

Dr. Stephanie Psaki is director of the [Girl Innovation Research and Learning \(GIRL\) Center](#), which advises governments, international organizations, and philanthropies on investing resources to drive results for women and girls globally.

Dr. Psaki is a social demographer with expertise in the intersections of gender, education, and health, and she has led numerous studies on these topics. She is a member of the World Health Organization/UNESCO Research Working Group on COVID-19 and Educational Institutions. She has advised high-level U.S. government officials, including the Office of First Lady Michelle Obama and the U.S. State Department's Office of Global Women's Issues. Dr. Psaki's research has been published in top academic journals such as *The Lancet*. She has presented to organizations including the National Academies of Sciences, The Brookings Institution, and the Office of the UN Special Envoy for Global Education, and she has participated in Congressional briefings with Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA) and Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN).

Before joining the Population Council, Dr. Psaki worked at Family Health International 360, leading girls' education and HIV prevention programs. Earlier she was co-Investigator on an [eight-country child health and development](#) study at the Fogarty International Center, part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health. She holds a PhD in women's health and demography from Johns Hopkins University, and a Master of Science degree in population and international health from Harvard University. She has worked in diverse low and middle-income settings, including Burundi, DRC, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Niger, South Africa, Tanzania, and northern Uganda.

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019- **Director, Girl Innovation Research and Learning (GIRL) Center, and Senior Associate, Poverty, Gender and Youth Division, Population Council, NY**
- Lead all aspects of Center, including setting strategic priorities, developing and implementing research agenda, and managing team of 10 staff/fellows and several interns;
  - Raised and manage \$9 million budget for GIRL Center research and policy translation activities;
  - Cultivate key partnerships with policy-makers, donors, researchers, and advocates, including UN agencies; the WHO; the Ford, Hewlett and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundations, ONE Campaign, Obama Foundation, and others;
  - Lead the girls' education research portfolio, and co-lead new global mental health research initiative; Contribute to Population, Environment, Resilience and Climate Change (PERCC), and HIV and gender-based violence prevention portfolios.
- 2018-2019 **Deputy Director, Girl Innovation Research and Learning (GIRL) Center. Population Council, NY**
- **Associate II. Poverty, Gender and Youth Program. Population Council, New York, NY**
    - Co-led girls' education research portfolio, including strategy development, fundraising, project design and implementation, data analysis, reporting, and dissemination.
    - Raised nearly \$5 million for girls' education research and evaluation and brought in new government and foundation donors; Awarded NIH funding, receiving score in top 1% of applicants.

- Co-led evaluation of a USAID-funded HIV and violence prevention program in South Africa.
  - Disseminated research findings to key decision-makers, including the Office of First Lady Michelle Obama, the U.S. Department of State, and major donors.
  - Editor of *Studies in Family Planning*, a leading academic journal in demography (2015-2017).
- 2013-2016 **Associate I. Poverty, Gender and Youth Program.** Population Council, New York, NY
- 2012-2013 **Project Director. Gender Department, Family Health International (FHI) 360.**  
Washington, DC  
Senior staff member overseeing girls' education and gender and health programs.
- 2011-2012 **Research Assistant. Advance Family Planning Project, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.** Baltimore, MD  
Supported monitoring and evaluation for African regional family planning advocacy program.
- 2008-2011 **Co-Investigator. Interactions of Malnutrition & Enteric Infections: Consequences for Child Health and Development (MAL-ED) Study.** Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health (NIH). Bethesda, MD  
Supported launch and execution of eight-country study; Responsible for design of data collection forms, quality assurance/control, and data analysis and interpretation.
- 2007-2008 **Research Assistant (October-May). Haiti Zanmi Lasante Program.** Partners in Health & Harvard Medical School. Boston, MA
- 2007 **Researcher. AIDS Prevention Research Project,** Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies. Durban, South Africa
- 2007 **Researcher. Healthcare Provision in Southern India.** Harvard School of Public Health. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Delhi, India
- 2002-2006 **Program Officer, Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program.** Center for Gender Equity, Academy for Educational Development. Washington, DC  
Key technical team member in project design, start-up, and implementation of the 15-country USAID-funded project; Oversaw full program in Burundi, DRC, and Eritrea and supported HIV prevention activities of 42 partners in 15 countries, including site visits in eight countries.

## EDUCATION

- 2013 **Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health,** Baltimore, MD  
Ph.D., Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health (PFRH)  
*Member,* Delta Omega Public Health National Honor Society, Alpha Chapter  
*Member,* Doctoral Admissions Committee 2012-2013
- 2008 **Harvard School of Public Health,** Boston, MA

Master of Science, Population and International Health

2002

**Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service**, Washington, D.C.  
Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service, *cum laude*

*Full CV, including a complete list of publications and presentations, is available upon request.*