**HER Early Stage Investigator Work Group**

***Cohort 1 – August 2021-June 2022***

The first cohort of the HER Early Stage Investigator Work Group launched in August 2021 with the goal of supporting professional development, facilitating collaboration, and building the field of diverse early stage investigators. The Work Group was chaired by Drs. Gabriella McLoughlin and Chelsea Singleton and Whitney Fung was the fellow. Members of the HER ESI WG included about 30 researchers within 10 years of their doctoral degree with expertise in the fields of nutrition equity, diet quality, and/or healthy weight/obesity among children and their families.

Over the course of the one-year work group, participants met monthly to discuss topics including HER funding opportunities, USDA funding opportunities, NIH funding opportunities, Team Science, mentorship and networking, and work-life balance and well-being. Members of the HER ESI Work Group also had the opportunity to apply for a HER ESI funding opportunity (see HER ESI Grantees below). These projects concluded in summer 2022 and findings and products will be available soon on [Healthy Eating Research’s website.](https://healthyeatingresearch.org/database/) For information about members of the HER ESI Work Group’s first cohort, please [view the member guide](https://healthyeatingresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/HER-ESI-Working-Group-Cohort-1-Member-Guide.pdf).

**HER Early Stage Investigator Grantees**

* **Amsie Hecht** - Strategies Associated with Increased Student Participation in School Meals: A Systematic Review
* **Chelsea Kracht** - Examining Effectiveness of Interventions Targeting Obesity-Related Outcomes Among At-Risk Populations in Early Childhood Education Settings: A Systematic Review
* **Yeeli Mui** - Stimulating Retail Food Environments to Advance Healthy Food Access and Nutrition Equity: A Literature Review and Roadmap for Leveraging System Science Approaches
* **Chelsea Singleton** - Structural Racism and Food Access: A Scoping Review
* **Anna Grummon** - Toddler Milk Beliefs, Behavior, and Marketing Influences: A Scoping Review