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Text on Screen: Public Health Careers: Public Health Nurse
CDC Public Health Nurse Augustina Delaney, PhD, shares her story.

Augustina:

I work as a nurse consultant in the Division of Global HIV and TB, and I work on programs to help mothers and infants that are affected by HIV, who live in other countries. Many times in other countries, mothers may not know that they have HIV when they become pregnant, and if they don't know, it's possible that their baby can have HIV.

So we want to make sure that all mothers and families know if they have HIV. And if they do, we want to make sure that they're able to get on medication so that they and their baby can be healthy because if not, sometimes the infants or the mothers can die from HIV. So originally I went to school to be a nurse midwife, which is a nurse who has extra training to take care of pregnant women and also to deliver babies.

And once I finished with that, I also got my Ph.D. in nursing, which is focused more on research. So, you know, collecting information about diseases to better understand how people can be healthy. So what I really like about my job is that I get to use a lot of different kinds of skills. So I get to use my skills around data.

So looking at data and graphs and trying to understand what the problems are and what are possible solutions, I get to use my writing skills by writing papers and sharing information with people working on programs in other countries so that we can all better understand the best way to serve the women and their infants that we work with.

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