

Testing a Safe & Confident Return to Classrooms for Latino Youth



Re-Open Schools Safely and Educate Youth (ROSSEY)

Thanks to \$4 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health, the University of Washington Health Promotion Research Center and its partners are collaborating with elementary schools in the Yakima Valley to evaluate how effective COVID testing, safety measures, and communications around COVID can be at safely increasing in-person attendance. Until a COVID vaccine is approved for youth and children, testing, safety measures, and communications around the virus may be essential for instilling confidence in a safe return to classrooms. This could be especially true for those in communities most severely affected by COVID and/or those exposed to misinformation about the virus.

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Collaborating to Increase King County Vaccination Rates



We are working alongside our local partners to increase vaccination rates for underserved communities within King County, Washington. This project will specifically include Latino, Black, and immigrant multigenerational households with elders and adults working in essential industries.

In collaboration with our partners, we will create effective messaging around vaccines, support efforts to bring vaccines to people, and provide training to community navigators who can share information about vaccines in their communities.

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Students Honored in Husky 100



Two students — Najma Abdi (left) and Evalynn Fae Taganna Romano — who have supported the work and efforts of the University of Washington Health Promotion Research Center were named as part of the university's Husky 100 this year.

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NEW WEBSITE

We are excited to announce HPRC has a new website!

The goal of the new site is to provide an even more mobile- and user-friendly experience for all (including people who use screen readers) while leveraging the latest tools from the UW web team to better showcase the breadth and depth of the work at UW HPRC. The website now features a select list of current and past projects, including findings that are written to be more easily understood by people outside of academia and research. The updated site also has a new and improved blog, where we can share the latest UW HPRC news with our community.

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Upcoming Events



August Seminar

Small Worksite COVID-19 Preparedness & Response in Washington State

Thursday, August 12 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (PST)

Presenter: Kristen Hammerback, UW HPRC research scientist

Listen to audio by phone if needed: 408-638-0968

Zoom Meeting ID: 730 693 565

JOIN ONLINE



TEAM UPDATES

CONGRATS

- **Najma Abdi** and **Evalynn Fae Taganna Romano** were recognized this spring as Husky 100 students. The Husky 100 recognizes 100 UW undergraduate and graduate students who are making the most of their time at the UW. Evalynn also received the "Outstanding Community Service Student" award from the School of Public Health during its annual [Awards of Excellence](#). [Learn more about Evalynn and Najma's efforts in UW HPRC projects.](#)
- **Susan Botarelli** earned her master's in public health from UW this month. She is a research coordinator at UW HPRC, supporting hypertension projects led by Barbara Baquero.
- **Stefani Florez-Acevedo** earned her master's in public health from UW this month. She has supported multiple UW HPRC research projects under the direction of Barbara Baquero.
- **Elspeth Rensema** earned her master's in public health from UW this month. She has been working closely with UW HPRC team members on the PEARLS Connect project, led by Lesley Steinman, as part of her thesis research.
- **Katie Spears** earned her master's in public health from UW this month. She has been supporting the Decision-Making in Alzheimer's Research (DMAR) project, led by Anne Turner, as part of her thesis project.

WELCOME

- **Yaniv Rait** joined UW HPRC in April as a graduate research assistant. He is supporting the Cancer Prevention and Control projects under the direction of Thuy Vu.
- **Luis Aceves** joined UW HPRC in June as a graduate research assistant. He is supporting the Re-Open Schools Safely and Educate Youth (ROSSEY) project under the direction of Linda Ko.
- **Teyj Menon** joined UW HPRC in June as a student assistant. He will be supporting the Re-Open Schools Safely and Educate Youth (ROSSEY) project under the direction of Linda Ko.

FAREWELL

- **Stefani Florez-Acevedo**, a graduate research assistant under the direction of Barbara Baquero, said goodbye to the center this month. We wish her well as she begins working toward her doctoral degree in the Department of Health Services this fall.
- **Caroline LaPlant** said goodbye to the center this month. We appreciate the work she has done as a graduate research assistant supporting the Cancer Prevention and Control projects under the direction of Thuy Vu.

Recent Publications

[Not quite a block party: COVID-19 street reallocation programs in Seattle, WA and Vancouver, BC.](#)

Firth CL, Baquero B, Berney R, Hoerster KD, Mooney SJ, Winters M (June 2021)

[Evidence-Based Interventions and Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates: The Colorectal Cancer Screening Program, 2015-2017](#). Sharma KP, DeGroot A, Maxwell AE, Cole AM, Escoffery NC, Hannon PA (May 2021)

[Optimizing Implementation in Cancer Control \(OPTICC\): Protocol for an implementation science center](#). Lewis CC, Hannon PA, Klasnja P, Baldwin LM, Hawkes R, Blackmer J, Johnson A, OPTICC Consortium, represented by Bryan J. Weiner (April 2021)

[Involvement of Local Health Departments in Obesity Prevention: A Scoping Review](#). Petrovskis A, Baquero B, Bekemeier B (March 2021)

["Taking Up a New Problem": Context and Determinants of Pod-Mod Electronic Cigarette Use Among College Students](#). Kava CM, Soule EK, Seegmiller L, Gold E, Snipes W, Westfield T, Wick N, Afifi R (March 2021)

[MORE PUBLICATIONS](#)



A PRC Network Participant

HPRC is a [CDC Prevention Research Center](#), building healthier communities together for over 30 years.

[UW HPRC WEBSITE](#)

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