



*"The Center for Health Equity Transformation (CHET), Lexington Kentucky, is located on the original homeland of diverse Native peoples who arrived over 10,000 years ago. The most recent among them were the Shawnee. Today, Kentucky is still home to over 25,000 Native people representing scores of tribal groups. CHET recognizes the injustices Native peoples have endured. Through this statement, we hope to begin the long process of healing."*

Visit our  
Website

## CHET's Weekly Communication Digest

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### CHET Awards Two Pilot Grants

Congratulations to Courtney T. Luecking, PhD, MPH, RDN Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Health and Nutrition in the Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, and Shuoli Zhao, PhD, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics in the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment who received 2021 CHET Pilot Awards.

Dr. Luecking's project, "Evaluating the impact and equity of translating new state-level policies into obesity prevention practices in child care centers in Kentucky." involves collecting baseline data for a rigorous, prospective evaluation of the equity of implementation and impact of state-level obesity prevention policies for children.



Dr. Zhao's project was funded through a partnership between CHET and the United in True Racial Equity (UNITE) Research Priority Area at the University of Kentucky Through his project, "Are There Racial Disparities in Monthly Glucose Cycle? The Role of SNAP Participation, Payment Timing, and Food-Related Hardship on Diabetes Control." Dr. Zhao will combine both the public-use and restricted National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data to estimate the

relationship between the participation of SNAP/the number of days since SNAP benefit receipt, diet, and diabetes.

Congratulations Dr. Luecking and Dr. Zhao!

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### CHET GRA Selected for Mentoring Program

Congratulations to CHET Graduate Research Assistant Carina Zelaya, who was recently selected for The Michigan Center for African American Aging Research (MCUAAAR) and Program for Research on Black Americans (PRBA) Summer Mentoring Workshop on African American Research. This workshop emphasizes training on NIH grant proposals, successful mentoring and collaborative relationships, and the tenure process with primary objectives of research skill enhancement, career mentoring, and professional development.

Congratulations Carina!



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### CHET Awardee Featured in UKNow

Jardin Dogan, who was awarded the inaugural CHET Equity Changemaker Award for Graduate and Professional Students

# CHET Awardee Featured in UKNow

Jardin Dogan, who was awarded the inaugural CHET Equity Changemaker Award for Graduate and Professional Students and Postdoctoral Scholars, was recently highlighted in a UKNow



article about her research. "During her time at UK, Dogan has conducted research on topics including substance use and incarceration, identity, race-based stress and racial trauma, and Black intimacies and sexualities. She was recently honored with the UK Center for Health Equity Transformation’s (CHET) Equity Changemaker Award for her research and its impact on racial health equity.

Under the guidance of College of Education faculty mentors including Candice Hargons, Ph.D., and Danelle Stevens-Watkins, Ph.D., her scholarly work has resulted in more than 12 studies, which have been published in peer-reviewed academic journals." Congratulations Jardin!

## Collaboration Column

“I am a writer and the founder/creator of WhoWeLostKY.org, a platform offering the family and friends of Kentucky Covid-19 victims a safe space to memorialize their loved ones through writing. The website has evolved since its inception and has become a place for mourners to escape the effects of the politicization of the virus on social media. I would like to hear from those also interested in narratives addressing the dilemma of forbidden mourning, and the attendant mental health implications of this grieving crisis, particularly within communities that typically experience greater health disparities.”

If you would like to participate or learn more please contact Martha Greenwald at [Martha@howelost.org](mailto:Martha@howelost.org)

## Biostatistics and Research Design Core

[https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9GlFBA9n9aPOFlb](https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9GlFBA9n9aPOFlb)

## CHET Student and Trainee Listserv

Please encourage your students and trainees to join our listserv here:[bit.ly/joinchet](https://bit.ly/joinchet)