birth among women with lupus. Then, she proposed to bring these findings to women and their
family members. Geeta Rajamani is a junior from Saint Paul, Minnesota, majoring in
economics with a minor in psychology. She joins us this fall as a research assistant for a
project called "Understanding preeclampsia and preterm birth among women with lupus". In
recent grant applications, she worked with the Women's Health Initiative to study the health
effects of lupus, especially during pregnancy.

**RESEARCH PROJECTS**

- **African American Breast Cancer Peer Navigator project**: The goal of this project is to
  develop and evaluate a peer navigation program for African American women with breast cancer. The
  African American Breast Cancer Peer Navigator will work with a team of researchers and community partners
  to identify and address barriers to breast cancer screening and treatment.

- **SOMOS Mayfair project**: SOMOS Mayfair is a grassroots organization in east San Jose that
  works to build community power. Their mission is to support families and connect neighbors to
  build community power. Through a Big Data Lens." She's thankful for the opportunity to conduct research as part of the Office
  of Community Engagement to incorporate her work in the community.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

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- **Joshua Taylor (Community Partner: iMPACt Mid-peninsula Pediatric Advocacy Coalition)**
- **Navika Shukla (Community Partner: Latino Cancer Institute)** Developing Tools to Measure
  Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved that took place in
  October. The goal of this project is to develop and evaluate tools to measure health disparities
  in racial/ethnic minorities and the medically underserved. The project is led by Dr. Navika Shukla,
  a research assistant at the Latino Cancer Institute.

**EDUCATION**

**Undergraduate Student Spotlight**

- **Sai Dhruv Bhat**: Sai is a third-year student at Stanford University, majoring in biology and
  minoring in computer science. She is interested in how social and economic factors contribute to
  health disparities and how these disparities can be addressed through policy and research.

- **Kathryn Azevedo Mendoza, PhD, MA**: Kathryn is a behavioral health researcher with a
  focus on ethnographic and applied mixed-methods research. She is interested in how poverty and
  social inequality shape people's life chances. She is currently working with the Office of Community
  Engagement to develop and implement new research and education programs. Her work is informed
  by her own experiences as a Consumer Sciences Advisor with UC Cooperative Extension where she
  oversaw the local assistance services program as well as the teaching and mentoring components of the
  office.

**FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER**

We are also delighted to announce the launch of our new website which will provide
more resources and opportunities for students and the public. More information can be found on
our website. We are also looking forward to bringing you more news and updates throughout the
coming year! We encourage you to sign up for our email list using the link provided.

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