

Karen Albright

ABOUT

Karen Albright, PhD, MSW, is striving for societal progress. She is currently serving as an Academic-based PACT Council Member and recently took on a new role as an Associate Professor of Medicine in the division of General and Internal Medicine at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and the Associate Director of Denver/Seattle Center for Innovation. Karen is a social scientist by training, where she earned her PhD in sociology, studying systems, social determinants of health, and the complexities of what forms behavior and health outcomes.



PROJECT INVOLVEMENT

Currently, she is working on a project with the Center for Health Progress serving undocumented/mixed documentation status families to find ways to communicate with immigrant populations in Fort Morgan and learn of their needs and how to best address them. She is working on two other projects at the moment: first is a project that aims to help healthcare serve victims of human trafficking; while another project is looking to develop a housing and financial literacy program for people who have not been able to buy a house. Within all of these projects, Karen is attempting to find out how different communities conceptualize health and wellbeing. This ties directly into her work on the PACT Council, as she is able to work with the community's assets to identify and address their very specific needs

CCTSI ENGAGEMENT

Academic-based PACT Council Member

Membership: 2019-Current

OUTLOOK

Karen became interested in the PACT Council after she took a break from the research world to become a mom, and she came back with a need to bridge the gap between research and community. She has found her role as a PACT member very inspiring and validating and is humbled to work with such an amazing group of people. Looking forward, Karen's ultimate goal is to create a foundation or unit that houses and incubates innovative work. She hopes she is able to affect the understanding of health, to drive purpose, and support people in doing work that people find powerful and impactful.

“I became hungry for the idea of work that actually impacts the research-community gap, and I found the PACT.”