

## **Quick Links: Program Guiding Statements**

**Program Vision:** To advance social justice through public health education that addresses health disparities and promotes health equity among historically marginalized communities.

**Program Mission:** To provide a social justice-centered public health training with a focus on racially and ethnically diverse students to address health disparities and advance health equity in historically marginalized urban communities, including South Los Angeles.

### **Program Goals:**

1. Provide a social justice-centered public health education that focuses on structural competency and social determinants of urban health disparities.
2. Address urban health disparities and advance health equity through research.
3. Support the development of a community-engaged and social justice-centered public health workforce.

**Program Values:** Through its pursuit of exemplary education, service and research, the CDU MPH accredited unit embraces and commits to the following values:

**Social Justice and Health Equity:** we believe that health, wellness, and a good quality of life are a fundamental right for all individuals irrespective of socioeconomic status, gender, sex, or racial/ethnic origin. Our curriculum focuses on and addresses the social, economic, environmental, and cultural contributors to health and disease inequities in underserved communities; it emphasizes public health prevention/intervention programs, issues of access to public health services, and advocacy for health equity policy to eliminate health disparities.

**Respect for Cultural Diversity:** we recognize and respect the differing beliefs, culture, and needs of all individuals and the communities in which they live. We strive to recruit a diverse student body and diverse faculty to enable an informed interactive discussion between students and faculty on the value and effects of various cultural beliefs, and how these may impact the health and wellbeing of culturally diverse communities. Diverse values, belief systems, and cultural influences are embedded in our teaching, research and community service.

**Community Responsibility and Service:** we value enhancing the curriculum through active partnership between the community, students, and faculty in identifying urban public health issues pertinent to the community and its needs. Our students are trained to assess, analyze, and offer solutions to the community's health issues in response to its needs, for the promotion of ethical public health practice in underserved communities.

**Excellence, Professionalism, Leadership, and Integrity:** we strive for the highest standard of performance by continually monitoring, assessing, and evaluating the program's goals, outcomes/objectives, public health competencies, and their assessment tools. Our faculty and students act ethically by commitment to standards such as leadership, personal integrity, collegiality and excellence in teaching, scholarship, community service and practice. Our faculty, staff, and students are compassionate, supportive, and devoted to furthering these standards. Our faculty adheres to the highest standards of honesty, fairness, respect, and professional and scholarly ethics.