

Center for Global Nursing

2024/25

Annual REPORT

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🌐 globalnursing.ucsf.edu

*Photo courtesy of
Frankie Gweya*

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About CGN



Who we Are

The Center for Global Nursing serves as a hub for a diverse group of nurses, advanced practice providers (APPs), faculty, staff and nursing students, collaborating with global partners.

Our Mission

CGN's mission is to engage nurses, advanced practice providers (APPs), faculty, and students in global health sciences through education, partnerships, and research. Its aim is to foster collaboration, facilitate learning, and encourage contributions towards finding solutions for global health challenges.

Our Values

Guided by the UCSF PRIDE values, Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Diversity, and Excellence, CGN is committed to equity, ethical conduct, collaboration, and sustainability. We strive to advance global health by fostering just partnerships, upholding transparency, and promoting sustainable, inclusive healthcare solutions.



Why we Exist



Nurses serve as key global health advocates and are critical to healthcare delivery

With 29 million nurses worldwide, they are central to healthcare delivery, providing critical care, educating communities, and often serving as the first or only point of contact for patients across diverse settings.¹

The impact of nursing and advanced practice extend beyond the bedside

Nurses and APPs conduct research, influence policy, and lead initiatives that improve care quality and address global health challenges, positioning them as essential players in advancing population health.²⁻³

Yet nurses and APPs face barriers to leadership and influence, limiting their ability to enact change

Despite making up 59% of the global health workforce, nurses are underrepresented in leadership roles and global health organizations, limiting their ability to shape policy and systemic change.⁴⁻⁵

CGN is working to elevate the nursing field and empower nurses and APPs to shape global health solutions

CGN addresses this gap by empowering nurses through global partnerships, education, and research opportunities that elevate their voices in health policy and leadership, ensuring their expertise shapes global health solutions.

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3. Salvage, J., & White, J. (n.d.). Our future is global: Nursing leadership and global health. *Revista Latino-Americana de Enfermagem*, 28, e3339. <https://doi.org/10.1590/1518-8345.4542.3339>

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



The 2024–2025 academic year has been a time of remarkable growth and tremendous momentum for the Center for Global Nursing (CGN). As the global health landscape continues to evolve, so too has our commitment to nursing-led change, grounded in equity, partnership, and the belief that nurses are essential to strengthening health systems worldwide.

This year, we expanded our programming to include both the Global Nursing Certificate Program and the Clinical Global Scholars Program. Together, these offerings have created a dynamic model for professional development and leadership that bridges UCSF with partners around the world. It has been deeply inspiring to witness the mutual learning and solidarity forged through these programs. From weekly virtual classrooms to in-person engagement in Kenya, the commitment of our scholars, both at UCSF and across global sites, has reaffirmed the power of nursing collaboration across borders.

We were also proud to launch the Global Nursing Impact Series, a platform to amplify the voices of nurses leading transformative work in diverse contexts. This series reflects our ongoing goal to center nursing expertise in global discourse and celebrate innovation rooted in local knowledge and leadership.

Throughout the year, our faculty and partners have continued to advance scholarship and influence global policy in critical areas such as perioperative and critical care, workforce development, and emergency system strengthening. Our collaborations with Ministries of Health, academic institutions, and multilateral organizations like the WHO are a testament to what is possible when we work in partnership with humility, accountability, and shared purpose.

Looking back, I'm incredibly grateful for the collective efforts that brought CGN's vision to life this year. From the nurses and Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) leading change in their communities, to our UCSF colleagues who lend their expertise and energy, to the institutional and philanthropic partners who make this work possible, thank you. It is your belief in what nursing can do that continues to shape our path forward.

As we move into a new academic year, we carry this momentum with us. There is more work ahead, and CGN is prepared to lead, collaborate, and innovate alongside the global nursing community.

With gratitude,
Rebecca Silvers, DNP, APN, CPNP-AC, CCRN
Founding Director, Center for Global Nursing
Institute for Global Health Sciences | University of California, San Francisco

Our UCSF Community



All Are Welcome

The Center for Global Nursing offers opportunities for nursing professionals from around the world. Our community includes nurses, nursing faculty and students, nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other advanced practice providers interested in or engaged in global health sciences.

Our people, including our leadership, faculty, and facilitators, the Global Nursing Advisory Council, our executive sponsors, and our funders, are an essential part of our community. They play an essential role in fostering a supportive and dynamic environment, guiding our efforts to advance global health initiatives and create meaningful impact.

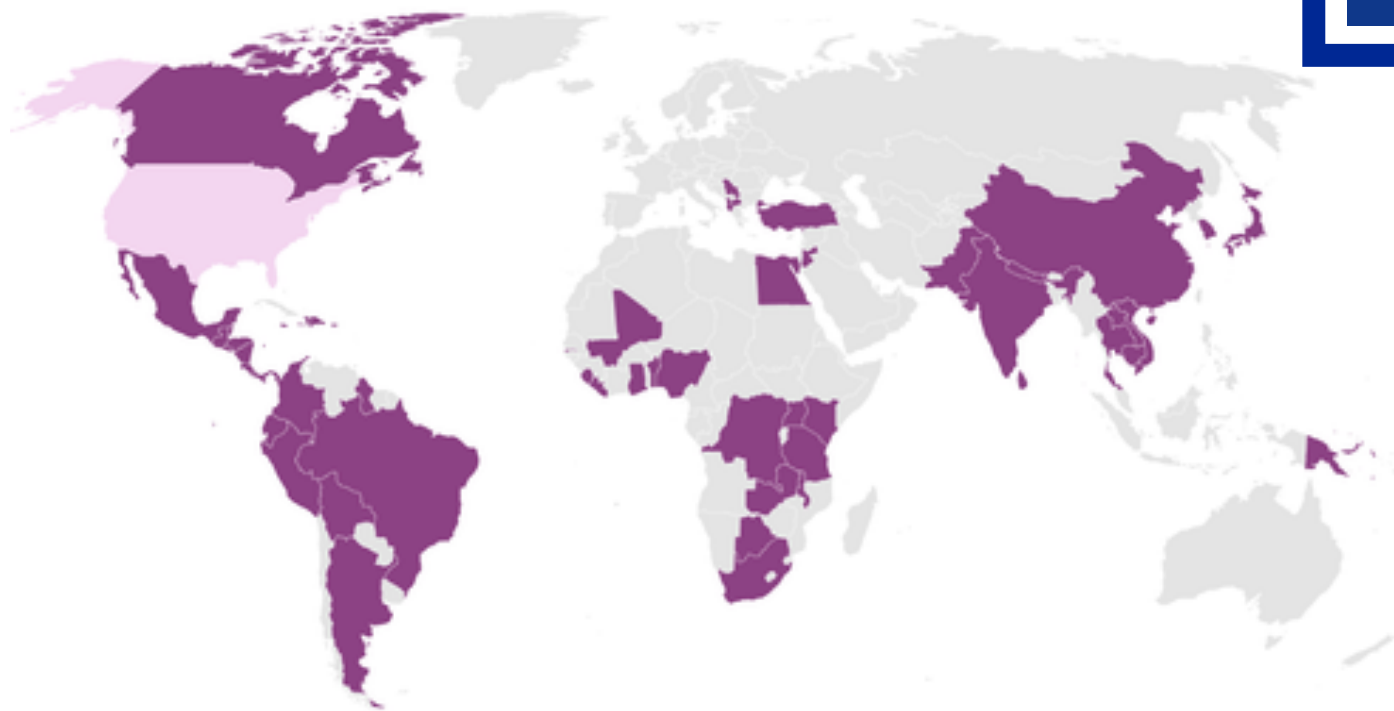
The Center for Global Nursing's **members** are UCSF nurses, advanced practice providers (APPs), faculty, and students. Our members have a wide range of experiences and expertise, along with global health training. They are prepared to collaborate on nursing and interdisciplinary global health initiatives.



CGN members work and have experience working in more than 55 countries across five continents.



Our Global Network



CGN has **130+**
members working
at UCSF



70% of CGN members
work in diverse low-
and middle-income
settings

INSTAGRAM

170

LINKEDIN

3,341

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Jerry Ouner, PhD, MS, RN

Associate Professor, Family Healthcare Nursing | UCSF School of Nursing

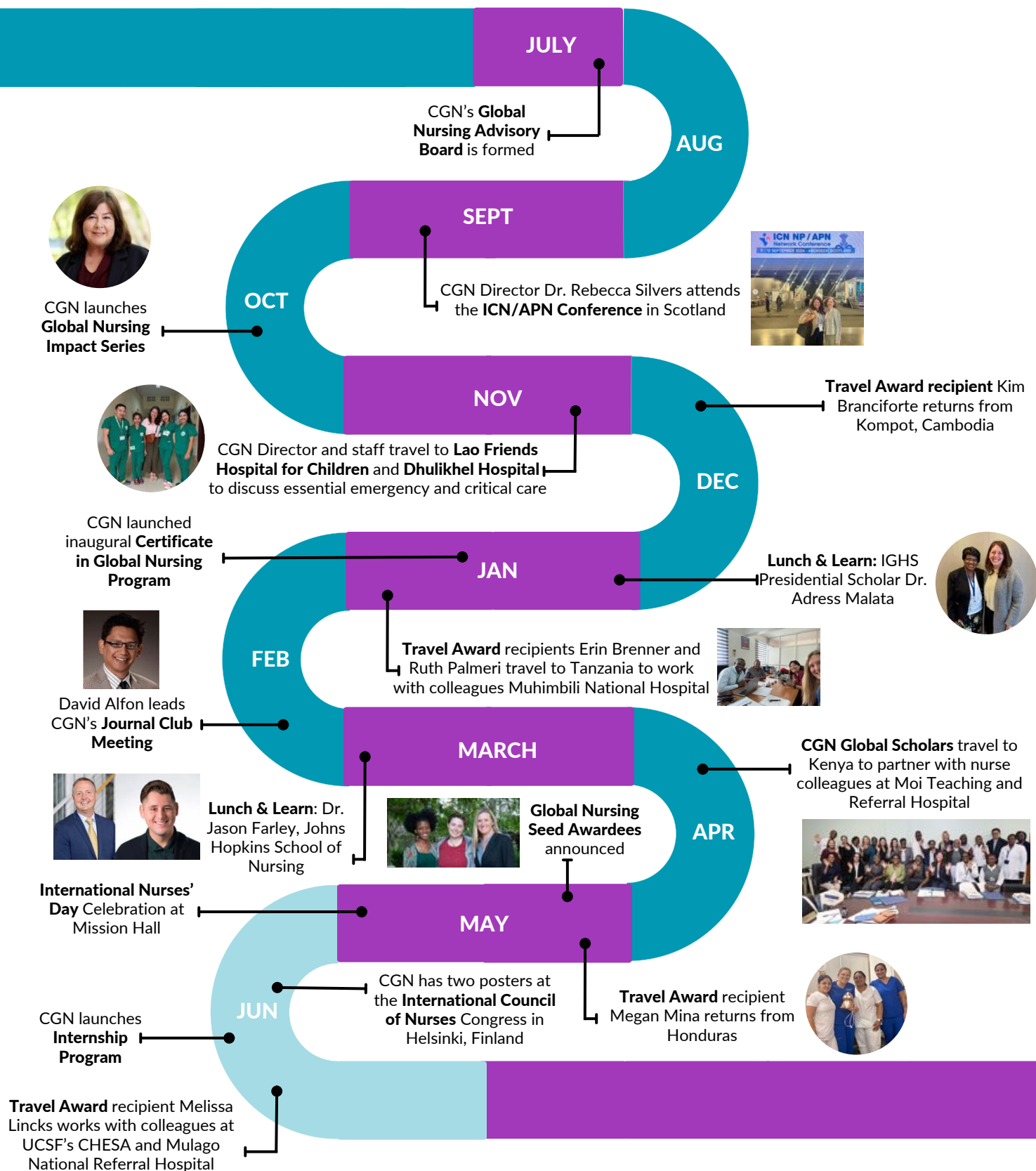
Dr. Jerry Ouner is a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Family Health Care Nursing at the UCSF School of Nursing, with a joint appointment at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. A registered nurse and nurse scientist, Dr. Ouner is dedicated to improving healthcare for underserved populations, particularly in rural and urban communities in sub-Saharan Africa.



Dr. Ouner's research focuses on improving healthcare for underserved populations and his work primarily centers on maternal and child health. Many of Dr. Ouner's projects explore how environmental, social, and economic factors influence adherence to antiretroviral therapy and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Recently, Dr. Ouner received two NIH grants (I) to develop and test an intervention to reduce HIV-related stigma among pregnant and postpartum women in Ghana and (ii) to identify the mechanisms of water insecurity on HIV treatment outcomes.

In addition to his research, Dr. Ouner is the founder of the Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference, fostering collaboration among health professionals to address critical health challenges. He is currently organizing next year's conference, which will be held in Lagos, Nigeria. At CGN, we are honored to have Dr. Ouner join us as faculty for our Certificate in Global Nursing program. Recently, Dr. Ouner shared an insightful lecture with our students about the social determinants of health and nurse-led interventions in HIV care.

CGN'S MILESTONES



A YEAR IN NUMBERS



25

Certificate in Global Nursing
participants from UCSF Health,
UCSF School of Nursing,
Kenya, Liberia, and Nepal

16

Clinical Global Scholar from
UCSF and Moi Teaching and
Referral Hospital in
Eldoret, Kenya

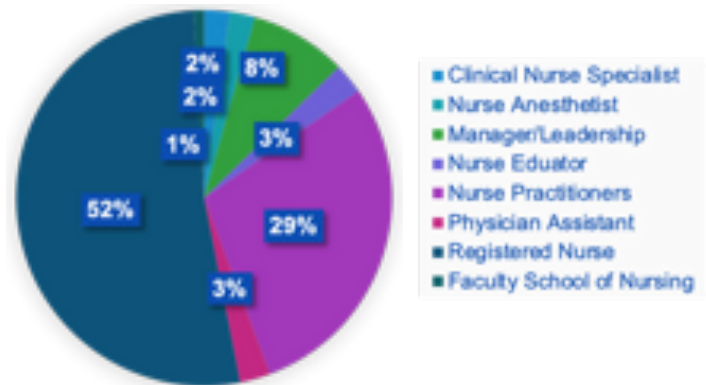
87

Total participants of CGN's
**Introduction to Cultural
Humility Course**

\$27,500

Total funding provided through CGN Seed
Grants to fund member research

MEMBER ROLES AT UCSF



MEMBER SPECIALTIES



OUR TEAM

Core Faculty and Staff



**Rebecca Silvers, DNP, APN,
CPNP-AC**
Director

Maddie Wong, MS
Program Coordinator



Edinna Obaseki, BS
Program Assistant



Kaylee Vannoy
Program Assistant



Emily Whalen
Program Assistant



Qihua (Jacky) Zhang
Master's Student



Chirs Harper
Master's Student

OUR TEAM

Global Nursing Advisory Council

The Global Nursing Advisory Council (GNAC) unites nurses and advanced practice providers (APPs) from diverse regions to collaborate with the Center for Global Nursing (CGN) in advancing the roles of nursing and advanced practice. We provide a pathway for collaboration and mutual support for nurses and APPs worldwide. Our focus includes identifying UCSF's global nursing priorities and offering feedback on CGN's programs and research.

Partnering with nurses and advanced practice providers (APPs) globally, our collaboration is enriched with clinical, leadership and regional expertise. We are privileged to welcome our esteemed 2024-2026 advisory members who are healthcare leaders dedicated to enhancing nursing and improving population health.



Maly Chittaphai, RN
Nursing Director, Lao Friends
Hospital for Children | Laos



Edna Tallam-Kimaiyo, PhD, MPH, RN
APN Consultant, IntraHealth | Kenya



Bhawana Regmi, MSN, RN
Assistant Professor in Nursing,
Kathmandu University School of
Medical Sciences | Nepal



Josephine Nabulime, MSN, RN
Registered Nurse, Mulago National
Referral Hospital | Uganda



Josué Valdez, BSN, RN
Registered Nurse, Karl Heusner
Memorial Hospital Authority |
Belize



Joe P. Davies, BSN, RN
NCD Nurse Coordinator, Partners in
Health Liberia | Liberia



Marilia Diaz, MSN, RN
Unit Manager, Hospital Auxilio
Mutuo | Puerto Rico



MaryJoy Kaimuri, PhD, MSc, BSN
Dean of the School of Nursing, Meru
University of Science and Technology |
Kenya

[Read full bios on our website.](#)

HOW CGN ADVANCES GLOBAL NURSING

Our CGN community worked across our **four focus areas** to create global health solutions and uplift the field of nursing across the globe. Here's how:

Education

Equipping nurses and advanced practice providers with the knowledge and skills to lead in diverse global health systems.

Partnership

Building equitable collaborations that center local leadership and drive sustainable health system strengthening.

Research

Generating and translating evidence to inform policy, advance nursing practice, and improve care delivery in resource-variable settings.

Community

Fostering a global network of nursing leaders united by shared values, lived experience, and a commitment to health equity.

EDUCATION



Over the past year, the UCSF Center for Global Nursing (CGN) has significantly expanded its educational programming, fostering global nurse leadership and workforce development through innovative, equity-driven approaches. A central highlight was the successful launch of the **Certificate in Global Nursing**, a 12-week virtual program featuring weekly synchronous sessions co-taught by UCSF faculty and global nursing leaders from 12 countries. Howard Catton, CEO of the International Council of Nurses, provided an opening address, and Dr. Amelia Latu Afuhaamango Tuipulotu, Chief Nursing Officer for the World Health Organization, provided her perspective on the future of nursing with a recorded interview with CGN's director, Dr Rebecca Silvers. The inaugural cohort included 25 participants, with over 40% from low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), engaging in modules focused on systems thinking, ethics, quality improvement, and global health policy.

Additionally, CGN piloted the **Clinical Global Scholars Program**, which paired UCSF nurses with global partners at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) in Eldoret, Kenya. Scholars collaborated on quality improvement projects using A3 methodology, engaged in immersive clinical observation, and built bidirectional learning experiences that elevated nursing practice and team-based care.

Our commitment to cultural humility was further advanced through our flagship **Cultural Humility Course**, which has equipped over 130 nurses and APPs with tools to lead with empathy, examine personal biases, and strengthen global partnerships. CGN also continued hosting the **Global Nursing Impact Series** and quarterly Community Meetings and Journal Clubs, which created ongoing spaces for interdisciplinary dialogue, mentorship, and reflection.

These programs exemplify CGN's mission to prepare nurses and advanced practice providers to thrive in diverse global settings by integrating clinical excellence, leadership, and systems change.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Abbey Roepke, MSN, MPH, FNP

Assistant Clinical Professor | UCSF School of Nursing

Abbey Roepke is a nurse practitioner whose passion for global health started during a community health rotation in an adult literacy center supporting Somalian refugees. From that point on, Abbey has pursued a career focused on lessening inequalities throughout global health systems. She worked as a nurse in cardiothoracic surgery and cardiology ICUs for over 10 years and, in 2017, earned her Master of Public Health and Family Nurse Practitioner degrees. She has practiced in Federally Qualified Health Centers as a nurse

practitioner and as a manager of complex care and social service programs. Currently, she works as an Assistant Clinical Professor at UCSF in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program and as a Nurse Practitioner at the UCSF Screening and Acute Care Clinic.

Throughout her career, Abbey has volunteered with global and local health organizations. In Vietnam and Nepal, she worked as a nurse educator to build the nursing capacity of intensive care units. Additionally, in Kenya, she dedicated her time to strengthening community education programs. She has also worked for Seed Global Health as a nurse educator in Uganda.

Currently, Abbey is leading our partnership with Partners in Health (PIH) in Haiti. In this role, she provides ongoing mentorship to students in the country's first Emergency Medicine Nurse Practitioner (EMNP) program. While PIH delivers core didactic and clinical training in partnership with physicians, UCSF's virtual mentorship offers weekly engagement focused on advanced nursing practice, case-based learning, and professional role development. This model ensures EMNP students are supported not only clinically but also through continued connection with experienced nurse practitioners.



PARTNERSHIP



Partnership remains the cornerstone of CGN's work. This year, we deepened collaborations with institutions across Africa, Asia, and the Pacific through co-designed initiatives that center mutual respect, shared leadership, and sustainable impact.

Our partnership with Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Kenya matured through the **Clinical Scholars Program in Eldoret, Kenya** where experienced UCSF nurses and MTRH counterparts jointly identified health care challenges and co-developed quality improvement strategies. In Tonga, CGN co-designed the **Global Nursing Quality Improvement Fellowship** with the Ministry of Health to strengthen nurse-led QI using A3 tools with a plan to launch in July 2025. Both programs are the first of their kind in the region, building

capacity for system-level transformation through mentorship and interprofessional teamwork.

Through the **CGN Travel Award**, we enabled UCSF nurses to engage directly with international partners, reducing the financial barriers to global health engagement. Our members engaged in partnerships supporting perioperative nursing education at Muhimbili National Hospital in Tanzania through hands-on preceptor training and collaborated with Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital in Cambodia on quality and education initiatives.

Notably, CGN continues to support the first **Nurse Practitioner Mentorship Program in Haiti** with Partners in Health (PIH). Through this collaboration, CGN faculty serve as mentors for advanced practice nurses in Haiti, offering guidance on clinical leadership, scholarly project development, and professional growth. This bidirectional program enhances mentorship capacity while supporting advanced practice nurse-led models of care in global contexts.

Our approach to partnership is grounded in co-creation and the recognition that nurses everywhere are essential architects of change. We celebrate our partners' leadership and are honored to collaborate with them in this work.

INTERVIEW



GLOBAL NURSING LEADERSHIP IN CONVERSATION WITH DR. AMELIA LATU AFUHAAMANGO TUIPULOTU

In a powerful dialogue featured on CGN's YouTube channel, Dr. Rebecca Silvers sat down with Dr. Amelia Latu Afuhaamango Tuipulotu, WHO's Chief Nursing Officer, to discuss the evolving role of nurses in global health leadership. Dr. Tuipulotu emphasized the critical need to elevate nurses in health policy spaces, calling for increased representation in decision-making roles and sustained investment in the nursing workforce.

The conversation highlighted key strategies to strengthen nursing globally, including leadership development, equitable partnerships, and the importance of cultural humility in cross-border collaboration. Dr. Tuipulotu applauded UCSF's work in preparing nurses for global roles and urged continued efforts to ensure nurses are seen not only as care providers but also as system leaders and policy influencers.

This interview underscored CGN's commitment to amplifying global nursing voices and affirmed our shared vision for a future where nurses lead transformative change in health systems worldwide.



COMMUNITY

At the UCSF Center for Global Nursing (CGN), our community is our foundation. Over the past year, we have continued to invest in building a dynamic, inclusive, and values-driven community that connects nurses and advanced practice providers across UCSF and the globe. CGN serves as a gathering place where shared purpose meets professional growth—and where nurses are empowered to lead, collaborate, and innovate.

Quarterly Community Meetings served as a central pillar of connection this year. These interactive sessions brought together nurses, faculty, students, and global collaborators to discuss timely topics such as global health equity, nurse leadership, emergency care, and professional resilience. Each meeting featured global guest speakers, project spotlights, and open discussion to foster cross-cultural dialogue and mutual learning.

Our **Global Nursing Impact Series** continued to amplify the voices of UCSF and international nurses working at the forefront of education, research, and care delivery. Through this series, CGN provided a platform for nurses to share stories, innovations, and lessons learned in contexts ranging from critical care units in Kenya to community health programs in rural Nepal.

We also continued to host **Journal Club** that invited critical reflection and knowledge exchange on key themes in global nursing, including decolonizing global health, mental health equity, and the role of nursing in climate resilience. In addition, we launched a new **Lunch & Learn** series featuring global nursing leaders. Two events were held this year: one with Dr. Address Malata, which drew 70 attendees, and another with Dr. Jason Farley, attended by 50 participants. These sessions created space for focused dialogue on health equity, leadership, and the future of global nursing.

Beyond scheduled events, CGN's community-building efforts have fostered an active and growing global network of nurse leaders committed to ongoing collaboration. Through peer mentorship, cross-border project development, and shared learning opportunities, participants remain connected between sessions—supporting one another through clinical challenges, research pursuits, and leadership growth. This vibrant, values-driven community reflects CGN's commitment to cultivating inclusive, enduring partnerships that promote excellence, equity, and shared impact across the global nursing profession.



COMMUNITY BY THE NUMBERS

2024–2025



150+ Attendees at Quarterly Community Meetings



12+ Countries represented



4 Global Nursing Impact Series events | **220+ viewers**



3 Journal Clubs | **90+ participants**



2 Lunch & Learns | **120+ total attendees**



1 Growing global network of nurses, educators, and leaders



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

David Alfon MSN, RN, FNP-BC

Unit Director, Central Resource Group / UCSF Health

David is the Unit Director for the Central Resource Group at UCSF Health. David has worked with UCSF in a variety of capacities in the past 5 years: first as a travel nurse in the 8/11 Neuroscience ICU, a staff nurse with the UCSF Adult Critical Care Resource Team, and the AUD for Mount Zion 4-West ICU. At the Center for Global Nursing, David has participated as a facilitator for both the CGN Introduction Cultural Humility course and the Journal Club. He also joined our first cohort of Certificate in Global Nursing program and our 2025 Global Scholars program.



David has 18 years of nursing practice experience and has been active in innovation and technology, global health, and continuous process improvement. He completed his nurse residencies in the Surgical ICU at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and the Emergency Department at Kaiser Permanente in West Los Angeles. He attended Duke University School of Nursing for graduate studies in nursing informatics and Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions for dual post-master training as a Family Nurse Practitioner and Emergency Nurse Practitioner.

David started his career in international humanitarian aid and refugee health, working with non-governmental organizations in Switzerland, Egypt, and Turkey. He maintains specialty board certifications in critical care, emergency, neuroscience, stroke, informatics, and advanced executive leadership nursing, as well as advanced practice provider certifications in family and emergency medicine.

RESEARCH



In 2024–2025, CGN advanced global nursing scholarship by supporting locally driven, collaborative research. Through the launch of our inaugural **Global Nursing Research Seed Award**, we funded four interdisciplinary teams led by nurses to conduct impactful studies across diverse settings:

- In Zambia, researchers will pilot a mental health intervention for young women experiencing gender-based violence.
- In Tanzania, a team will evaluate perioperative nurse preceptor preparation in the country's first formal perioperative training program.
- In Sierra Leone, investigators will explore healthcare providers' perspectives on perinatal depression.
- In Liberia, nurses will conduct a community-based diabetes prevalence study to inform rural health planning.

Additionally, CGN supported **Master of Science in Global Health** students in

conducting their capstone projects in collaboration with global partners in Laos and Nepal, focusing on emergency and critical care preparedness.

- In Nepal, our student assessed essential emergency and critical care (EECC) readiness across urban academic medical centers, with four principal investigators co-leading initiatives at their respective institutions.
- In Laos, teams assessed EECC readiness at both academic and pediatric hospitals, identifying key gaps and system-strengthening opportunities.

This body of work not only addressed critical knowledge gaps but also exemplified CGN's commitment to research that uplifts local expertise and strengthens global health systems.

These scholarly contributions continue to amplify the visibility and leadership of nurses in global health research.

CGN FUNDING

Our work at CGN would not be possible without the support of the following partners and collaborators, whose commitment to advancing global nursing has made our impact possible. We are grateful for your trust, shared vision, and partnership.



Dr. Stephen and
Maribelle Leavitt

UCSF Health

SUPPORT CGN

Donations are critical to funding CGN's mission by providing administration, operational support and support for the development of CGN programs.

Making a gift to CGN is easy and tax-deductible. You can give [online](#); by mail, phone, or wire transfer.

[MAKE A GIFT](#) 



Member Departments

UCSF Institute for Global Health Sciences

UCSF School of Nursing

UCSF Health Department of Nursing

UCSF Office of Advanced Practice

UCSF Leadership Institute



External Partners and Collaborators

AMPATH Consortium

Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, Kenya

Kathmandu University School of Medical Sciences, Nepal

Tribhuvan University, Nepal

Bir Hospital, Nepal

Muhimbili National Hospital, Tanzania

Mulago National Referral Hospital, Uganda

Lao Friends Hospital for Children, Laos PDR

Ministry of Health, Tonga

Partners In Health

Acknowledgements

The UCSF Center for Global Nursing extends our deepest gratitude to the nurses, faculty, students, global collaborators, and advisory council members whose dedication and partnership made this year possible. We are especially thankful to our local and international partners, whose co-leadership and shared vision have shaped and strengthened our programs and research across diverse settings.

We are profoundly grateful for the generous support of our donors and institutional partners. Your belief in the power of nurse-led innovation and global collaboration fuels our work and amplifies our impact.

A heartfelt thank you to our administrative team, communications staff, and exceptional work-study students. Your behind-the-scenes contributions are essential to realizing CGN's mission and growth.

It is an honor to advance global nursing together—through partnership, purpose, and a shared commitment to equity.



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