

# cupc highlights

issue 51 | april 2, 2024

## media coverage



According to a recent *Washington Post* article, “[Women are getting off birth control amid misinformation explosion.](#)” Contributing her expertise on this topic, [Amanda Stevenson](#) explains that “*The influencers’ messaging helps drive potential legislation limiting access to hormonal birth control,*” referring to some anti-abortion activists trying to stigmatize birth control with misleading videos on social media that contradict scientific evidence.

NPR/CPR recently broadcasted a discussion on how a Denver business tried to help a group of recent migrants who were sent from the U.S. southern border into Colorado, but their support was met with resistance. Joining the radio conversation, which you can follow in this short audio transcript “[A Denver garden center saw backlash after offering jobs to migrants with work permits.](#)” is our newest CU-Denver affiliate [Chloe East](#). According to Chloe’s research, immigration “*...not only helps the aggregate economy, but also helps create new jobs for U.S.-born workers.*”



[Tania Barham](#) shares her passion on investing in human capital with the *Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine*, suggesting it doesn’t take much to give impoverished people a better start to life, in their news story “[Early childhood health interventions have ‘big, multi-generation impacts.’](#)”

*CU Boulder Today* reached out to SOCY PhD candidate [Daniel Simon](#), along with his advisor [Ryan Masters](#), for their news piece on how “[Suicide rates in the US are on the rise: New study offers surprising reasons why.](#)” From what their research shows, [Daniel](#) contended “*...that the U.S. federal government’s weak regulatory oversight of the pharmaceutical industry and tattered social safety nets have significantly shaped U.S. suicide risk.*”

## panel participation, invited talks, and honors



Discover the transformative power of unity at the National Latino Leadership Convening on Gun Violence, where 100 leaders ignited toward sustainable, community-driven solutions for preventing firearm injuries, deaths, and trauma.

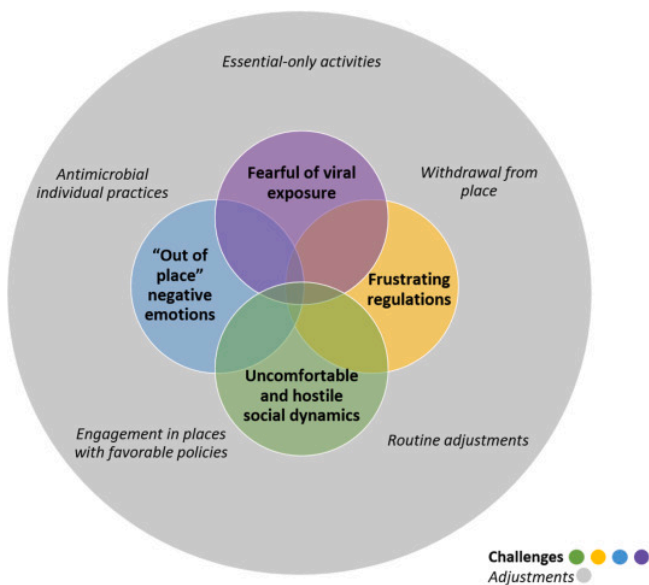
These days, [Laura Vargas](#) has been tackling gun violence prevention head on, specifically among youth who have migrated from Latin America. Last month, she moderated a groundbreaking panel on firearm violence at the *first ever Latino Leadership Convening on Gun Violence*, which gathered ~100 visionary Latino leaders from different organizations nationwide working with Latino communities in various aspects related to this crisis.

[Laura](#) also presented for the American Academy of Pediatrics on firearms and migration. Listen to the recorded discussion [HERE](#).

And as an extra bonus to this crusade, the [Ad Council](#) invited [Laura](#) to be part of their recently launched \$10 million campaign to raise nationwide public awareness aimed at reducing deaths, injuries and impact of gun violence on America’s youth. Joining their advisory board, made up of leaders of academics, activists, public health, and private sectors, [Laura](#) will help guide the messaging of their campaign: [The Ad Council, Coalition of Health Systems and Hospitals Tackle America’s Most Urgent Public Health Crisis: Gun Violence.](#)



## recently published papers



**"I just can't go back': Challenging Places for Older Americans since the COVID-19 Pandemic Onset,"** is the title of a newly published paper by **Jessica Finlay** and her coauthors, in *SSM - Qualitative Research in Health*. Their research focuses on older adults who felt 'out of place' in their home, work, and community spaces during the pandemic, which potentially has long-term consequences on their health and wellbeing. See diagram (left) that maps out the elderly's challenges and adjustments.

The GIS mapping and modeling all-star team **Yoonjung Ahn**, **Johannes Uhl**, **Stefan Leyk** and **Caitlin McShane**, share their paper **"An Integrated Multi-Source Dataset for Measuring Settlement Evolution in the United States from 1810 to 2020,"** published in *Scientific Data*. This study integrates three spatial datasets to create extensive, fine-resolution sequences of settlement layers spanning 200 years in the U.S.! This process

involves complex data processing, merging property-level real estate, parcel, and remote sensing-based building footprint data to create gridded multi-temporal settlement layers. ~ just amazing!



**Sharon DeWitte**, who spends hours alone in museum basements analyzing fragile bones of those who died centuries ago, has a new paper published, titled **"Medieval monastic health: Variation in skeletal signs of inflammation and developmental stress between religious orders in London"** in *American Journal of Human Biology*.

Curious to know why Sharon is drawn to what some may consider creepy work? Then check out this profile on her in the *Coloradan Alumni Magazine*, appropriately titled **"Secrets from the Grave!"**

The **Colorado Fertility Project** has a new paper published in *Demography*: **"U.S. Fertility in Life Course Context: A Research Note on Using Census-Held Linked Administrative Records for Geographic and Sociodemographic Subgroup Estimation."** Led by **Leslie Root**, the paper introduces a new method for measuring fertility using linked Census-held administrative records. In the paper, the team demonstrate the new method by highlighting variation in the transition to parenthood by race/ethnicity at the state level - **a first for U.S. demography!** The approach will enable entirely new types of fertility analyses that situate fertility in the life course context. As an added bonus, **Leslie**, who is the lead author, was a recipient of:

**CUPC's Demography Incentive Program:** Upon acceptance, CUPC will award the lead author **\$1,000** in their research account and also cover page charges! Simply contact [cupc@colorado.edu](mailto:cupc@colorado.edu) upon acceptance. Also, feel free to reach out to CUPC Director [Sara.Yeatman@colorado.edu](mailto:Sara.Yeatman@colorado.edu) or the Core Development Directors [Patrick.Krueger@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Patrick.Krueger@ucdenver.edu) and [Boardman@colorado.edu](mailto:Boardman@colorado.edu), if you'd like input on draft manuscripts.

But that's not all from the **Colorado Fertility Project**, as they celebrate another paper published in the journal *Contraception*, titled **"Changes in Contraceptive Method Mix Following the Colorado Family Planning Initiative,"** led by CU Denver PhD student **Abigail Humphreys**.

Hot off the press comes **Sara Yeatman's** coauthored paper **"The Collision of Global Scripts with Local Constraints: Education as a Risk Factor for Unintended Pregnancy,"** published in *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*.

## newly funded grants



Congratulations to **Colleen Reid** (co-I) and PI Harry Smolker (Postdoc of the Institute of Cognitive Science), who were awarded an **NIH R21** grant for their project “**Long-term Effects of Developmental Air Pollution Exposure on Adult Mental Health: Sensitive Periods, Neural Correlates, and Genetic Risk Factors.**” They will attempt to understand whether exposure to fine particulate air pollution (PM2.5) has long-lasting effects on neuropsychiatric traits in adulthood, which may reveal a correlation between PM2.5 exposure and mental illness.

## recipients of CUPC funding

The Workshop “**Development, Inequality and Community Health in Roman Britain**”, led by **Scott Ortman** and **Sharon DeWitte**, held March 6-8, was a HUGE success! The invited participants, mostly archeologists from the UK, gathered at CU Boulder to compare notes and develop a plan to collaborate on a proposal that will leverage recent syntheses of archaeological and bio-archaeological data from England and Wales, thanks to the explosion of developer-funded archaeology in the UK! As a result, information for thousands of settlements, from rural farmsteads to cities dating back to ca. 100 BCE to 400 CE is now available.

The key workshop players in synthesizing these records are:

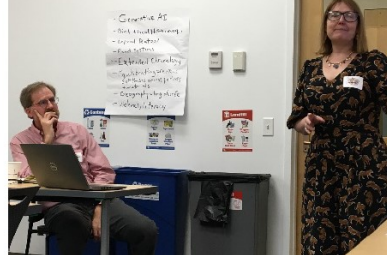
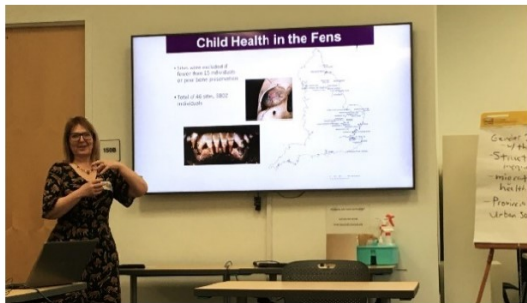
**Rebecca Redfern**, Curator of Human Osteology, Museum of London, Centre for Human Bioarchaeology

**Rob Wiseman**, Archeologist, Univ. of Cambridge, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research

**Robin Fleming**, Professor, Boston College, Department of History

**Rebecca Gowland**, Professor, Department of Archaeology, Durham University

**Helena Hamerow**, Professor, Early Medieval Archaeology, University of Oxford



## CUPC proposal submissions

~ fingers crossed!

Multiple PIs: **Tania Barham** and **Lori Hunter**, Co-I: **Jessica Finlay**

Consultant: **Dylan Connor** (ASU)

Project Title: Climate Change, Migration, and Health among Older Adults

Funding Agency: NIH NIA R21 (resubmission – never give up!)

Amount Requested: \$413,668

## welcome aboard to our new CUPC affiliates!

CUPC is *very excited* to introduce our new affiliates **Kate LeMasters** and **Chloe East**, who both gave enlightening seminar talks this Spring semester at IBS.



**Kate** is an Assistant Professor at the School of Medicine-Internal Medicine, CU Anschutz medical campus. As a social epidemiologist and a community engaged researcher, she focuses on how the system of mass incarceration creates and exacerbates health inequities.



***fun fact:** Kate's love of running ultramarathons is matched only by her fear of moose – stay tuned to see if she survives her first full season of Colorado trail running and cures her MOOSE-APHOBIA once and for all!*



**Chloe** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at CU Denver, with an area of expertise in public, labor, and health economics. She studies U.S. policies, including safety net and social insurance programs, as well as immigration policy. Her work has been cited in numerous policy contexts and by major media outlets. *“One of my favorite parts of my job is communicating my research to policymakers...I have done this through policy briefs, opinion pieces, and media interviews.”*

***fun fact:** Chloe seems to know how to unwind - she currently is teaching herself how to embroider! And when she's not pricking her finger, she loves taking her two “best buddies” (shown in this picture) on road trips to enjoy magnificent mountain hikes, such as Moab, UT.*



### Mon, April 8: Partial Solar Eclipse

*Pick up your free solar eclipse protective glasses at the Boulder Public Library while supplies last!*

Apr 8, 2024 at 12:40 pm



Max View in Boulder, Colorado

Global Event: [Total Solar Eclipse](#)

Local Type: [Partial Solar Eclipse in Boulder, Colorado](#)

Begins: [Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 11:28 am](#)

Maximum: [Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 12:40 pm 0.704 Magnitude](#)

Ends: [Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 1:53 pm](#)

Duration: 2 hours, 25 minutes