**Our Mission:**
Improve public health, promote individual well-being, and eliminate health inequities across North Carolina and around the world.

**A student's story**
“If you could tell prospective students one thing about the Gillings School, what would you say?”

When asked this question, master’s student Camille McGirt said: "Gillings provides an environment that surrounds students with the resources, instruction, infrastructure and personnel to allow dreams for a healthier world to actually transpire. Our school provides us with exceptional opportunities to think global and act local — and the zeal for creating a culture of health in our communities of choice is palpable."

Born in Durham, NC, Ms. McGirt (BSPH 2013, health policy and management, UNC) is a Hatch-Barnhill scholar in Health Behavior, working on childhood obesity reduction for adolescent girls in North Carolina. She founded and is now co-executive director of Healthy Girls Save the World, a nonprofit that provides NC girls a positive space to foster a healthy diet, physical activity, and healthy mental and physical lifestyle.

Camille exemplifies how the [School’s mission](#) drives action and impact in research, teaching, practice, and service.

**High ranking**
Founded in 1940, UNC Gillings has been a top-ranked school of public health for many years.

- #1 public school of public health in U.S.

**Great programs**
- #1 Nutrition PhD program
- #1 Executive master’s program, Health Policy and Management
- Other top programs

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HB master’s student Camille McGirt (right) Appeared on “The Dr. Oz show” on Nov. 28 to describe her work promoting teen health.
Highly sought-after grads
Almost 75% of Gillings graduates are employed in public health, health care and related positions within six months after graduation; 24% continue their educations; 60% who graduate with doctoral degrees stay in North Carolina.

A sampling of places our grads go after graduation

The North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH) is the Gillings School's outreach arm. They improve public health practice, making North Carolina a healthier place. Every year, staff and faculty within NCIPH:

- Train the public health workforce in all 100 NC counties and beyond.
- Offer technical assistance, research and evaluation to NC partners.
- Get research into practice across NC.
- Disseminate practice-based research.
- Link students to research projects, service activities and practica.

- Over $1.1 million: Value of student service in 2016 ($23.07/hour)
We're in all 100 NC counties; discover more with our interactive maps: sph.unc.edu/research/maps

Buncombe and Lenoir Counties
Dr. Alice Ammerman, faculty member in Nutrition and director of the UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, evaluates strategies to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables for low-income families with children.

Guilford County
Drs. Geni Eng and Alexandra Lightfoot, faculty members in Health Behavior, partner with the Greensboro Health Disparities Collaborative and two NC cancer care centers to promote equity in cancer care.

Granville and Nash Counties
Dr. Carmen Samuel Hodge, faculty member in Nutrition, is embedded in Granville Nash Public Health, a rural district health department, where she brings latest strategies in chronic disease prevention, nutrition, and physical activity interventions. She helped bring over $1.7 million in funding to the district.

Reaching across NC
Gillings faculty Drs. Nab Dasgupta, Michele Jonsson Funk, Steve Marshall, Chris Ringwalt (project lead), Meghan Shanahan, all affiliates of the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center, tackle the opioid abuse crisis, from overdose prevention, to pain management, to addiction treatment and more. Innovative solutions developed by this team have been adopted across NC and nationwide.

We anticipate problems and accelerate public health solutions.

Deliver solutions faster
◆ Accelerate implementation of effective public health practices, programs and policies to improve health and well-being.
◆ Save lives of mothers and children by assuring that effective programs reach all corners of the world.
◆ Increase the pace of clinical trials so effective drugs benefit people faster.

Promote healthy lives at every age.
◆ Promote healthy aging.
◆ Create a culture of health in NC, U.S. and globally by promoting good nutrition and food access, preventing and treating obesity, and preventing use of tobacco products.
◆ Prevent violence against women.
◆ Prevent injuries.

Promote health, prevent disease & improve care.
◆ Prevent emerging infectious diseases.
◆ Prevent global non-communicable diseases, such as cancer, heart disease and diabetes.
◆ Develop more effective treatments for diseases, like diabetes and hypertension.
◆ Improve survivorship for cancer and other diseases.
◆ Improve mental health.
◆ Lead in population health and education for population health.
◆ Examine issues regarding access to, cost, and quality of health care: deliver solutions.

Enable a healthy planet and healthy people.
◆ Improve access to clean water and sanitation in NC, US and worldwide.
◆ Protect air and water resources.
◆ Prepare for natural and man-made disasters.
◆ Mitigate climate effects.

Harness big data for health and well-being.
◆ Use big data to uncover causes and consequences of disease. Potential for prevention.
◆ Create innovations in data visualization and analytics for health.
◆ Assure that all Gillings graduates are big data literate.