**Jayne Fulkerson, PhD**  
Center Director, Professor  
Graduate Studies Director, PhD Program  
Director, Center for Child and Family Health Promotion Research  
Associate Editor, International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Education

**Research Interests:**  
- Family-based health promotion in community settings  
- Child and adolescent obesity prevention  
- Research methodology, program evaluation, measurement, and instrument development

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**Barbara Beacham, PhD, RN**  
Assistant Professor, School of Nursing

**Research Interests:**  
- Family management of children with chronic health conditions  
- Development of self-care and health care autonomy
- Mixed methods

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**Eunice M. Areba, PhD, RN, PHN**  
Associate Professor

**Research Interests:**  
- Influences on mental, emotional and behavioral health and well-being  
- Health issues of refugee and immigrant youth  
- Interpersonal violence and Substance use  
- Capacity building and health equity

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**Melissa D. Avery, PhD, APRN, CNM, FACNM, FAAN**  
Professor

**Research Interests:**  
- Increasing women's confidence for physiologic labor and birth  
- Vaginal birth after cesarean section (VBAC)  
- Exercise in pregnancy; exercise and gestational Diabetes  
- Breastfeeding  
- Outcomes of nurse-midwifery care  
- Technology enhanced learning, interprofessional education and practice

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**Mary M. Benbenek, PhD, MS, RN, FNP, PNP**  
Clinical Associate Professor  
Family Nurse Practitioner Coordinator

**Research Interests:**  
- Social ecological influences on adolescent health behaviors & nutrition  
- Public health nursing  
- Community-engaged, health promotion research with children, youth, and families  
- Social ecological influences on adolescent health behaviors nutrition

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**Mary L. Chesney, PhD, APRN, CNP, FAANP, FAAN**  
Clinical Professor Distinguished Teaching Professor

**Research Interests:**  
- APRN education, education, utilization  
- Workforce issues  
- Health care access and quality of care for children with special health care needs  
- Health reform/ transformation and new models of patient-centered care delivery  
- Family adjustment following international adoption and special needs adoption  
- Parent-child attachment/relationship; neurobiological, cognitive, social, and emotional effects of early childhood deprivation (hospitalization or orphanage care)

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Laura J. Duckett, PhD, MPH, RN
Associate Professor

Research Interests:
- Breastfeeding and mother's milk feeding for full-term and premature infants
- Breastfeeding and maternal employment
- Breastfeeding and infant health
- Infant growth, maternal, infant and family health during the first postpartum year
- Complementary healing practices for premature infants
- Parent-infant attachment
- Moral reasoning development
- Theory of planned behavior and health promotion

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Casey Hooke, PhD, APRN, PCNS, CPON
CPON, Assistant Professor

Research Interests:
- Children and adolescents with cancer
- Symptom management, fatigue and related symptoms, physical performance, growth and development

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Melissa Horning, PhD, RN, PHN
Assistant Professor

Research Interests:
- Community-engaged, health promotion research with children, youth and families
- Social ecological influences on adolescent health behaviors and nutrition
- Public Health Nursing

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Madeleine J. Kerr, PhD, RN
Associate Professor

Research Interests:
- Worker Health promotion and protection
- Intervention effectiveness research
- Preventing occupational hearing loss, Pender Health Promotion Model
- Developing and testing theory-based health promotion interventions with special populations of workers

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Sarah Hoffman, PhD, MPH, MSN, RN-BC
Associate Professor, Population Health and Health Systems Cooperative Unit

Research Interests:
- Displacement
- Migration
- Human rights
- Experiences of refugee mothers and adolescents

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Wendy S. Looman, PhD, RN
Associate Professor Chair, Child Family Health Cooperative

Research Interests:
- Social capital and family health.
- Quality of life among children with neurodevelopmental conditions
- Children and youth with special health care needs

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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| Anne Chevalier McKechnie, PhD, RN, IBCLC  | Associate Professor                | - Understanding the needs of families who continue pregnancies after fetal diagnoses, are preparing for and adapting to the care required for their children with special health care needs  
- Developing and testing family-centered interventions to enhance strengths and reduce risks for parents and their children with special health care needs during an early, formative time | 612-624-6491• acmckech@umn.edu |
| Susan K. O’Conner-Von, PhD, RN            | Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Center for Spirituality and Healing (CSH) | - Pediatric pain and palliative care interventions for pain management  
- Web based educational programs adolescents with cancer  
- Spirituality care | 612-624-6647• ocon0025@umn.edu |
| Barbara J. McMorris, PhD                  | Associate Professor                | - Youth violence and risk prevention  
- Community-based intervention projects  
- Prevention of risky health behaviors in adolescence  
- Promotion of health among vulnerable populations  
- Program evaluation, research methods, and statistical modeling | 612-624-9909• mcmo0023@umn.edu |
| Karen A. Monsen, PhD, RN, FAAN            | Associate Professor                | - Use of structured data for knowledge discovery and health care quality research  
- Intervention effectiveness research  
- Disseminating effective interventions  
- Omaha System psychometrics and applications  
- Visualization, data mining and machine learning methods | 612-624-0490• mons0122@umn.edu |
| Barbara L. Peterson, PhD, RN, CNS         | Clinical Assistant Professor       | - Child and adolescent mental health | 612-624-0440 • pete1389@umn.edu |
| Carolyn M. Porta, PhD, MPH, RN SANE-A     | Associate Professor                | - Health and well-being of vulnerable young people and their families  
- Local and global focus on individual-level, family-level, and social-level problems  
- Research methods, program evaluation, and use of technology in research and practice | 612-624-6179 • porta@umn.edu |
Cheryl L. Robertson, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN

Research Interests
- Refugee health
- War trauma and torture
- Strength-based interventions
- Global public health
- Eco-health strategies in Central/Eastern Africa

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Mary M. Rowan, PhD, APRN, CNM
Clinical Professor

Research Interests:
- Ethics
- Technology-enhanced education

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Melissa A. Saftner, PhD, CNM, RN
Clinical Associate Professor

Research Interests:
- Adolescent Sexual Risk Behavior
- Health promotion in adolescent populations
- American Indian Health
- Improving access to nurse-midwives

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Renee Sieving, PhD, RN, FAAN, FSAHM
Professor, Director, Center for Adolescent Nursing Pauline A. Vincent Chair in Public Health Nursing Director, Healthy Youth Development – Prevention Research Center (HYD-PRC)

Research Interests:
- Positive youth development
- Clinic and community based interventions focused on preventing multiple health risk behaviors during adolescence
- Reducing risk sexual behavior, violence involvement, and school failure among adolescent girls at high risk for early pregnancy
- Formative research and pilot testing of a culturally relevant teen parent program to promote positive development and prevent risky sexual behaviors among Latino youth and a school based youth development intervention focused on preventing violence involvement and promoting school success among middle school students from resource-poor urban neighborhoods

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Mary F. Tracy, PhD, APRN, CNS, FAAN
Associate Professor, Nurse Scientist

Research Interests:
- Sedation in mechanically ventilated patients

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Samantha A. Sommerness, DNP, RN, CNM
Clinical Assistant Professor

Research Interests:
- All stages of Labor
- Economics associated with perinatal safety initiatives and how this affects both outcome, cost and reimbursement from payers
- DNP project involved the creation of a guideline to standardize the second stage of labor for women who choose epidural pain management. Specifically, how this affects second stage labor outcomes.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CENTER PLEASE EMAIL US:

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