

A New Journal and New Opportunities

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We welcome you to the inaugural issue of the *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee and Global Health*. The 21st century continues to see increasing interest in the health of the world's populations. This interest may be spurred by the impact of societal changes and political influences on health conditions affecting us globally. Addressing health on a global platform requires embracing a holistic approach, creating a robust environment of learning. Key to success is support and involvement of a full array of professions and disciplines. This environment must promote rapid exchange of ideas, approaches, research, education, and outcomes on a platform of interprofessional collaboration.

The mission of the *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee and Global Health* is to promote and disseminate quality research and practice that address the needs of refugees, immigrants, the undocumented, and others relevant to the concept of one world health.

To achieve this mission, we seek to ensure there is an opportunity to publish and access quality, peer-reviewed work without a charge. Researchers and educators must have an ability to share new knowledge without having to pay to publish. Readers must be able to access all of the information without having to pay for that access. The result is an environment that actively seeks new knowledge with an ability to make it rapidly and universally available: global health knowledge freely available to the global community.

The goals of the *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee & Global Health*

To achieve our mission, the *Journal's* goals are to produce information that is: 1) peer-reviewed, 2) open access, 3) free of charge for authors, and 4) published online through traditional articles with additional opportunities to augment sharing and learning through the addition of multimedia capabilities.

Why peer-review?

The *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee & Global Health* publishes information that is peer-reviewed by experts in the field, with the goal of ensuring scientific validity of the information reaching the *Journal* audience. The field is broad and includes disciplines vital to health care including law, education, social

work, language, business, arts, engineering, and psychology, to name but a few.

Why open access?

The *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee & Global Health* publications are open access to facilitate the movement of information into the large global community interested in the field of refugee and global health. Dissemination of scientific information is seriously limited when there is a fee that must be paid in order to access the information.

Why no article-processing charges?

Only a fraction of investigators generating new knowledge in the field of refugee and global health are funded investigators. A significant body of research is performed with unfunded studies. The *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee & Global Health* publications are free of charge to ensure that lack of financial support for an investigator is not an impediment to publish his/her work.

Why multimedia?

The *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee & Global Health* disseminates information in traditional text manuscript format (articles) as well as multimedia format. Dissemination of research and education is greatly enhanced with a combination of text, audio, images, animation, video and interactive content.

In conclusion, there is consensus among the community of investigators in the field of refugee and global health regarding the need to improve our capacity to publish and disseminate our research. The *University of Louisville Journal of Refugee & Global Health* was created to fulfill this need.

This first issue highlights refugee health programs developed and implemented in Kentucky through collaboration between the University of Louisville Global Health Center and local and national partners. There are many such partnerships and activities across North America and the world. We look forward to learning from our colleagues and through shared knowledge, improving the way healthcare is provided, advancing the delivery of care, and improving outcomes worldwide.

We look forward to including your work in future issues.