

Global Health Reporting 2025 Teacher Fellowship

Participants in the *Examining Interconnected Health Inequities through Global Reporting* program will design and teach a short learning experience (one-three class periods) that centers at least one of the news stories below and culminates in an activity exemplifying empowered action.

Please review the stories below and identify one to two that could engage your students this fall. In your fellowship application, you'll be asked to share which story you selected and why you think that story will connect with your students.

Curated projects are organized by issue area but many engage multiple issues and regions. You may choose which issues to center in the lesson you create. The full range of global health topics includes: disparities in healthcare access, the impacts of global aid and policies, reproductive health, vaccine equity, socio-economic and racial equality, pharmaceutical practices, health research and innovation, and community-driven solutions.

Disparities in Healthcare Access

[A Day in the Life: Crisis Hits Hospitals in Iraq](#)

By: Susan Schullman for *Daily Maverick*

Region: Iraq / Middle East

Issues: disparities in healthcare access, children, climate, war & conflict

Format: text, photograph

Journalist Overview

Iraq, a country already grappling with political, economic, and security challenges, is now in the grip of an escalating climate crisis. The effects are clear in southern Iraq, where climate-driven migration by its rural population is driving people into its urban areas and overwhelming its health centers, hospitals, and, notably, its medical and support staff.

Hospitals, which used to see 1,000 patients a day, are now seeing 4,000-10,000 a day—overwhelming staff forced to deal with the surging patient population on resources that have not kept pace. Staff are demoralized. Doctors are leaving in droves, leaving even fewer to cope with the increased numbers. "More patients, more problems," said a weary doctor. "And without the resources, more bad outcomes."

[Could a Conflict-Borne Superbug Bring On Our Next Pandemic?](#)

By: Eli Cahan for *Rolling Stone*

Region: Iraq / Middle East, Ukraine, Russia/Europe

Issues: disparities in healthcare access, peace & conflict, outbreaks & epidemics, health science

Format: text, photography

Journalist Overview

The relationship between conflict and spread of drug-resistant bacteria—the so-called “superbugs”—has been one of increasing concern since the American invasion of Iraq. Ever since that time, epidemiologists have recognized the potential for military conflict to exacerbate the transmission of antimicrobial resistance bacteria (AMRs) like Iraqibacter. That means citizens in places already the least able to respond to health crises—Ukraine, certainly, but also Gaza, Syria and Yemen—are facing still more brooding threats due to AMR bugs. Recent CDC reports show that the AMR problem is worse than it has ever been in the U.S.; U.N. reports are raising similar alarms across the globe. As the war in Ukraine pushes on, AMR is increasingly threatening its soldiers, its civilians—and, the rest of Europe.

[Long COVID in Mexico: Neurological and Psychiatric Symptoms](#)

By: Alice Pipitone and Quetzalli Blanco for *Palabra* and *Proceso*

Region: Mexico / Latin America

Issues: vaccine equity, socio-economic and racial equality, mental health, COVID-19

Format: video, text, photography

Journalist Overview

This reporting project documents what patients with severe neurological and psychiatric symptoms due to long COVID face in Mexico: from medical gaslighting, to occupational disability and the risk of suicide.

The project follows the daily lives of two patients suffering from long COVID-19. They are getting inappropriate or no treatment at all because neither public nor private insurance covers their illness. The reporting looks for the motives for Mexico not recognizing long COVID. The research also provides comparative international context. Interviews were held with health sector officials and authors of the most relevant international studies on long COVID, among others.

The Impacts of Global Aid and Policies

[The Children Left Behind in Global Health Cuts](#)

By: Jon Cohen, Martin Eserink, and Catherine Offord for *Science*, *NPR*, and *Press Play*

Region: Nepal / Asia, Lesotho, Eswatini, Guinea / Africa

Issues: the impacts of global aid and policies, disparities in healthcare access, children

Format: audio, photography, text

Journalist Overview

The Trump administration has taken a chainsaw to foreign aid, including many health programs. Billions of dollars were lost almost overnight. Journalists Catherine Offord, Jon Cohen, and Martin Enserink have investigated the effects of these cuts on communities and health systems, and in particular on the well-being of children. Their reports focus on malnutrition in Nepal, HIV/AIDS in Lesotho and Eswatini, and malaria in Guinea.

[Cuts and Consequences: The End of USAID](#)

By: William Brangham, Molly Knight Raskin and Morgan Till for *PBS News Hour* [text, video]

Region: Kenya, Ghana / Africa, Bangladesh / Asia

Issues: the impacts of global aid and policies, disparities in healthcare access, children

Format: text, video

Journalist Overview

In the series *Cuts and Consequences: The End of USAID*, producer Molly Knight Raskin and PBS NewsHour correspondent William Brangham report on the impact of the Trump administration's decision to shut down USAID, the agency responsible for distributing more than \$40 billion a year to over 100 countries globally.

[Ghana Battles Deadly Meningitis Outbreak Amid Shrinking Foreign Aid and Health System Struggles | Pulitzer Center](#)

By: Ridwan Karim Dini-Osman for *The World*

Region: Ghana / Africa

Issues: the impacts of global aid and policies, disparities in healthcare access, children, outbreaks and epidemics

Format: text, photography

Journalist Overview

Ridwan Karim Dini-Osman's reporting project investigates a deadly meningitis outbreak sweeping through Ghana's Upper West Region, exposing the fragility of the country's health care system amid dwindling foreign aid and limited resources.

Reproductive Health

[Complex Laws, Social Pressures Limit Abortion Access in India | Pulitzer Center](#)

By: Menaka Rao for *India Spend* and *Suno India*

Region: India / Asia

Issues: reproductive health, gender equality

Format: podcast, text, photograph

Journalist Overview

More than one in seven unintended pregnancies globally occur in India. This project will look at the ways in which women seek abortions in India, especially the unsafe, illegal abortions. It will explore how limited access to abortion changes women's health and lives.

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[Pregnant and Disabled in Malawi](#)

By: Josephine Chinele and Ngulube Chisomo for *Health Policy Watch* and *The Continent* [photography, text]

Region: Malawi / Africa

Issues: reproductive health, gender equality

Format: podcast, text, photograph

Journalist Overview

This project investigates and brings to the fore the untold discriminatory and unequal experiences of disabled women in accessing maternal care in Malawi.

[Pushed to the Back Alley](#)

By: Neha Wadekar for *Foreign Policy Magazine* and *PBS News Hour*

Region: Kenya / Africa

Issues: gender & equality, foreign policy

Format: video, text, photography

Journalist Overview

Pushed to the Back Alley explored how abortion and reproductive care in Kenya could be affected if Donald Trump wins the U.S. presidency again. The piece explores how women seek dangerous abortions due to barriers that include Kenya's own restrictive abortion laws that allow only for narrow exceptions — an interpretation that's in legal dispute.

[Women's Rights in Argentina in the Era of Javier Milei](#)

By: Anita Pouchard Serra and Natalie Alcoba for *The New York Times*, *The Dial*, and *elDiarioAR*

Region: Argentina / Latin America

Issues: reproductive health, gender & equality

Format: text, photography

Journalist Overview

Argentina has blazed a trail for women's rights in Latin America, with massive movements against gender-based violence and in favor of legal abortion.

But the election of libertarian President Javier Milei—who considers feminism a "ridiculous" fight and abortion "aggravated homicide"—has shifted the landscape. He has made good on his vow to take a chainsaw to public spending, shuttering the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity, gutting a sex ed program, and slashing funding for reproductive health.

This project goes outside the capital city to learn how women's organizations in four corners of Argentina are responding to the era of President Milei.

Socio-economic and Racial Equality

[Poisoned Lives in the French West Indies](#)

by Mathilde Augustin for *The Guardian* (Caribbean)

Region: Guadeloupe, Martinique / Caribbean

Issues: socio-economic and racial equality, pollution, food security

Format: text, photography

Journalist Overview

For more than 20 years, a toxic pesticide blanketed the banana fields of Guadeloupe and Martinique, two French territories in the Caribbean. Today, plantation workers and local communities are left to grapple with the lasting scars of exposure to the toxin.

[What Japan's Atom Bomb Survivors Have Taught Us About the Dangers of Nuclear War](#)

By: Scott Michaels for *Retro Report*

Region: Japan / Asia

Issues: socio-economic and racial equality, war & conflict, history

Format: video, text

Journalist Overview

In August 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki—the only use of nuclear weapons in war. The blast and radiation killed an estimated 200,000 people.

Nearly 80 years later, as the world faces renewed nuclear tensions, Retro Report revisits this pivotal moment through the eyes of the survivors of the American attacks who have endured lifelong illness and discrimination; some have lost children to cancer and other diseases, grappling with whether radiation exposure caused these deaths. After years of silence, many have become activists against the use of nuclear weapons, acutely aware that there soon will be no one left with a direct memory of the consequences of a nuclear attack.

[The Impact of Extreme Heat on Delivery Workers](#)

By: Jazmín Acuña, Maximiliano Manzoni, Romina Cáceres, Juliana Quintana, and Josué Congo for *El Surtidor*

Region: Paraguay / Latin America

Issues: socio-economic and racial equality, environment and climate change, labor rights

Format: photographs, text, infographics

Journalist Overview

El Surtidor, an independent news outlet from Paraguay, documented the work experiences of delivery app workers who have to deal with extreme heat, one of the consequences of climate change. The country is the most vulnerable in South America to the climate crisis.

Pharmaceutical practices

[The Insulin Oligopoly and the Diabetes Epidemic in Latin America | Pulitzer Center](#)

By: Fabiola Torres, Jason Martinez, Sergio Silva Numa, Pamela Huerta, Alicia Tovar, Daniela Guazo Manzo, Diego Quiceno Mesa, Daniel Mitma at *Salud Con Lupa*

Region: Peru, Mexico, and Colombia / Latin America

Issues: pharmaceutical practices, disparities in healthcare access, socio-economic and racial equality

Format: text, infographics

Journalist Overview

In 2023, the three pharmaceutical companies dominating the insulin market (Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk, and Sanofi) announced a reduction in its cost in the United States. However, users in Latin American countries will not benefit from this measure and often have to spend an entire minimum wage to obtain a medication that is not always available in public pharmacies and is essential for maintaining their health.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), three out of every four people living with diabetes are in low- and middle-income countries, yet they also have the least access to insulin. Insulin remains largely inaccessible due to various pharmaceutical tactics aimed at extending their patents, discouraging the development of generic drugs.

[India's Crisis of Substandard Drugs, at Home and Abroad](#)

By: Vidya Krishnan and Arshu John for *Himal Southasian*

Region: India, Bangladesh, Nepal / Asia, Gambia / Africa

Issues: pharmaceutical practices, disparities in healthcare access, socio-economic and racial equality

Format: text

Journalist Overview

The Indian pharmaceutical industry, worth around \$50 billion, is underpinned by lax regulations, domestic pharmaceutical companies that exploit these systems, and a political environment that allows unsafe drugs into both domestic and export markets. In particular, Indian manufacturers have been following (and getting away with) different quality safety standards for different markets, with the poorest countries often treated the worst.

In a series of reports for *Himal Southasian*, Vidya Krishnan and Arshu John will scrutinize pharmaceutical regulation in India, the processes through which manufacturers obtain licenses and export drugs, and the risks it imposes on developing nations. The investigation will examine the vulnerability of South Asian markets to the Indian pharmaceutical industry—with a focus on Bangladesh and Nepal—and study parallels with the case in The Gambia.

[From Pharma to Foliage: How Nigeria's Drug Crisis and Deforestation Are Endangering Lives](#)

By: Abdulwaheed Sofiullahi for *Hum Angle*

Region: Nigeria / Africa

Issues: pharmaceutical practices, environment & climate change

Format: video, text, photographs, infographics

Journalist Overview

This investigative reporting project explores the growing challenges in Nigeria's health care system due to rising drug prices and deforestation. With GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) exiting the Nigerian market and inflation driving up the cost of pharmaceuticals, many Nigerians are turning to traditional medicine as an alternative. However, this shift is complicated by the scarcity of medicinal plants, a direct result of ongoing deforestation.

Health and Research Innovation

[Decolonizing Research in Africa | Pulitzer Center](#)

By: Jon Cohen and Abdullah Tsani for *Science*

Region: Nigeria / Africa

Issues: health and research innovation, vaccine equity, disparities in healthcare access

Format: podcast, text, photograph

Journalist Overview

Launched in 2014, ACEGID has become a leading gene sequencing center in Africa and has helped track dangerous viruses in Nigeria and neighboring countries. It also is now a major force in building a stronger community of African researchers.

This project also investigates the origin of the mpox outbreak that spread worldwide in 2022, mainly through men who have sex with men (MSM). In 2017, Nigerian researchers discovered the first compelling evidence that the monkeypox virus transmitted through sex, but that outbreak supposedly was contained and received little international attention. MSM is highly stigmatized in Nigeria.

Was the virus cryptically spreading in Nigeria's MSM community from 2018 to 2022? And why wasn't a vaccine made available?

[Meet the Bangladeshi Scientist Who's Helping the World Fight Cholera](#)

By: Martin Enserink for *Science*

Region: Bangladesh / Asia

Issues: health and research innovation, vaccine equity, socio-economic and racial equality, pharmaceutical practices, community-driven solutions, and water & sanitation

Format: text, video

Journalist Overview

Cholera has made a comeback the past few years, driven in part by human conflict and climate change. Dozens of countries have seen outbreaks. Cheap oral cholera vaccines exist, but they are in short supply because there is no money in vaccines for diseases of the poor. If not properly treated, cholera can kill within a day. Qadri has played an important role in the introduction of the current generation of cheap oral vaccines and has been a powerful advocate for their widespread use.

[Lassa Fever Is Surging in West Africa. Researchers Want To Know Why | Pulitzer Center](#)

By: Leslie Roberts for *Science*

Region: Nigeria, Sierra Leone / Africa

Issues: health and research innovation, outbreaks and epidemics

Format: text, photograph

Journalist Overview

Long neglected as an obscure West African disease, Lassa fever has vaulted up on the international agenda, landing a spot on the World Health Organization's list of the world's most dangerous pathogens for which no vaccine or drugs exist. The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations has made Lassa fever one of its top priorities and is trying to develop the first-ever vaccine. No specific treatment exists.

Science Magazine will document the urgent efforts underway in Nigeria and Sierra Leone to understand what is driving the Lassa fever epidemics and how to treat the disease and stop its spread.

Community-Driven Solutions

[Women and War in Eastern Congo](#)

By: Sophie Neiman for *Al Jazeera*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *World Politics Review* and *New Internationalist*

Region: Congo / Africa

Issues: community-driven solutions, war & conflict, gender equality, migration

Format: video, text, photography

Journalist Overview

Women have borne the brunt of escalating violence. Over the past two years, more than 1.7 million civilians have been uprooted by brutal fighting, with the majority now sheltered in squalid and unprotected displacement camps.

Yet, even in this relentless cycle of conflict and militarization, women are far from passive victims. Some have taken up arms and charged toward the front lines themselves, claiming to defend their communities. Others have given birth not far from the same battlefields. Many are counselling victims of sexual violence, while advocating tirelessly for peace.