



**CACHE**

**Center for Aging, Health  
& Environment**

# Resources and Opportunities

Population and Environment Working Group

February 13, 2026

Alex Mikulas, PhD

CACHE Postdoctoral Associate | CU Boulder Institute for Behavioral Science

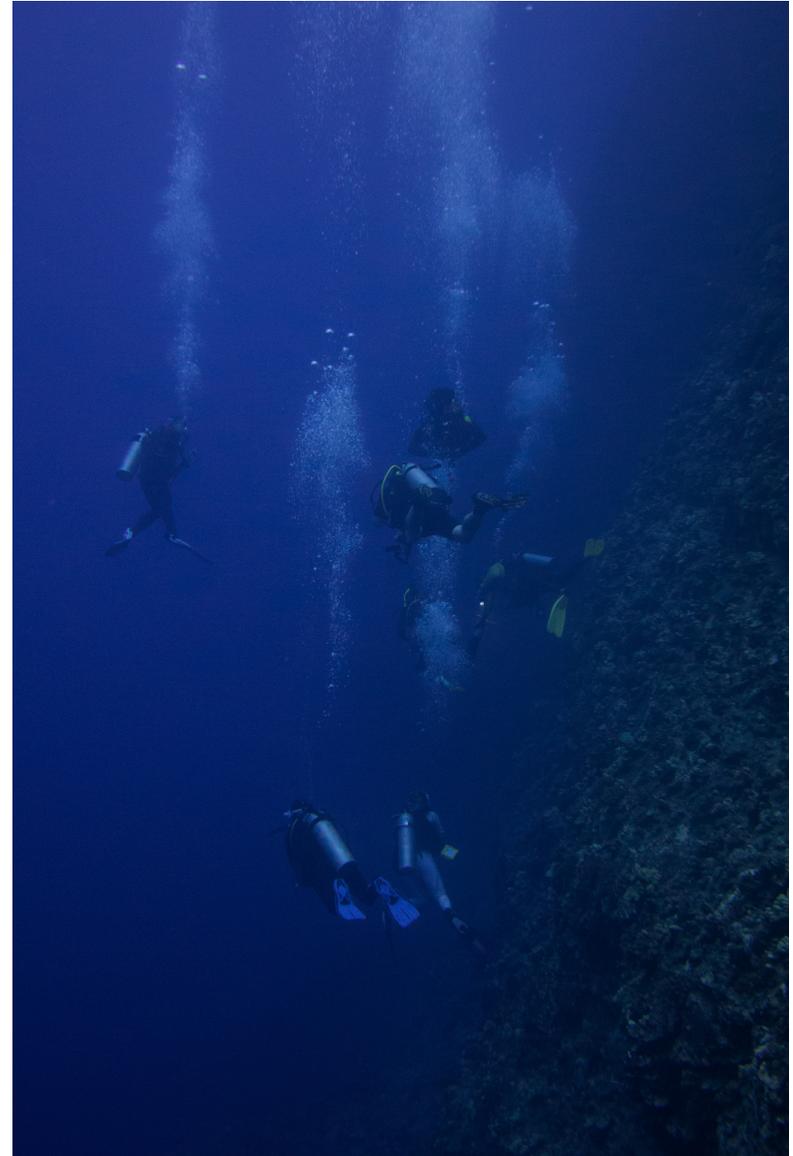


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Alex Mikulas, Phd  
UW-Madison Sociology 2024

CACHE Postdoctoral Associate

I like to scuba dive.



# Think, Pair, Share -

What feelings, thoughts, or reactions do you experience from this image?

Why might you feel these things?





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## Center for Aging, Health & Environment



A joint effort led by five  
population research units



Targeted interdisciplinary  
training and funding



Facilitate research and  
collaboration through a  
network of scholars



Focus on disasters and weather-  
related health impacts on older adults



A hub for sharing resources  
and building community

The virtual Center for Aging, Health, and Environment aims to **facilitate research and foster collaborations** among a wide-range of researchers working at the **nexus of aging, health, environmental change** and related extreme-weather events through targeted interdisciplinary training, information sharing, and **investments in research support.**

Funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), "Aging and Health in a Changing Climate", R61AG086854

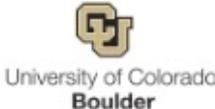
Website:  
[www.agingclimatehealth.org](http://www.agingclimatehealth.org)

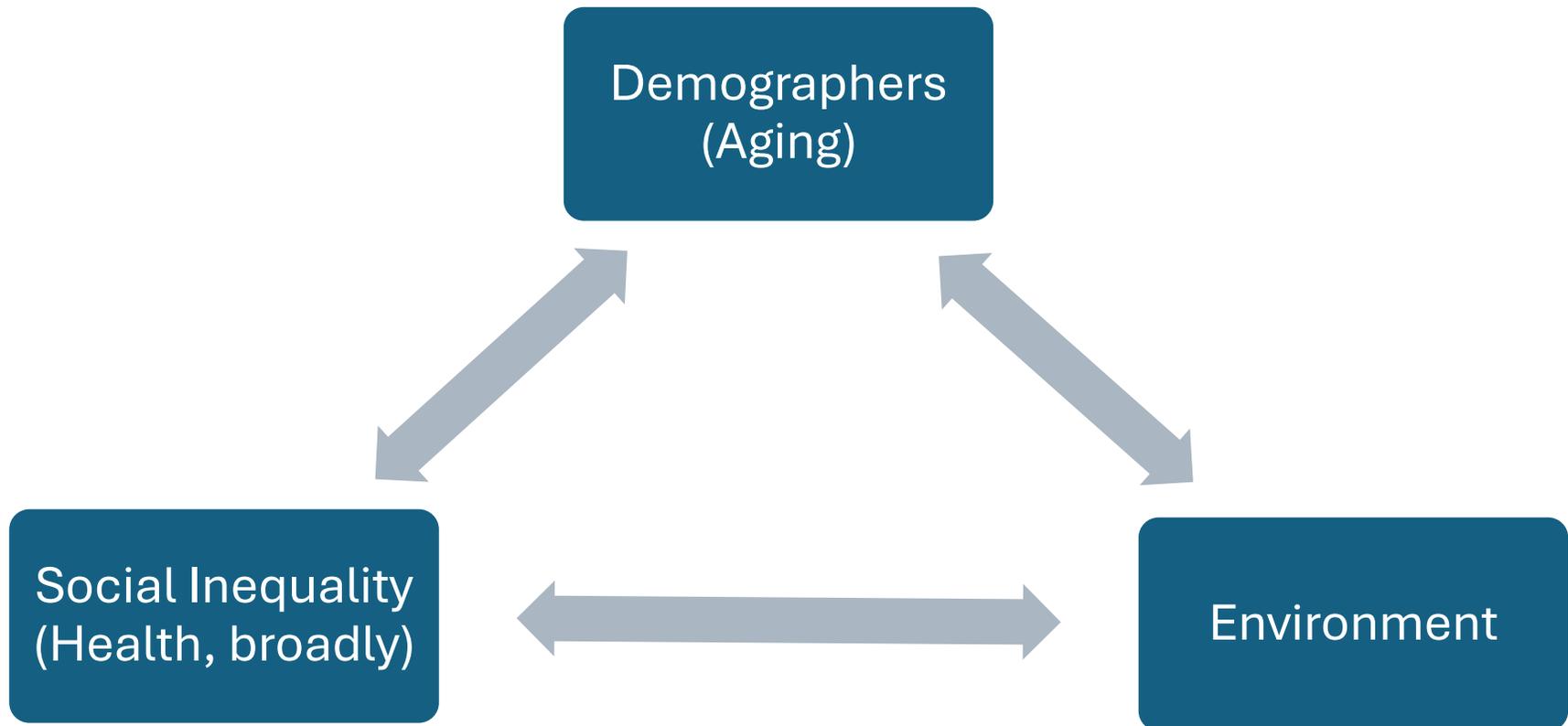
Email:  
[info@agingclimatehealth.org](mailto:info@agingclimatehealth.org)

Subscribe:  
[Newsletter](#)



# CACHE Institutional Partners









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Center for Aging, Health  
& Environment

*Learning to Swim*

~~Resources and Opportunities~~

CDE Spatial Demography Working Group

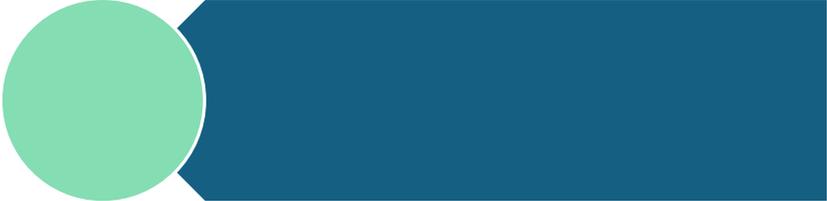
February 10, 2026

Alex Mikulas, PhD

CACHE Postdoctoral Associate | CU Boulder Institute for Behavioral Science

CACHE wants to help get you in the water.

# CACHE Lowers Barriers for Researchers



# CACHE Lowers Barriers for Researchers

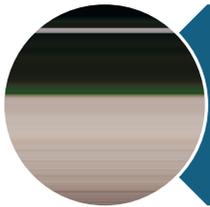


Feel the water

Explore health/environment perspectives through accessible resources

- [What am I Reading?](#)
  - Public facing, short online posts
  - [\*Disasters and Aging in Place\*](#)
  - [\*Extreme Weather and Health Care\*](#)

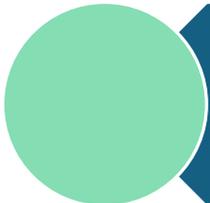
# CACHE Lowers Barriers for Researchers



*Feel the water*



Take a swim



Learn from trusted guides

- Code and Data Repository
  - Example: [Linking disaster data and US census/ACS data](#)
- Spring 2026 Virtual Seminar Series: [Using Flood and Flood Risk Data](#)
  - Under-the-hood take on asking doing social/environmental research
  - View [past CACHE seminars](#)

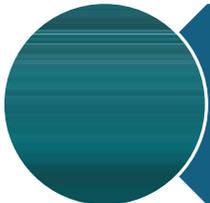
# CACHE Lowers Barriers for Researchers



*Feel the water*



*Take a swim*



**Dive in!**

Grow and practice your skills in a safe space

- Workshops and Trainings
  - [2025 HRS User Workshop](#), Boulder Colorado
  - PAA and other conference workshops
  - More to be announced...

# Think, Pair, Share (and Explore!) -

What are some environmental factors, aging topics, or health outcomes that are related to your research program?

environmental factors – natural disaster, extreme weather, pollution, etc.

Aging – retirement ages, population structure/distribution, lifecycle approach, critical moments, etc.

health outcomes – physical, mental, wellbeing, healthcare access, etc.

- Have you been on the fence to explore them?
- How might you go about integrating these into your work?
- What challenges do you foresee?

Does CACHE have any resources to lower your barriers to entry?



CACHE wants you to become a water expert.  
(and help others learn to swim too!)

# CACHE Provides Opportunity and Community



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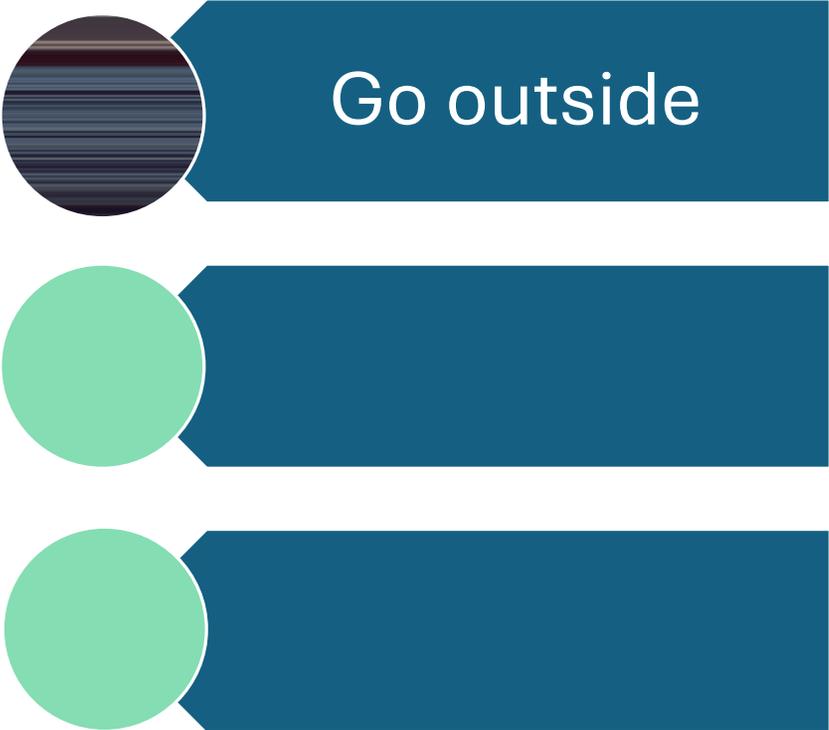


Go outside

Publish your perspective

- Author a What Am I Reading? post
  - Synthesize how a topic connects to climate, aging, and health
  - Identify knowledge/data gaps, directions for further study
  - Showcase important new research (yours or someone else's!)

# CACHE Provides Opportunity and Community



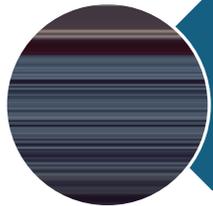
Go outside

Publish your perspective

- Benefits include:
  - Opportunity for translational research
  - Expose your work to a wider audience
  - Provide frameworks and guidance for emerging health/aging/climate scholars
- Simple (and useful) writing task!
  - Housing, Health, and the Environment
- Contact [info@agingclimatehealth.org](mailto:info@agingclimatehealth.org)

Do you have a population/environment topic that you could easily draft a 3-5 paragraph overview?

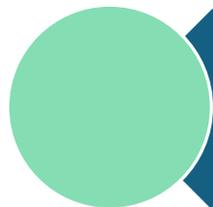
# CACHE Provides Opportunity and Community



*Go outside*



Test your skills



Demonstrate your expertise in the  
CACHE Code & Data Repository

- Data wrangling and integration
- Use-case for new or underused data set
- Simple submission process



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Center for Aging,  
Health & Environment

### CODE COVERSHEET TEMPLATE

Directions: Please customize this coversheet with information about your code.

**Title of some kind** [Description of code. Example: "Code linking SHELDUS with ACS data"]:

**Authors/Creators/ Team Members:**

**Specific purpose of code:** [Please write a paragraph about the intended use of the code – is it used to integrate specific data or is it code applied to a single dataset? Example: This code links the American Community Survey (ACS) microdata with the Spatial Hazards Events and Losses Database for the United States (SHELDUS).]

**Link to code:** (on CACHE, [NACDA](#), github, etc):

**General Application:** [Example: This is an example of linking county-level data on disaster events with PUMA-level micro-data on demographic and household characteristics. The code could be used with other PUMA-level survey data, or with other county-level environmental data.]

**How does or could this code allow researchers to assess research questions related to aging or life course?:** [Example: This code could be used with the ACS data to assess any single years of age, so any combination of age group or subsets by age is possible. *OR if not applicable to your code and dataset(s), indicate something like the following:* Other analyses at this spatial scale could allow for incorporation of datasets with demographic variables like age.]

**Data sets used:**

- Population, socioeconomic, or health data:
- Climate, weather, disaster or environment data:
- Are data publicly available or restricted-access? [choose one]:
- Links to data (even if also repeated in code):

**Coding Language:**

**Tools and Packages used:**

**Output(s)** [ex: dataset, analysis results, maps, graphs, tables, etc.]:

**Spatial extent:**

**Temporal extent:**

**Comments:**

**Published papers that use this code (list citation and include DOI):**

# CACHE Provides Opportunity and Community



*Go outside*



Test your skills

Demonstrate your expertise in the  
CACHE Code & Data Repository

- *Aging and Disability in the Mexican Population*
- *Severe Heat*
- A – Z support from the CACHE team to get your data/code ready to be public facing
  - Personal or CACHE GitHub Repository
  - Possible monetary compensation

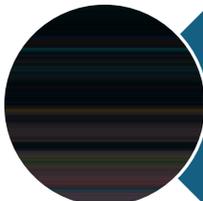
# CACHE Provides Opportunity and Community



*Go outside*



*Test your skills*



Find your  
community

You will never be the only expert.  
Always dive with a buddy.

- Get connected
- Engage in collaboration
- Grow your community of scholars
- Offer guidance to emerging scholars and graduate students

# Think, Pair, Share -

Can CACHE help you grow and share your expertise? How?

- What perspectives can you offer?
- Are you ready to share your interesting code or data?

Can your work benefit others in the CACHE community? How?

- Unique intersection of subfields?
- Unique dataset or application of a dataset?
- Sleek data integration method?
- Do you need collaborators with complementary expertise?

# What now?

Subscribe to the CACHE monthly newsletter.

Join two virtual CACHE seminars on flooding and flood data.

- March 4<sup>th</sup>, 3-4pm CT –
  - Dr. Bernice Rosenzweig (Sarah Lawrence)
  - Climate change and flood risks: Implications for older Americans
- April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2-4pm CT –
  - Dr. Jim Elliot (Rice University) and Dr. Alex Priest (University of Alberta)
  - Flooding: Managed retreat and post-flood residential mobility (working title)

Test the water.

# Gratitude

Sara Ronnkvist (almost) Phd, and the Population and Environment Working Group

Dr. Lori Hunter and Dr. Deborah Balk, CACHE Center Directors

University of Colorado Boulder Institute for Behavioral Science

NIA Grant: R61AG086854 “Aging and Health in a Changing Climate”  
(all opinions and bad metaphors are my own, not NIA...)

# Resources

Newsletters ([subscribe](#) and [archived](#))

[What Am I Reading?](#)

[Code & Data](#)

[Submission Form](#)

[Demonstration Projects](#)

[Seminars](#) (upcoming and archived)

[Training](#) and [other events](#)

Contact and follow up: [alex.mikulas@colorado.edu](mailto:alex.mikulas@colorado.edu)