

*Preregistration is required. Registration is limited; register early to secure your spot.*

**Register now: [chop.cloud-cme.com](https://chop.cloud-cme.com)**

# 17th Annual CHOP Pediatric Global Health Conference

## Health for Every Child: Strengths-based Approaches Locally and Globally

CHOP HUB for Clinical Collaboration

## PROGRAM

**Friday, October 10, 2025**

### OPTIONAL PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

#### DR. KWAKU OHENE-FREMPONG GHANA PARTNERSHIPS PRE-CONFERENCE

- 8:30 a.m.**      **Registration**
- 9:00 a.m.**      **Dr. Kwaku Ohene-Frempong Ghana Partnerships**  
*Moderators: Selasie Goka, MD & Jacqueline Owusu-McKenzie, MD*
- 9:05 a.m.**      **Reflections on working with and a Tribute to KOF – Dr. Kwaku Ohene-Frempong**  
*Kim Smith-Whitley, MD*
- 9:15 a.m.**      **Ghana in 2025 – An Update on Child and Adolescent Health Priorities**  
*Catherine Segbefia, MBChB, FWACP*
- 9:30 a.m.**      **Lightning Talks**  
*Moderator: Selasie Goka, MD*
- The Power of a US Observership**  
*Elliott Akoto, MBChB, MGCPS*
- Improving Care of the Critically Ill Child in Ghana**  
*Vanessa Denny, MD, MS*
- Cook's Tour of Penn's Partnerships with Ghana**  
*Megan Doherty, MPH*
- Advancing Health through the Ghana Physicians & Surgeons Foundation, USA**  
*James Aikins Jr., MD, FACOG, FACS*
- Advancing Adolescent Health in Ghana**  
*Michelle Munyikwa, MD, PhD*
- Building Research Capacity in Ghana**  
*Elijah Paintsil, MD, FAAP, FPIDS*
- Sickle Cell Disease – A Global Advocacy Perspective**  
*Alexis Thompson, MD, MPH*
- 10:10 a.m.**      **Q & A**

- 10:20 a.m. Panel: Exploring Synergies between Ghana's 2025 Child & Adolescent Health Priorities**  
*Moderator: Jacqueline Owusu-McKenzie, MD*  
*Catherine Segbefia, MBChB, FWACP*  
*Vanessa Denny, MD, MS*  
*Adelaide Barnes, MD*  
*Elizabeth Lowenthal, MD, MSCE*
- 10:35 a.m. Q & A**
- 10:45 a.m. Summary**  
*Selasie Goka, MD & Catherine Segbefia, MBChB, FWACP*
- 10:55 a.m. Closing Remarks**  
*Janet Ohene-Frempong, MS*
- 11:00 a.m. Adjourn**

## INDIGENOUS HEALTH PRE-CONFERENCE

- 12:30 p.m. Registration**
- 1:00 p.m. Voices of Resilience: Storytelling and Insights from American Indian American Native/Native Hawaiian Leaders on the Healthcare Experiences of Indigenous Communities**  
*Moderators: Elizabeth Sanseau, MD, MS, DTM&H & Chermiqua Tsosie, BS*  
*Mary Ann Kalei Baricuatro, MEd*  
*Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva, MPP*  
*John Sanchez, MA, MS*  
*Cassie Kline, MD, MAS*
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn**

## Friday, October 10, 2025

### GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

- 3:30 p.m. Registration**
- 4:00 p.m. Welcome**  
*Joseph St. Geme, III, MD*
- 4:15 p.m. Global Health Youth Stories**  
*Moderators: Alejo Carbajal, MPH & Mazvita Rankin, MPH*
- 4:45 p.m. Keynote Addresses**  
*Moderator: Keri Cohn, MD, MPH, DTM&H*
- Applying a Strengths-Based Approach to International Development**  
*Keren Winterford, PhD*
- Strengths-Based Approaches to Advance Child and Adolescent Health in Ghana**  
*Catherine Segbefia, MBChB, FWACP*
- 5:45 p.m. The Dr. Ingrid Japa Top Oral Abstract Presentations**  
*Moderators: Elizabeth Lowenthal, MD, MSCE & Madiha Raees, MD*
- 6:45 p.m. Interactive Dinner**
- 8:00 p.m. Adjourn**

**Saturday, October 11, 2025**

**GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE**

- 8:00 a.m. Welcome**  
*Elizabeth Sanseau, MD, MS, DTM&H & Chermiqua Tsosie, BS*
- 8:05 a.m. Keynote Addresses**  
*Moderators: Elizabeth Sanseau, MD, MS, DTM&H & Chermiqua Tsosie, BS*
- Strengths-Based Approaches to Advance Child and Adolescent Indigenous Health**  
*Don Warne, MD, MPH*
- Strengths-Based Approaches to Adolescent Health, Locally and Globally**  
*Merrian Brooks, DO, MS & Ken Ginsburg, MD, MS Ed*
- 9:30 a.m. Poster Walks and Coffee Break**
- 11:00 a.m. Lightning Talks: Health for Every Child – Strengths-Based Approaches Locally and Globally**  
*Moderator: Nancy Etzel, MBA, MSN, CRNP*
- Using Telemedicine to Advance Autism Care in the IHS**  
*John Chu, MD, MSBI*
- Approaches to Enhance Cardiovascular Health in Families in the IHS and Globally**  
*Lauren Eberly, MD, MPH*
- Resilience Among Families in Homeless Shelters**  
*J.J. Cutuli, PhD*
- Advancing the Surgical Care of Children in Ukraine**  
*Oksana Jackson, MD*
- The Coin of Academic Medicine – An Approach to Building Skills in Scientific Writing**  
*Sarah MacLean, MD*
- Developing a PEM Education Short-Course for LMICs**  
*Alexandra Vinograd, MD, MSHP, DTM&H*
- Using Research to Advance Child Health in Ethiopia and Beyond**  
*Grace Chan, MD, MPH, PhD*
- 11:45 a.m. Q & A**
- Noon Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions**
- Breakout A: Strengths-Based Injury Prevention**  
*Moderator: Leigh Ann DiFusco, PhD, RN*
- Strengths-Based Approaches for Marginalized Communities**  
*Carmen Alvarez, PhD, CRNP*

**Cradle to Grave's Approach to Partnering With the Philly Community**  
*Scott Charles, MAPP*

**Traffic Safety in Philly and Beyond**  
*Erick Guerra, PhD*

**Breakout B: Optimizing Newborn Health Using a Strengths-Based Approach**  
*Moderator: Melissa Duran, MSN, RN, CRNP, NNP-BC*

**Using Strengths-Based Approaches to Enhance Human Milk Access at Princess Marina Hospital in Botswana**  
*Kelly Gregg, BSN, RNC-NIC*

**How to Partner With Communities to Create a Strategic Plan and Theory of Change to Improve the Health of Parenting Women, Families, and Children**  
*Marianne Fray, MBA, CAE, CAPM, IOM*

**Experience and Lessons Learnt Using Neotree to Advance Neonatal Health in Zimbabwe**  
*Simbarashe Chimhuya, MBChB, MMED, MSc Clin Epi, HEALZ*

**Breakout C: Strengths-Based Advocacy in a Time of Populism**  
*Moderator: Nora Jones, PhD*

**Advocacy for Housing in Philly and Beyond**  
*Stephanie Seldin, JD*

**It's OK2BU**  
*Jasper Liem, LCSW*

**Addressing Health Misinformation in 2025**  
*Evan Thornburg, MAUB*

**2:00 p.m. Coffee/Tea Break**

**2:15 p.m. Takeaway Toolkit**  
*Leigh Ann DiFusco, PhD, RN, PCNS-BC*  
*Melissa Duran, MSN, RN, CRNP, NNP-BC*  
*Nora Jones, PhD*

**2:45 p.m. Conference Resolutions**  
*Moderator: Adelaide Barnes, MD*  
*Megha Patel, MD, MSc*  
*Catherine Segbefia, MBChB, FWACP*  
*Cornelia Dimalanta*

**3:15 p.m. Closing Remarks**  
*Andrew Steenhoff, MBBCh, DCH*

**3:30 p.m. Adjourn**

**6:00 p.m. Post-Conference Dinner (Optional)**

*Unless otherwise noted, faculty is from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and/or the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.*

## Planning Committee

**Adelaide Barnes, MD**

*Medical Director, Global Pediatric Education*

*Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics*

**Alejo Carbajal, MPH**

*Global Health Partnership Coordinator*

*Center for Global Health, University of Pennsylvania*

**Jennifer Chapman, MPH**

*Clinical Research Project Manager, Clinical Futures*

**Keri Cohn, MD, MPH, DTM&H**

*Medical Director, Bioresponse*

*Director of Global Health and Bioresponse, Division of Emergency Medicine*

*Director, Pediatric Emergency Medicine – Global Health Fellowship*

*Professor of Clinical Pediatrics*

**Elizabeth Drum, MD**

*Associate Chief for Clinical Operations, Division of General Anesthesia*

*Medical Director, Radiology Anesthesia Sedation Services*

*Medical Director, Anesthesiology Global Health Initiatives*

*Professor, Clinical Anesthesiology and Critical Care*

**Maria Dunn, DO**

*Pediatric Hospitalist, Dominican Republic Lead Pediatrician & Associate Program Director,*

*Pediatrics Residency Program*

*Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics*

**Melissa ‘Missy’ Duran, MSN, CRNP, NNP-BC**

*NeoSurgery APP Manager, Newborn/Infant Intensive Care Unit*

*Division of General, Thoracic, and Fetal Surgery*

**Nancy Etzel, MBA, MSN, CRNP**

*Director, Global Pediatric Education*

**Anabel Fernández, MPH**

*Business and Administrative Director, Global Health Center*

**Jeremiah Goldstein, MD**

*General Pediatrician, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children & Assistant Professor,*

*Department of Pediatrics, Drexel University College of Medicine*

**Nora Jones, PhD**

*Senior Program Associate, Pincus Family Foundation*

**Nia Josiah, DNP, MSN, RN, PMHNP**

*Practice Assistant Professor of Nursing*

*Family and Community Health Department*

*University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing*

## Planning Committee (continued)



**Jianghong Liu, PhD, RN**

*Professor of Nursing & Faculty Director of Global Health Minor, University of Pennsylvania  
School of Nursing*

**Stephen Ludwig, MD**

*Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics & Senior Advisor for Medical Education and Global Health*

**Marissa Olson, MPH**

*Global Health Program Coordinator, Global Health Center*

**Sally Poliwoda, MPH, BSN, RN**

*Clinical Program Director, Global Health Nurse Fellowship & Continuing Nursing Education  
Nurse Planner*

**Mazvita Rankin, MPH**

*Business and Administrative Director, Global Health Center*

**Andrew Steenhoff, MBBCh, DCH**

*Symposium Course Director*

*Medical Director, Global Health Center & Professor of Pediatrics*

**Chermiqua Tsosie, BS**

*Research Assistant, Indigenous Health Unit*

**Alexandra Vinograd, MD, MSHP, DTM&H**

*Director, Acute Care Global Health Fellowship*

*Associate Director of Global Health, Division of Emergency Medicine*

*Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics*

## Faculty

**James Aikins Jr., MD, FACOG, FACS**

*Chief, Gynecologic Oncology Division, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey & Associate  
Professor of Ob/GYN and Reproductive Sciences, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson  
Medical School*

**Elliot Akoto, MBChB, MGCPS**

*Senior Resident in Pediatric Emergency Medicine & Critical Care, Komfo Anokye Teaching  
Hospital, Kumasi, Ghana*

**Carmen Alvarez, PhD, CRNP, CNM, FAAN**

*Associate Professor of Nursing, Penn School of Nursing*

**Mary Ann Baricuatro, MS Ed**

*Associate Director & Advisor for Natives at Penn, Albert M. Greenfield Intercultural Center*

**Merrian Brooks, DO, MS**

*Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Lead Pediatrician & Research Director, Botswana-UPenn  
Partnership*

**Grace Chan, MD, MPH, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Epidemiology*

## Faculty (continued)

**Scott Charles, MPA, FCPP**

*Trauma Outreach Manager, Temple University Hospital*

**Simbarashe Chimhuya, MBChB, MMED, MSc Clin Epi, HEALZ**

*Consultant & Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Zimbabwe*

**John Chuo, MD, MSBI**

*Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Director of Neonatal CATCH Program, Clinical Champion Advisor for Digital Health & Quality Officer for the CHOP Newborn Care Network*

**J. J. Cutuli, PhD**

*Senior Research Scientist, Nemours Children's Health*

**Vanessa Denny, MD, MS**

*Pediatric Critical Care Attending*

**Leigh Ann DiFusco, PhD, RN, PCNS-BC**

*Postdoctoral Fellow & Clinical Nurse Specialist, Penn School of Nursing*

**Cornelia Dimalanta**

*Executive Director, Native American House Alliance*

**Megan Doherty, MPH**

*Director of Operations and Programming, Penn Center for Global Health*

**Lauren Eberly, MD, MPH**

*Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania & Staff Cardiologist, Indian Health Service at Gallup Indian Medical Center*

**Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva, MPP**

*PhD Candidate, Demography & Sociology*

**Marianne Fray, MBA, CAE, CAPM, IOM**

*President & CEO, Maternity Care Coalition*

**Kenneth Ginsburg, MD, MS Ed**

*Professor of Pediatrics  
Covenant House Pennsylvania*

**Selasie Goka, MD**

*Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics & Ghana-CHOP Partnerships Co-Lead*

**Kelly Gregg, BSN, RN-NIC**

*Registered Nurse*

**Erick Guerra, PhD**

*Professor & Associate Dean for Research  
Department of City and Regional Planning, Penn Weitzman School of Design*

**Oksana Jackson, MD**

*Professor & Attending Surgeon, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*

**Cassie Kline, MD, MAS**

*Assistant Professor & Director, Clinical Research, Neuro-Oncology*

## Faculty (continued)

**Jasper Liem, LCSW**

*Executive Director, Attic Youth Center*

**Elizabeth Lowenthal, MD, MSCE**

*Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Epidemiology & Research Director, CHOP Global Health Center*

**Sarah MacLean, MD**

*Attending Physician*

**Michelle Munyikwa, MD, PhD**

*Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellow*

**Janet Ohene-Frempong, MA**

*President, J O Frempong & Associates*

*Wife of the Late Kwaku Ohene-Frempong, MD*

*Mother of the Late Kwame Ohene-Frempong, Sick Cell Warrior*

**Jacqueline Owusu-McKenzie, MD**

*Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics & Ghana-CHOP Partnerships Co-Lead*

**Elijah Paintsil, MD, FAAP, FPIDS**

*The Joel and Barbara Alpert Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics*

*Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology & Biophysics*

*Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine*

*Chief of Pediatrics, Boston Medical Center*

**Megha Patel, MD, MSc**

*Pediatric Resident*

**Madiha Raees, MD**

*Assistant Professor, Division of Critical Care, Department of Anesthesiology, and Critical Care*

**John Sanchez, MA, MS**

*Professor Emeritus, Penn State University*

**Elizabeth Sanseau, MD, MS, FAAP, DTM&H**

*Assistant Professor & Medical Director, Indigenous Health Unit*

**Catherine Segbefia, MBChB, FWACP**

*Head of Department, Department of Child Health, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital & Associate*

*Professor of Paediatrics, University of Ghana Medical School*

**Stephanie Seldin, JD**

*President & CEO, Rebuilding Together Philadelphia*

**Kim Smith-Whitley, MD**

*Pfizer, CMO Real-World Evidence, Patient Advocacy and External Collaboration & Attending*

*Physician, Division of Hematology*

**Joseph W. St. Geme, III, MD**

*Physician-in-Chief & Leonard Madlyn Abramson Endowed Chair of the Department of Pediatrics*

**Alexis Thompson, MD, MPH**

*Professor of Pediatrics*

## Faculty (continued)

**Evan Thornburg, MAUB**

*Health Equity Officer, Philadelphia Department of Public Health*

**Donald K. Warne, MD, MPH**

*Co-Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health, Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health*

**Keren Winterford, PhD**

*Associate Professor & Program Lead – International Development  
Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney, Australia*



3401 Civic Center Blvd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19104 chop.edu  
[chop.cloud-cme.com](http://chop.cloud-cme.com)