

Today, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) provides vital health information resources and services to make health achievable and accessible across the globe.



NLM maintains [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov), the world's largest database of privately and publicly funded clinical research conducted in the United States and around the world. [ClinicalTrials.gov](http://ClinicalTrials.gov) makes critical medical information available to support investigators planning for future research.

[clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov)

# Making a WORLD of DIFFERENCE

## STORIES ABOUT GLOBAL HEALTH



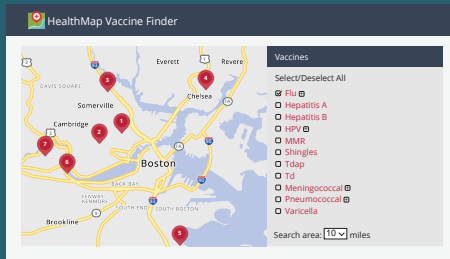
NLM works with thousands of libraries and organizations within the United States through a program known as the **Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)**. NNLM offers funding for a variety of health information projects and provides researchers, health professionals, educators, and the public with equal access to biomedical and health information resources and data.

[nnlm.gov](http://nnlm.gov)

The NLM's **Extramural Programs Division** provides grants for research projects and graduate training in biomedical informatics and data sciences.

In 2010, John S. Brownstein, Ph.D. received an NLM grant to further his research into public health observation and social media within the United States. HealthMap Vaccine Finder, which grew out of Dr. Brownstein's research, helps people locate vaccine providers in their communities.

[www.nlm.nih.gov/ep](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ep)

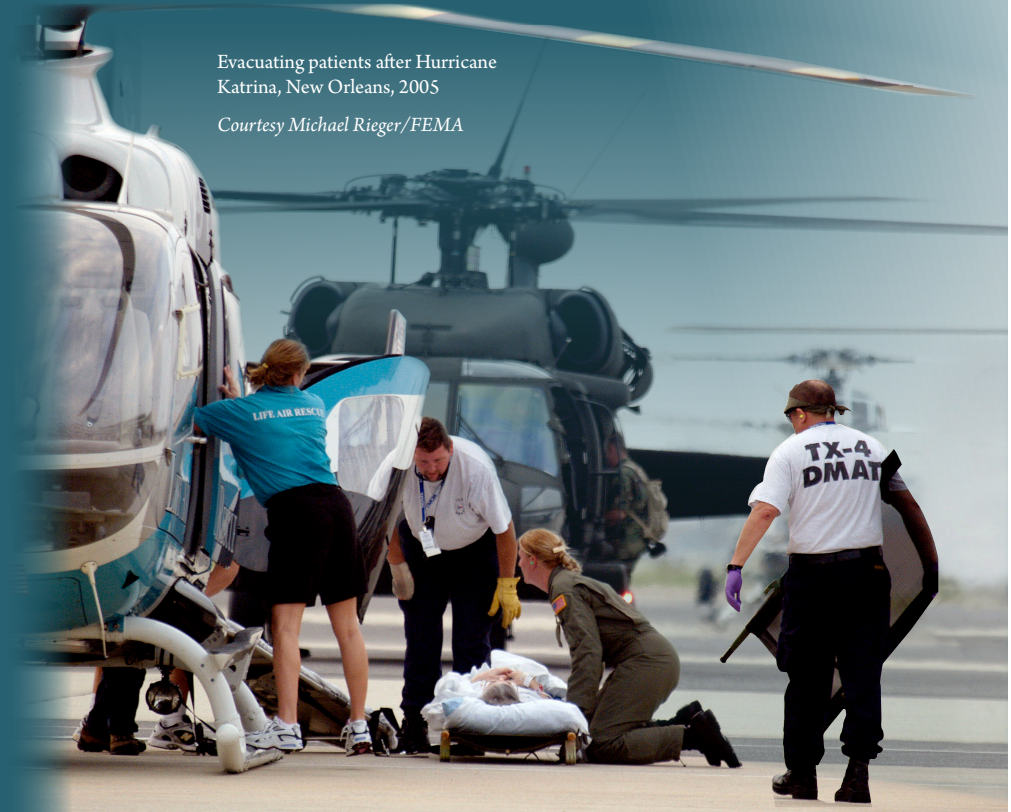


The National Library of Medicine produced this exhibition.  
Guest curator: Ashley E. Bowen, Ph.D.  
Designer: HealyKohler Design

This project is an adaptation of earlier exhibition,  
*Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health.*



National Library of Medicine



Evacuating patients after Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, 2005

*Courtesy Michael Rieger/FEMA*



AROUND THE WORLD, communities, in collaboration with scientists, activists, governments, and international organizations, work to prevent disease and improve quality of life. The stories in this exhibition highlight how people have come together to improve health in their communities and beyond.

Drs. Sydney and Emily Kark founded the Pholela Health Center in Natal, South Africa in 1942. The center took a broad and comprehensive approach to health care that included medical treatment and social action. This approach inspired community-based health projects in the United States and around the world.

Dr. Emily Kark, right, and a Pholela Health Center nurse examine a mother and child.

*Courtesy Jeremy D. Kark, M.D., Ph.D.*



One of the first community health centers in the United States, the Delta Health Center, opened in 1967 in Mound Bayou, Mississippi. The center served people who had been excluded from traditional medical practices because of their income, race, or rural location.

The center sponsored a farm cooperative to ensure that the community had access to fresh, nutritious food.

Cooperative member Melvin Grant, right, and Dr. John W. Hatch, left, inspect a crop of green beans.

*Courtesy Dan Bernstein*



In 1985, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) launched a campaign, "Health as a Bridge for Peace," to eradicate polio from the Americas. At the time, communities faced ongoing conflicts in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. PAHO convened government officials, community members, and combatants to negotiate cease fires, during which children could receive vaccines.

Guerilla soldiers vaccinate a child in El Salvador.

*Courtesy PAHO Archives*



A PAHO team advertises an immunization program with banners and parades in El Salvador.

*Courtesy PAHO Archives*



**...[H]ealth, which is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, is a fundamental human right...**

Excerpt from the Declaration of Alma Ata, 1978