JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER WORLD

Unleashing the full range of scientific, analytic, and creative capabilities to resolve the most complex global health equity challenges of our time

HEALTH EQUITY & THE ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER WORLD

The defining aim of global health is to find ways to improve people's health no matter where they live or who they are. The Alliance promotes social justice and addresses the social and structural determinants of health, empowering people and providing opportunities to achieve good health and wellbeing. Our efforts are designed to increase access to quality health care, and beyond conventional health services, improve lives within a broader definition of wellbeing.

This approach inspires our four priority themes: Food Nutrition & Security, Healthy Environments, Gender Equity & Justice, and Transformative Technologies & Institutions. Johns Hopkins University (JHU) launched the Alliance for a Healthier World (AHW) with the understanding that health equity is influenced by factors such as education, income, gender, race, ethnicity, geography, nutrition, politics, environment, and access to technology.

ABOUT OUR WORK

Together with local leaders, AHW combines efforts from bio-medical, social, quantitative, and engineering sciences together with those from the arts and humanities to create new solutions to longstanding problems of inequities. Building on the research strengths and extensive community connections of JHU, the Alliance invests substantial resources into measurement and evaluation; data and ingenuity guide our work.

Our four priority research themes serve as "innovation nodes" where science, technology and arts fuse into novel approaches to target health inequities. As a starting point for our model, we question basic assumptions of existing health equity solutions framed around scarcity and, instead, envision robust and socially responsive health and social systems.

“Our mandate is one of inclusion, diversity, and multidisciplinary thinking and action. Activities we pursue bring people together, from across the Johns Hopkins University, to learn from one another and design solutions for complex problems that are greater than the sum of their parts.”

- Dr. David Peters, Academic Director Alliance for a Healthier World
DIFFERENTIATED STRATEGIC APPROACHES

The interconnectedness of the four thematic priority areas defines our understanding of how social and environmental forces shape our lives and how we harness these same forces to create more equitable and just outcomes. Unifying the theme priorities, AHW is introducing three cross-cutting approaches and a student scholars program to enhance the effects of our research and interventions.

- Global ← → Local Learning & Action
- Female Led & Engaged Innovation
- Open Science/Access

Taken together, the thematic areas, cross-cutting approaches, and Global Health Equity Scholars program create a multi-level and multi-directional network of learning and action that drive change.

OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPACT

As AHW transitions now from conceptual models and early stage design work toward real-time field work and practice, we seek collaborators and partners working at the forefront of social impact, health equity, and social justice.

Specifically, we will partner with entities that believe in the value of giving voice to disadvantaged populations and our belief in the power of multidisciplinary teams to solve complex problems.

ABOUT JOHNS HOPKINS ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER WORLD

The Alliance is an initiative integrating diverse expertise and perspectives to unlock groundbreaking knowledge and resolve the most complex global health equity challenges of our time. Scholars, researchers, and leaders from all disciplines—medicine, nursing, public health, international relations, engineering, education, business, the social sciences, creative arts, and bioethics—work side-by-side with partners and disadvantaged communities around the world to create a healthier, more equitable, and more just world.

Ongoing Cross-Sector Research

To date, the Alliance has provided funding and technical support for 20 new multidisciplinary teams to design human-centered solutions for entrenched equity barriers. Following a competitive submission process, 16 Launchpad Grants were awarded to diverse teams who identified specific global health equity challenges representing the greatest opportunity for impact and scale.

After completion of the Launchpad Grants and analysis of results, the Alliance designed a second process to identify four high Impact Grant projects and resourced these teams with multi-year funding to implement their proposed solutions. Special emphasis was placed on projects that engage socially vulnerable communities in the design, implementation and evaluation of the project.

- Thermal Cooker for Healthier Air in Peru
- Addressing Hypertension Care in Ghana
- Safe Passage for American Indian Adolescent Girls
- Zero TB in Tibetan Kids

These flagship projects serve as foundational platforms where AHW partners with communities to pose new research questions and design programs in search of breakthrough solutions.