

Gabriella S. Statia, MPH, RD

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CAREER SUMMARY

A highly energetic and passionate detail- and team-oriented registered dietitian and public health professional with comprehensive experience in program evaluation, community-engaged research, and nutrition education. Demonstrated expertise in equity-centered evaluation methodologies, participatory research approaches, and community-led programming with special focus on food access and SNAP-Ed implementation. Excellent communicator with proven experience collaborating with diverse stakeholders and leading cross-functional teams to achieve measurable public health outcomes.

Skills and areas of expertise: STATA, Dedoose, Qualtrics, PEARS • Mixed-methods & participatory evaluation • Design thinking & human-centered solutions • Grant writing & funding acquisition • Community-engaged research & cross-sector partnerships • Program management & technical assistance • Vulnerable populations programming • Communication, collaboration, cultural humility & leadership

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, Gillings School of Global Public Health – Chapel Hill, NC August 2022
Master of Public Health, Concentration: Nutrition/Registered Dietitian

- *Award:* The Dr. Jessie A. Satia Scholarship Fund (2022)
- Registered Dietitian (RD), credential renewal 2028

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences – Ithaca, NY May 2020
Bachelor of Science in Global and Public Health Sciences GPA: 3.687

- *Academic Programs:* Minor in Inequality Studies/Health Equity • Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)
- *Honors:* Cum Laude • Dean's List (multiple semesters)
- *Award:* CALS Academic Excellence Award (2020)

Sidwell Friends School – Washington, DC June 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Evaluation and Planning Coordinator November 2022 – Present
Food, Fitness, and Opportunity Research Collaborative (FFORC)

Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Chapel Hill, NC

- Design, implement, and analyze equity-centered mixed-methods and participatory evaluation plans, including interviews, focus groups, quantitative pre/post surveys, and PhotoVoice methodologies for SNAP-Ed programming evaluation.
- Conduct comprehensive quantitative analyses and generate descriptive statistics for SNAP-Ed-funded programs, completing internal reporting audits and managing project reporting data through PEARS system.
- Lead participatory grant-making initiative by researching, planning, launching, and evaluating iterative cycles of community-driven funding schemes that distribute decision-making power among 8-10 community partners for grants up to \$15,000, and serving as lead author on peer-reviewed manuscript documenting pilot cycle's outcomes, lessons learned, and recommendations for future iterations.
- Secured independent grant funding to co-create and launch pilot program with Duplin County community partner supporting foster care youth transitioning to adulthood, including designing and administering focus groups and pre/post surveys measuring improvements in confidence, life skills, and preparedness outcomes.
- Implement design thinking research projects to create human-centered solutions for SNAP-Ed programming, including developing and facilitating a 4-workshop series with 10 community participants to identify key user needs and insights for household food waste reduction interventions.
- Provide technical assistance, evaluation, and reporting support to community-led food and nutrition projects in Warren and Duplin counties, ensuring alignment with evidence-based practices and community priorities.

Training Developer December 2020 – August 2022
North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH) – Chapel Hill, NC

- Designed and developed comprehensive educational training series for North Carolina public health leaders, focusing on contact tracing, disease mitigation, and K-12 school nursing competencies in response to COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing public health workforce development needs.
- Synthesized multi-source input to create targeted education modules meeting specific learning objectives and timeframe requirements while supporting mandated public health service competencies.
- Successfully published four-part contact tracing presentation series through comprehensive literature review, engaging module design, and collaborative editing, achieving recognition for participant competency improvement in North Carolina health and safety protocols.

Dietetic Internships

Alamance County Health Department – Burlington, NC June – August 2022

- Coordinated community health programming including WIC vendor training (100% participation among 40+ vendors) and breastfeeding support events during National Breastfeeding Month.
- Designed and delivered evidence-based, culturally-tailored nutrition education presentations and educational bulletin board materials, improving nutrition and wellness competency among over 100 English and Spanish-speaking WIC clients and staff members.

Fuel NC – Raleigh, NC

May – June 2022

- Provided individualized sports nutrition and intuitive eating counseling services to outpatient clients, developing comprehensive education tools and handouts integrating evidence-based guidelines.
- Designed, developed, and distributed specialized nutrition education materials highlighting recovery-focused nutrients based on injury type and rehabilitation stage, improving client adherence to injury-specific nutrition protocols and increasing practice visibility among physical therapy clinic clients.

Lake Norman Regional Medical Center – Mooresville, NC

May – August 2021

- Managed comprehensive nutrition care for 8-12 inpatient clients daily, including dietary assessment, care plan development, interdisciplinary team collaboration, and patient advocacy to support recovery and discharge planning.
- Utilized diverse communication strategies and educational materials to provide individualized nutrition counseling, supporting patient recovery during hospitalization and establishing sustainable post-discharge nutrition management strategies.
- Conducted quality improvement project analyzing malnutrition diagnosis accuracy through systematic medical record auditing, developing actionable recommendations to improve diagnostic quality and clinical decision-making processes.

Graduate Teaching Assistant for Public Health Systems and Solutions (SPHG 352) Course

January – May 2022

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health – Chapel Hill, NC

- Facilitated weekly laboratory sessions for 25 undergraduate students, enhancing comprehension of public health concepts through collaborative activities and semester-long evidence-based solution development projects.
- Assessed and provided constructive feedback on team assignments for five student groups, enabling continuous improvement throughout semester-long projects and achieving final project scores of 95+ for all teams.
- Provided essential administrative support for hybrid course delivery to 160 students, maintaining efficiency across in-person and virtual learning modalities while supporting assessment administration.
- Successfully increased student competency in evidence-based public health solution design through extensive feedback and critical evaluation of project feasibility, resulting in measurable improvement from draft to final submissions.

Hunger Lifeline Intern

June 2019 – January 2020

Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB) – Washington, DC

- Spearheaded comprehensive improvement project for CAFB's Hunger Lifeline service, including strategic data quality planning, third-party vendor coordination, and partner service database updates to enhance hotline effectiveness for food-insecure individuals in the Washington, DC metro area.
- Successfully contacted over 250 distribution partners through strategic outreach, resulting in improved partner contact accuracy, enhanced website functionality, and increased staff and client satisfaction with food access services.

Research Intern & Participant in Cornell Global Health Program in Zambia

January 2018 – August 2018

Southern African Institute for Policy and Research (SAIPAR) & ActionAid Zambia (AAZ) – Lusaka, Zambia

- Conducted comprehensive policy research through literature review and stakeholder interviews with experts via multiple communication modalities to collect critical policy data.
- Analyzed ActionAid Zambia organizational procedures related to women and climate change initiatives, providing strategic recommendations for programmatic improvements and identifying effective intervention opportunities.
- Successfully published occasional paper on "Women-led Disaster Management and Emergency Preparedness in Zambia" through rigorous qualitative research methodology, establishing framework for AAZ's future programming focus areas.

Student Intern/Assistant to Dietitian

December 2017 – January 2019

C. Jones Nutrition Consulting Services, LLC, Washington, DC

- Supported lead dietitian in developing seven comprehensive nutrition education workshop presentations and accompanying materials to facilitate engaging and organized community workshops.
- Designed cooking workshop recipe handouts for both instructors and participants, ensuring clear communication of nutritional concepts and practical application.
- Successfully conducted three in-person nutrition education and cooking workshops, achieving satisfactory participant evaluation scores through effective material preparation and hands-on assistance during presentations.

PUBLICATIONS

Statia, G., Sheppard, B., Brown, G. & De Marco, M. Growing Community through Participatory Grantmaking: Perspectives on piloting an equity-driven granting scheme with community gardens in rural North Carolina. *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*. [Accepted for publication].

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

Professional Certification: Registered Dietitian (RD), Commission on Dietetic Registration | **Current Certifications:** ServSafe Manager Certification (expires February 2026) • Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider, CPR and AED (expires June 2026)

Professional Development: IDEO Communicating for Impact Certificate (2025) • IDEO AI X Design Thinking Self-Paced Course (2025) • IDEO Human-Centered Systems Thinking (2024) • IDEO Unlocking Creativity (2024) • IDEO Power of Purpose (2024) • Nourishing Your Knowledge: Intuitive Eating, Health at Every Size, and Weight-Inclusive Care (2020)