



WILLOW WALLACE

As a child of a single mom in the military, Willow grew up poor and moved around a lot. At age 16, after her mother returned from Iraq suffering from post-traumatic stress, Willow ventured out on her own, supporting herself with a full-time job at Jamba Juice in Seattle. College, she says, “wasn’t on my radar.”

But after enrolling in Portland State’s biology program and studying infectious diseases, she’s poised to be among the first class of graduates from the new School of Public Health.

“As a kid who came up in poverty, I saw a lot of the burden disease places on families,” Wallace says. “Now I’m learning it’s such a complex topic. So many other factors go into disease and disease prevention.”

DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

TWO UNIVERSITIES, ONE VISION: BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL

Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) and Portland State University (PSU) have joined to establish the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health with a mission to educate the next generation of public health leaders, and a vision of ending health disparities in the United States and around the globe. OHSU is a national leader in patient care and biomedical research. PSU is a national leader in educational access and community engagement. Together, the two universities offer unmatched opportunity for students to learn in the classroom and in real-world settings.

ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

To enrich the health care workforce with people who possess a deep understanding of their community, we need to invest in underserved and historically marginalized students. We are committed to overcoming the barriers to recruiting a diverse student body, many of whom will be the first in their family to attend college. The main barrier is tuition and post-graduation debt.

Health care offers a broad range of meaningful and rewarding career opportunities in one of the fastest-growing sectors of our economy. Professional opportunities abound for public health graduates — living-wage jobs from lactation coaching to bioinformatics, paying upwards of \$40 per hour to more than \$100,000 per year. A public health degree is also a gateway to traditional careers in medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy and other allied health care professions.

However, concerns over tuition can dissuade prospective students from pursuing potentially satisfying and meaningful, rewarding and financially secure jobs in the health sector.

A scholarship can provide a vital entry point and pathway to education and career opportunities.

Quick facts

1,200+
UNDERGRADUATES

250+
GRADUATE STUDENTS

100+
FACULTY

16
DEGREES IN PUBLIC
HEALTH

COSTS OF ATTAINING A PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE:

UNDERGRADUATE*

- Oregon resident: \$24,888
- Non-resident: \$41,763

While affordable in comparison to peer institutions, the residual cost can prevent some of our best future students from attending our program.

GRADUATE*

- Masters of Public Health: \$27,442
- PhD: \$67,946

Many graduate students either have or would like to start families of their own, cost is an insurmountable barrier to higher education.

Nearly 500 of our 1,200 bachelor's level students in the School of Public Health – *41 percent* – are eligible for federal Pell grants, which support students whose total family income is \$50,000 a year or less. That said, most Pell grant money goes to students with a total family income below \$20,000 a year. The maximum Pell grant award in 2015-2016 was \$5,775. Graduate students are not eligible for the Pell grant program.

**(Annual academic cost, including room, board, books and fees)*

THE DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

DAVID BANGSBERG'S COMMITMENT

David Bangsberg, founding dean of the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, meets with students almost everyday. These students typically do not have college-educated parents. They put themselves through college while also holding a full-time job. Some know what it's like to be homeless – and some still are, even while pursuing a degree. He has met students facing these and other challenges with undiminished resolve to improve not only their and their families' lives but also the lives of people facing similar barriers.

Because of this, Dean Bangsberg and his wife, Lynn, have established the Dean's Scholarship Fund with a pledge of \$100,000 to support a promising and diverse student body pursuing a career in health.

THE IMPACT

By June 2017, we hope to raise \$2 million for the Dean's Scholarship Fund. \$1.6 million will provide meaningful scholarships to students in the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health and \$400,000 will support student recruitment, advising, retention and job placement. Your investment will not only change the life of a student and their family, it will provide students from the communities with the greatest health challenges the opportunity to build skills to promote health and well-being where it is needed most.

Scholarships will be awarded to over 40 undergraduate and graduate students for the duration of their degree programs.

- For undergraduate students already receiving Pell grants, a \$5,000 scholarship would nearly double their total financial aid package, making it possible for many of them to focus more fully on their studies without the added demands of a full-time job.
- For master's students, the \$10,000 scholarship will lessen the long-term financial consequences of academic costs that can exceed \$82,000. For Ph.D. students, scholarship amounts will be tailored to each recipient based on his or her individual circumstances and the availability of resources.

Recruitment, advising, retention and job placement will help us recruit the best students and provide these students the support they need to succeed through their college journeys. Beginning with the recruitment of the most talented high school students throughout Oregon and the larger Northwest, we will assist them with the college application process — a process which is often a hurdle for first-generation college students. During their education, additional advising regarding time-management and study-skill counseling will be provided. We will also provide intensive English as a second language instruction as needed and help students choose and find a career pathway that best suits their skills and interests through one-on-one mentorship and post-graduation job placement support. This support places these students on a trajectory for future leadership. In summary, we will work with students throughout their college experience to help them go the distance.



SCHOOL OF
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David Bangsberg
Founding Dean
OHSU-PSU School of Public Health
503-494-8078 | bangsber@ohsu.edu

Sara Case
Director of Development
PSU Foundation
503-725-2678 | cases@psuf.org

Sadie Williams
Managing Director of Development
OHSU Foundation
503-552-0689 | willisad@ohsu.edu