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Dr. Turner has training in health behavior theory, school-based survey and intervention projects, and program evaluation. Her research background includes work on a number of health promotion projects aimed at children, families, and communities, in the areas of skin cancer prevention, tobacco control, nutrition, and physical activity.

In her current position, Dr. Turner leads the elementary-school data collection efforts for the Bridging the Gap research program, examining obesity-related policies and practices in public and private elementary schools across the United States.

She holds a B.S. in psychology from the University of Washington, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in psychology (with an emphasis in health research and statistics) from the University of Illinois at Chicago.