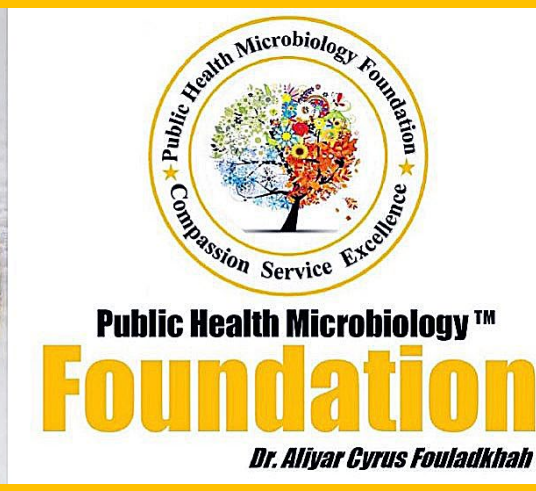


Public Health Microbiology and Process Authority Support For Tennessean Entrepreneurs



2025 Update of Public Health Microbiology Program

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Public Health Microbiology Laboratory, Tennessee State University

USDA Food Safety
Outreach Program

National Project
Directors' Meeting

Abstract

Food safety challenges associated with small entrepreneurs in underdeveloped areas of Tennessee have been a major public health concern in recent years. Since the start of the 21st century, Tennessee has been involved in >950 foodborne outbreaks, adjusting for population (incidences per 100K), this rate is nearly 4 times higher than state of California, as an example. Thus, the need for evidence-based outreach and technical assistance is noticeable to ensure safety of Tennessean entrepreneurs and their customers. This project is a holistic and evidence-based approach to support Tennessean entrepreneurs and strengthen 1890 land-grant system in this area. So far, the Public Health Microbiology program (PI: A. C. Fouladkhah) was able to assist more than 192 entrepreneurs in the state of Tennessee and around the country with one-by-one consultation and testing. About 55% of these stakeholders are start-up (very small) companies, with 44% of them categorized as women-owned companies, and 67% are based in the state of Tennessee. Others were from PA, FL, KY, VA, GA, CO, WA, OH, MI, MO, CA, MT, AR, AZ, MD, MN, and AI. Current presentation will discuss the detailed deliverables of extension, outreach, and technical assistance from the public health microbiology program in Nashville

Acknowledgements

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Data Access and Data Management

QR Code to program website:



Link to Workshop Evaluations:

<https://publichealthmicrobiology.education/workshop-evaluation>

Link to Graduate Teaching (AGSC 5540 Food Policies and Regulations) Evaluations:

<https://publichealthmicrobiology.education/graduate-class-evaluation>

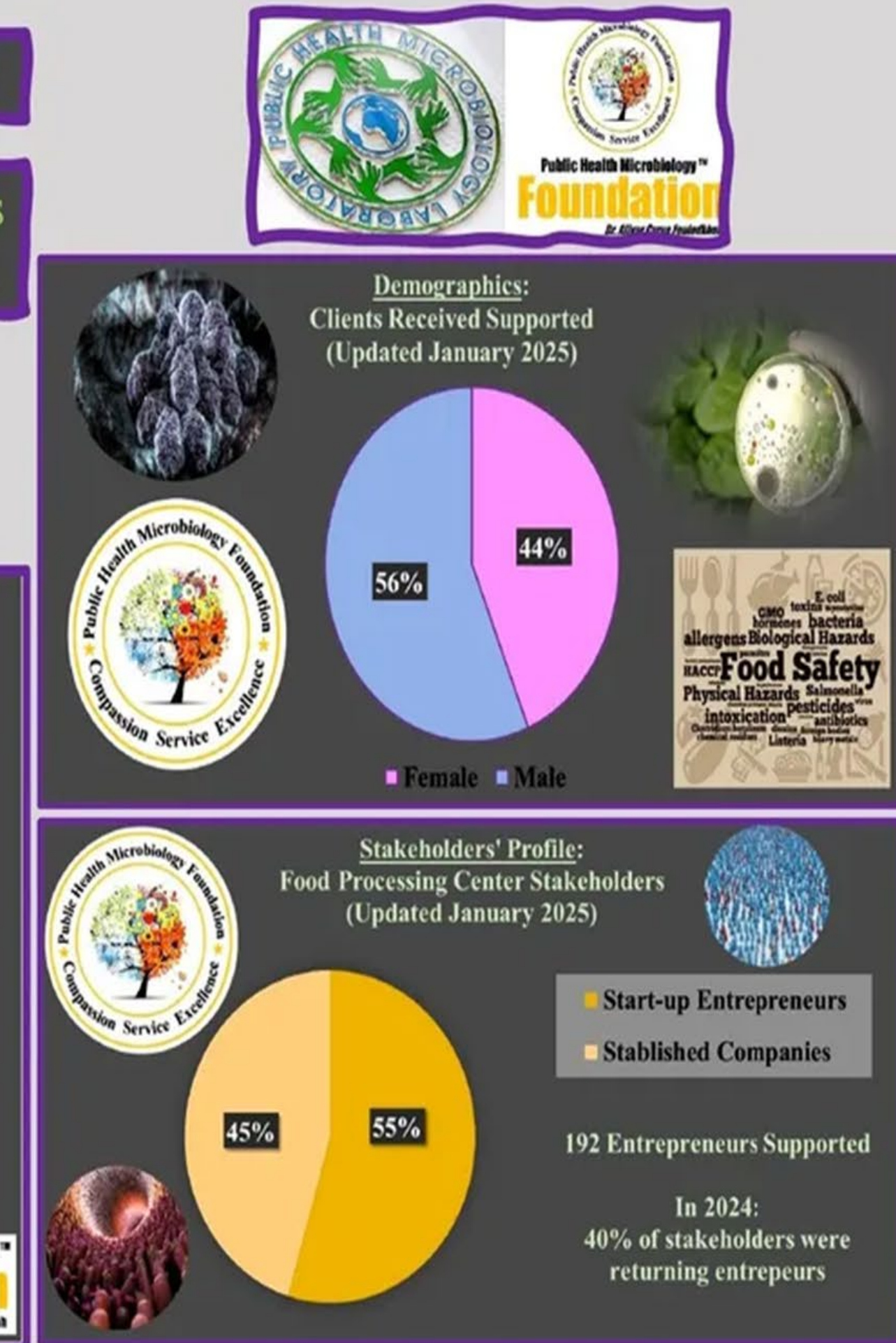
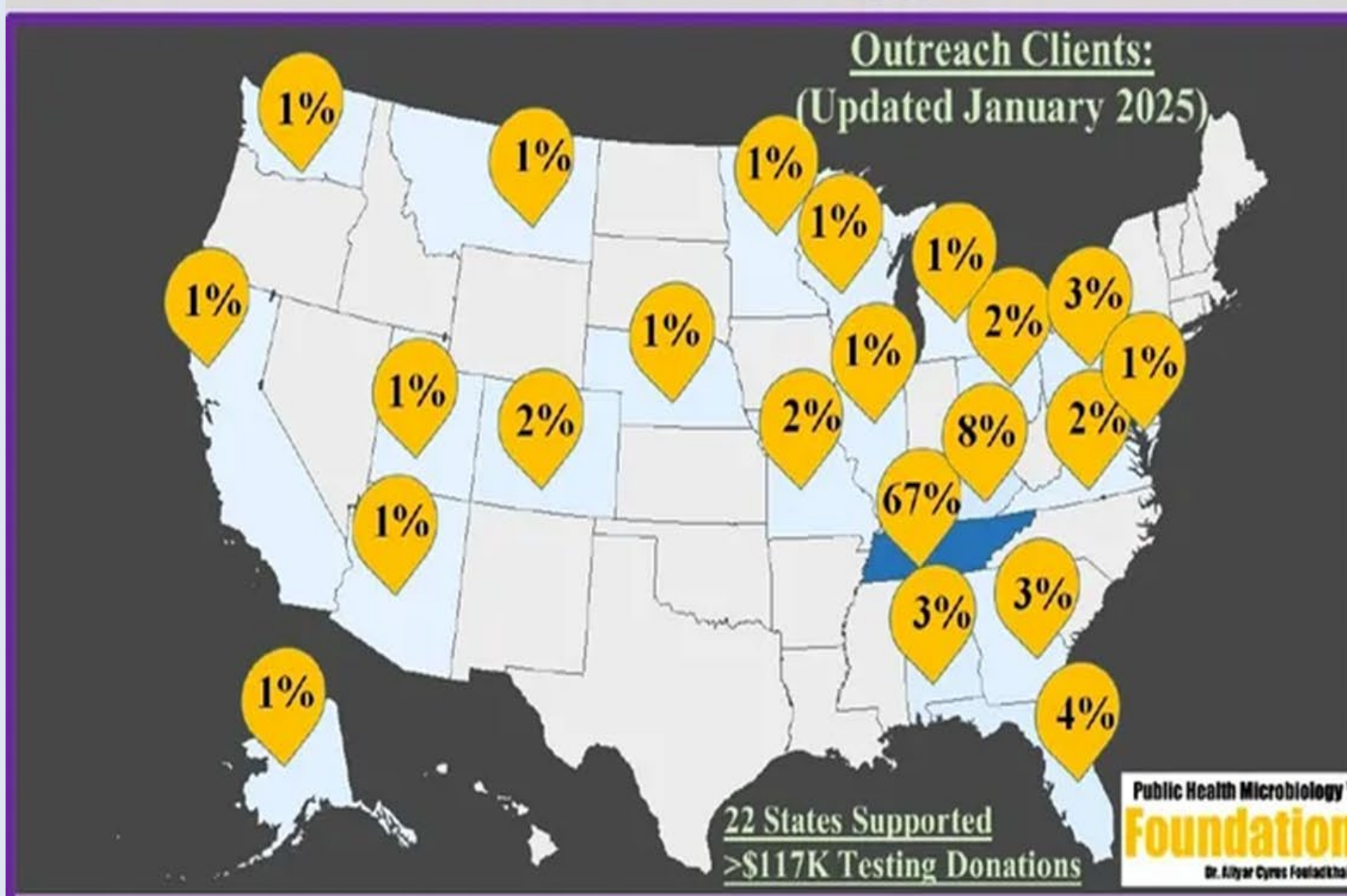
Link to Undergraduate Teaching (AGSC 4280 Food Safety and Quality Assurance) Evaluation:

<https://publichealthmicrobiology.education/undergraduate-evaluation>

Other Implemented Programs

- ❖ Positive Impact Cyrus Award (2 awardees in 2025)
- ❖ Food for Public Health Series Scholarship for Extension Fact Sheets (5 awardees in 2025):
<https://publichealthmicrobiology.education/food-for-public-health-1>
- ❖ Annual State-wide Competitions (6 years, 47 awardees to date):
<https://publichealthmicrobiology.education/annual-competitions>

Public Health Microbiology Foundation Update- Jan. 2025



PC QI for Human Food Workshops (V1.2) 2018-2024 Public Health Microbiology Foundation (Dr. Aliyar Cyrus Fouladkhah, Sole/Lead Instructor)



* Workshop evaluations available at: <https://publichealthmicrobiology.education/workshop-evaluation>