

## **North Carolina Wesleyan University**

### **Public Health Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals**

#### **Vision**

We strive to make a transformative, sustainable impact on the health and well-being of the communities we serve, through innovative teaching, research, and community engagement.

#### **Mission**

The mission of NCWU Public Health programs is to engage students in academic and practice-based experiences aimed at improving the health of the communities we serve. Students who complete the Public health Studies program at NCWU are academically prepared to pursue advanced training and certifications in the field, including the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) certification by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC), the Physical Activity and Public Health Specialist (PAPHS) Certificate from the American College of Sports Medicine, and others.

#### **Program Goals**

The NCWU Public Health program mission is achieved through the following program goals:

- Develop and implement a curriculum that emphasizes foundational public health competencies to prepare graduates with the requisite knowledge and skills to be successful public health professionals, and/or to pursue graduate study in public health and related fields.
- Recruit and retain a diverse and qualified student body.
- Prepare students to apply their knowledge and skills to meet the needs of underserved, rural and global populations.
- Create learning environments which support student success in public health research, practice, and professional development.
- Foster student access to research, practical experiences, and community engagement opportunities that are consistent with the mission and vision of the department.
- Provide access to service opportunities for students to apply their learning to real-world experiences, and work to improve the health of communities.
- Support faculty scholarship, professional development, and service.

## Program Values:

- **Academic excellence:** we are committed to providing high-quality educational experiences for our students. We are dedicated to continual academic improvement through ongoing, critical evaluation of our program, regular assessment of student needs, and allocation of resources to support student success.
- **Community engagement:** We are committed to improving health through community collaborations, partnerships, and community-based student service opportunities.
- **Interdisciplinary learning:** We are committed to incorporating diverse methods, ideas, and disciplines across our curriculum.
- **Health equity and diversity:** We respect and embrace an array of experiences, perspectives, and ideas as we work to improve the health of all individuals and communities. We work together to eliminate health disparities and promote and advance health equity.