

ICAP Next Generation Program 2026



ICAP's Next Generation Program is a multidisciplinary training initiative that provides students with internship and fellowship opportunities focusing on global public health.

Through the Next Generation Program, students engage in the design, implementation, and evaluation of ICAP supported programs while working side-by-side with global health experts. Students will learn about health care delivery systems in low-resource settings while working on discrete programmatic projects with ICAP team members. The Next Generation interns spend two to six months engaged in the design, implementation and/or evaluation of ICAP-supported programs around the world and in New York under the mentorship of ICAP NY and/or country staff.

This opportunity is open to students enrolled in one of the following schools at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center Campus:

- The Mailman School of Public Health
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons
- The College of Dental Medicine
- The School of Nursing

Application Components

- 1) Complete application form ([Please see this link to the application form.](#))
- 2) Current resume (no more than two pages)
- 3) Statement of interest addressing a few key questions:
 - a. Why are you interested in global public health?
 - b. What are your goals for this internship experience?
 - c. What are your career goals?
 - d. What skills and experiences will you bring to ICAP?
- 4) One letter of recommendation

All application components should be submitted via the Qualtrics application in the link above. Letters of recommendation can be sent separately and directly from the recommender to icap-nextgen@cumc.columbia.edu or uploaded through Qualtrics. Applicants are responsible for confirming receipt of all materials.

All application components are due by Friday, February 20, 2026, by 11:59 PM.



You can find more information about the Next Generation Internship Program by visiting ICAP website at: <https://icap.columbia.edu/student-resources-archive/internships/>. If you have any questions, please contact icap-nextgen@cumc.columbia.edu or ICAP's Senior Training and Education Specialist, Claire Raether, at cr3144@cumc.columbia.edu.

Project Offerings

International

The projects below allow for international travel to ICAP Country Offices and/or ICAP supported sites. ICAP follows all travel guidelines issued by Columbia University.

- Priority Lifesaving HIV Care and Treatment to Reach and Sustain HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control in **Burundi**
- Building a Resilient Public Health Workforce to Address Public Health Emergencies in the **Republic of Georgia**
- Improving Global Health Security Program through Surveillance Systems and Antimicrobial Resistance Technical Assistance in **Kenya**

US-based

The projects below are located in New York. Students will be expected to participate with the projects in person or as best determined by their mentor.

- Preparedness and Recovery Institute Developing a Queens Resiliency Index Project One
- Preparedness and Recovery Institute Developing a Queens Resiliency Index Project Two
- Preparedness and Recovery Institute Developing a Queens Resiliency Index Project Three
- Dynamics of Contraceptive Use among Adolescent Girls and Young Women in Eswatini
- Qualitative Analysis of In Vitro Fertilization Patient Experience
- Clinical Trials of Long-Term Injectable PrEP in Harlem, New York City
- Radiant Moms Study to Examine Preference for TB Treatment among Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women
- SPOT-TB Study to Evaluate use of Mobile Technology to Diagnose TB in Migrant Populations in NYC

International Practicum Opportunity: Priority Lifesaving HIV Care and Treatment to Reach and Sustaining HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control in **Burundi**



Mentors: Greet Vandebriel, Burundi
Technical Director

Internship Focus HIV, surveillance, youth programming, mother-infant programming

Duration 3 months from June to August

Location: Bujumbura, Burundi

Required Skills
French language proficiency

Project Description

In Burundi, the RISE project led by ICAP supports lifesaving care and treatment for PLHIV in Burundi at 349 health facilities throughout the country. The primary goal of the RISE-Burundi country project is to support priority lifesaving HIV care and treatment and contribute to reaching and sustaining HIV/AIDS epidemic control in Burundi by addressing critical challenges to, and focusing on, closing persistent gaps in HIV case finding, linkage to life-saving treatment and achieving viral suppression at the district level by age and sex. The objective of the project include:

- Objective 1: Improve HIV testing services to close gaps in case finding and provide pre-exposure prophylaxis for pregnant and breastfeeding women
- Objective 2: Increase and sustain linkage to and enrollment on lifesaving ART and treatment continuity among PLHIV
- Objective 3: Improve Viral Load coverage and achieve and maintain sustained Viral Suppression
- Objective 4: Improve data availability, quality, and use for decision making

Intern Activities

- Supporting the adolescent peer education program to conduct an evaluation using the Youth Programming Assessment Tool (YPAT). This tool helps youth to reflect upon internal programming and institutional practices and identify areas for improvement
- Supporting the mentor mother program through conducting an evaluation of health outcomes for mother-infant pairs enrolled in the program (continuity of treatment and viral suppression of the mother, final HIV status of the infants)
- Supporting the launch of the program for screening and management of patients with advanced HIV disease through finalizing the operational procedures, tools and training materials and support initiation at selected supported health facilities in collaboration with the National HIV Program

International Practicum Opportunity: Building a Resilient Public Health Workforce to Address Public Health Emergencies in the **Republic of Georgia**



Mentors: Ekaterine Pestvenidze, National Coordinator of ICAP in the Republic of Georgia

Internship Focus Workforce development, Infection Prevention and Control, Antimicrobial Resistance

Duration 3 months from June to August

Location: Tbilisi, Georgia

Project Description

ICAP at Columbia University, in close collaboration with CDC, works with key stakeholders in Georgia, including academic institutions, professional associations, and public health agencies, to enhance the capacity of the national health workforce. Strengthening the capacity of the public health workforce to address critical issues such as antimicrobial resistance and proper implementation of infection prevention and control measures supports the overall improvement of public health systems in the country and region.

This collaboration will leverage the expertise and resources of academia and professional associations to strengthen the competencies of both pre-service and in-service health professionals. The goal is to build a resilient health workforce capable of addressing both current and emerging public health challenges.

Intern Activities

- Strengthening pre-service training by building academic partnerships in both the region and internationally
- Design, coordinate and evaluate alumni engagement and postgraduate activities through fellowship programs
- Support piloting of intermediate level IPC Training Course designed to support capacity building of IPC professionals at various facilities in the country

International Practicum Opportunity: Improving the Global Health Security Program by Surveillance Systems and Antimicrobial Resistance Technical Assistance in Kenya



Mentors: Doris Naitore Mwenda, ICAP in Kenya Country Director

Internship Focus Global health security, surveillance, data analysis, AMR

Duration 3 months from June to August

Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Project Description

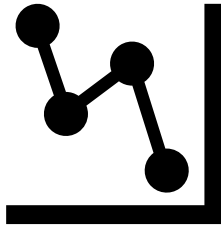
The ICAP in Kenya Global Health Security (GHS) has four key programs in partnership with the Ministry of Health in Kenya:

- Integrated facility-based Surveillance (IFBS): a sentinel surveillance program based in 12 health facilities in Kenya that tracks and identifies microbes that pose a threat to public health.
- Event-Based Surveillance (EBS): a surveillance program that collects unstructured health information from the community and health facilities in 6 counties and uses this information to deploy intervention measures to prevent outbreaks.
- Informatics: aims to modernize and integrate surveillance data systems in Kenya on behalf of MoH.
- DARE (Detection and Response) AMR (antimicrobial resistance): partnership with health care facilities to mitigate the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance

Intern Activities

- Support the development of a national surveillance data hub (SHIELD), Data Dashboards for surveillance data, machine learning model to predict disease outbreaks (E-Bridge) and a multi-purpose tool to collect and aggregate data for all disease outbreaks (ADaM).
- Collaborate with experts to provide technical support for hospital antimicrobial stewardship activities and strengthen the quality of AMR laboratory testing.

US-based Practicum Opportunity: Preparedness and Recovery Institute
Developing a Queens Resiliency Index Project One



Mentors: Lorraine Schneider, Senior Manager
Preparedness Network

Internship Focus: Emergency preparedness,
climate change

Duration: March to May

Location: NYC

Project Description:

The borough of Queens faces significant climate and public health risks, compounded by aging infrastructure and disparities in access to essential services. The Queens Resilience Index (QRI) will serve as a borough-wide tool to measure community preparedness and resilience at a hyperlocal level. Developed by the NYC Preparedness & Recovery Institute (PRI), the QRI will enable data-driven decision-making and strengthen our case to funders for sustained investment in resilience.

The index will:

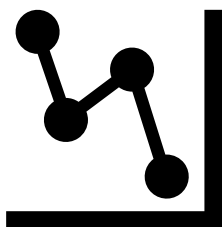
- Assess resilience across Queens neighborhoods using locally relevant indicators.
- Track changes over time to evaluate preparedness initiatives.
- Inform resource allocation and program priorities for climate and health emergencies.

The student will collect and organize public data, develop a community survey, and help compute resilience index scores, while documenting methods and maintaining reproducible scripts. This is an applied role with real-world impact in Queens communities.

Intern Activities:

- Collect and clean community-level data from public sources (ACS, NYC Open Data).
- Organize indicators into categories for analysis.
- Combine weights and indicators to compute resilience index scores.
- Develop a community survey using a tool like SurveyMonkey.
- Document methods and maintain reproducible scripts.
- Additional responsibilities as identified by mentors

US-based Practicum Opportunity: Preparedness and Recovery Institute
Developing a Queens Resiliency Index Project Two



Mentors: Lorraine Schneider, Senior Manager
Preparedness Network

Internship Focus: Emergency preparedness,
climate change

Duration: March to May

Location: NYC

Project Description:

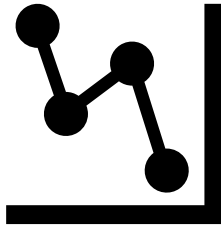
The Queens Resilience Network (QRN) is a prototype initiative led by the NYC Preparedness & Recovery Institute (PRI) with the Rockaway Development & Revitalization Corporation (RDRC) as Lead Development Partner, aimed at fostering borough-wide social capital to enhance community resilience in Queens, NY. It serves as a prototype for the establishment of Resilience Networks in each of the 5 New York City boroughs. The goal of the QRN is to strengthen Queens' capacity to withstand future public health emergencies and climate-related disasters by establishing a multi-sectoral coalition and implementing borough-wide projects promoting social cohesion and resilience.

The student will play a key role in implementing a community-based resilience project selected for Queens. This position offers hands-on experience in community engagement, project management, and resilience planning. The student will work closely with PRI, RDRC and local CBOs to ensure successful execution of the project.

Intern Activities:

- **Project Implementation:** Support and oversee the rollout of the selected resilience project in partnership with the community-based organization receiving funding.
- **Community Engagement:** Coordinate with local stakeholders, attend community meetings, and facilitate communication between PRI, RDRC, and community partners.
- **Data Collection & Reporting:** Track project progress, gather feedback, and assist in preparing reports and presentations for PRI and partner organizations.
- **Research & Analysis:** Conduct background research on resilience strategies, social capital, and community needs to inform project activities.
- **Administrative Support:** Assist with scheduling, documentation, and other operational tasks related to project implementation.
- **Communication:** Draft updates, social media content, and outreach materials to promote the project and engage community members.

US-based Practicum Opportunity: Preparedness and Recovery Institute
Developing a Queens Resiliency Index Project Three



Mentors: Lorraine Schneider, Senior Manager
Preparedness Network

Internship Focus: Emergency preparedness,
climate change

Duration: March to May

Location: NYC

Project Description:

Queens faces significant climate and public health risks, compounded by aging infrastructure and disparities in access to essential services. The Queens Resilience Index (QRI) will serve as a borough-wide tool to measure community preparedness and resilience at a hyperlocal level. Developed by the NYC Preparedness & Recovery Institute (PRI), the QRI will enable data-driven decision-making and strengthen our case to funders for sustained investment in resilience.

The index will:

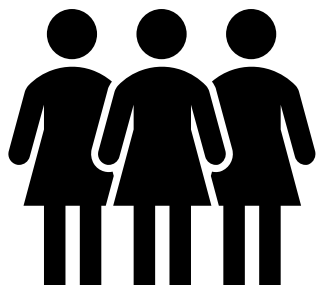
- Assess resilience across Queens neighborhoods using locally relevant indicators.
- Track changes over time to evaluate preparedness initiatives.
- Inform resource allocation and program priorities for climate and health emergencies.

The student will collect and clean public data, apply weighting to compute resilience index scores, and create visualizations and an interactive map, while documenting methods and maintaining reproducible scripts. This is an applied role with real-world impact in Queens communities.

Intern Activities:

- Collect and clean community-level data from public sources (ACS, NYC Open Data).
- Combine weights and indicators to compute resilience index scores.
- Create clear visualizations and an interactive map of Queens community districts.
- Document methods and maintain reproducible scripts.

US-based Practicum Opportunity: Dynamics of Contraceptive Use among Adolescent Girls and Young Women in Eswatini



Mentors: Abigail Greenleaf, Assistant Professor

Internship Focus: HIV prevention, surveys, data analysis, coding

Duration: 3 to 6 months from June to August or December

Location: NYC

Project Description

Adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa have the highest rate of undesired pregnancies and HIV incidence (relative to other ages) but little is known about the dynamics of contraceptive use and HIV protective behaviors among this vulnerable age group. This study calls 315 young women who participated in the third population-based HIV survey supported by ICAP in Eswatini, bi-weekly for two years (began March 2024) to collect high frequency, longitudinal data about the circumstances surrounding adolescent girls and young women's sexual and reproductive health, creating actionable data for increased reproductive autonomy.

Intern Activities

The student will work closely with the PI and research assistant to support analyses and write-up of the study data. The student will practice their quantitative coding skills and create descriptive outcomes. They will review literature, assist with manuscripts and reports, and other duties as assigned.

Remote Practicum Opportunity: Qualitative Analysis of In Vitro Fertilization Patient Experience



Mentors: Abba Greenleaf, Assistant Professor

Internship Focus: HIV, Adolescent Girls and Young Women, Sexual Reproductive Health, Data Analysis

Duration: 3 to 6 months from June to August or December

Location: NYC

Project Description

Infertility – defined as the inability to become pregnant after 1 year of trying – affects one in five nulliparous married women aged 15 to 49 in the United States (US). As more individuals delay parenthood, the demand for infertility services and assisted reproductive technologies (ART) such as in vitro fertilization (IVF) continues to rise. In 2021, over 238,000 women in the US underwent an ART cycle with 39% resulting in live birth. Currently, 2.2% of all U.S. births are conceived via IVF, a proportion that increases annually. However, recent data indicate that 70% of women who begin IVF discontinue treatment before a live birth. The drivers of treatment drop out are cost and patient experience. However, most studies of patient IVF experience rely on qualitative or retrospective cross-sectional data. These approaches cannot capture the evolving psychological, physical, and emotional burdens that contribute to treatment discontinuation.

To prepare for a longitudinal study of women's IVF patient experiences, we will conduct qualitative interviews with women undergoing IVF. The NextGen intern will help analyze the qualitative data and write-up results.

Intern Activities

The student will work closely with the PI and research assistant to support qualitative data analyses and study write-up. The student will practice their qualitative coding skills. They will review literature, assist with manuscripts and reports, and other duties as assigned.

US-based Practicum Opportunity: Clinical Trials of Long-Term Injectable PrEP in Harlem, New York City



Mentors: Kamesha Martin, CRS Coordinator

Internship Focus HIV prevention, clinical trials, data collection, quality assurance

Duration 3 to 6 months from June to August or December

Location: Remote

Project Description

The Harlem Prevention Center (HPC) and HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) are implementing an industry sponsored clinical trials of long-term injectable PrEP. HPTN 102 is evaluating Lenacapvir (LEN), a long-acting injectable medication given every 6 months for preventing HIV, in women in the US. The study compares LEN given by subcutaneous injection every 6 months to daily F/TDF tablets for PrEP for HIV prevention in women. The study will assess the safety and acceptability of long-acting LEN injections and daily oral F/TDF for PrEP in US women. The study will also assess blood levels of LEN. The study involves a 1:1 randomization to the investigational LEN injections (given at study enrollment and again at 6 months after enrollment) or F/TDF tablets to be taken by mouth daily. The study plans to enroll 250 US cis-gender women.

Intern Activities

- Conduct data monitoring, quality assurance, and quality control on data collected for multiple studies, including:
 - Review eligibility criteria of screened study participants for enrollment, including review of eligibility case report forms, source documents and informed consent forms.
 - Assist with submission of study forms to the statistical and data management center.
 - Assist with prompt review of all data queries and their immediate resolution.
 - Identify problem areas with data collection, report findings to the project's leadership, and develop appropriate corrective measures with input from the team.
- Participate in community engagement activities, including:
 - Creating content for social media
 - Participating in outreach event
 - Assist in summarizing data and preparation of presentations for scientific meetings.
- Develop research questions of interest utilizing available site data from completed studies to conduct analysis and create a poster presentation for final practicum deliverable.
- Attend weekly staff meetings to discuss progress of the studies involved and research related issues.

Remote Practicum Opportunity: Radiant Moms Study to Examine Preference for TB Treatment among Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women



Mentors: Yael Hirsch-Moverman, Assistant Professor

Internship Focus TB, PBW, qualitative studies, data analysis

Duration 3 to 6 months from June to August or December

Location: NYC

Project Description

The WHO globally recommended a new 17-week treatment regimen option for adults and adolescents 12 years and older with pulmonary TB. However, pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) were excluded from clinical trials and thus could not receive the new regimen due to safety concerns for the developing fetus as well as gaps in knowledge of downstream effects from the treatment option. As a result, they will have to continue using the older, longer, standard 6-month regimens and limited treatment options.

The Radiant-Moms study uses discrete choice experiment (DCE) to examine preferences among PBW and healthcare providers (HCP) regarding novel shorter TB treatment regimens during the pregnancy and postpartum periods. The study is conducted in South Africa and the Philippines, representing different geographical settings with high TB burden and varying HIV prevalence. We are employing a two-phase mixed-methods design. In Phase I we are using qualitative methods to elicit input from stakeholders from the target populations: PBW, HCP, key informants, and community influencers from each country to determine optimal DCE survey design. We will also identify barriers and facilitators to inclusion of PBW in TB trials among key stakeholders. In Phase II, quantitative activities consist of a structured survey among PBW and HCP, including preferences for attributes of TB treatment regimens and service delivery models (DCE).

Intern Activities

- Conduct analysis of survey data.
- Support qualitative analyses.
- Assist in the preparation of conference abstracts and manuscripts.
- Participate in study team calls/meetings to discuss progress and findings.
- Collaborate on the development of manuscripts and presentations.
- Other duties as assigned by mentor or project team

Remote Practicum Opportunity: SPOT-TB Study to Evaluate use of Mobile Technology to Diagnose TB in Migrant Populations in NYC



Mentors: Max O'Donnell, Associate Professor

Internship Focus TB, migrant health, diagnostics, data collection

Duration 3 to 6 months from June to August or December

Location: NYC

Project Description

TB incidence in NYC has surged since 2021 partly due to decreased attention during the COVID-19 pandemic and in part due to increased migration across the southern US border. More than 200,000 migrants from TB-endemic regions arrived in NYC since April 2022. In 2023, TB incidence in NYC rose by 28%, the highest rates in over a decade, with 89% of cases among individuals born outside the US. There is a need to evaluate innovative methods to improve TB detection, prevention, and treatment among migrants in NYC. Initial work by our team in NYC migrant shelters has demonstrated high numbers of persons with latent TB infection (LTBI) and active TB. Current clinic-based approaches to TB surveillance are ineffective since few high-risk persons complete TB screening and fewer are retained in the TB cascade of care.

The SPOT-TB (Screening with Portable X-rays for rapid recOgniTion of TB) study evaluates the use of mobile diagnostic teams integrating ultraportable digital chest radiography paired with artificial intelligence-assisted interpretation, upfront testing for TB (interferon gamma release assay) and HIV, and community engagement to improve initiation and retention in the TB cascade of care compared to conventional, clinic-based approaches to TB surveillance.

Intern Activities

- Conduct participant recruitment and enrollment on mobile medical unit, including:
- Review eligibility criteria of potential participants for enrollment.
 - Administer informed consent to eligible participants.
 - Conduct study questionnaires.
 - Assist with transport of specimen.
- Participate in community engagement and outreach activities.
- Assist in summarizing data and preparation of presentations for scientific meetings.
- Attend staff meetings to discuss study progress and research related issues