Giving Opportunities

Professorships | $4M each
Endowed professorships are the highest honor the university can bestow upon a faculty member. Established as permanent funds that provide an annual payout, endowed professorships play a vital role in recruiting and retaining world-renowned scholars and educators while allowing the department to lead major advances in research and treatment. With this funding, investigators can pursue their most promising and creative ideas to improve lives in the world’s most vulnerable populations.

Directorship | $2M each
An endowed directorship provides stability while allowing the director to drive the vision of the program and identify new opportunities for growth and impact. It provides resources for the director to pursue his or her own research and collaborate with partners here and abroad.

Seed grants | $50K increments
Seed funding for early-stage research launches new projects and allows our researchers to accumulate sufficient “proof of concept” data to successfully apply for follow-on grants from traditional funding sources such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Competitive seed grant awards enable faculty to carve out time for global health and fuel true innovation — high-risk, high-reward ideas that establish new realms of discovery and spark groundbreaking solutions.

General programmatic support | Any amount
Discretionary support for the Center for Innovation in Global Health enables strategic investments in the most promising projects, including new educational content, convenings, and leadership training. General funds also support important technology development and applications in low-resource settings.

Stanford Global Health welcomes inquiries about supporting our work. We have a variety of projects with varying funding needs including:
- Seed grants
- Field research support
- Fellowships
- Research and educational platforms with local partners in key geographies
- Development of educational materials
- Endowed directorship or professorship
- Expendable monies for faculty or students to globalize research projects

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At Stanford University School of Medicine, we are committed to improving human health wherever people live. Our commitment knows no boundaries. Stanford physicians, scientists, faculty, and students travel to all regions of the world, crossing continents to increase health, well-being, and equity in health care.

“We work to bring education, resources, and workforce to deliver healthcare to those who do not have it,” said Michele Barry, MD, FACP, Director of the Center for Innovation in Global Health and Senior Associate Dean of Global Health. More than 170 members of Stanford’s faculty are on the case. Leading experts in emergency medicine, surgery, infectious disease, oncology, and primary care collaborate with colleagues in bioengineering, data science, economics, and public policy. Every year, members of this extraordinary interdisciplinary team engage in as many as 150 projects around the world—and every project is guided by our partners in those areas.

“The requests for our involvement come from the grassroots,” Dr. Barry says. “We respond to the needs of people in resource-limited settings, and all projects are initiated by our partners on the ground.” Stanford Global Health focuses on three main areas: diversifying the leadership in global health, deciphering the link between climate change and human health, and bringing health equity to vulnerable populations.

To improve human health, we empower women providers. Worldwide, women make up about 42 percent of the paid labor force. In health care, they make up 75 percent of the workforce but hold less than 25 percent of leadership positions. Ministers of health and corporate executives—largely male—determine which research projects are funded, which services provided, and how the workforce is deployed. In health care, this often means that the concerns of women and children are overlooked. Evidence shows that diversity wins: More women in leadership means better decisions and better outcomes.

The Women Leaders in Global Health Conference started at Stanford. More than 400 healthcare providers from 68 countries came together to find solutions, develop the next generation of leaders, and improve health-care outcomes. “Where you have greater gender equity, men’s longevity improves, as does women’s longevity,” said Gary Darmstadt, MD, professor of pediatrics and associate dean for maternal and child health. When Dr. Barry created the event, she launched a movement that continues with conferences in London, Rwanda, and elsewhere. “We need to recognize the women leaders who are in the pipeline and remove barriers so they can do their best work. We are developing leadership training and creating an enabling environment for more inclusive leadership.”

Global health also depends on planetary health. As biological creatures, our health is linked to our environment. A changing climate will lead to rising sea levels, more frequent wildfires, and longer periods of drought—all of which can threaten agriculture and increase food insecurity and malnutrition. Pollution and warmer air cause—and exacerbate—asthma and cardiovascular conditions. Flooding and tropical storms are likely to lead to more widespread waterborne and tropical diseases. At Stanford Global Health, our physician-scientists collaborate with experts from the Woods Institute for the Environment, the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and Stanford’s School of Engineering so that we can predict and prevent challenges to global health.

We concentrate our efforts on communities with the greatest needs. Stanford Global Health builds capacity within local communities around the world. The Stanford Refugee Research Program, the Himalayan Cataract Project, and other programs are designed to reverse blindness, bring cancer care to impoverished women, eliminate polio, prevent parasitic diseases, end gender-based violence, and improve the humanitarian response in areas of conflict. Our faculty travel the world to train doctors and nurses and to improve the quality of care in low-resourced settings.

We identify solutions that last. We understand that solutions to today’s challenges must be sustainable. Stanford Global Health faculty member and biology professor Giulio De Leo, PhD, found a novel solution to control schistosomiasis, a potentially deadly parasitic disease that affects 230 million worldwide. In Senegal, he showed that freshwater prawns, a natural predator of parasite-infected snails, can effectively curb the spread of the disease. Another member of our core leadership, Geoff Tabin, MD, co-founded the Himalayan Cataract Project, which invented a $4 disposable technology for cataract surgery and trained local physicians to use it. Dr. Tabin’s team has reversed blindness in more than 700,000 people in Nepal and is now training physicians to perform cataract surgery in Ethiopia.

With your help, we will increase the health and well-being of millions of people on this planet. Our faculty and staff will continue to collaborate with communities around the globe to find sustainable solutions to recurrent problems. With your philanthropic investment, Stanford Global Health will be able to equip more partners and communities with Stanford innovations and discoveries to help people around the world live longer, healthier lives.

Michele Barry, MD, FACP
Senior Associate Dean of Global Health
Director of Global Health Initiatives in Medicine
Director of the Center for Innovation in Global Health

Dr. Michele Barry was elected to lead the Board of Directors for the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) in 2019. The founder of the Stanford-Yale Johnson & Johnson Global Health Scholars Program, she has sent more than 1,000 physicians overseas to underserved areas. A past president of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH), Dr. Barry is also an elected member of the Institute of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences. A passionate clinician and scholar, she has sent hundreds of students around the world to create innovative global health programs.

Dr. Barry’s scholarly interests include tropical medicine, global health ethics, and the impact of climate change on megacities. At Stanford University School of Medicine, we are committed to finding ways to improve human health and well-being around the world. Dr. Barry has worked with governments to make better choices in allocating costly and sometimes environmentally sensitive mosquito-control resources such as insecticides.