

Dodie Arnold, PhD is a Research Associate in the Population Science Department at Pennington Biomedical Research Center (PBRC). She serves as the External Evaluator for the Louisiana Tobacco Control Program and the Chronic Disease Prevention Unit of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. Dr. Arnold's work focuses on programs and projects which strive to: (1) create tobacco-free healthcare facilities, (2) prevent youth from initiating tobacco use, (3) eliminate secondhand smoke exposure, (4) promote quitting among youth and adults, (5) eliminate tobacco related disparities, and (6) eliminate smoking in pregnant women.

Prior to joining PBRC, Dr. Arnold was a Quality Improvement/Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor with the International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH) and the Global Health Department at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine. Her work at I-TECH focused on improving HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis services in Ethiopia and Tanzania through: (1) mentoring, capacity building and technical assistance, (2) strategic planning (development of comprehensive annual work plans), (3) designing and supporting clinical and programmatic operational research projects, (4) providing evaluation support and leadership and (5) leveraging technology, facilitating roll out and scale up of new software to track key outcome indicators and trainings.

Dr. Arnold received her PhD from the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. As a National Institutes of Health Reproductive, Perinatal, & Pediatric Epidemiology (RPPE) Pre-Doctoral Fellow, her dissertation work focused on maternal nutrition and endocrine and cardiovascular dysfunction (specifically, early maternal vitamin D concentrations and risk of gestational diabetes mellitus and preeclampsia) as well as maternal mood and anxiety disorders. Dr. Arnold's work was supported by the Micki and Bob Flowers Endowed Fellowship from the Achievement Rewards for College Scientist Foundation.