



Toolkit Volume I: Application Guide

For Health Equity Fellows

Updated: 1/15/2019

**United States Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Minority Health**

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Office of Minority Health (OMH) launched the Youth Health Equity Participatory Model of Practice (YHEMOP) in the summer of 2015. YHEMOP aims to support the future design, implementation, and evaluation of federal and public health workforce policies, specifically as it relates to capacity building for existing organizations or institutions that promote health equity or address health disparities. YHEMOP's main goals are to:

- ▶ Enhance the development of the next generation of emerging health professionals and leaders through direct engagement in health equity work;
- ▶ Increase cross-cutting federal and public collaboration to build healthier communities and support organizational capacity growth among organizations dedicated to reducing health disparities; and
- ▶ Create a healthier nation by strengthening the health and human services infrastructure and workforce.

Health Equity Projects and Programming

The primary activity for each Placement Site and Fellow is the completion of a Health Equity Project. Additionally, YHEMOP offers a range of health equity programming across the 10-week Fellowship period (first week of June through the second week of August). While activities may differ slightly each year, common components of the programming include:

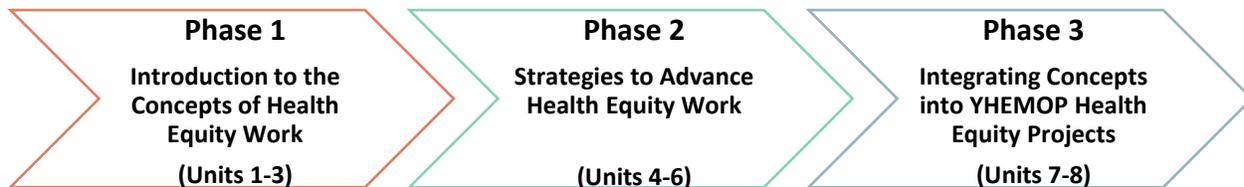
- ▶ Presentations by Fellows related to their Health Equity Projects;
- ▶ Delivery of a tailored Health Equity Curriculum designed by OMH;
- ▶ Brown Bags or other events related to hot topics in health and health equity; and
- ▶ Other professional development opportunities.

Health Equity Curriculum

The YHEMOP Health Equity Curriculum aims to help emerging health professionals meet the following objectives:

-  **Apply a health equity lens** to health and social problems in future professional and/or academic endeavors.
-  Learn about **effective strategies** to advance health equity work through leadership, capacity building, and funding opportunities.
-  **Effectively communicate** concepts of health equity, and the impact of initiatives promoting health equity, in written and oral communications.

The YHEMOP Health Equity Curriculum is delivered in three distinct phases designed to ensure Fellows have the understanding, tools, and experience to integrate health equity into their professional endeavors. The three phases include:



Each week, Fellows will participate in a 1-hour webinar in which health equity experts will deliver curriculum lessons. *Mentors are not required to participate in these lessons.*

Timeline and Key Activities

Below are the key activities that take place during each Fellowship cycle.

Week Number/Date	Activity
Late October – Early December	▶ Placement Site application open
Early January	▶ Placement Sites are selected and notified
Mid-January – Mid-February	▶ Health Equity Fellow application open
Mid-February – Mid-April	▶ Health Equity Fellows are matched to Placement Sites
Mid-April – May	▶ Kickoff calls with Mentors and Fellows ▶ All paperwork submitted
First Week of June	▶ First day of Fellowship is the First Monday of June ▶ Orientation for Fellow at Placement Site ▶ Joint TA Check-In #1: Touch base with TA Specialist ▶ Health Equity Fellow Meet and Greet ▶ Curriculum Unit 1: Introduction to Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health
Second Week of June	▶ Final project descriptions due (if edits are made) ▶ Individual TA Check-In #1: Touch base with TA Specialist ▶ Curriculum Unit 2: Introduction to HHS and OMH
Third Week of June	▶ Curriculum Unit 3: Applying a Health Equity Framework
Fourth Week of June	▶ Curriculum Unit 4: Leadership Development
First Week of July	▶ Joint TA Check-In #2: Touch base with TA Specialist ▶ Free Week
Second Week of July	▶ Mentors and Fellows begin planning Health Equity Project presentation contents ▶ Individual TA Check-In #2: Touch base with TA Specialist

	▶ Curriculum Unit 5: Organization and Coalition Capacity Building
Third Week of July	▶ Curriculum Unit 6: Elements of a Grant
Fourth Week of July	▶ Joint TA Check-In #3: Touch base with TA Specialist ▶ Curriculum Unit 7: Communicating Health Equity Impact
First Week of August	▶ Mentors provide Fellows with feedback on presentations ▶ Curriculum Unit 8: Translating Theory into Practice: Health Equity Project Presentations
Second Week of August	▶ Last week of placement for Fellows ▶ Fellows give a 10-minute project presentation to OMH (in-person for DC-based Fellows, and via webinar for remote Fellows)
Two Weeks after Fellowship	▶ Final deliverables and project materials are submitted to OMH ▶ Post-Fellowship evaluation activities are conducted

*Curriculum webinars are only required for Fellows and will take place each Wednesday at 3 p.m. EST.

Technical Assistance

To ensure that each Health Equity Project is achieving its goals and objectives, Health Equity Fellow and Mentor pairs are assigned a YHEMOP Technical Assistance (TA) Specialist, who will serve as their designated contact for project-related questions or assistance. The YHEMOP TA Specialist will check in with the Mentor and Fellow at least three times during the Fellowship period via email or via phone if needed.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH EQUITY FELLOWS

The requirements for Fellow participation are outlined below:

- ▶ Enrolled in an accredited college or university as an undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral student; or graduated within one year or less of the Fellowship start date
- ▶ Minimum GPA of 3.0
- ▶ Interest in gaining experience or considering a career in health disparities/health equity work
- ▶ Clear description of skill sets
- ▶ Strong oral and written communication skills

Fellows are required to complete the following tasks throughout the course of the placement:

- ▶ **Work full time** (40 hours per week) at their Placement Site between the first week of June and the second week of August (modifications to placement dates may be considered on an individual basis).
- ▶ **Attend all webinars and brown bags** included in the YHEMOP Health Equity Curriculum.
- ▶ **Present on their Health Equity Project** to OMH and the YHEMOP Team in a 10-minute presentation at the close of the Fellowship.
- ▶ **Participate in the YHEMOP evaluation activities** to provide feedback on the program.

APPLICATION GUIDE FOR PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS

As mentioned in the timeline in the Program Overview, YHEMOP applications are open on a staggered basis. First, organizations submit the YHEMOP Placement Site applications in late fall, then students and recent graduates submit the Fellow applications for one of the selected Placement sites.

Students who are interested in participating as a Fellow must complete and mail a **YHEMOP Health Equity Fellow Application** (application available at <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/yhemop>), but can be viewed in **Appendix A**. As part of the application, students will be able to consider Placement Sites and their Health Equity Projects that have been selected for the upcoming cohort. Given that these Placement Sites may be located across the United States (U.S.), Fellows will be asked to **rank their choice of Health Equity Projects** and indicate if they are willing to relocate to each Placement Site's respective location.

Highly qualified applications will demonstrate:

- ▶ High quality of writing (e.g., completeness, thoroughness);
- ▶ History of work and/or interest in health disparities and/or health equity;
- ▶ Professional skills;
- ▶ Interests or experience related to the Fellow's Placement Sites of interest; and
- ▶ Leadership through participation in community service, extracurricular activities, or other comparable experiences.

Candidates will be asked to include the following information on the printed form:

- ▶ Personal contact information;
- ▶ Educational and professional information;
- ▶ Ranked list of Placement Sites to which they are willing to be matched; and
- ▶ Personal statement.

Candidates will also need to mail the following documents:

- ▶ Updated resume
- ▶ Letter of recommendation (separately mailed to the YHEMOP Program by the recommender)

Applications for Summer of 2019 should be submitted via mail directly to the following address with a postmarked date of February 22nd, 2018.

**YHEMOP Program
805 Fifteenth Street NW, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20005**

For any questions, please email OMHYHEMOP@atlasresearch.us

APPENDIX A: 2019 HEALTH EQUITY FELLOW APPLICATION

Welcome, and thank you for your interest in becoming a Health Equity Fellow with the Youth Health Equity Model of Practice (YHEMOP)! The application and matching process to become a Health Equity Fellow will occur in multiple phases.

Application Process

- ▶ **Phase 1.** Please electronically fill out the form below. *Submit your printed application and a copy of your resume directly to the address below.* Your submission must be postmarked by February 22, 2019.

YHEMOP Program
805 Fifteenth Street NW, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20005

Please also have your recommender print and mail the recommendation directly to the address above. The recommendation letter must also be postmarked by February 22, 2019.

- ▶ **Phase 2.** The YHEMOP Team will notify you as to whether you were selected by a placement site to participate in a short (20-minute) interview by mid-March. Final notification of a match will be made no later than mid-April.
- ▶ **Phase 3.** Once a match is finalized and the candidate accepts the position, the YHEMOP Team will schedule a kickoff meeting to introduce the Fellow and Mentor and discuss the Health Equity Project that will be completed during the summer.

Fellowship Requirements

YHEMOP Fellows are required to complete the following tasks during the course of the Fellowship:

- Work full time (40 hours per week) at placement site between June 3, 2019 and August 9, 2019 (modifications to placement dates may be considered on an individual basis)
- Attend all Health Equity Curriculum and Brown Bag events
- Present your work to Office of Minority Health (OMH) staff and YHEMOP team in a 10-minute presentation at the close of the Fellowship
- Participate YHEMOP evaluation activities to provide feedback on the program

Application Requirements

- Personal contact information
- Educational and professional information
- Ranked list of placement sites for which you are willing to be matched
- Personal statement
- Updated resume (mailed to Atlas Research)
- Recommendation (professor or professional connection)

Health Equity Fellowship Application Form

1. Name:
2. Primary Email (school or personal):
3. Phone:
4. Race/Ethnicity: Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity (please choose all that apply)?
 - White
 - Black/African-American
 - Hispanic/Latino
 - Mexican, Mexican-American, or Chicano/a
 - Puerto Rican
 - Cuban
 - Other Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish origin
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Asian
 - Asian Indian
 - Chinese
 - Filipino
 - Japanese
 - Korean
 - Vietnamese
 - Other (Asian)
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - Native Hawaiian
 - Guamanian or Chamorro
 - Samoan
 - Other (Pacific Islander)
 - Other racial or ethnic origin (please specify):
 - Prefer not to answer
5. How did you hear about the YHEMOP Program?
 - University Career Center
 - Professor or Advisor
 - Past YHEMOP Fellow
 - YHEMOP Mentor or Placement Site
 - OMH YHEMOP Website
 - Other (please specify):
6. Are you willing to relocate for a summer Fellowship?
 - Yes
 - No (please specify your location for Summer 2019):

Maybe

Educational History

In the lists below, please include your educational history.

Example:

1. *Educational Institution Name: University of Maryland*
2. *School Location: College Park, MD*
3. *Date attended: From 08/2015 to 05/2019*
4. *Degrees obtained or expected: BA*
5. *Major: 05/2019*
6. *Minor: 05/2019*
7. *Graduation Date/Expected Graduation Date: 05/2019*

Current Enrollment:

1. Educational Institution Name:
2. School Location (City, State):
3. Date attended: From (MM/YYYY) to (MM/YYYY)
4. Degrees obtained or expected:
5. Major:
6. Minor:
7. Graduation Date/Expected Graduation Date: (MM/YYYY)

Previous Enrollment:

1. Educational Institution Name:
2. School Location (City, State):
3. Date attended: From (MM/YYYY) to (MM/YYYY)
4. Degrees obtained or expected:
5. Major:
6. Minor:
7. Graduation Date/Expected Graduation Date: (MM/YYYY)

Previous Enrollment:

1. Educational Institution Name:
2. School Location (City, State):
3. Date attended: From (MM/YYYY) to (MM/YYYY)
4. Degrees obtained or expected:
5. Major:
6. Minor:
7. Graduation Date/Expected Graduation Date: (MM/YYYY)

Project Skills and Preferences

1. Preferred Areas of Concentration (please check all that apply):

- Communications
- Health Care/ Clinical Services
- Psychology
- Health Administration
- Public Health
- Social Work
- Health Policy
- Public Administration
- Sociology
- Health Science
- Public Policy
- Epidemiology
- Other (please specify):

2. Skillsets (please check all that apply):

- Writing
- Facilitation / Training
- Public Speaking
- Community Outreach/ Engagement
- Interviews/Focus Groups
- Program Evaluation
- Literature Review
- Qualitative Analysis
- Quantitative Analysis
- Statistical Analysis/Software
- Other Software (please specify):
- Survey Design
- Multilingual (please specify):
- Website Design/ Management
 - Graphic Design
 - Social Media
 - Other (please specify):

Personal Statement

Please provide a personal statement (*250 to 500 words*) that addresses the following:

- **Rationale:** Reasons for applying to the YHEMOP program
- **Career Goals:** Your future goals and how you see YHEMOP helping you to further your career goals
- **Qualifications:** What you can contribute to the Fellowship
- **Placement Site Selection:** Reason for the selection of your top placement sites
- **Areas of Interest:** Outline the health equity areas or issues that you are particularly interested in addressing in a Fellowship

INSERT STATEMENT HERE:

Resume

Please include a printed copy of your resume with your mailed application.

Recommendation Letter

Please have your recommender (either a professor or professional connection) separately mail the letter directly to the program office.

Project Ranking

Below you will find the descriptions for all Summer 2019 YHEMOP Placement Sites. *Rank your top five (5) preferences (#1 being the top preference for placement)* in the table below. Project descriptions and requirements are listed below.

When ranking placement preferences, please keep in mind that *Fellows are expected to complete the Fellowships on site*; some projects are more flexible regarding the possibility of remote work, but it should be assumed that each project will require the Fellow to work on site.

Please rank your top five (5) preferences (#1 being the top preference for placement).

Ranking	Placement Site Organization	City/State	Project Title
	Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles	Los Angeles, CA	Analyzing the Impact of California’s Restoration of Medicaid Adult Dental Benefits on Oral Health Coverage, Access, and Utilization Among Low-Income Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Communities
	Asian Services in Action, Inc.	Akron, OH	Use of Social Determinants of Health Data to Improve Health Outcomes and Access
	Association of University Centers on Disabilities	Silver Spring, MD	Developing a Language Access Plan
	Black AIDS Institute	Los Angeles, CA	Supporting and Improving Outreach and Communications Efforts to A Black Health Center
	Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training	Long Beach, CA	Long Beach Collaborative: Familias Saludables Community Resource Library
	Community Health Innovations of Rhode Island	Providence, RI	Advancing Equity by Building and Promoting Community Health Governance by Addressing Community Identified Priorities and Doing Research that Reveals the Processes that Produce Disparities
	District of Columbia Department of Health	Washington, DC	Major Risk Factors and the Burden of Chronic Disease in the District of Columbia
	District of Columbia Department of Health, Office of Health Equity	Washington, DC	Community-Based Participatory Research Qualitative Needs Assessment
	Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research	Hollywood, FL	Adolescent to Adult Transition, Preventative Care, and Assisting Sickle Cell Disease Patients During Medical Emergencies at the Nation’s First Standalone Sickle Cell Disease-Focused Center
	Georgia Department of Public Health	Atlanta, GA	Health Equity Strategic Support Alignment
	Hepatitis B Foundation	Washington, DC	Combating Hepatitis B Related Stigma and Discrimination

Ranking	Placement Site Organization	City/State	Project Title
	Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), Region VIII – Denver	Denver, CO	Addressing Health Equity in Youth/Young Adults in Region VIII
	HHS Health Resources and Services Administration, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy	Rockville, MD	Opioid Access Strategies in Rural Areas
	HHS National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science	Bethesda, MD	Training the Next Generation of Health Equity Implementation Researchers
	Larimer County Department of Health and Environment	Fort Collins, CO	Health Equity Evaluation and Toolkit Development
	Louisiana Public Health Institute	New Orleans, LA	Optimizing Health Equity Within all Spaces
	Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities	Baltimore, MD	Implementation Support for the Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance Program
	Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy	Las Vegas, NV	Increasing Health Equity for Children with Behavioral Health Needs
	New Hampshire Office of Health Equity	Concord, NH	Building Essential Capacity to Identify Disparities and Promote Equity in New Hampshire
	Oregon Primary Care Association	Portland, OR	Understanding Social Risk Adjustment in Oregon Primary Care Clinics
	Region II Health Equity Council	US Virgin Islands	Improving the Health Data Infrastructure of the USVI
	Texas Health Institute	Austin, TX	Oral Health Needs Index Project
	The Center for Asian Health Equity	Chicago, IL	Advancing Asian Immigrant Community Health Equity in Chicago
	UnidosUS	Washington, DC	Advancing a Culture of Health Among the Latino Community
	University of Kansas Medical Center and Heartland Health Equity Council	Kansas City, KS	Family Medicine Summer Research Fellowship
	University of Nebraska Medical College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities	Omaha, NE	Next Iteration of the North Omaha Mental Health Initiative

LIST OF PLACEMENT SITES AND PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles

Project Title: Analyzing the Impact of California’s Restoration of Medicaid Adult Dental Benefits on Oral Health Coverage, Access, and Utilization Among Low-Income AANHPI Communities

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Preferred Education Level: Graduate

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Survey Design, Multilingual (Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, or Spanish), Social Media

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles (Advancing Justice – LA) provides direct services, impact litigation, policy advocacy, leadership development, and capacity building to the most vulnerable members of AANHPI communities while also building a strong voice for civil rights and social justice. AANHPI communities are comprised of diverse groups with varied histories, cultures, languages, and health care needs. The goal of this project is to learn if the several state oral health initiatives, such as the CA Proposition 56 funding, have affected access to dental education and care for AANHPI residents in California, including those who are limited-English proficient. The Fellow will collaborate with the Health Access Project staff and Health Justice Networks partners to develop a community-based study to learn more about access and utilization of oral health prevention and treatment services one year after the restoration of adult dental benefits in California's Medicaid program. The Fellow will also complete a report on the community needs assessment process and findings.

For more information, visit <https://www.advancingjustice-la.org/>.

Asian Services In Action, Inc.

Project Title: Use of Social Determinants of Health Data to Improve Health Outcomes and Access

Location: Akron, OH

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Program Evaluation, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Survey Design, Multilingual

Asian Services in Action (ASIA) aims to empower and advocate for Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) and to provide AAPIs and other communities with access to quality, culturally and linguistically appropriate information, health, and social services. ASIA’s International Community Health Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center serving Northeast Ohio’s low-income immigrant and refugee populations with culturally and linguistically-appropriate health services. The goal of this project is to increase the collection of data related to the social determinants of health; use data to identify most common needs and use of social services to improve access; and examine and evaluate the impact of

addressing social needs on health outcomes. Tasks include increasing the percentage of patients who complete the SDOH survey; developing a report on most common needs of patients and the percentage of patients utilizing social services that they are referred to; completing an assessment of current programs with future recommendations; and developing a report examining the potential impact of addressing social services needs on health outcomes with a focus on patients with diabetes and hypertension.

For more information, visit <http://www.asiaohio.org/ichc/>.

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Project Title: Developing a Language Access Plan

Location: Silver Spring, MD

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups

The mission of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) is to advance policies and practices that improve the health, education, social and economic well-being of all people with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and their communities by supporting their members in research, education, health, and service activities. The goal of this project is to develop a Language Access Plan that establishes a strategy for ensuring meaningful access by people with limited English proficiency to programs and activities in accordance with Executive Order 13166: Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency. Tasks include creating a final Language Access Plan; developing training materials for AUCD staff to learn new Language Access Plan; and developing and presenting training materials to share processes, lessons learned, and final products with AUCD national network members.

For more information, visit www.aucd.org.

Black AIDS Institute

Project Title: Supporting and Improving Outreach and Communications Efforts to A Black Health Center

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Survey Design, Social Media

Black AIDS Institute mission is to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic by engaging institutions and individuals in confronting HIV. The goal of this project is to increase PrEP uptake among low-income Black Angelinos; increase anti-retroviral uptake among Black Angelinos Living with HIV; and develop an Unapologetically Black HIV treatment and care service delivery model. Tasks include developing a social marketing strategy for A Black Health Center (AC4U); developing a report on preliminary results of AC4U; and

developing a biomedical prevention survey and health education materials related to knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.

For more information, visit www.blackaids.org.

Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training

Project Title: Long Beach Collaborative: Familias Saludables Community Resource Library

Location: Long Beach, CA

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Statistical Analysis/Software, Multilingual (Spanish), Social Media, Website Design/Management, Graphic Design, Social Media, Other – Asset Mapping

The California State University – Long Beach’s (CSULB) Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training improves, promotes, and advocates for the health, culture, and well-being of diverse Latina/Hispanic communities. They strive to improve the health, educational equity, and social equity among the Latino communities with whom they work and serve. The goal of this project is to establish the Long Beach collaborative led by the CSULB Center and The Children's Clinic to address the disparate rates of childhood obesity among Hispanic/Latina communities in Long Beach, CA; implement a culturally and linguistically-appropriate, family-centered Long Beach *Familias Saludables* (Healthy Families) intervention to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity among families with children aged 6-11; and identify and develop strategies to address social determinants of health impacting access to and utilization of health care and services. Tasks include developing a community resource library comprised of information related to local health services as well as social, support, and/or behavioral treatment programs available to address Hispanic/Latina (H/L) health disparities and reduce H/L childhood obesity; creating an online resource library webpage linked to the organizations website; and participating in research activities including community outreach and implementation of intervention health education and data collection activities.

For more information, visit <https://web.csulb.edu/centers/latinohealth/>.

Community Health Innovations of Rhode Island

Project Title: Advancing Equity by Building and Promoting Community Health Governance by Addressing Community Identified Priorities and Doing Research that Reveals the Processes that Produce Disparities

Location: Providence, RI

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Public Speaking, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Survey Design, Web Design/Management, Social Media

Community Health Innovations improves the health of all Rhode Island citizens by decreasing health disparities through building community. Mount Hope is a low-income and racially diverse community in Providence, RI. However, Mount Hope's proximity to some of Providence's most affluent neighborhoods geographically isolates it from many state- and city-provided family support services. The goals of this project are to work across the Mount Hope Coalition of organizations to increase food security, create youth employment opportunities by building on piloted youth garden leadership program, and build an archive of history and stories of Mount Hope as part of an ongoing intergenerational oral history project. Tasks include working with coalition members, resident gardeners, and other community organizations to advance community programs and urban agriculture; developing infrastructure and processes for the execution of the teen gardening and culinary employment program; and building on research and documentation of the community serial displacement history timeline as well as digital archiving of the oral history and music mural project.

For more information, visit <http://chi-ri.org/>.

District of Columbia Department of Health

Project Title: Major Risk Factors and the Burden of Chronic Diseases in the District of Columbia

Location: Washington, DC

Preferred Education Level: Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software

The District of Columbia Department of Health strives to address the root causes of health disparities beyond health care and health behaviors by supporting projects, policies, and research that will enable every resident to achieve their optimal level of health— regardless of where they live, learn, work, play, or age. The goal of this project is to conduct formal analysis of disparities in mortality from chronic disease in the District of Columbia; examine and describe chronic disease risk factors in the District; and highlight the need for data-driven interventions and policy changes. Tasks include using the ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance system for tracking chronic diseases in the community; enhancing data linkages; and performing ward-level analysis of cancer disparities in the District, including determining the need for early screening and education for residents at risk.

For more information, visit <https://doh.dc.gov>.

District of Columbia Department of Health, Office of Health Equity

Project Title: Community-Based Participatory Research Qualitative Needs Assessment

Location: Washington, DC

Preferred Education Level: Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, NVivo Software, Survey Design

The District of Columbia Department of Health promotes health, wellness, and equity across the District and protects the safety of residents, visitors, and those doing business in our nation's Capital. The goal of this project is to engage District of Columbia residents, especially those in communities experiencing inequitable health outcomes in a series of focus group interviews; utilize existing data to create context for and enhance understanding of what is needed to build capacity and empower community members who participate in community-based participatory research (CBPR); and develop and disseminate a report of community member perceptions and needs to inform the development of CBPR project(s) implementation by Office of Health Equity (OHE) and partners. Tasks include conducting focus group interviews on research, planning, and participation needs and perceptions as they relate to selected Key Drivers of Health; developing a qualitative data report detailing focus group findings and providing recommendations to inform future CBPR efforts; and developing a qualitative report that summarizes findings and recommendations for community members, stakeholders, and internal Department of Health (DOH) leadership.

For more information, visit <https://doh.dc.gov>.

Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research

Project Title: Adolescent to Adult Transition, Preventative Care, and Assisting Sickle Cell Disease Patients During Medical Emergencies at the Nation's First Standalone Sickle Cell Disease-Focused Center

Location: Hollywood, FL

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement

The Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research (FSCDR) is committed to supporting innovative research in Sickle Cell Disease to help maximize quality of life and improve survival for the those affected with this disease. The purpose of this project is to touch on a few of the largest needs demonstrated by the sickle cell disease community in South Florida and educate patients on why a MedicAlert Foundation bracelet is necessary. Tasks include implementing strategies to improve adolescent to adult transition of care; increasing the number of providers using the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Evidence-Based Management of Sickle Cell Disease Expert Panel Report; and increasing the number of FSCDR patients enrolled into the MedicAlert Foundation program.

For more information, visit www.fscdr.org.

Georgia Department of Public Health

Project Title: Health Equity Strategic Support Alignment

Location: Atlanta, GA

Preferred Education Level: Graduate

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Survey Design

The Georgia Department of Public Health seeks to improve the health of all Georgians by integrating the promotion of health equity into all statewide public health programs and services and into the organizational culture of the department. The goal of this project is to develop a calendar and process for recognition of National Minority Health Month to include activities related to state-specific data and involvement of internal and external partners throughout the state (e.g., public health district offices). This project will also focus on data collection and analysis to update the state health equity progress report focusing on viral hepatitis, childhood obesity and diabetes, mental illness, suicide, etc. Tasks include researching current data, programs, and other efforts to develop a calendar of statewide activities; collecting and analyzing health equity data from all Department of Public Health (DPH) divisions, sections and programs, partners, communities, and stakeholders; and presenting findings in a final report. For more information, visit <https://dph.georgia.gov>.

Hepatitis B Foundation

Project Title: Combating Hepatitis B Related Stigma and Discrimination

Location: Washington, DC

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Literature Review, Other (experience with public policy, including legal, legislative, or regulatory analysis)

The Hepatitis B Foundation is actively working to address health inequities associated with hepatitis B. This effort is deeply rooted within the principles of social justice and access to care for medically underserved communities. The goal of this project is to reduce stigma and discrimination related to hepatitis B through awareness, education, and policy change. Tasks include identifying medical, dental, nursing, and other health-related schools whose policies and practices are noncompliant with federal guidance on nondiscrimination laws related to hepatitis B; assessing hepatitis B treatment options offered in qualified health plans participating in health insurance marketplaces; drafting analysis and policy recommendations of findings for each state; and presenting analysis at the annual Hep B United Summit.

For more information visit www.hepb.org or www.hepbunited.org.

HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), Region VIII - Denver

Project Title: Addressing Health Equity in Youth/Young Adults in Region VIII

Location: Denver, CO

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate

Specific Skills: Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Survey Design, Social Media

The mission of the OASH is to optimize the nation's investment in health and science to advance health equity and improve the health of all people. This project will focus on advancing health equity work and resources related to youth, including supporting a convening effective resources and/or programs for adolescents. Tasks include reviewing and providing feedback on Region VIII's Adolescent Health Working Group Work Plan; conducting a literature review related to the health equity impact on positive youth development; creating a landscape of youth and young adult health-related data; and coordinating Health Transitions Regional Convening in Utah.

For more information, visit <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/about-ash/regional-offices/index.html>.

HHS Health Resources and Services Administration, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Project Title: Opioid Access Strategies in Rural Areas

Location: Rockville, MD

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software

In line with the mission of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) helps increase access to care for underserved populations and build health care capacity in rural communities. Recent research has identified disparities in the five leading causes of death for rural communities. The purpose of this project is to map and assess the partnerships between the FORHP grant program and grantees of other HRSA and USDA programs that focus on addressing the opioid epidemic. Emphasis will be on an assessment of behavioral and public health challenges that uniquely affect rural communities, including health leaders, health care professionals, and community members. Tasks include mapping USDA and HRSA opioid programs; identifying the approaches, challenges, model programs, and lessons learned; and developing a report on findings that includes factors causing any gaps or overlap between HRSA and USDA opioid grantees.

For more information, visit <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/index.html>.

HHS National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science

Project Title: Training the Next Generation of Health Equity Implementation Researchers

Location: Bethesda, MD

Preferred Education Level: Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Literature Review, Quantitative Analysis, Graphic Design, Social Media, Facilitation/Training, Public Speaking, Other: Project Management

The Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science (CTRIS) and the NHLBI are committed to the elimination of health inequities through the identification of proven, effective strategies for the prevention and treatment of heart, lung, blood, and sleep (HLBS) disorders. One of CTRIS' strategic priorities is to support and foster late-stage translation research and implementation science. The goal of this project is to foster early- and mid-career investigator success in heart, lung, blood, and sleep implementation research focused on health inequity and to inform future NHLBI workforce development programs and training activities related to eliminating HLBS health inequities. The Fellow will begin with collaborating with a senior staff member to conduct a literature review and an environmental scan on efforts to train and retain health equity implementation researchers (HEIRs). Results will be used to inform the development of a manuscript describing the current state, gaps, and recommendations to ensure the preparedness of the future HEIR workforce to eliminate HLBS disparities. The Fellow will also lead the planning of NHLBI's second Saunders-Watkins Leadership Workshop (SWLW), an event focused on professional development for early- and mid-career researchers with interests in health disparities and implementation science. In addition, the Fellow will collaborate with staff in the planning and implementation of a two-day agenda for the annual summer visit from undergraduate students in the NHLBI-funded Jackson Heart Study Undergraduate Training and Education Center. Lastly, the Fellow will continue efforts to support CTRIS' webinar series on Implementation Science for Health Equity.

For more information, visit <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/divisions/center-translation-research-and-implementation-science>.

Larimer County Department of Health and Environment

Project Title: Health Equity Evaluation and Toolkit Development

Location: Fort Collins, CO

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Program Evaluation

The mission of Larimer County Department of Health and Environment (LCDHE) is to promote a healthy community and reduce unnecessary suffering caused by preventable disease, disability, or death, which is accomplished by providing community health and environmental health services, communicable disease control, health education, vital records management, health data assessment, development of policies that advance the public's health, and advocacy for community-based services that provide needed health care. The goal of this project is to complete an assessment, utilizing the Larimer County Health Equity Matrix, of all LCDHE programs and the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) partner organizations to measure where programs are related to equity and inclusion and to develop a list of targeted tools, trainings, and other resources specific to existing gaps in order to assist in moving forward in equitable implementation programs. Tasks include completing an assessment of the LCDHE programs and CHIP partner organizations utilizing the health equity matrix; developing resources and a curriculum for programs that want to move forward in their equity work; and developing an implementation plan for the curriculum with initial programs and partners.

For more information, visit <https://www.larimer.org/health>.

Louisiana Public Health Institute

Project Title: Optimizing Health Equity Within all Spaces

Location: New Orleans, LA

Preferred Education Level: Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis

The Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI) is built on the foundation of principles for change. Within LPHI, employees formed an equity workgroup whose goal is to create an environment and culture of equity with the purpose of achieving social justice. This project will help to formulate and execute an organization-wide strategy that operationalizes LPHI's inward and outward facing agenda focused on race, gender, class, sexuality, immigration status, disability status, and other forms of equity through training, organization policies, program practice, and development opportunities. Tasks include redesigning the equity workgroup charter; assisting with creating new innovative ideas for brown bag sessions that foster open conversations about equity events practices locally, regionally and nationally; and ensuring the development of an implementation work plan that allows the committee to effectively and efficiently accomplish its responsibilities.

For more information, visit www.lphi.org.

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities

Project Title: Implementation Support for the Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance Program

Location: Baltimore, MD

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate

Specific Skills: Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Quantitative Analysis, Other: Fellow will need a car to drive to assigned locations

Maryland's Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities' mission is to address the social determinants of health and eliminate health disparities by leveraging the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's resources, providing health equity consultation, impacting external communications, guiding policy decisions, and influencing strategic direction on behalf of the Secretary of Health. The goal of this project is to work with staff members responsible for reviewing new Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance (MOTA) programs for FY19 in order to learn about the completed Request for Application (RFA) process, program implementation, and management. Tasks include conducting a thorough examination of MOTA programs for FY19 by reviewing applications, timelines and work plans, and conducting site visits for at least 10 grantees, and assisting with program implementation.

For more information, visit <https://health.maryland.gov/mhhd/>.

Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy

Project Title: Increasing Health Equity for Children with Behavioral Health Needs

Location: Las Vegas, NV

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Literature Review, Social Media

The mission of Nevada Institute for Children's Research Policy is to conduct academic and community-based research that will guide the development of policies, programs, and services, which will enhance the health and well-being of Nevada's children. The goal of this project is to understand the legislation action that has occurred in the legislative session ending in June 2019 related to children's mental health. This project will also identify next steps that are needed to increase awareness about children's mental health and disparities that currently exist regarding mental health. Lastly, this project will assist in creating a plan of action that will decrease disparities related to children's mental health to be incorporated into the Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium strategic plan. Tasks include creating an overview report of the legislation related to children's mental health and the status; creating a work plan for what is needed to reach the priorities related to children's mental health in the next 10 years; and assisting in finalizing the 10-year strategic plan that incorporates legislative priorities around children's mental health as well as other actions needed to make improvements for the most vulnerable children and families to increase equity related to mental health services.

For more information, visit www.nic.unlv.edu.

New Hampshire Office of Health Equity

Project Title: Building Essential Capacity to Identify Disparities and Promote Equity in New Hampshire

Location: Concord, NH

Preferred Education Level: Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Website Design/Management, Graphic Design

The New Hampshire OHE assures equitable access to effective, quality Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) programs and services across all populations with a specialized focus on racial, ethnic, language, gender, and sexual minorities, and individuals with disabilities. The purpose for this project is to assess the Race, Ethnicity and Language (REAL)/Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)/SDOH data collection and analysis capacity across DHHS to identify variation and differences in client access, monitor impact of policies and activities on health equity and outcomes, and assist in tailoring service delivery to meet community needs. Tasks include developing a survey to assess the REAL and SOGI data across DHHS; conducting qualitative interviews to gather more information from survey findings; presenting survey results to DHHS leadership, including a summary report; and creating

and piloting resource materials for REAL/SOGI/SDOH data collection capacity building. For more information, visit <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/omh/index.htm>.

Oregon Primary Care Association

Project Title: Understanding Social Risk Adjustment in Oregon Primary Care Clinics

Location: Portland, OR

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Survey Design

The mission of Oregon Primary Care Association (OPCA) is leading the transformation of primary care to achieve health equity for all. They provide training and technical assistance that includes collecting and aggregating data on patient social determinants of health and helping patients access resources, advocacy, and policy support at 32 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) around the state of Oregon. The goal of this project is to highlight health centers in Oregon and areas of research nationally where social risk adjustment is occurring to improve care and/or payment delivery. This project will also inform OPCA's strategy, including data related to the social determinant of health in clinical care and risk adjustment modeling at a policy level. Lastly, this project will create opportunity for bi-directional communication around social determinant of health efforts between clinics and Medicaid payers in Oregon. Tasks include interviewing Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and community partners; exploring an FQHC in depth; and synthesizing key themes on social risk adjustment for policymaker education.

For more information, visit www.orpca.org.

Region II Health Equity Council

Project Title: Improving the Health Data Infrastructure of the USVI

Location: US Virgin Islands

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate

Specific Skills: Public Speaking, Interviews/Focus Groups, Literature Review, Qualitative & Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Survey Design, Familiarity with federal health data resources and data analysis.

The mission of the Region II Health Equity Council is to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) through culturally and linguistically appropriate programs and policies. The purpose of this project is to collect and consolidate current data to create a second edition of the report titled "Improving the Health Data Infrastructure of the USVI." The Fellow will work with the Data Committee to create a second edition of the report using the most recent data available through updated Federal and states/territories data sources, including in-depth analysis of health data from Puerto Rico and discussion of Puerto Rico's data infrastructure. Tasks

include developing a trend analysis and identifying key informants for qualitative interviews on the impact of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria on the public health system and infrastructure in USVI and Puerto Rico. The Fellow will draft the second edition report, describing findings from the key informant interviews as well as providing recommendations for improving the USVI and Puerto Rico health information systems.

Texas Health Institute

Project Title: Oral Health Needs Index Project

Location: Austin, TX

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Community Outreach/Engagement, Literature Review, Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Website Design/Management

The vision of the Texas Health Institute is to become a nationally recognized defining resource and catalyst for innovations that improves the health of Texans and their communities. The goal of this project is to develop a data interaction platform built with artificial intelligence and machine learning capabilities to help stakeholders predict the Oral Health Needs Index (OHNI) scores for a 10 to 20-year time frame. Tasks include assisting in the creation of a core OHNI platform for all 50 states; assisting in developing a state-specific page for each state where data unique or proprietary to each state can be uploaded and analyzed along with other publicly available data; and assisting in the initiation of the analysis and release of the OHNI score for each county in the 50 states.

For more information, visit <https://www.texashealthinstitute.org/oral-health.html>.

The Center for Asian Health Equity

Project Title: Advancing Asian Immigrant Community Health Equity in Chicago

Location: Chicago, IL

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Interviews/Focus Groups, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Survey Design, Multilingual – South Asian Languages (e.g., Gujarati, Hindi, and/or Urdu),

The Center for Asian Health Equity (CAHE) was established in response to the unmet health needs of the diverse Asian American communities living in the Chicago metropolitan area. CAHE is focused on addressing gaps in clinical medicine and public health and increasing access to health care and human services for low-income, uninsured Asian immigrants and other communities of color. The goal of the project is to provide project management and research support for CAHE's multiple programs that target primarily Asian and African immigrant communities in the Chicago metropolitan area; develop and implement a culturally-tailored health curriculum and instructional toolset for target programs; and

develop various knowledge dissemination materials such as fact sheets, white papers, policy briefs, etc. Tasks include analyzing data to develop a brief community report on the health behavior and hepatitis B perception of foreign-born East African community members; producing policy briefs on the implication of discriminatory policies that affect individuals living with hepatitis B; planning following-up events to screen individuals for cardiovascular disease and diabetes; providing planning and implementation support for colorectal cancer prevention programs; and assisting in the promotion of holistic and culturally-sensitive behavioral health services and interventions in Chicago's Asian immigrant communities.

For more information, visit www.asianhealth.org.

UnidosUS

Project Title: Advancing a Culture of Health Among the Latino Community

Location: Washington, DC

Preferred Education Level: Undergraduate, Graduate

Specific Skills: Public Speaking, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Social Media

UnidosUS supports policies and develops programs to help Latinos live healthy and equitable lives no matter where they live, their economic circumstances, or their cultural background. The goal of this project is to increase awareness and shape a public narrative about best practices and successful strategies for developing strong health leadership in the Latino community through the development of one to two content pieces (e.g., blogs, fact sheets, etc.). These pieces will be related to key health topics, such as diabetes or mental health. This project will also identify and develop strategies for fostering peer-learning on a web-based platform among UnidosUS's network of approximately 200 community health workers, resulting in the creation of one bilingual educational guide. Lastly, this project will increase awareness among 2019 UnidosUS Annual Conference attendees about best programmatic practices and innovative strategies that help advance a culture of health among the Latino community by planning and executing one educational workshop. Tasks include developing one to two blogs/fact sheets related to best practices and successful strategies for developing strong health leadership in the Latino community; creating a bilingual educational guide for community health workers with strategies for using a UnidosUS-managed web-based platform to exchange programmatic best practices/tools and learn from each other; and planning, coordinating, and executing one educational workshop session related to best programmatic practices and innovative strategies that help advance a culture of health among the Latino community.

For more information, visit <https://www.unidosus.org/>.

University of Kansas Medical Center, Community Partnership for Health project and Heartland Regional Health Equity Council

Project Title: The Family Medicine Summer Research Fellowship

Location: Kansas City, KS

Preferred Education Level: Masters, Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Survey Design, Website Design/Management, Social Media

The University of Kansas Medical Center Heartland Institute for Clinical and Translational Research aims to build bridges between researchers, community members, and groups of interested patients who want to be part of the research process. A central program within this Center is the Family Medicine Summer Research Program, which brings underrepresented minority (URM) youth from local communities for hands on, interactive skills building sessions and community-based research projects so they may obtain the tools, understanding, and commitment necessary to conduct quality research focused on health disparities. As part of this project, the Fellow will lead a cohort of interns throughout the program and support them in their research tasks; design and carry out their own research project related to Family Medicine Research; and support regional health equity initiatives in the Heartland Region.

For more information, visit www.kumc.edu.

University of Nebraska Medical College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities

Project Title: Next Iteration of the North Omaha Mental Health Initiative

Location: Omaha, NE

Preferred Education Level: Graduate, Doctoral

Specific Skills: Facilitation/Training, Community Outreach/Engagement, Program Evaluation, Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Statistical Analysis/Software, Survey Design

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Public Health, Center for Reducing Health Disparities enhances the role of UNMC in addressing disparities in health outcomes among Nebraskans through consistent community engagement, partnerships, and advocacy. The goal of this project is to assist in the next iteration of the North Omaha Mental Health Initiative (NOMHI) planning process to develop a three-year plan utilizing the multi-level model to address mental health inequities. Tasks include mobilizing key stakeholder and community residents charged with developing NOMHI infrastructure and priorities; assessing needs and assets in the community to identify three priorities to address mental health needs of the black community; and developing goals, objectives, and strategies to address NOMHI priorities.

For more information, visit <https://www.unmc.edu/publichealth/crhd/>.