

Wyandanch Community Advisory Board (CAB)

A Children's Environmental Health Collaboration,
Sponsored by NYSCHECK.org

2024 Project Goals:

- (1) Food Security: Ensuring safe and nutritious foods for all children. Expand access to locally grown food.
- (2) Education and Curriculum Development: We work with our community partners to strengthen local and regional children's environmental health using innovative educational experiences.
- (3) Networking: Our meetings allow organizations to share and connect.

Supporting Organizations:

BFREE Coalition; Cornell Cooperative; Concerned Citizens of Wyandanch; Creating Healthy Schools and Communities; Dots for Tots; Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition; Island Harvest; Legal Aid Society, Suffolk County; New York Edge; New York State Children's Environmental Health Centers (NYSCHECK); Northwell Health; Starflower Experiences; Stony Brook University; Wyandanch Community Resource Center (Town of Babylon); Wyandanch Public Library; and many others!

Avenues for Participation:

- Read our online Newsletter.
- Invite youth to intern with us (16-29 years old).
- Join our Thursday CAB Zoom calls.
- Share updates with us.
- Join our mailing lists.
- Learn more at NYSCHECK.org/Wyandanch.
- Contact: Dr. Scott Carlin, for more information (Scott.Carlin@liu.edu).

Who should join?

We welcome broad community input and engagement from teachers, public health providers, parents, civic leaders, and our youth.

About NYSCHECK

The mission of NYSCHECK is to prevent, diagnose, and treat environmentally related conditions for families across New York State. As the country's first state-based model for pediatric environmental health services in the country, New York now has dedicated pediatric champions across the state working together to protect and promote children's health and the environment. The CAB is a project of NYSCHECK's Long Island Chapter.



The "environment" is everything around us.

Environments determine the health of people and populations.

We can create healthy communities by creating healthy environments.

Wyandanch Community Advisory Board

A project of the Long Island Chapter,
New York State Children's Environmental Health Centers
<http://nyscheck.org/Wyandanch/>

Internship: Community Health & Food Security Rolling Admission Process

The Wyandanch Community Advisory Board works with local education, civic, and health organizations to advance children's environmental health in Wyandanch, NY. Strengthening the capacity of local organizations and local partnerships is critical to improving community and youth wellness. Interns must commit to 3 to 6 hours per week, unpaid, for a minimum of four months; most of our interns have made longer commitments. Schedules are flexible. Training will be provided. The CAB is a project of the NYS Children's Environmental Health Centers, NYSCHECK.org.

Outreach: Interns cultivate and strengthen relationships with local schools; the public library; civic, environmental, and health organizations; the Senior Center and their garden; local churches and food pantries, and local commercial establishments (supermarkets, restaurants, caterers, etc.).

Research: Research strengthens the ability of Wyandanch to address deficits in food security and children's environmental health. Research contributes to CAB newsletters, reports, and meetings.

Youth Education and Leadership Development: Interns coordinate and plan community events that provide youth education and leadership development training with an emphasis on improving environmental health literacies for local youth.

Strategic Planning: The CAB will develop a two-to-three-year strategic plan to guide its goals and actions to strengthen Food Security in Wyandanch.

Minimum Qualifications

- Strong communication and time management skills.
- Ability to communicate with a diverse group of adults and young people.
- Training in health sciences, community health, or environmental health preferred.
- Two letters of reference.
- Ability to communicate in Spanish or Creole desired.

Interns:

- Gain invaluable mentorship and guidance from professionals engaged in the field of environmental health. Mentors open doors to wider life possibilities.
- Make a positive impact on Wyandanch and Long Island.

Submit letters of interest to Dr. Scott Carlin, Scott.Carlin@liu.edu.

Wyandanch CAB: Opportunities for Community Transformation

March 25, 2024

The Wyandanch CAB is first and foremost a network of individuals, organizations, projects, and ideas. Everything we can each do to strengthen the quality and integrity of that network helps to advance our goals to improve children's environmental health. This includes building trust among our partners, strengthening local leadership (capacity building), and emphasizing community self-determination. In a rapidly changing world, the CAB must also be flexible and adapt as necessary. As a general principle, the CAB works within a socio-ecological model of public health. Such models consist of successively larger circles comprised of individuals, families and personal relationships, organizations, communities, policies, and society.

Avenues for growth and progress:

1. [Empower Teens](#) to create new Food Security Resources.
2. Generate an Environmental Health data dashboard for the Wyandanch community.
3. Publish student-written Environmental Health newsletters for the CAB.
4. Mid-October: [Children's Environmental Health Day](#). Let's put Wyandanch on the national map!
5. Use *Breaking Borders* to expand our outreach to regional high schools.
6. Healthy communities are also civic centers for the arts, food, and outdoor experiences. Capitalize on cultural diversity in Wyandanch to expand opportunities for healthy experiences. Example [Hip-hop ecology!](#)
7. Cultivate innovate Environmental Health Dance-althons.
8. Convert broad goals into SMART Goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Bound.
9. Avenues for Community Outreach: Teachers, Churches, local gardens, community organizations, health care providers.
10. Leverage food and health to [generate community wealth](#).
11. Develop local metrics to assess food security. (See for example, https://www.capitalareafoodbank.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Food-Security-Playbook_Localities_FINAL.pdf.)
12. Create an environmental health data dashboard comprised of local data provided by federal, state, and local agencies. Use surveys and other tools to generate additional Wyandanch specific metrics.
13. Develop an evidence-based local children's environmental health literacy campaign with a focus on food literacy.
14. Identify and strengthen existing emergency assistance coalitions.

15. Expand the Wyandanch network of master gardeners.
16. Advance food gardens as a town and county priority.
17. Expand the Wyandanch network of food gardens and edible pathways.
18. Improve sidewalks and other walkability infrastructure.
19. Strengthen local protections for parks and trees.
20. Establish a local Eat Well, Be Active Partnership
21. Work with local planners, architects, and builders to make health a more vibrant priority in the [built environment](#). Recognize that climate change adds additional urgency to this emerging regional need.
22. Host a local Environmental Health film and arts series in 2024-2025.
23. Network with other New York communities that champion healthy lifestyles.
 - a. The City of Newburgh has several community gardens and agriculture programs. (see <https://www.newburghurbanfarmandfood.org/our-programs/>)
 - b. Kingston has a farm to school program. (see peoplesplaceuc.org)
 - c. Use Rochester's foodlinkny.org as a model for Wyandanch/Babylon.
24. Tap into national resources: see "[Making Food Systems Part of your Community Health Needs Assessment](#)."
25. Link into the [New National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health](#):
 - a. Improve Food Access and Security
 - b. Integrate Nutrition & Health
 - c. Support Physical Activity for all
 - d. Empower Consumers: Access Healthy Choices
 - e. Enhance Nutrition and food security research

Wyandanch Food System Vision

REVISED: July 11, 2023

To support the **total wellness** of all children and youth, the Wyandanch CAB seeks to build a comprehensive approach to nourishing young bodies. This starts with the foods we eat, ensuring that each child has access to nutritionally balanced meals each day.

Our vision is a Wyandanch that can:

- Nourish bodies, minds, and hearts.
 - *How would this be measured?*
 - *What metrics are most important for the CAB?*
- Work together in partnership with our diverse organizations and institutions.
- **Improve public awareness through websites, Facebook pages, local posters, education events re: all the different food opportunities in Wyandanch.**
- **Create a local culture that Celebrates Food and Celebrates Community Diversity!**
- Harness the necessary financial resources for these objectives.
- Build an active network of families invested in this vision.
- **Grow foods (Fruits & Vegetables) through local gardens and agricultural programs.**
- **Attract the right teachers and mentors so students are “thrilled” to participate in CAB-related projects through our local partners.**
- Create regional partnerships: farmers, government agencies, etc.
- **Find new ways to strengthen and celebrate all the varied ways that families and local partners work to strengthen food security in Wyandanch.**
- Create school cafeterias that minimize packaged foods and food waste.
- Move local and regional food systems away from plastics, starting with plastic-free school days.
- Prepare students for living successful, empowered lives.
- Provide education on the benefits of feeding human milk.
- Provide support and resources to help families meet their breast/chest feeding goals in their homes, workplaces, and community spaces.
- Begin outreach programs at the earliest years of young lives.
- Ensure each child has a strong scientific understanding of food and ecological health.
- Strengthen evidence-based approaches to mindfulness, connections with nature, compassion, self-reflection, creativity, and non-violent communication.
- Maximize the number of families that have sufficient financial resources for food.
- Expand opportunities for exercise and walking throughout the community.
- Access high quality drinking water, free from chemical contaminants.
- Improve local air quality and protect young lungs.
- Build a more beautiful community with edible gardens and landscapes.

Careers in Environmental Health

Compiled from online sources, March 14, 2024

Edited by Dr. Scott Carlin, NYSCHECK Consultant

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Source0-regiscollege.edu

Benefits of Environmental Health



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental health careers are on the rise. The job outlook is expected to rise in coming years. By choosing a career in environmental health, you will have a rewarding career helping the environment and the public together.

Environmental Health (EH) is a part of public health that deals with all components of the natural and constructed environment that may impact human health. EH investigates how the environment affects human health and illness. EH can be broadly divided into five categories: Physical, chemical, biological, social, and cultural.

- Physical hazards endanger our physical well-being. These include fires, explosive materials, extreme temperatures (hot or cold), noise, radiation, spills on floors, and unsecured machines.
- Chemical hazards can be gases, solids, or liquids, and exposure to them might result in serious health consequences.

- Biological hazards are organisms or organism by-products that are hazardous or potentially detrimental to humans. Pathogenic bacteria, viruses, and parasites are among them, as are toxins (poisons) released by organisms.
- Social hazards include poverty and illiteracy. Alcoholism, obesity, smoking, and drug abuse are all societal risks to our health.
- Culture refers to the information, beliefs, art, law, morals, practices, and habits that people acquire as members of society. Just as there are cultural traditions that are beneficial to health, such as nursing a child, certain practices are harmful and can be classified as cultural hazards. Practices such as the belief that evil spirits are the source of diseases, the practice of storing drinking water uncovered, open defecation, and not washing one's hands before meals and after using the latrine are considered cultural hazards.

Environmental Health Specialist

An environmental health specialist is someone who inspects and monitors environmental conditions and enforces regulations to ensure compliance with health and safety standards. They may work in areas such as food safety, water quality, air pollution, waste management, or occupational health. They may also conduct investigations, collect samples, conduct tests, and write reports. To become an environmental health specialist, you typically need a bachelor's degree in environmental health, public health, or a related field, and some relevant work experience. You may also need to obtain a certification or license, depending on your state and employer.

Environmental Engineer

An environmental engineer is someone who applies engineering principles and techniques to design, develop, and implement solutions for environmental problems. They may work on projects such as water treatment, waste disposal, renewable energy, soil remediation, or climate change mitigation. They may also conduct research, evaluate environmental impacts, and collaborate with other professionals and stakeholders. To become an environmental engineer, you typically need a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering or a related engineering discipline, and some practical experience. You may also need to obtain a professional engineer license, depending on your state and employer.

Environmental Health Scientist

An environmental scientist is someone who studies the natural and human-made factors that affect the environment and human health. They may work on topics such as biodiversity, ecology, toxicology, epidemiology, or environmental policy. They may also collect and analyze data, conduct experiments, and communicate their findings and recommendations. To become an environmental scientist, you typically need a bachelor's degree in environmental science or a related natural or

physical science discipline, and some research experience. You may also need to pursue a master's or doctoral degree, depending on your career goals and employer.

Additional disciplines and subdisciplines include: geography, sustainable development, sustainability scientist, climate scientist, environmental/ecological economics, environmental sociology, environmental politics, environmental history, environmental anthropology, etc.

Environmental Policy Planning and Management

One of the top options for a career in environmental health is that of an environmental policy planner. The demand for environmental planners is growing. It is also expected to continue to grow over the next ten years. Now more than ever, policy planners and experts are needed to develop strategies to manage the environment. They must do this while ensuring that everyone has access to resources. They are responsible for creating guidelines for establishing standards. They are also responsible for preparing documentation that may serve as a basis for passing legislation.

This is a career that requires technical aptitude. Not only that, but it is important to obtain requisite academic and research background. Job opportunities are most often found in the federal system. These departments include the Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Environmental strategists may find employment in the private sector. Examples of these jobs are in think tanks and consultancies.

Those looking to pursue jobs in this field should begin by earning a bachelor's degree in **environmental studies** or a related field. Further certifications or degrees may be necessary, depending on the specific job or career pursuit.

Environmental Health Law

Environmental health lawyers represent governments, individuals, institutions, or class action lawsuits. They guide reforms, compensation, and mitigation of damages in cases where known environmental hazards have affected certain parties. To work as an environmental lawyer, you must earn a law degree, as well as an undergraduate degree.

Public Health Specialists

Public Health specialists analyze and develop plans and programs that can protect the health. They will also need to promote healthy lifestyles in individuals, families and communities. Public health specialists research diseases and illnesses, and track and prevent public health outbreaks. They are also responsible for lessening the disparity between health issues in different people groups. Biologists, microbiologists, geneticists and immunologists are involved in studying the long and short-term effects of environmental factors on humans. Advanced degrees, such as a medical degree, master's or doctorate, is usually required to earn a leadership position as a public health specialist.

Food Safety Inspector

Food safety inspectors are employed at any facility that produces mass amounts of food, such as a meat, egg, or poultry processing plant. They are responsible for making sure that all the food meets safety and labeling requirements. Food safety inspectors are also needed to regularly visit supermarkets and restaurants. There are clear rules and regulations in place for how food should be stored and handled set by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration). There are also state and local laws related to food safety. Food safety inspectors can be employed privately, as well as working for the local, state, or federal government. Food safety inspectors can also be employed as import inspectors. Import inspectors are stationed at ports across the country to ensure the safety of the food that is coming from elsewhere in the world. To become a food safety inspector, you must earn an undergraduate degree in environmental health or a related field. Additionally, you must pass a written exam specific to the field of food safety.

Air Pollution Analyst

Air pollution analysts analyze air quality. They collect, measure, and test samples, and they identify the source of the pollutant. Analysts develop plan to lessen the effect of the pollutant. Much of the work of an air pollution analyst is done within a lab. It is a good idea to earn a bachelor's degree in environmental science, environmental health, or a related field, such as chemistry. Air pollution analysts are often employed by government agencies. This could be on a local, state, or federal level. They can also work for large corporations or organizations, or anyone else who needs to ensure that the air quality is up to standard.

Environmental Health Educator

An environmental educator is someone who teaches and raises awareness about environmental issues and solutions. They may work in settings such as schools, museums, parks, or community organizations. They may also develop and deliver educational programs, materials, and activities that engage and inspire various audiences. To become an environmental educator, you typically need a bachelor's degree in environmental education, environmental studies, or a related field, and some teaching experience. You may also need to obtain a teaching license or certification, depending on your state and employer.

Environmental Health/Justice Advocate

An environmental advocate is someone who promotes and supports environmental causes and policies. They may work for nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups, or social movements. They may also conduct research, campaign, lobby, organize, or mobilize for environmental justice and action. To become an environmental advocate, you typically need a bachelor's degree in

environmental studies, political science, sociology, or a related field, and some advocacy experience. You may also need to develop strong communication, networking, and leadership skills.

Examples of specific, entry-level jobs:

Public Health Engineer

Median Annual Salary: Around \$75,900

Education Required: Bachelor's degree

Job Description: Public health engineers work to reduce population-level health concerns related to environmental or other factors. They research and analyze health risks, educate the community, improve public facilities and advise government leaders on the best course of action. Public health engineers combine their environmental, social and political sciences skills to limit harmful effects on the public.

Environmental Health and Safety Specialist

Average Annual Salary: About \$66,400

Education Required: Bachelor's degree

Job Description: Environmental health and safety specialists assess workplace risk in settings like factories, mines and production plants. They investigate hazards and report their findings to senior specialists or company leadership. Environmental health and safety specialists ensure workers can do their jobs without being harmed by heavy machinery or raw materials. Specialists train workers and develop company policies.

Environmental Health Technician

Median Annual Salary: \$48,380

Education Required: Associate degree

Job Description: Environmental health technicians collect and transport hazardous materials around job sites. They inspect sites, assess risk, develop safety practices and train other employees on rules and regulations. This job requires workers to be careful, detail-oriented and calm under pressure. Environmental health technicians should also be strong leaders and experts in the materials being used.

Environmental Consultant

Average Annual Salary: Around \$61,600

Education Required: Bachelor's degree

Job Description: Environmental consultants work in the private sector and government jobs to assess risks and impacts of industry practices. They identify hazards, create reports and advise company leaders. They might work to protect factory workers from the harmful effects of asbestos or chemicals. They also assess the impact of company practices on environmental health.

Health and Safety Engineer

Median Annual Salary: \$100,660

Education Required: Bachelor's degree

Job Description: Public health engineers create policies and procedures that keep workers safe.

They assess risks related to chemicals, machinery, equipment, buildings and other factors that could harm people or property. They also evaluate and correct any hazards they discover.

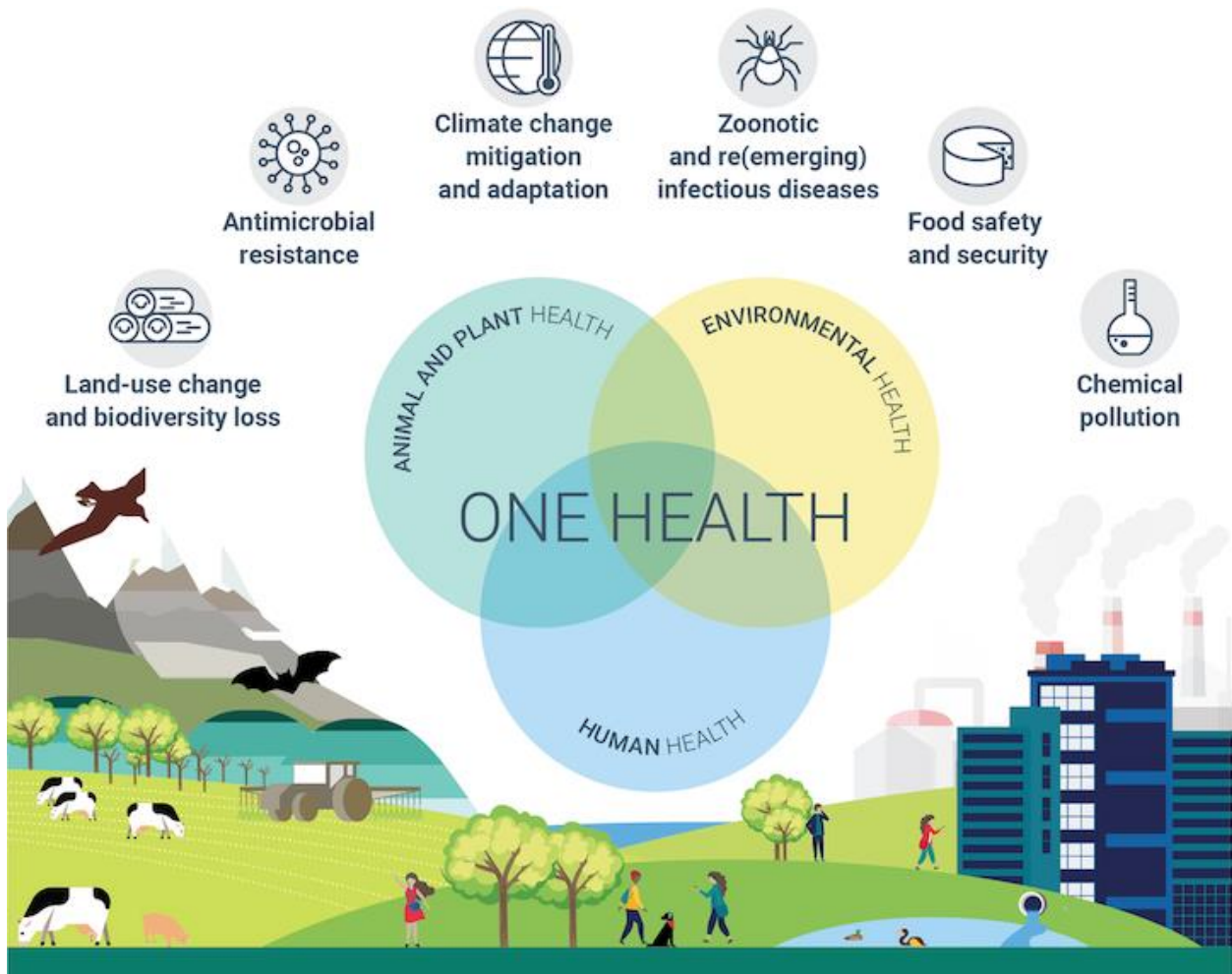
Relevant Professional Associations

1. **American Medical Association** is the nation's largest physician organization and not only play a role in shaping the future of health care, but enjoy exclusive perks and savings to enhance your personal and professional life.
2. **American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists** provides continued education, certification and resources to build trust and accountability in the field. Students enrolled in environmental engineering and science programs can join for free. Membership benefits include monthly webinars and network opportunities with AAEEES members. Members also receive access to the AAEEES job board to find internships, contract jobs and full-time positions. Later in your career, you can become a Board Certified Environmental Scientist or Board Certified Environmental Engineer. Each distinction offers its own specialties, such as air pollution, industrial hygiene, hazardous waste management and environmental toxicology.
3. **The National Registry of Environmental Professionals** offers more than 20 certifications related to environmental work. Many of these certifications serve early-career professionals. Education requirements vary from one year of a bachelor's program to a graduate degree. Depending on your interests, education and work experience, you can find a certification demonstrating a highly specialized skill set.
4. **National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)** is a branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. NCEH provides many online and in-person training resources relating to all aspects of environmental health for students and professionals. The website also lists fellowship and internship opportunities at NCEH.
5. **National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)**. Regular membership is open to environmental health professionals for a \$100 annual fee. Students and early-career professionals can join for \$25 per year. Benefits include an annual conference, webinars and access to NEHA's online community.
6. **NYS Association of County Health Officials**, <https://www.nysacho.org>
7. **NYS Department of Health jobs portal**, <https://www.health.ny.gov/employment/>
8. **NYS Center for Environmental Health**, <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/phone.htm>

References:

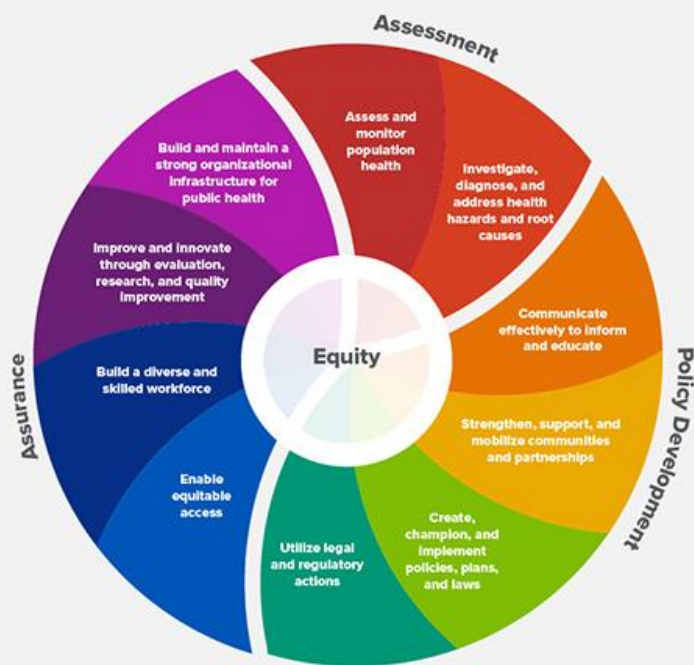
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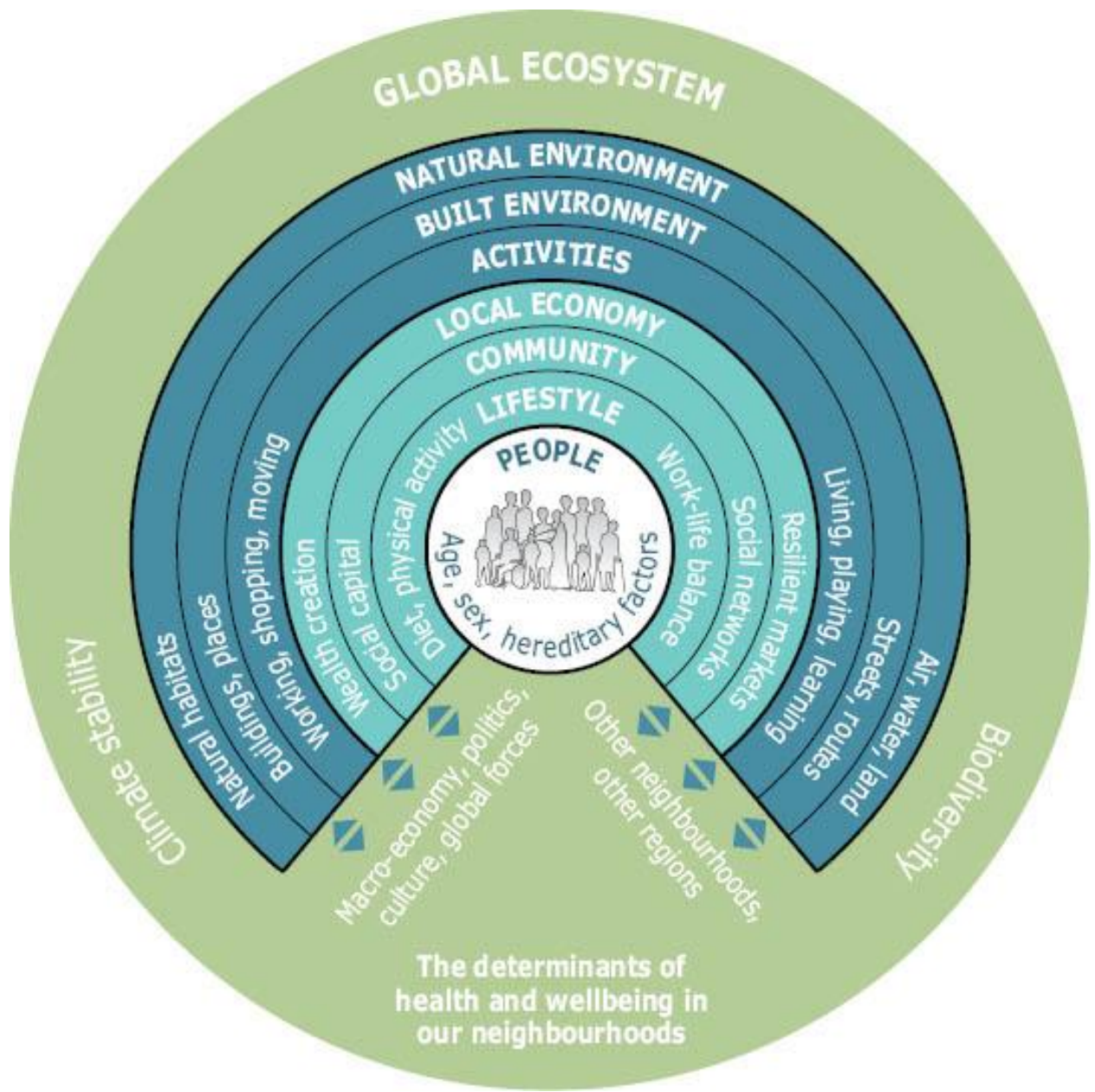
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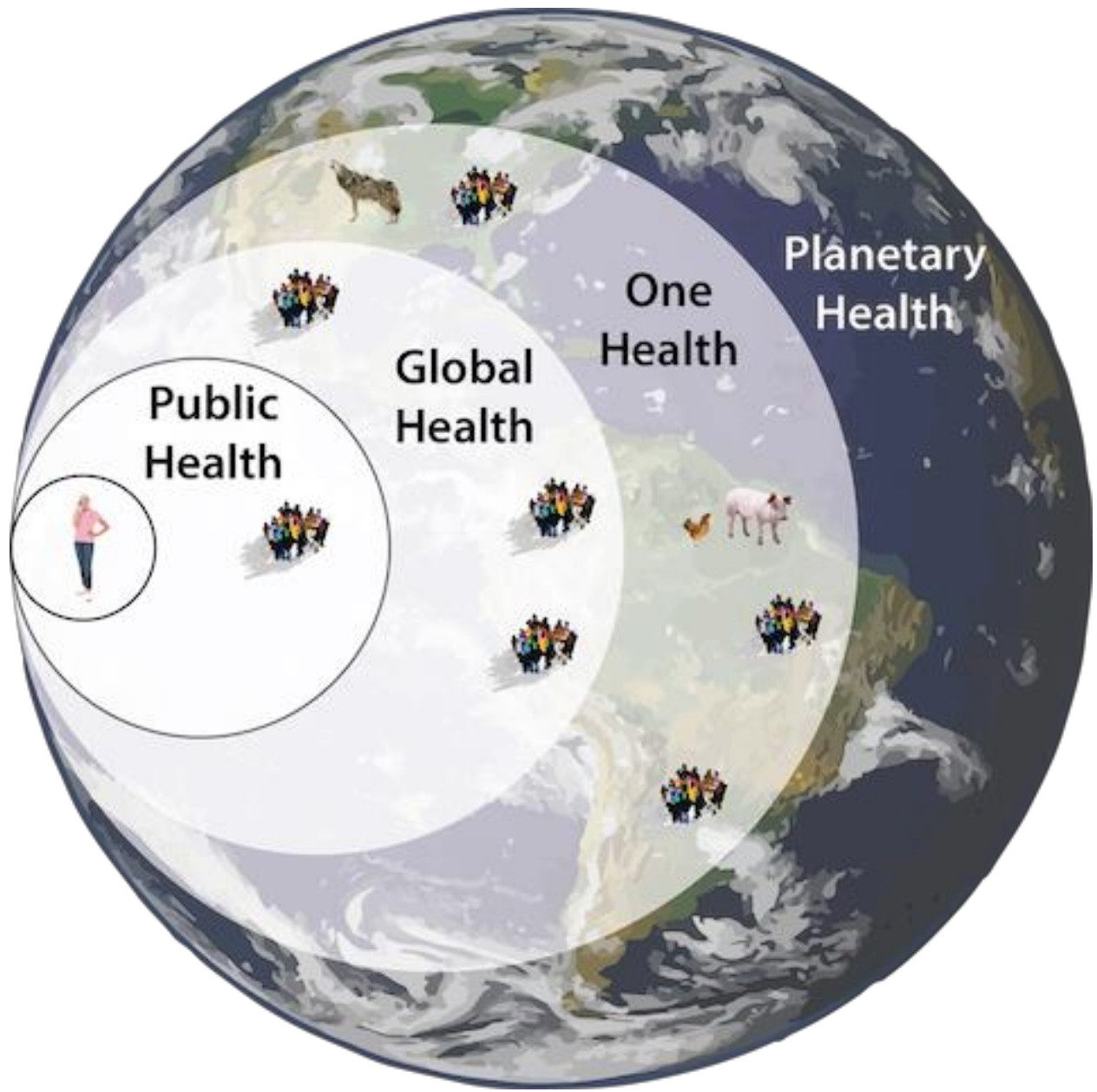


THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

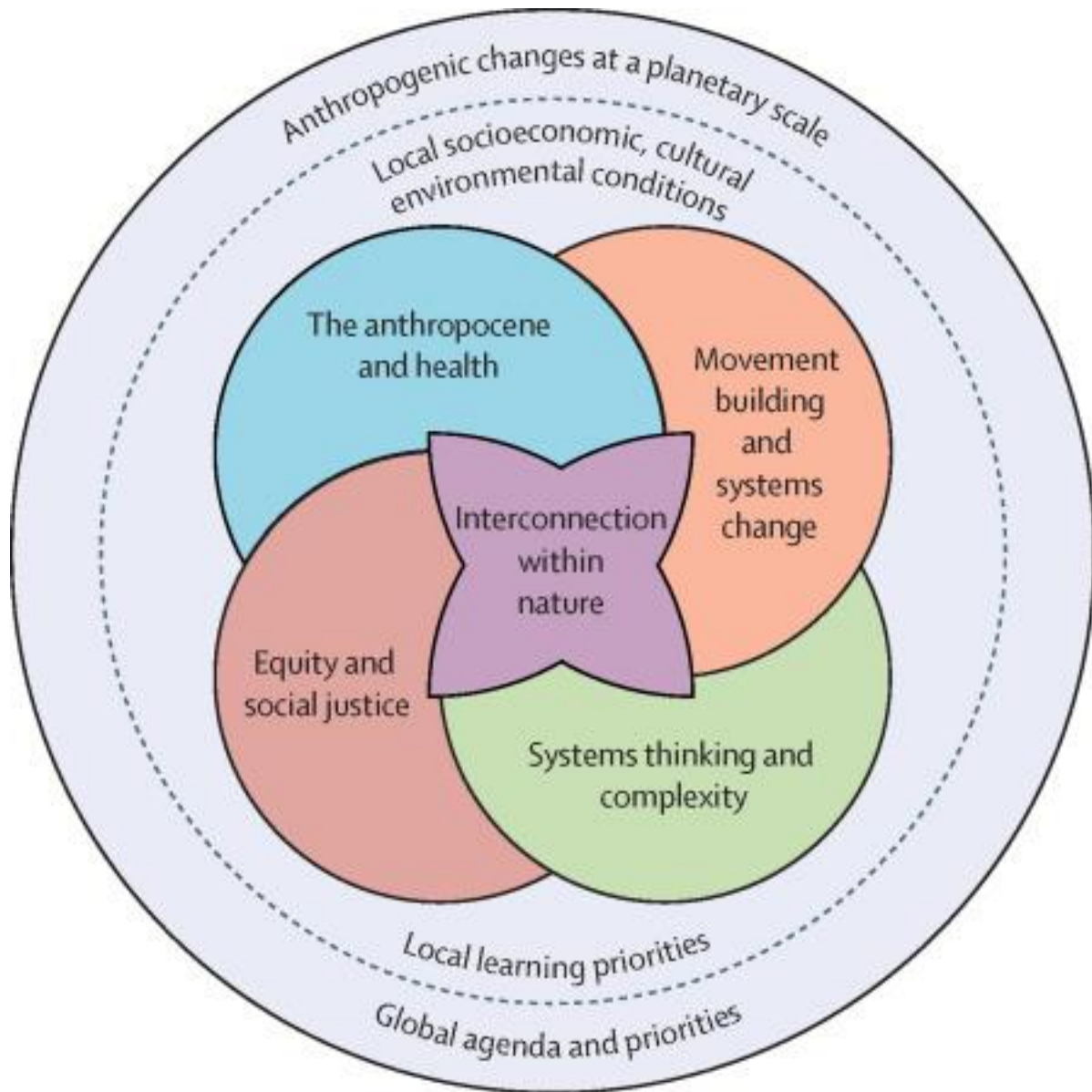
To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities







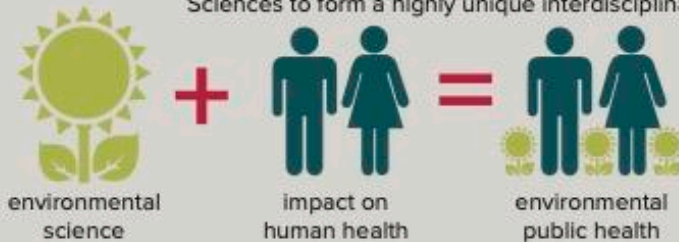
PLANETARY HEALTH



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

As part of the BSPH degree, environmental health science courses from the College of Public Health are strategically blended with courses from the earth sciences in the College of Arts & Sciences to form a highly unique interdisciplinary undergraduate specialization in Environmental Public Health.



ELEMENTS THAT AFFECT OUR HEALTH



food we eat



air we breathe



water we drink



soil we live on



Interactions between human genetics and physical surroundings can give rise to asthma, cancer, and other severe health problems

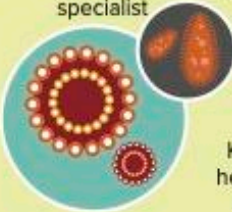
SPECIALIZATION COMPETENCIES

Apply principles of math, chemistry, and biology to science of environmental public health.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Prevent food and waterborne outbreaks as an environmental health specialist



Keep communities healthy as a drinking and groundwater specialist



Use the BSPH as a foundation for medical school or other advanced health/environmental science degree



Clean up toxic sites as a hazardous-waste management specialist



Serve as a program assistant with a health or environmental protection organization