

# Cancer Health Justice Lab: The way forward to mentoring, training, education, and service

## Background

In collaboration with California State University (CSU) East Bay, New Jersey Medical School (NJMS), and Rutgers School of Public Health, the Cancer Health Justice Lab (CHJL) was developed to:

- Raise awareness of health inequity issues affecting medically underserved and hidden populations
- Provide a support network of mentoring, training, and service for underrepresented students and professionals in medicine and public health

## Methods

CHJL recruits 2-4 undergraduate interns per semester from local academic and pipeline programs:

- Northeast Regional Alliance (NERA) HCOP Academy Program
- Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

Interns engage in:

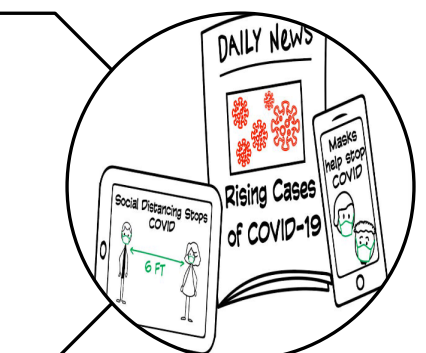
- Didactic training on social determinants of health
- Experiential training on social determinants of health

## Results



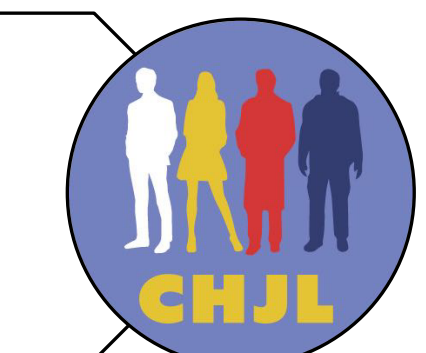
Generated **seven peer-reviewed articles** in the past year

Produced **Cancer 101** videos and a short video on **COVID-19 for Spanish speakers**



Interviewed **22 prospective interns** between the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters

Accepted **3 interns** between the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters



Received **2 grants** from Rutgers and the National Science Foundation

**2 federal grants** pending review



## Conclusion

CHJL's multidisciplinary approach can:

- Increase diversity in the health-related workforce
- Increase the contributions of historically underrepresented groups to science
- Educate the next generation of health-related professionals
- Reduce social isolation and feelings of otherness that may contribute to health inequities