Rafael Chavez

Contact Information

Redding, CA
Email: rchavez@shastacounty.gov
Work Phone: (510) 225-3714

Education

2023 M.P.H Epidemiology, San Diego State University, SDSU

2021 B.S Health Science, Fresno State University, CSUF

2017 High School Diploma, Merced High School, MHS

Research Experience

2022 – 2023 Research Data Analyst, *Project Sanitation Justice/Populations Experiencing Homelessness, PEH/PSJ Lab*
PI: Dr. Megan Welsch-Carroll, Ph.D., PI: Dr. Madison Swayne, Ph.D., PI: Dr. Jerel Calzo
San Diego State University Research Foundation – Health Promotion/Behavioral Sciences
Description

- Research development and implementation regarding data collection tools, field assessments, protocols, literature reviews
- Participant recruitment, data collection, data entry, data analysis, quantitative analysis, qualitative analysis, thematic analysis, management
- Production and presentation of scientific findings among internal/external reports, journal articles, manuscript/journal article assistance/preparation

2022 – 2023 Graduate Student Research Assistant II, *Tobacco Prevention Among Youth, ARCHES Lab*
PI: Dr. Jerel Calzo, Ph.D., PM: Daniel Kellogg, MPH.
San Diego State University Research Foundation – Health Promotion/Behavioral Sciences
Description

- Protocol development, literature reviews, key informant interviews (KIIs), participatory planning groups (PPGs)
- Literature reviews of scientific findings among internal/external reports
- Participant recruitment, advertisement, TRDRP coalition meetings, ecological momentary assessment (EMA) development through memaSense and Expiwell

2022 – 2023 Graduate Student Research Assistant, *Dyad Vaping Study Lab*
PI: Dr. Eyal Oren, Ph.D., RA: Dr. Nicholas Lopez, Ph.D., RA: Giovanni Appolon, MPH
San Diego State University Research Foundation – Health Promotion/Behavioral Sciences
Description

- Examined and analyzed real time effects regarding e-cigarette inhalation, and second-hand vapor exposure among college students
- Participant recruitment, protocol development, data analysis, database, and IRB amendment
- PI/teamwork collaboration, interdisciplinary team meetings
- Presentations, reports, conferences

Professional Experience

2024 - Current Epidemiologist – Shasta County Health and Human Services
Faculty: Daniel Walker, MPH., Ruchi Pancholy, MPH
Description

- Public health chronic disease principles, methods, and practices
- Collecting, analyzing, and interpreting qualitative and quantitative data using Excel, NVIVO, R/R Studio, and STATA
- Tobacco evaluation for Tobacco & Obesity Prevention Unit, California Tobacco Control Program evaluation for Tobacco Retailer Density/Flavored Tobacco, and Smokefree Multi-Unit Housing Campaigns

2023 Instructional Student Assistant (ISA), *Public Health Communications* – San Diego State University School of Public Health
Faculty: Yessica Diaz Roman, PhD., Shelly Paule, MPH
Description

- Public health communications, curriculum development, rubric, CANVAS, grading, public service announcements, exam preparation, health communication
- Test planning, public health education, health communication, grading, organizational skills

2022 Community Health Educator, *Teens Make Health Happen, HealthCorps, INC* RPM: Elizabeth Cooper, MPH
Description

- Collaborated with teen wellness leaders and site partners to deliver TMHH Club across local school sites
- Health inequity research among local school sites through needs assessment, reports, tracking work
- Health promotion and health behavior among local community school sites

2021 Program Coordinator, *Get Up and Get Active! - Health Education Methods*
PC: Rafael **Chavez**, B.S., PC: Kaylee Rodriguez, B.S., PC: Yara Alkhalifah., B.S., PCM: Dr. Gregory Thatcher, PhD.
California State University Fresno – Department of Public Health
Description

- Physical education program development for middle school students during COVID-19 pandemic
- Designed survey for middle school parents, data management, developed model plans, topics, set goals
- Brochure, curriculum, research, teaching techniques, program implementation

2017-2020 Student Administrative Assistant, *Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)*
California State University Fresno – Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Description

- Imported and updated system data, statistics, events, and information
- Filed paperwork, documentations, delivering mail, sorting mail, office cleaning and other miscellaneous tasks
- Customer satisfaction in a program with over 3,000 academic students

Research Interests

- Data analysis/data management
- Data visualization and geographic information systems (GIS)
- Health equity/literacy among marginalized communities
- Infectious disease surveillance epidemiology
- Infection control and prevention
- Maternal, child, and adolescent health
- Tobacco control and prevention

Hard Skills

- Bilingual (English/Spanish)
- Communication
- Leadership
- Multitasking
- People-oriented
- Problem solver
- Responsible
- Teamwork

Soft Skills

- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Qualtrics XM
- R/R Studio (Programming Language)
- SAS (Analytics Software and Solution)
- SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences)
- Python (programming language)

- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Access
- NVIVO (Software)
- ArcGIS (system software)

Presentations

Chavez, R, MPH., Pines, H, PhD., Shaffer, R, PhD., (2023, Apr). Association Between Colonoscopy Exam, and Daily Fruit Consumption and Daily Vegetable Consumption. Poster presentation at the 2023 San Diego Epidemiology Exchange – San Diego, CA

Xayavong, A, BS., **Chavez,** R, MPH., Ernest, D, MPH., Appolon, G, MPH., Lopez, N, PhD., Oren, E, PhD., (2023, Mar). College Student Vaper and Non-Vaper Health Perceptions. Poster presentation at the 2023 Student Research Symposium at San Diego State University (SDSU) – San Diego, CA

Chavez, R, MPH., Xayavong, A, BS., Ernest, D, MPH., Appolon, G, MPH., Lopez, N, PhD., Oren, E, PhD., (2023, Mar). Association Between Secondhand Vaping Exposure and Vaping Status Among College Students. Poster presentation at the 2023 Student Research Symposium at San Diego State University (SDSU) – San Diego, CA

Chavez, R, MPH., O'Donnell, B, BA., Zampa, G., Swayne, M, PhD., Felner, J, PhD., Calzo, J, PhD., Welsh Carroll, M, PhD., (2023, Mar). Exploring the Association Between Public Restroom Discrimination and Demographics Among San Diegans Experiencing Homelessness. Poster presentation at the 2023 Student Research Symposium at San Diego State University (SDSU) – San Diego, CA

Biever, A, BS., **Chavez**, R, BS., Contreras, A, BS., Cooper, E, MPH., Patel, S., Schmelling, K., (2022, May). Bust My Stress & Positive Youth Development. Poster presentation at the annual Mental Health & Wellness Resource Fair at Canyon Hills High School (CHHS) – San Diego, CA

Arambula, A., Chahal, A., Chahal, G., **Chavez**, R., Dhillo, G., Virdi, V., (2019, Dec). Effects of Air Pollution Among Adolescents Residing in the Central Valley. Poster presentation at the annual High Impact Practices (HIP) Student Symposium at California State University Fresno (CSUF) - Fresno, CA

Professional Organizations

- California Scholarship Federation (CSF)
- California Tobacco Control

- National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS)
- Tobacco Evaluator Alliance (TEA)
- Tobacco-Free Coalition of San Diego County (TFC)
- West Coast Chi-Alpha (WCXA)

Certificates/Licenses

- California State Seal of Biliteracy (SSB)
- CITI Program (RCR) – Research Involving Human Subjects
- CITI Program (IPS) – Information Privacy and Security (IPS)
- CITI Program (RCR) – Faculty, Staff, and Students
- CITI Program (RCR) – Research Administration
- CITI Program (HSR) – Biomedical Researchers
- CITI Program (HSR) – Social Behavior