

[The Social Determinants of Health \(SDH\) Core](#) enables UAB investigators to measure the effect of social and environmental risks for disease etiology, progression, and outcomes, and test interventions that ameliorate their effect.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Geocoding Computer



Need **HIPAA-compliant** geocoding? We got you! Every Tuesday, you can use the SDH Core geocoding computer at BDB 863. [Reserve now with this link.](#)

### NEW Area-Level Measures

**Tree Canopy Coverage**, calculated from the National Land Cover Database (NLCD) Tree Canopy Cover, is now available for the State of Alabama at the Census tract level. Tree canopy displays the proportion of land surface covered by trees for each pixel measured at 30-meter resolution, years 2011–2021. Averages across these pixels (0 to 100%, no trees to full tree canopy coverage) are calculated using the zonal statistics as a table tool in ArcGIS Pro. The measure was developed by Liz Baker, PhD, Core Co-Director, with help from Katie Sweeney, PhD student in Medical Sociology.



The **2022 Area Deprivation Index (ADI)** was released on June 1, 2024 and is now available for use and download [here](#).

The **Child Opportunity Index (COI) version 3.0** is now available. The COI is a composite index of 44 indicators in three domains (education, health and environment, social and economic) and 14 subdomains at the Census tract level, years 2012–2021. The COI 3.0 is available [here](#).

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & SYMPOSIA

The NIH UNITE initiative is hosting a virtual workshop, **Interdisciplinary Approaches to Understanding and Addressing Structural Racism and Health**, on July 18-19, 2024. Following the panel presentations, participants will join breakout sessions on: (1) Methodologies and measures for studying structural racism; (2) Health consequences of structural racism; (3) Strategies for cross-disciplinary partnerships; (4) Interventions to address the health impact of structural racism. [Register here.](#)

The Social Interventions Research and Evaluation Network (SIREN) will hold its **2025 National Research Meeting, Advancing the Science of Social Care**, on February 2-4, 2025 in San Diego, CA. Abstract submissions are **due August 5, 2024**. [More info here.](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS to SDH CORE USERS!

### Grants:

**Carrie Howell, PhD**, Assistant Professor in Preventive Medicine, received funding for her project, *Utilizing risk stratification and social determinants of health to inform post-discharge care*. The project is part of the UAB Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) UM1 award by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. Dr. Howell is an SDH Core collaborator.

**Gabriela Oates, PhD**, Associate Professor in Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine, received funding from the CF Foundation for a multisite research project, *Screening for Unmet Needs in Cystic Fibrosis (SUN-CF)*, to develop and validate a social screening tool tailored to the needs of people with CF. Dr. Oates is the SDH Core Director.

**Peter Morris, MD**, Professor in Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine, received CCTS pilot funding for his project, *Addressing inpatient trial design translational barriers through refining post-ICU recovery trajectories to inform hospital readmissions*.

### Publications and presentations:

**Mackenzie Fowler, PhD**, Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health, published a paper, *The association between social vulnerability and geriatric assessment impairments among older adults with gastrointestinal cancers—The CARE Registry*, in the journal *Cancer*.

**Ariel Carpenter, MD**, Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellow, presented a poster, *Increased risk of complicated pneumonia in children with higher deprivation and rurality*, at the Pediatric Academic Societies 2024 Annual Meeting.

**Rachael Cowan, MS3**, a student in the Heersink School of Medicine, presented a poster, *Association between neighborhood social vulnerability and melanoma stage at presentation*, at the Society for Investigative Dermatology 2024 Annual Meeting.

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