BUT FOR OHIO STATE
If there was any doubt public health is a significant global concern worthy of attention, world news and headlines continue to provide undeniable proof: the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan and the potential for radioactive leaks; the oil spill into the Gulf of Mexico; the H1N1 influenza pandemic. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average lifespan of persons in the United States has lengthened by greater than 30 years since 1900; 25 years of this gain are attributable to advances in public health.

Public health professionals are hard at work to prevent the negative effects of disasters and diseases on the public’s well-being. We are doing so here, at The Ohio State University College of Public Health, through a rich learning environment that enables students and faculty to meet future challenges. Talent abounds among us, and the energy within the college is palpable.

Public health brings together specialists in myriad areas, from epidemiologists who study the root causes of disease, to biostatisticians who analyze data to find previously unnoticed associations, to health educators who teach various audiences about disease prevention strategies, to nutritionists who teach young children about the importance of a balanced diet, to hospital administrators who manage our healthcare system, to health economists who work with policy makers on health care reform. As part of an impressively comprehensive health sciences campus, the College of Public Health is set to make discoveries with local impact and global significance.

But for Ohio State and your support, we would not be able to propel these discoveries and have a far-reaching, lifelong impact on public health—a discipline that has already made history eradicating polio and smallpox. A gift to the But for Ohio State campaign in support of the College of Public Health is a gift of healthier, fuller lives for each and every one of us.

Stan Lemeshow, PhD
Dean and Professor
College of Public Health
THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH, OHIO STATE’S COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH seeks to create and disseminate knowledge with the aim of preventing disease and promoting the health of populations in the United States and around the world.

Unsafe food and water as far away as Asia and global disease threats stemming from other living species ultimately affect the health of the whole world. Ohio State is preparing the next generation of public health practitioners, health care managers, and scholars to become leaders in public health research and education.

As Ohio’s first and only accredited school of public health, the college successfully competes for research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The college’s location at one of the country’s most comprehensive health sciences campuses enables the college to work collaboratively with experts in other disciplines. As a result, opportunities abound for the college to make a difference in the health of the public.
GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY IS AMONG THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE’S TOP POLICY issues. The College of Public Health’s Farm to Table Study Program addresses this issue head on.

Begun in 2009 as a partnership between Armando Hoet, director of Ohio State’s Veterinary Public Health program, and Scott Wells at the University of Minnesota, the program sends a combination of students and public health professionals to host countries to learn from animal food producers who are widely respected and emulated internationally for their attention to food safety, security, animal health and welfare, and regulation and surveillance programs.

Says Hoet, “This program allows us to show the participants all that’s involved for us to produce food somewhere else, bring it back to the U.S., and guarantee the food is wholesome, nutritious, and safe to consume.” Farm to Table has already forged international relationships and led to important changes. An American participant from the Department of Homeland Security, for one, has begun working with Uruguayan food processing plants to implement tighter security measures to protect against bioterrorism.

In 2012, participants visited Costa Rica, home to the largest dairy milk plant in Central America. Hoet means it literally and metaphorically when he says, “We want our alumni to go far. We can do that by giving them life experiences that will help them succeed and do great things in the world.”
What does Ohio State mean to students like Jason Marion?

A CHORUS OF EXCITED CHATTER AND NERVOUS GIGGLES RIPPLES THROUGH THE 30 pre-teens clustered at the water’s edge for a workshop. “I’m not scared, I’m not scared,” one boy declares as the kids crowd around a basin of water collected from the lake, which is squirming with insects and other aquatic life. “Look at those little red things,” exclaims a girl, fascinated. “What are those red things?”

Workshop leader and doctoral student, Jason Marion, knows from experience that nature’s laboratory—the outdoors—is the best way to spark a student’s interest in science. The son of a dam operator in the small village of Batavia, Ohio, Jason spent much of his childhood around water and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers rangers. As a Junior Ranger, he knew water was his passion.

This interest drew Jason to Ohio State’s College of Public Health to pursue his PhD. There, he received a fellowship that allowed him to research his first love: Ohio’s lakes and bodies of water—a love Jason was happy to share in a summer science workshop for urban public school students. “Some people are really responsive to hands-on learning—students who, historically, might not be interested if it was on a paper in front of them.”

As a recipient of scholarships and grants that have allowed Jason to not only attend college but to thrive in a field he loves, he’s happy to help others find their paths, too. “If I can help three or four of those students learn to love science, then that’s pretty good. People helped me out. Why shouldn’t I help these kids?”
What does Ohio State mean to healthy living?

THREE SATURDAYS A YEAR THOUSANDS OF CENTRAL OHIO FAMILIES AND 20 LOCAL farmers converge on the front lawn of the Columbus Public Health building for a highly anticipated event: the Columbus Public Health Farmers’ Market. Columbus mayor Michael B. Coleman (pictured on cover, lower right) leads the ribbon-cutting. The market was established to serve families who receive public assistance from the Women, Infants, and Children program. Located just east of downtown Columbus, in a neighborhood with limited access to grocery stores with fresh food, the market abounds with Ohio-grown produce.

The College of Public Health co-sponsors the market each year by providing material needs like drinking water for shoppers and volunteers, and T-shirts to make those volunteers easy to spot. Most important, the college’s faculty, staff, and students provide 140 hours of volunteer time.

The volunteers get to see a successful public health program in action—an experience they will take with them as they embark on their public health careers. The 20 Ohio farmers who bring their produce to the market are also a vital part of the effort, and are happy to raise awareness for the value of nutritious, locally grown food. Kathy Rhoads of Rhoads Farm Market in Circleville, Ohio, says she loves the Columbus Public Health Farmers’ Market, “because we like to educate, we like to share the nutritional value of what we grow. And when we come to the city from the farm, it highlights the need we see, and we’re able to fill that need. I don’t know, it’s just kind of refreshing. It makes you feel good.”
PUBLIC HEALTH AT OHIO STATE HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF CAMPUS LIFE FOR over a decade. Public health as a discipline is inherently collaborative. As a result, the college embodies Ohio State’s many strengths, marshaled for one cause. Our collaborations extend to all of the health sciences colleges. More than half of our research projects include faculty from other colleges on campus.

Examples of University-wide initiatives that combine education, research, and service reach far across the Ohio State campus. For example:

The Health Sciences Center for Global Health, created in 2007, is co-directed by faculty from the College of Public Health and the College of Medicine and brings together six additional health sciences colleges and schools.

The Public Health Preparedness for Infectious Disease research initiative joins the college’s efforts with those of five other colleges.

The college’s cancer prevention scientists are full members of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center’s programs in cancer control, molecular carcinogenesis, and chemoprevention.

The CDC-funded Prevention Research Center focuses on collaborative, community-based prevention research into significant public health problems, such as childhood obesity, diabetes, and tobacco use.

While these examples show important progress, there is room for growth and improvement. The challenge ahead is to build upon the College of Public Health’s current strengths to achieve its full promise and meet the growing societal health challenges.
PLACE STUDENTS FIRST
$2,000,000
According to the Association of Schools of Public Health, schools will have to graduate three times as many public health specialists during the next nine years in order to meet national healthcare needs in 2020. Population growth and extended life expectancy, especially for individuals 60 and above, will increase the need for greater public health resources.

The college seeks a total of $2,000,000 to support student scholarships. These funds will support a $1,000,000 scholarship endowment named after healthcare finance expert and professor emeritus William O. Cleverley. This scholarship program will enhance the college’s ability to recruit top doctoral and master’s students in the Division of Health Services Management and Policy.

The remaining funds will support current use scholarships for high-achieving students, and endowed scholarships for students in the Program for Experienced Professionals.

ELEVATE FACULTY AND THE ACADEMIC ENTERPRISE
$1,500,000
The College of Public Health’s faculty is smaller than its benchmark schools of public health and most other Ohio State academic units. The college’s faculty size is one of the biggest barriers in responding to opportunities and challenges as they arise.

Private investment in faculty will allow the college to extend competitive offers—recruitment packages that include funding for lab setups—to some of the most dynamic scholars in the public health field. In addition to our institution’s growing stature, comprehensive nature, and exemplary research opportunities, distinguished scholars will be drawn to the college with attractive recruitment packages.

The college seeks $1,500,000 to fund a start-up package for mid-career faculty with interests in global health. The recruited faculty will work with the University’s international gateways to address public health challenges and build a presence around the world—an objective aligned strategically with Ohio State’s plans for internationalization.

CREATE MODERN LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS
$350,000
Over the last five years, the number of faculty and students in the college has nearly doubled, and our research program has nearly tripled. Clearly, the college is an emerging leader within the field of public health. In response to our recent growth and to allow for future expansion, the college has moved into Cunz Hall, a modern facility that enhances student learning, innovative research, and interdisciplinary collaboration among students, faculty, and staff.

Cunz Hall’s physical location at the intersection of medicine, the arts, and sciences illustrates the potential that exists for even greater collaboration. In order to maximize Cunz Hall’s potential, the college seeks $350,000 to enhance the space and publicly recognize donors.
“BUT FOR OHIO STATE, I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HELP HONDURAN CHILDREN WITH HIV. OHIO STATE’S DEDICATION TO INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES HELPED ME TO FIND MY CALLING.”
—Kristen Mallory, Class of ’12 (pictured on cover)

**EMBOLDEN THE RESEARCH AGENDA**

$4,500,000

The College of Public Health faculty are recognized for expertise in a wide range of areas such as smoking cessation, promotion of healthy lifestyles for children, and cancer prevention. Their research has the potential to benefit citizens’ health locally, nationally, and around the world. From studies of the powerful antioxidants in berries and their use to treat and prevent recurrence of oral cancer, to work in places such as South Africa and China, the college’s reach is vast, and the results of its research life-changing.

The college seeks $4,500,000 to fund specific research projects that will provide students with opportunities for hands-on involvement with faculty research and will facilitate discovery. Private support will allow our faculty to delve deeper into critical topics such as global health, water safety, childhood obesity, cancer prevention, tobacco cessation, and access to quality care for all. Concurrently, we will continue to increase our collaborations with external foundations, agencies, and businesses to increase external research dollars.

**DRIVE HIGH-IMPACT INNOVATION**

$1,000,000

The College of Public Health seeks $1,000,000 to support the Dean’s Innovation Fund and the college’s Annual Fund. An innovation fund is designed to provide flexible and immediate resources that can be allocated at the discretion of the dean to encourage new initiatives, such as innovative teaching, research, and service programs. An investment towards the innovation fund allows the dean flexibility with research and service programs that require private support to provide the margin of excellence not possible through use of state funds alone.

Annual fund support will provide flexible dollars for 40 student practicum travel grants in the amount of $5,000 for projects such as setting up prenatal care clinics and vaccination centers, conducting water quality studies, or providing hands-on aid to regions affected by public health crises. In addition, funds will be used to support 10 student innovation research grants in the amount of $20,000.

**CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES**

- **Place Students First** .................................................. $2,000,000
- **Elevate Faculty and the Academic Enterprise** .... $1,500,000
- **Create Modern Learning Environments** .......... $350,000
- **Embolden the Research Agenda** ....................... $4,500,000
- **Drive High-Impact Innovation** .............................. $1,000,000

**Total** ........................................................................ $9,350,000
RESOLVING PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES IS AN INCREASINGLY CRITICAL PRIORITY SHARED around the world, and one the college is committed to tackling. From environmental catastrophes and natural disasters, to bioterrorism and emerging diseases, to health care costs and quality assurance, public health is at the center of the solution.

While Ohio State’s College of Public Health is not the country’s largest, it is quickly gaining strength by taking advantage of the interdisciplinary collaborations that crisscross our campus and are only possible at Ohio State. We are, for example, one of only three institutions in the U.S. to have public health and veterinary medicine colleges within one campus, a clear advantage when studying the spread of disease from animals to humans.

The College of Public Health is at the forefront of public health education, research, and service; and growing faster than its resources. Philanthropic support will enable the college to grow swiftly and without bounds.
WILL WE FIND CURES FOR THE WORLD’S DEVASTATING DISEASES?  |  IS THERE A WAY TO MAKE OUR FOOD SUPPLY ABUNDANT AND SAFE?  |  CAN WE PRODUCE THE NEXT GENERATION OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY?

The extraordinary people at The Ohio State University believe the answers to these and other monumental questions will ultimately be “yes.” But for Ohio State’s immense breadth and depth of academic programs, outstanding students, world-class scholars, and extensive research capabilities, some of today’s most brilliant interdisciplinary teams would not be closer than ever to finding meaningful solutions for people in Ohio and far, far beyond.

Instead, because of the talent, intellect, and ambition at Ohio State, one of the most comprehensive universities in the nation, significant progress is possible on nearly every front. Founded because Abraham Lincoln believed education could lead the nation out of its darkest days, Ohio State now provides a powerful platform, unparalleled in scope and opportunity, from which leaders emerge and change the world.

The But for Ohio State campaign is a $2.5 billion fundraising endeavor that invites those who believe in Ohio State to invest in our students, our faculty, and our potential. By supporting Ohio’s land-grant institution, alumni, friends, parents, and partners can help us secure educational opportunities for future generations of students and meet the enormous challenges we face as a society. Together, we will sustain an enduring tradition of scholarship, service, and pride.

But for Ohio State … How would you answer? What does Ohio State mean to you?
What does it mean to you?

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