



# AMY BELFLOWER THOMAS

Public Health Strategist, Leader, and Pracademic

## OBJECTIVE:

To serve the state of North Carolina through public health advancement, specifically in increasing public health organizational capacity and success by bridging academics and practice within a health equity lens.



### ADDRESS

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### MS TEAMS

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### ZOOM

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## CERTIFICATIONS

Certification in Public Health (CPH)  
National Board of Public Health Examiners

Results-Based Accountability Professional  
Clear Impact Academy

DEI in the Workplace, University of South  
Florida Muma College of Business

## EDUCATION

<b>DrPH</b>	UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health <i>Executive Doctoral Program in Health Leadership</i>	Expected August 2022
<b>MHA</b>	UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health <i>Executive Program in Health Policy and Management</i>	2014
<b>MSPH</b>	University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health <i>Epidemiology Concentration</i> <i>Thesis: The United States Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System: The Impact of Report Timeliness</i>	2004
<b>BA</b>	Wake Forest University <i>Major: Anthropology</i> <i>Minors: Biology and Health Policy &amp; Administration</i> <i>Honors Thesis: Is Osteoporosis Just a Disease of White Women? The Effects of Hormone Exposure on BMD in a Multi-ethnic Community</i>	2002

## ACADEMIC PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERIENCE

**North Carolina Institute for Public Health** 2015-present  
**Director of Community Assessment and Strategy**  
Chapel Hill, NC

- Member of 4-person organizational leadership team
- Developed and leads a team of growing and innovative Masters and Doctoral-level staff who work on multiple projects related to public health consultation, including generating and implementing projects from a diverse group of funders
- Leads the NC Local Health Department Accreditation program, which accredits all local health departments in North Carolina
- Serves as NCIPH representative on numerous state and national committees

**University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health** 2003  
**Study Administrator**  
Columbia, SC

- Administered Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System questionnaires at South Carolina high schools

**Wake Forest University School of Medicine** 2000-2002  
**Division of Public Health Sciences**  
Winston-Salem, NC

- Participated in various projects involving Latino/migrant farmworker health on the PACE project, Green Tobacco Sickness, La Familia, and Casa y Campo
- Worked with rural health issues on the Robeson Osteoporosis Study and the ELDERS diabetes study

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

*Healthy Places NC Leadership Program, Center for Creative Leadership, 2015-2016*

*Lean Six Sigma Introduction, UNC HealthCare, 2013*

## AWARDS

NC Public Health Association's *Robert S. Parker Leadership Scholarship*, 2019

## BOARDS & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

*Northeastern NC Partnership for Public Health, Executive Board Member, 2018-present*

*UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Community Advisory Board Member, 2017- present*

*American Public Health Association, Member and Annual Conference Abstract Reviewer, 2002-present*

*North Carolina Public Health Association, Academic and Practice-based Research Section Co-Chair 2021-2024*

*NCIOM Healthy North Carolina 2030 Taskforce, 2019-2020*

*NCIOM Task Force on the Future of Local Public Health, 2021-2022*

## PUBLICATIONS

A full list of publications, presentations, and invited lectures is available upon request

## REFERENCES

Available upon request

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC** Spring 2017  
**Adjunct Assistant Professor, Public Health Leadership Program**

- Team-taught PUBH 805: Service Learning with Vulnerable U.S. Populations, a service-learning course presented in conjunction with the School of Nursing, School of Social Work, and Physical Therapy program
- Taught and advised public health undergraduate and graduate students around a one-week alternative spring break culmination experience in rural, underserved area in Columbia, NC
- Taught a revised PUBH 805 course in Spring of 2021 focused on COVID-19 public health-related recovery and mitigation issues

Recipient of 2017 UNC-CH APPLES Service-Learning Course Development Grant

Member of UNC Gillings Applied Practice Experience (APE) and Integrated Learning Experience (ILE) Subcommittee, 2018-2019

Completion of UNC Equity in Teaching Institute in 2020

## APPLIED PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

**Nash County Health Department, Nashville, NC** 2014-2015  
**Administration and Finance Director, Public Information Officer, and Accreditation Coordinator**

- Served as the immediate liaison between the management team, line staff, and the Health Director, acting on his behalf as directed
- Administered and coordinated all services and programs within the Health Department to include policy development, long and short range planning, on-going evaluation, and maintenance of agency accreditation standards

**Nash County Health Department, Nashville, NC** 2012-2014  
**Health Education Supervisor, Public Information Officer, and Accreditation Coordinator**

- Provided leadership to local and state business and government to plan and institute policy and environmental changes that benefited the community
- During tenure, directly brought in over \$500,000 in new grants and oversaw \$800,000 in grants on an annual basis

**Pitt County Health Department, Greenville, NC** 2006-2012  
**Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and Epidemiologist**

- Performed strategic planning and program development for preparedness activities, including the 2011-2012 H1N1 flu pandemic and Hurricane Irene
- Led county Epi-Team, agency OSHA/Infection Control/Safety Committee and assisted on projects such as accreditation and Community Health Assessment
- Served on numerous Emergency Preparedness committees and workgroups with the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO)

**SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2004-2006**  
**Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology Surveillance & Quality Assurance Epidemiologist**

- Assessed and improved quality of the reportable disease surveillance system
- Assisted and coordinated acute disease outbreak investigations throughout the state of SC, including a significant chlorine exposure event in Graniteville

**SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2002-2004**  
**Graduate Assistant**

- Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology: maintained and monitored multiple influenza surveillance systems
- Epi Surveillance and Program Support Division: worked on BRFSS system

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### ***Journal Publications***

BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Dail, K. Creating a Healthy North Carolina: Developing and Reaching Goals for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *North Carolina Medical Journal*, 82(3):179-183, 2021.

Duncan MA, Drociuk D, BELFLOWER A, Van Sickle D, Gibson JJ, Youngblood C, Daley WR. Follow-up Assessment of Health Consequences After a Chlorine Release from a Train Derailment- Graniteville, SC 2005. *Journal of Medical Toxicology*, 7(1):85-91, 2011.

Van Sickle D, Wenck, MA, BELFLOWER A, Drociuk D, Ferdinands J, Holguin F, Svendsen E, Bretous L, Jankelevich S, Gibson J J, Garbe P, Moolenaar R. Acute Health Effects After Exposure to Chlorine Gas Released Following a Train Derailment. *American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 27:1-7, 2009.

Van Sickle D, Wenck MA, BELFLOWER A, Drociuk D, Ferdinands J. Panel Classification of Self-Reported Exposure Histories: A Useful Exposure Index After a Mass Casualty Event. *Public Health Reports*, 122: 776- 783, 2007.

Wenck MA, Van Sickle D, Drociuk D, BELFLOWER A, Youngblood C, Whisenant D, et al. Rapid Assessment of Exposure to Chlorine Released from a Train Derailment and Resulting Health Impact. *Public Health Reports*, 122: 784-792, 2007.

Quandt SA, Spangler JG, Case LD, Bell RA, BELFLOWER AE. Smokeless Tobacco Use Accelerates Age- Related Loss of Bone Mineral Density among Older Women in a Multi-ethnic Rural Community. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology*, 20(2): 109-125, 2005.

Henry C, BELFLOWER A, Drociuk D, Gibson JJ, Harris R, Horton DK, Rossiter S, Orr M, Safay B, Forrester T, Wright S, Wenck MA. Public Health Consequences from Hazardous Substances Acutely Released During Rail Transit—South Carolina, 2005; Selected States, 1999-2004, *MMWR*. 54(03):64-67. (Also reprinted in *JAMA* 293:1968-1972.)

## **PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES**

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### ***Oral Presentations***

BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Urland D. Crisis Leadership: A Primer. 2020 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, Virtual.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. The North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Program: A Review of a State-based Local Health Department Accreditation System. 2018 National Association of Local Board of Health Conference, Raleigh, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. NC Local Health Department Accreditation Compliance Update. 2018 Health Directors' Legal Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A., Wilfert R. Serving North Carolina Public Health Agencies: NCIPH. 2018 North Carolina Public Health Leaders Conference, Raleigh, NC.

Herrick J, BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Wallace J. Using Data to Effectively Communicate Your Public Health Message. 2018 North Carolina Public Health Leaders Conference, Raleigh, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A., Wallace J. Local Health Department Accreditation: Context and Successes. 2017 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, Asheville, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Planning for a Successful Future of the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Program. 2017 North Carolina State Health Director's Conference, Raleigh, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Beyond the Obvious: How Local Preparedness Programs Can Help Meet Accreditation Activities. 2017 North Carolina Annual Public Health Preparedness Symposium, Winston-Salem, NC.

Harrison L, Samuel-Hodge C, Wilfert R, BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Enhancing Rural Public Health Capacity: A Public Health Institute Emerging Model for an Academic Health Department. 2017 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Atlanta GA.

Wilfert R., BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Harrison L., Samuel Hodge C, Copeland R. Enhancing Rural Public Health Capacity: Academic and Community Partnership. 2017 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, Asheville, NC.

Simon M, Chen D, Wallace J, Mills L, Etheridge M, BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Assessing Community Readiness in the Twin Counties using Door-to-door Surveys to Provide Evidence and Support for Community Coalition Action Planning. 2017 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, Asheville, NC.

Wilfert R, Harrison L, Samuel-Hodge C, Decosimo K., BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Enhancing Rural Public Health Capacity: A Public Health Institute Emerging Model for an Academic Health Department. 2017 NNPHI Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. North Carolina Population Demographics. 2016 Water & Health Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Creating a Sustainable and Successful Local Health Department Accreditation Program. 2016 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, New Bern, NC.

Cannon S, BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Lesneski CD, Morgan K, Jenkins GD. Identifying Areas for Improvement in Billing and Clinical Support: An Organizational Assessment at the Carteret County Health Department. 2016 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, New Bern, NC.

Excellent ML, Schenck A, BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Evaluation of the Reaccreditation of North Carolina Local Health Departments for Improvement. 2016 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, New Bern, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS, A, Toppin S, Winterbauer N, Luo H. 2010 NACCHO Profile Study. 2013 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, Asheville, NC.

Winterbauer N, Tucker A, Lea S, Chappell C, Caldwell J, Brock J, BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Earley B. Community perceptions of implementation and results of the Local Public Health System Assessment in three rural North Carolina counties. 2013 American Public Health Association Meeting and Exposition, Boston, MA.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Roselli R. Disaster Planning for At-Risk Groups: A Toolkit Informed by Local Experience. 2009 World Conference on Disaster Management, Toronto.

BELFLOWER THOMAS, A. A template for creating a county level preparedness network. 2008 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, New Bern, NC.

BELFLOWER AE. We warn others about the effects of absenteeism, but what about us?! The Results of a Pandemic Influenza 60/20/20 Continuity of Operations Exercise at a Local Health Department. 2008 Public Health Preparedness Summit, Atlanta, GA.

BELFLOWER AE, Stoop A. Public Health Workforce Preparedness Training at a Local Health Department. 2008 Public Health Preparedness Summit, Atlanta, GA.

BELFLOWER AE, McDonald K, Rogers N, Dixon D. Demonstration of the Successful Collaboration of a Regional Medical Reserve Corps and Local Health Departments to Prepare Local Communities for Disasters. 2008 Public Health Preparedness Summit, Atlanta, GA.

BELFLOWER AE, Cox S, Bretous L, Drociuk D. Using the Early Aberration Reporting System (EARS) to Analyze Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance and Influenza Rapid Test Reports. 2006 Fifth Annual Syndromic Surveillance Conference, Baltimore, MD.

BELFLOWER AE, Drociuk D, Headrick ML, Wenck MA, Cox S, Schlegel JH, Barker MS, Myer M. Prospective Behavioral Risk-Factor Monitoring at a State Fair Petting Zoo- South Carolina, 2005. 2006 International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases, Atlanta, GA.

BELFLOWER AE, Drociuk D. State Fair Enteric Disease Enhanced Surveillance. 2006 South Carolina Acute Disease Epidemiology Conference, Columbia, SC.

Wenck MA, Van Sickle D, BELFLOWER A, Drociuk D, Youngblood C, Gibson J. Follow-Up Assessment of Health Consequences Following a Train Derailment—South Carolina, 2005. 2006 Council on State and Territorial Epidemiologist Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA.

BELFLOWER AE, Drociuk D, Rudnick V. Chlorine Exposure in Graniteville. 2005 South Carolina Acute Disease Epidemiology Conference, Columbia, SC.

BELFLOWER AE, Gibson JJ. Infectious Disease/Public Health Significance 101. 2005 South Carolina Acute Disease Epidemiology Conference, Columbia, SC.

Wenck MA, Jeffries, J, BELFLOWER A. Responding to Accidental Releases of Chlorine: A Discussion with Georgia and South Carolina Public Health Officials. Triangle Lecture Series, May 18, 2005. Rollins School of Public Health, Atlanta, GA.

Youngblood C, Gibson JJ, Brenner E, BELFLOWER AE, Schlegel J. Changes in Timeliness and Completeness of Reporting During Implementation of South Carolina Health Electronic Surveillance System. 2005 Public Health Information Network Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Wenck MA, Van Sickle D, BELFLOWER A, Drociuk D, Youngblood C, Gibson J. Rapid Epidemiologic Assessment of Chlorine Exposure and Health Consequences Following a Train Derailment—South Carolina, 2005. 2005 EIS Conference, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA.

### ***Poster Presentations***

Morgan K, BELFLOWER THOMAS A, Lesneski CD, Jenkins GD, Cannon S. Using Process Mapping to Identify Areas for Quality Improvement in Clinical Support at a Local Health Department. 2016 North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, New Bern, NC.

BELFLOWER THOMAS ., Hunt R, Taylor L, Hill W, Jefferys D, Lee N. Restaurant-related Norovirus Outbreak- Nash County, NC 2012. 2012 NC Communicable Disease Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.

BELFLOWER AE, Schlegel JH, Youngblood C, Drociuk D. When is EVENTDATE not an “Event Date”: Assessing the impact of reported date on quality assurance, outbreak/cluster detection and response, and timeliness of disease reporting. 2006 Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Conference, Atlanta, GA.

BELFLOWER AE, Fabian GT, Foppa I, Addy CL. Would it be Able to Detect Pandemic Influenza? The U.S. Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System: Impact of Report Timeliness. 2006 International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases, Atlanta, GA.

Boeker S, Drociuk D, BELFLOWER AE, Steed C. A Novel Approach to Using Chief Complaint-Driven Syndromic Surveillance: Use of CDC's EARS-X by Hospital Infection Control Practitioners. 2006 Fifth Annual Syndromic Surveillance Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Wenck MA, BELFLOWER AE, Headrick ML, Drociuk D, Meredith J, Turner MM, Cox SW. Surveillance for Visitor Behavioral Risk Factors and Enteric Pathogen Shedding by Animals, South Carolina State Fair Petting Zoo, 2005. 2006 Annual Scientific Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Van Sickle D, Wenck MA, BELFLOWER AE, Drociuk D, Svendsen E, Ferdinands J, Holguin F, Moolenaar R. Acute Health Affects of Chlorine Gas Exposure in the Community. 2006 American Thoracic Society International Conference, San Diego, CA.

Wenck MA, Van Sickle D, BELFLOWER AE, Drociuk D, Youngblood C, Whisenant D, Gibson J. Rapid Epidemiologic Assessment of Chlorine Exposure and Health Consequences after a Train Derailment- South Carolina, 2005. 2006 American Thoracic Society International Conference, San Diego, CA.

### **Webinars**

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Communicating with and Educating At-Risk Populations: Preparedness Seminars for Special Medical Needs Registrants. 2010 Emergency Planning for At-Risk Groups: A Toolkit for Local Health Departments, <http://cphp.sph.unc.edu/at-riskplanning/3communicate/stories-2.htm>.

BELFLOWER THOMAS A. Working with Local Businesses to Implement H1N1 Vaccine Campaign. CDC/ASTHO/NACCHO H1N1 Vaccine Implementation Conference Call, 2010.

### **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

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**Results-Based Accountability Professional**, Clear Impact Academy, December 2021

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace**, University of South Florida Muma College of Business, 2021

**Certification in Public Health (CPH)**, National Board of Public Health Examiners, October 2010-current

**Healthy Places NC Leadership Program**, Center for Creative Leadership  
2015-2016

**Lean Six Sigma Introduction**, University of North Carolina Health Care  
December 2013

## **BOARDS & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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**Northeastern North Carolina Partnership for Public Health**, 2018-present

- Executive Board Member

**UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention**, 2017-present

- Community Advisory Board Member

**American Public Health Association**, 2002-present

- Member
- Annual Conference Abstract Reviewer

**North Carolina Public Health Association**, 2007-present

- Academic/Practice-based Research Section Member (2012-present)
  - Academic Co-Chair, 2021-2024
  - Advocacy and Fall Educational Conference Representative 2020-2021
- Leadership Section Member (2012-present)
  - Advocacy and Fall Educational Conference Representative 2020-2021
- Epidemiology Section Board Member-at-large and Treasurer (2008-2012)

**National Association of City and County Health Officials**, 2008-2012

- NACCHO representative to the ASTHO Performance Evaluation and Improvement Workgroup, 2010-2012
- Public Health Preparedness Sentinel, 2009-2012
- ASPH-CDC Preparedness and Response Core Competencies Workgroup, 2009-2012
- Preparedness Metric Workgroup, 2008-2012
- Advanced Practice Centers Program- RFP Review Panel, 2009

**Twin Counties Partnership for Healthier Communities**, 2014-2018

Nash and Edgecombe Counties, NC

- Founding Leader

## **SERVICE**

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**North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics**

- Alumni Association Board of Directors, 2020-2024
  - Engagement Committee Chair, 2021-present
- Presenter/Facilitator on Public Health Ethics in Disaster Preparedness and Response, 20<sup>th</sup> Annual NCSSM Ethics and Leadership Symposium, Durham NC, 2018.
- Facilitator for Public Health, Career Conversations Across Campus Workshop, Durham NC 2018.



**North Carolina Institute of Medicine**

- Task Force on the Future of Local Public Health, 2021-2022
- Healthy North Carolina 2030 Taskforce, 2019-2020

**University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health**

- APE/ILE Committee, 2019-2020
- All-Hazards Committee, 2016-present