

# THE POWER OF *ENGAGEMENT*

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

### PURDUE UNIVERSITY'S **Dr. Natalia Rodriguez**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR // DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH // SINCE 2019

Dr. Natalia Rodriguez specializes in public health with a focus on health disparities and social justice. Her research involves community-based participatory methods to address critical health issues, such as cervical cancer screening among homeless populations. Rodriguez's work emphasizes strong community-academic partnerships to drive impactful, real-world solutions.

#### ADVANCING

##### // ENGAGEMENT //

- Engages marginalized communities in research to address health disparities.
- Collaborates with local organizations to implement health solutions.
- Translates research into real-world impacts, improving health outcomes.

##### // RESEARCH //

- Conducts research on health disparities and social justice.
- Uses community-based participatory methods.
- Publishes extensively and secures research grants.
- Integrates research findings into teaching.

##### // TEACHING //

- Teaches students to think critically about research and its impact.
- Incorporates community-based participatory research into the curriculum.
- Emphasizes the importance of addressing biases and perspectives in research.

#### FUTURE & IMPACTS

// FUTURE GOALS //

- Continue research and community engagement efforts.
- Focus on making routine preventative healthcare a reality in homeless shelters.
- Keep learning from participatory research and making necessary adjustments.
- Always be guided by the community's needs.

// IMPACTS //

**IMPROVED CERVICAL  
CANCER SCREENING RATES**  
among homeless populations.

Increased community-academic  
partnerships.

**INFLUENCED PUBLIC HEALTH**  
policies and practices.

Published extensively on public health and  
social justice.

Secured significant research grants.

**ENHANCED HEALTH  
OUTCOMES**  
for marginalized communities.

Developed community health worker  
training programs.

**EDUCATED FUTURE PUBLIC  
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**  
on critical research methods.

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