We envision a world where adults and children, of all gender identities and expressions, are able to live safe, healthy, productive and meaningful lives at home, school, work, and in their communities. We are particularly interested in advancing the health, wellness and quality of life of girls, women and LGBTQ+ individuals.

Housed within the School of Health and Human Sciences CWHW is composed of initiatives that provide interdisciplinary, community-informed solutions to specific social issues that build on the strengths and expertise of our university, faculty, students and our partners in the community, while also providing opportunities for students to develop knowledge, expertise and professional skills. We welcome collaboration with faculty and students interested in these activities.

Initiatives

- **Breastfeeding and Feminism International** supports the annual Breastfeeding and Feminism International Conference and related publications, research and education.
- **Program to End Gender-based Violence** engages in research, educational activities, and community partnerships to advance the community's capacity to prevent and respond to violence.
- **Program for the Advancement of Girls and Women in Sport and Physical Activity (PAGWSPA)** conducts collaborative and interdisciplinary scholarship to advance safety and equity for girls and women in sport and physical activity.
- **LEARN: LGBTQ+ Education and Research Network** advances the health, wellness, and quality of life for people who are or identify as LGBTQ+ through interdisciplinary research and scholarship, creative activity, education, practice, and community engagement. We have formed three subcommittees to advance this work: Research, Pedagogy, and Safe Communities.

Faculty Highlights

The UNCG Center for Women’s Health and Wellness welcomes Dr. Stacy Sechrist as the new Director of the Program to End Gender-based Violence

- Dr. **Stacy Sechrist** is also a Senior Research Scientist with the NC Network for Safe Communities in the Office of Research and Economic Development at UNCG.
- Dr. **Paige Hall Smith** was one of around 100 people from around the world invited to participate in the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action’s Global Partners Forum in Penang, Malaysia October 2-5. The forum marked the 25th anniversary of the global alliance and was designed to explore key new initiatives to protect, promote and support breastfeeding. Dr. Smith chaired a panel on gender equity and made a presentation on The Breastfeeding Transition. In November, Dr. Smith went to Bristol England where she was an invited participant in a seminar on Social Experiences of Breastfeeding: Building Bridges between Research and Policy sponsored by the University of West England, Cardiff University, University of South Wales and the European Economic and Social Research Council.
- Dr. **Brad Johnson** has been recognized as a member of the 2017 Diamond Honoree by ACPA-College Student Educators International. The Diamond Honoree Program is both a recognition program and a fundraising activity. Those nominated for consideration are recognized for their outstanding and sustained contributions to higher education and to student affairs.
Faculty Exchange

- **Dr. Donna Duffy** Sends Greetings from Ireland! “I spent the fall 2016 semester at the University College Cork (UCC) in Cork, Ireland as a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sport Studies and Physical Education. During my time at UCC I worked closely with Dr. Fiona Chambers and Wesley O’Brien on research projects and co-taught several classes focusing on sport and physical activity patterns of girls and women in Ireland. I served as the Assistant Coach for the UCC Ladies D1 Field Hockey team, which allowed me to travel across Ireland and gain first-hand experience with international coaching. My time spent in Ireland has provided me with new perspectives, ideas, and long-lasting collegial friendships that will enhance our efforts to advance sport and physical activity opportunities for girls and women world-wide. See you in the spring!”

Community Education and Research Dissemination

- We are planning for the **12th Breastfeeding and Feminism International Conference: “Breastfeeding as Social Justice: From Crucial Conversation to Inspired Action.”** The planning team includes members from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the International Lactation Consultant Association, U.S. Agency for International Development, John Hopkins University, Carolina Global Breastfeeding Initiative at UNC Chapel Hill, Elon University, and other academic and communication consultants. This year’s BFIC will be held in Chapel Hill, NC March 22-24, 2017. [www.breastfeedingandfeminism.org].

- **Violence Prevention Network:** We coordinate this countywide network of professionals in Guilford County who are developing a plan for how we can collaborate to promote primary prevention for domestic and sexual violence.

- **LEARN (LGBTQ+ Education and Research Network):** LEARN partnered with the Office of Intercultural Engagement for a LGBTQ+ Lunch and Learn with a UNC Greensboro Faculty Research Panel on Trends in LGBTQ+ Research.

- **UNCG’s Wall of Hope Events, “Say No to Violence Against Women,”** We helped to sponsor four events initiated through the Office of Leadership & Service Learning and worked with Bev Hoffman, Director of Human Rights Film Focus Nepal (HRFFN), to bring awareness to stopping violence against women world-wide.

Research

- **Understanding and preventing sexual assault on college campuses.** In spring 2017, we are preparing to launch the second campus climate survey at UNCG in partnership with the Title IX Office, Dean of Students, the Department of Recreation and Wellness, and other staff and faculty.

- **Helping colleges in NC improve prevention and response to SV in LGBTQ+ communities.** We are partnering with the NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the State Sexual Violence Prevention Team on a statewide project to improve more about the how campuses are responding the needs of LGBTQ+ survivors of sexual violence and strategies for prevention.

- **Helping NC domestic violence service providers (DVSPs) better meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals who experience partner violence.** We are partnering with the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence on a project to enhance the capacity of DVSPs to prevent and respond to LGBTQ+ intimate partner violence.

Student Engagement

- **MK Huffman** is a GA at CWHW. She is supporting our work to understand concussion and health of women football players, our sexual violence work, and LEARN.

- **Stephanie Sistare** is a GA at CWHW. She is supporting our work to improve prevention and response to campus sexual assault, our community Violence Prevention Network, and LEARN.

- **Sydney Thames** is a senior at UNCG. She is currently working on a research project to learn about how we can make our campus more breastfeeding friendly for student mothers.