



# Global Child Health Unit Strategic Plan 2019-2022

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## Our Vision and Mission

The Global Child Health Unit (GCHU) was established in May 2013 in the Department of Pediatrics, under the leadership of Co-Directors Drs Jean-François Lemay and Nalini Singhal, as well as Department Head, Dr. Jim Kellner. The first GCHU Strategic Plan was implemented in 2015.

The GCHU supports clinical, educational, research activities along with knowledge sharing, and mentoring in global child health.

**Vision:** *A world where children are healthy*

**Mission:** *Working in partnership to promote global child health and care of underserved/vulnerable children and families*

*Vision & Mission statements updated December 2018*

## Our Context

The GCHU is at the Alberta Children's Hospital in the Department of Pediatrics, University of Calgary – an integral part of a multi-cultural city with a diversified population. The GCHU is a global citizen advancing Cumming School of Medicine social accountability. GCHU plans to engage with our community and foster the innovative vision of the University of Calgary *Eyes High* strategy.<sup>1</sup>

The Department of Pediatrics promotes pediatric excellence locally, and globally through the GCHU.

## Our Strategic Directions

The GCHU is committed to building respectful and equitable partnerships, sharing expertise and experiences. The GCHU supports post-graduate training, cross-cultural interactions and on-going professional development for the faculty, exploring multi-department / interdisciplinary opportunities, and acting on population-based solutions. The GCHU seeks to achieve impact and sustainability, enhancing our reach and catalyzing local action. The GCHU will share its work and engage with our key stakeholders and communities.

<sup>1</sup> *Eyes High: 2017-2022 Vision and Strategy*, p.9

# Objectives

For January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021, we have established two goals:

## **1. Build partnerships and capacity for global pediatric education**

### **1.1 Partnerships:**

- 1.1.1 Develop partnerships with global child health units in Western Canada and beyond.
- 1.1.2 Strengthen and grow existing international partnerships.
- 1.1.3 Build relationships with Social pediatrics unit.

### **1.2. Capacity:**

- 1.2.1 Enhance Post-Graduate Medical Education pediatrics Residents' global health experience.
- 1.2.2 Explore a capacity-building program for visiting residents and faculty from our global partners.

## **2. Foster research and knowledge sharing on global child health**

### **2.1 Research:**

- 2.1.1 Explore strategic research funding opportunities.
- 2.1.2 Develop global child research partnerships.

### **2.2 Share Knowledge:**

- 2.2.1 Continue to organize annual global child health conference with the following goals:
  - \* Highlight research
  - \* Engage students and trainees
  - \* Share best practices
  - \* Offer global child health workshops
  - \* Network among members and partners
- 2.2.2 Share information through:
  - \* *The Insider* - The GCHU Newsletter which has target aims to inform about grants, funding opportunities, events, news, publications, interviews, etc.
  - \* Social media, notice board at ACH, etc.

## **Our Strategic Organization**

### ***People—Our Core Strength***

The GCHU has built a leading edge global child health team of health care providers including educators, clinicians, and residents, as well as staff and researchers in the University of Calgary Department of Pediatrics at the Alberta Children's Hospital. As of January 2019, there are 70 members of GCHU supported by 2 Co-Directors and an Administrator/Coordinator. Membership has remained stable over the past three years. We are planning to maintain and augment the current membership.

It is important to mention that the GCHU has support of the Department of Pediatrics for its current configuration.

The membership brings considerable volunteer resources, technical expertise and linkages to the GCHU, with connections currently in Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uganda, and other locations.

Currently, the GCHU works closely with the Associate Dean, Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement office, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. The Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement office provides advice and tools for risk management, templates of Memoranda of Understanding, advice on communications, local engagement, peer reviewers and funding opportunities, along with an invitation to apply to Medical Trainee Funds for our post-graduate trainees as well as facilitating connections to global health research networks.

### ***Platforms—Avenues for Supporting Programs and Activities***

Leveraging our key strengths, the GCHU will continue partnerships in maternal and child health (Uganda with Canadian Paediatric Society, Tanzania, Haiti, Broken Earth NGO), neonatology (Helping Babies Breathe in 86 countries, Essential Care for Every Baby and Essential Care for Small Baby with American Academy of Pediatrics and World Health Organization), KidSIM (Uganda, Haiti), and global health PGME training program. In addition, potential collaboration with University of Alberta and University of British Columbia will be explored.

## ***Partnerships—A Spectrum of Global Health Engagement***

The GCHU will focus its efforts over the next three years, in Uganda - Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital, Rubirizi Health District, and Healthy Child Uganda; and Tanzania – Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences, Bugando, and Mama na Mtoto.

GCHU will continue to consider new partnership initiatives submitted by members or the Cumming School of Medicine, or as requested by other universities or organizations outside of Alberta Health Services.

### ***Funding***

The GCHU continues to receive monetary support from the Department of Pediatrics. It is the intent of the GCHU to seek additional monetary resources such as with a philanthropic case for support to Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation.

### ***Our Anticipated Results***

The GCHU will develop metrics for sub-objectives based on models currently used in the Cumming School of Medicine. This inclusive process will create a shared vision and joint commitment to results targets.

### ***Future Goals***

By the end of 2021, the GCHU aims to become a Canadian leader in global child health and lay the foundation for advancing global pediatric scholarship with our partners.

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