At this moment, a high school student is dreaming of a career in public health. They don’t yet know that’s what they’re doing. They haven’t heard of Prevention Specialists, or Epidemiologists, or Environmental Public Health professionals, or any of the myriad job titles that make up the public health workforce. They just know they want to help people by preventing suffering and improving health.

When this student discovers the field of public health, we’ll be here for them, ready to teach them the unique skills they need to fight preventable illness and injury. We’ll help them realize their dream of reducing anguish in the world, promoting health and saving lives.

With your help, we can make it possible for the most promising students to learn vitally needed public health and health administration skills. We can make it easier for students to gain real-world work experiences and to broaden their perspectives through study abroad. We can ensure that our graduates step into today’s demanding jobs prepared to make an immediate difference. We can expand our already impressive faculty to meet rising student enrollment and new research opportunities. We can speed the translation of new discoveries into policies and practices that save lives.

With the launch of For All: The Indiana University Bicentennial Campaign you have a unique opportunity to join others who want to help bring about a healthier world. This is your moment to answer the call and be recognized as one who stepped forward to continue a legacy of good work. If you share our vision of a healthier world, won’t you help us bring it about?

Together, we can fulfill Indiana University’s promise of a stronger, healthier Indiana and a better world, for all.
GOAL #1: CREATE A HEALTHIER STATE, NATION, AND WORLD

At the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, we’re committed to creating a healthier state, nation and world by making it easier to prevent illness, disability, and injury and by improving how health care services are delivered. It is a comprehensive approach to health and well-being that seeks to reduce the need for medical treatment, while ensuring that when health services are needed, they’re delivered in the most compassionate, effective, and efficient way possible. The work we do is urgently needed.

You can help improve Indiana’s health ranking. For four years in a row, Indiana ranked 41 out of 50 states in overall health. Our numbers are among the worst when it comes to smoking, obesity, cancer deaths, cardiovascular deaths, children in poverty, air pollution, and public health funding. The Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health is a valued resource for the Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana’s 92 county health departments in addressing these serious issues. We share knowledge, conduct research, analyze data, provide student interns to extend capacity, deliver free workforce education, and train the next generation of public health professionals.

We are also home to the Indiana Public Health Council, an inclusive statewide group that brings together representatives from state universities, associations, public health practice, and policy-making bodies. Our efforts to build bridges between academia and practice are speeding the adoption of new approaches and policies that can help Indiana be ‘done with 41.’ Yet what we do today is just the beginning of what needs to be done. Your support now is crucial to our success.

You can extend our impact around the world. Globally, the world is more interconnected than ever before. The 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa dramatically demonstrated how deadly diseases can spread from one country to another in the time it takes for an international flight to take off and land. The strong interconnectedness of the global economy means health issues in distant countries can affect us in unprecedented ways.

We’re building an outstanding Global Public Health program designed to help improve health and reduce suffering around the world. Today, we’re collaborating with universities in China, consulting on the AIDS epidemic in Swaziland, building houses in Costa Rica, and addressing global health conferences in Europe. Your support can help us engage in new collaborations around the world.

“What if we could do more? What would it mean for Hoosiers if we improved Indiana’s dismal health rankings? What impact could we have on national health care reform if we expand our research on health information exchanges now?”

“Quitting tobacco use and staying tobacco-free are two of the most important things we can do to improve public health and reduce the burden of chronic health conditions. Working in this area of public health is very rewarding because it allows me to improve the health of Hoosiers and have a lasting impact on their lives.”

—Miranda Spitznagel, M.P.H. ’01
Director for the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Commission
Indiana State Department of Health
GOAL #2: ENABLE STUDENT SUCCESS

When our students succeed, we all benefit.

The Association of Schools of Public Health has projected that by the year 2020 the United States will need an additional 250,000 public health workers to avoid a workforce shortage that could leave the country vulnerable to threats such as pandemic flu, bioterrorism, and natural disasters. Globally, the need is even more severe. According to a report from the World Health Organization, at least 57 countries face crippling public health workforce shortages.

At the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, we are building an exciting and diverse program designed to solve myriad health problems in Indiana and around the world. From cancer research and disease prevention to exciting new areas like product stewardship and pharmacoepidemiology, we’re creating the public health training of the future. With your support, we can attract and retain exceptional students who are eager to learn and determined to make a difference.

“When I received the news that I had been selected to receive the Ken and Cindy Stella Scholarship in Health Administration, I felt a huge weight lifted from my shoulders. Having that financial support ensured I could be a part of a program I loved. Words cannot express what it meant to me.”

—Juan Guzman ’15
Administrative Fellow, IU Health

You can help those who want to help others.

Many of our prospective students want a career in public health or health administration because they’ve experienced public health challenges in their own communities. A great number of these students come from modest means, and many would be the first generation in their family to earn a college degree. Your support through scholarships can mean the difference for these students between gaining a college degree and ending their education after high school. And without excessive loans and debt, our graduates can choose jobs that allow them to make a difference.

You can enable experiences that lead to more productive careers.

In public health, classroom learning establishes a foundation of knowledge that students will build on throughout their careers. Just as important is the experiential learning that occurs outside the classroom. That’s where students gain important and potentially lifesaving skills that can’t be learned from reading a textbook or listening to a lecture. Your support will allow us to offer students more work-study opportunities, more internships and capstone projects, more opportunities to assist faculty with research, and more study abroad experiences. These learning experiences will ensure that your community and others around the state are served by professionals with a well-rounded education.

You can ensure exceptional learning environments.

High-tech classrooms, well-equipped labs, and inviting study areas all make a difference in students’ ability to learn. Your support will allow us to provide an educational environment that facilitates learning, innovation, and research breakthroughs.

Scholarships attract the very best students, and ensure that they can focus on their studies, graduate on time, and apply themselves to bettering health—not paying off student loans.
Improving the health of all citizens of Indiana

Supports students like Jennifer Walthall, M.D., M.P.H., who earned her Master of Public Health in 2013 and went on to become Deputy Health Commissioner of Indiana.

She helped communities cope with an HIV outbreak and helped pass critical legislation.

Where she works to:

- Reduce infant mortality
- Promote injury prevention
- Reduce obesity
- Decrease the number of smokers

In her first six months:

Your investment in the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
GOAL #3: SUSTAIN FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Our school has attracted a faculty that is the envy of many larger, more established institutions. Our professors and instructors include those with years of experience, and those at the beginning of rewarding careers. Those with deep academic ties, and those with rich connections in public health and health care. Those who come to life in the classroom and in the community, and those whose hearts quicken when making a breakthrough discovery. Their knowledge and areas of interest cover the gamut of the five core disciplines of public health: biostatistics, environmental health science, epidemiology, health policy, and social and behavioral sciences. And unlike most schools of public health, we are home to a renowned health administration program, which ensures that our faculty can train students how to prevent illness, promote health, and manage the delivery of health services.

You can help bring more exceptional faculty to Indiana. The quality of our faculty directly impacts the quality of our graduates, which in turn directly impacts health in Indiana and beyond. By endowing faculty chairs and professorships, you can ensure that our students learn from extraordinary faculty. Support at this level provides a legacy that will benefit countless generations to come.

You can support innovative research. Public health is credited with adding 25 years to the life expectancy of U.S. residents in the 20th century. Things we take for granted today, such as immunizations, fluoridated water, and control of infectious diseases, are all the result of research. What breakthroughs will we see in our lifetimes? And how will they extend life and reduce suffering? Our faculty and researchers are eager to find out, but they need your help. You can support our faculty in looking for solutions to everything from cancer and chronic disease to homelessness, urban violence, and more.

You can empower our faculty to lead change. Big change comes from big ideas. Our faculty members are pursuing new ways to build bridges between research and practice, so problems can be solved more quickly. How can we better connect pharmacology and epidemiology, product design and environmental health, big data and health outcomes? Your support can provide the infrastructure needed to expedite the advancement of these ideas.

“I’m very interested in addressing health disparities in chronic disease. My research seeks to develop innovative, community-based health promotion programs that will improve the health and quality of life of historically disadvantaged populations.”

—Sula Hood, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences
GOAL #4: CREATE GLOBAL LEADERS

Study-abroad programs, experiential learning opportunities, and guest lectures by today’s global health leaders inspire students to do work that has an impact around the globe. You can play a vital role in the success of future public health practitioners, policy-makers, and health administrators.

You can send students around the world. When you support study abroad opportunities and global internships, you enable our students to benefit from international immersion and work experiences. By facilitating the cross-cultural exchange of ideas, you’ll open students’ minds to new ways of thinking—ways that increase their capabilities to prevent disease and promote health at home and around the world.

You can help us share our breakthroughs with a global audience. Because health is a universal concern, virtually all of the research we do can benefit people around the world. And with the support of people like you, we will gain the resources to confirm theories in other countries and to share our discoveries with the colleagues who may need them most. Your support will allow us to conduct research on other continents, send more faculty and students to international conferences, and promote our findings to a larger audience.

You can create the next generation of global leaders. Our school serves as both a launching pad and a welcome center for tomorrow’s global health leaders. Through our exceptional academic programs and innovative international study opportunities, we can send students out into the world well prepared to learn, experience, and grow as public health and health administration leaders. And we can welcome international students who want to study with us and take their new knowledge back to their home countries. By improving health around the world, we’re also protecting loved ones at home.

“IT STARTS WITH YOU”

International experiences shape our students’ perspectives on global issues and help them develop cultural fluency and leadership skills.

“It’s critical that our students develop a broad global perspective. Not only will such a perspective increase their understanding of the interconnectedness of the world, but it will better equip them to tackle emerging issues right here in Indiana.”

Sue Babich, Doctor of Public Health
Associate Dean of Global Health and Professor of Health Policy and Management
The future of public health will be determined by the actions we take now. It's imperative we take proactive measures that benefit all people, in all communities. We can use our resources to make a difference for all.

People in Indiana and around the world will experience the impact of our choices. Will one of our faculty or students make the next public health breakthrough that extends lifespans and improves well-being? Will it be one of our own who moves health administration to the next level, finding a better way to deliver compassionate, effective care at an affordable cost?

And will you have the pride and satisfaction of knowing your support helped make it happen?

Together, we can improve health. We can do it through the success of our students and faculty and through the innovative nature of our ideas.

Join us, and together, we can fulfill Indiana University's promise of a healthier Indiana and a better world, for all.