

Celebrating Seven Years of Impact: Clinical Scholars 2016–2023



CLINICAL SCHOLARS

Support
provided by



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL



Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation



Health Beyond the Clinic Walls

Health and wellbeing are determined not only by what happens in clinical settings. They are determined by every aspect of people's lives and communities, by what happens in every place people live, learn, work, and gather. For many people, these factors include systemic inequities that cause adverse and unjust health outcomes.

Recognizing this complexity and the vital need to address health inequities, in 2016 the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation invested in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to develop and support a unique national network of healthcare providers.

Integrating their varied perspectives, providers from diverse disciplines—from nurses and doctors to social workers, pharmacists, and physical therapists—formed teams designed to tackle complex health challenges. These teams demonstrated that an interdisciplinary, equity-centered approach can transform the health and wellbeing of communities.

Their efforts and the many lessons learned will inspire and inform their ongoing work in clinic and community alike. They will also inspire and inform the broader movement to build a Culture of Health, in which all people have a just, equitable opportunity to achieve the best possible health and wellbeing.

7 » **44**
years projects

+843,682
people and animals' health
and wellbeing improved

+32,727
people trained

Centering Equity

Core to the program was the model of Equity-Centered Leadership.

Departing from conventional leadership development approaches, the model offers Fellows an adaptable, team-focused, application-oriented framework designed to make system change efforts successful, scalable, and sustainable.

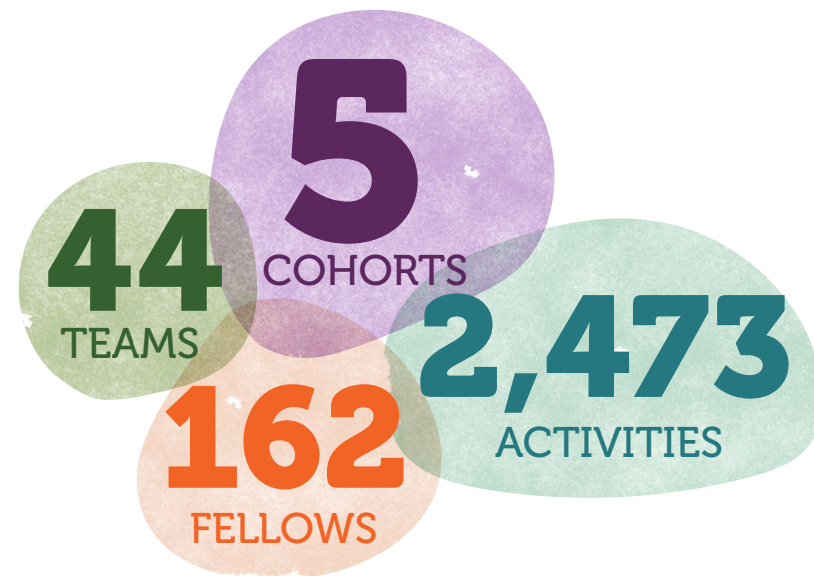
Following this model, Fellows developed an integrated skillset encompassing equity, diversity, and inclusion competencies and key skills across personal, interpersonal, organizational, and community and systems domains.

For details about the model, please see Program Design at the end of this report.



Leadership Impacts

Clinical Scholars Fellows challenge themselves to apply their expertise and outside-the-box thinking to making their communities healthier and more equitable.



A Network of Change Leaders

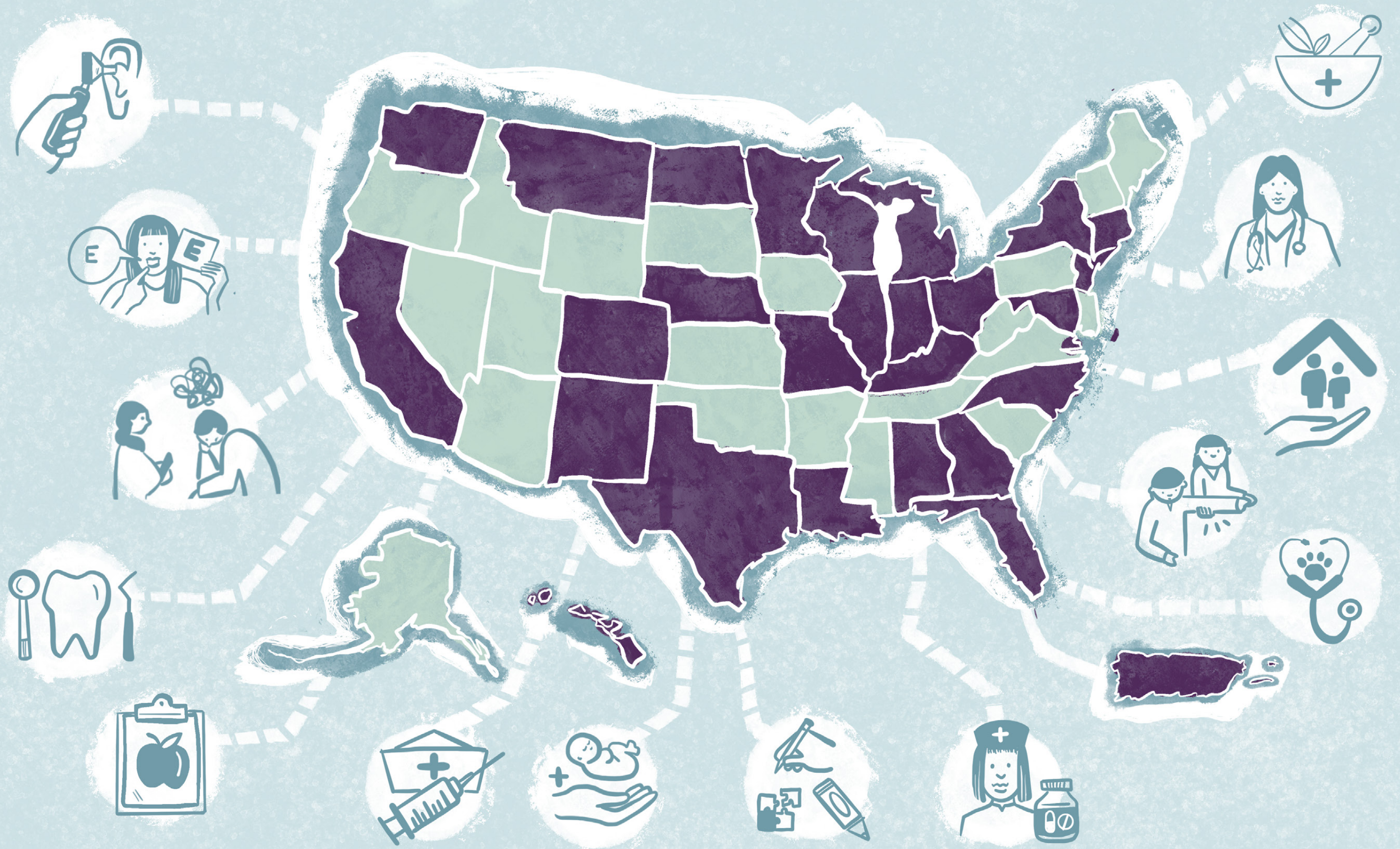
Clinical Scholars was brought to life by 162 program Fellows from 15 healthcare disciplines.

Hailing from 26 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C., these healthcare providers and change agents pooled their complementary experience and insights to form 44 teams. These partnerships yielded innovative solutions to complex issues: solutions that could not have been imagined within the confines of any single discipline.

At the heart of their shared experience were the deep relationships they built—with each other, with the communities they serve, and with participants in other Robert Wood Johnson Foundation leadership programs. These relationships continue to benefit Fellows, their communities, and the country as a whole.



A WEB OF INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPERTISE



2016-2019 COHORT

BUILDING a DENTAL HOME NETWORK for CHILDREN with SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



FILIPINO FAMILY HEALTH INITIATIVE: PREVENTION of BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISPARITIES in an IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



GENDER WELLNESS CENTER: CENTER of EXCELLENCE in TRANSGENDER HEALTHCARE

ONEONTA, NEW YORK

MHI STREET: MENTAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT THROUGH STUDY, TEACHING, REBRANDING, EMBEDDED EDUCATION, and TECHNOLOGY

WASHINGTON, DC



OH-I-CAN: ORAL HEALTH in COMMUNITIES and NEIGHBORHOODS

ATLANTA, GEORGIA



PRESCRIPTION of HOPE for a VULNERABLE POPULATION

FERGUSON, MISSOURI

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



STRONG ROOTS/ RAICES FUERTES: INNOVATIVE and COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH to ADDICTIONS

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

UNDERDOG DREAMS: IMPROVING LONG-TERM QUALITY of LIFE OUTCOMES for FOSTER YOUTH and FAMILIES

ORLANDO, FLORIDA



“Education is certainly important, but personal experiences with children with special healthcare needs—it’s simply life changing.”

Building a Dental Home Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Peter Scal, MD, MPH
Mark DeRuiter, MBA, PhD, CCC-A/SLP
Jeffrey Karp, DMD, MS



“If we can work together, we can reach across and make a huge difference. We can truly connect the mouth back to the body.”

OH-I-CAN: Oral Health in Communities and Neighborhoods
Atlanta, Georgia

Charles Moore, MD
Hope Bussenius, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
David Reznik, DDS



“We can no longer afford to be the silent minority. It has cost our communities the lives and healthcare of our youth.”

Filipino Family Health Initiative: Prevention of Behavioral Health Disparities in an Immigrant Community
Los Angeles, California

Jed David, MS OTR/L, SWC
Horacio Lopez, MD
Aviril “Apple” Sepulveda-Mathew, MS, OTR/L, BCP, SWC
Joyce Javier, MD, MPH, MS
Dean Coffey, PsyD



“Whatever you are able to give, get off the sidelines and give it. I have committed to making my city safe again. My challenge and my question to you is—will you be a part of that change?”

Prescription of Hope for a Vulnerable Population
Ferguson, Missouri / Chicago, Illinois

Lachell Wardell, PharmD
Tonita Smith, MSN



“To provide our patients with affirming healthcare, we need to become agents for systemic change.”

Gender Wellness Center: Center of Excellence in Transgender Healthcare
Oneonta, New York

Christopher Wolf-Gould, MD
Diane Georgeson, MD
Justine Woolner Wise, LMSW
Carolyn Wolf-Gould, MD



“If you treat people with dignity and meet them where they are, their shame falls away. They’re able to open up about other needs, pursue things like primary care and treatment, and feel at home and safe.”

Strong Roots / Raices Fuertes: Innovative and Community-Based Approach to Addictions
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dominic Villanueva, DOM
Katherine Porterfield, PA-C
William Wagner, PhD, LCSW
Lorraine Cordova, BSN, MSN, FNP
Anjali Taneja, MD, MPH



“When the color of your skin is seen as a weapon, you will never be seen as unarmed. As a doctor, I’ve witnessed this. As a daughter, I’ve experienced this. As a mother, I fear this. As a patient, I know this. I know the impact that this has on the mind and the body.”

MHI STREET: Mental Health Improvement Through Study, Teaching, Rebranding, Embedded Education, and Technology
Washington, DC

Erin Athey, DNP, FNP, BSN
Nnemdi Kamanu Elias, MD, MPH



“The mission of underdog DREAMS is to provide every foster youth with the opportunity to dream of the possibilities, to see a future filled with purpose, and to live with intention.”

underdog DREAMS: Improving Long-Term Quality of Life Outcomes for Foster Youth and Families
Orlando, Florida

Annette Bell, MD
Slyving Bourdeau, LCSW
Asha Davis, MD
Catherine Drew, PhD
Derrick Stephens, MBA, LCSW

2017-2020 COHORT

ACCOMPANYING OUR UNINSURED
COMMUNITY from ER to MEDICAL HOME

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



BREATHE: BALTIMORE REALIZING
EQUITY in ASTHMA TREATMENT in
HEALTH and EDUCATION

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



BUILDING RESILIENCE,
BUILDING HEALTH

NEW TOWN, NORTH DAKOTA



COMMUNITY-LED RESPONSE to
PHARMACY CLOSURES and ACCESS to
MEDICINES in CHICAGO

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



DEPART JAIL: DECREASING
PSYCHOSIS-ASSOCIATED
RECIDIVISM WITH TREATMENT in JAIL

BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS



DUSK to DAWN

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

MILWAUKEE PROMPT:
PREVENTION of OPIOID MISUSE
THROUGH PEER TRAINING

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

PRESCHOOL WELLNESS
CONSULTATION: WHOLE BODY
SOLUTION to WHOLE BODY
PROBLEM

SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

SHELTER: STRENGTHENING HEALTH
THROUGH HOUSING EDUCATION,
LINKAGES, & TRAINING to EMPOWER
RESIDENTS

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

SOMEWHERE to GO: ENHANCING
ACCESS to MEDICATION ASSISTED
TREATMENT in RURAL MARYLAND

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



"IT IS TRULY the COLLABORATION of MANY
INDIVIDUALS that HAS MADE our SUCCESS POSSIBLE"





"Keep choosing challenging problems and don't back down due to the political charge of some issues. We are the voice to some who do not have a voice, and we want to leverage our platform to speak out and advocate."

Accompanying our Uninsured Community from ER to Medical Home
Los Angeles, California

Rebecca Trotzky, MD, MS
Patricia Evans, MPA, MSW, LCSW
Kathleen Garvin, BA, RN
Oscar Smith, PA-C
Charmaine Dorsey, MSW, LCSW



"Community violence isn't just affecting families—it's affecting our community and it's affecting a nation. The devastation that violence imposes on our community is the greatest unaddressed public health issue facing our nation."

Dusk to Dawn
Omaha, Nebraska

Jennifer Burt, PhD, LP
Charity Evans, MD, MHCM
Ashley Farrens, MSN, MBA, RN



"It is our responsibility to create patient care models that offer reparation."

BREATHE: Baltimore Realizing Equity in Asthma Treatment in Health and Education
Baltimore, Maryland

Megan Tschudy, MD, MPH
Katherine Bissett, BA, BSN
Katherine Connor, MD, MSPH



"The Veteran experience in war and addiction are only known by those that have walked in it. Peer-to-peer mentorship is a human connection to rebuild a Veteran's life."

Milwaukee PROMPT: Prevention of Opioid Misuse through Peer Training
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Syed Ahmed, MD, MPH, DrPH
L. Kevin Hamberger, PhD
Kajua Lor, PharmD, BCACP
Robert Hurley, MD, PhD



"Calling one's soul, one's spirit, back is critical to walking whole and to walking in peace with yourself."

Building Resilience, Building Health
New Town, North Dakota

Kelly McGrady, RN
Monica Taylor-Desir, MD, MPH
Anita Martin, MD
Leolani Ah Quin, DBH, LCSW



"Many people question why mental health is necessary in childhood. We are telling you: their lives depend on it."

Preschool Wellness Consultation: Whole Body Solution to Whole Body Problem
Santa Monica, California

Maya Lindemann, RN, BSN
Matthew Ruderman, MEd, PhD
Lara Sando, PhD



"Ensuring access to pharmacies is a public health imperative."

Community-Led Response to Pharmacy Closures and Access to Medicines in Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dima Gato, PharmD, MPH, PhD
Shannon Zenk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN



"Building true community partnerships allowed us to grow our relationship beyond the scope of this project."

SHELTER: Strengthening Health through Housing Education, Linkages, & Training to Empower Residents
New York, New York

Omolara Uwemedimo, MD, MPH
Christine Chim, PharmD, BCACP
Johanna Martinez, MD, MS



"These young adults deserve the treatment that can change the trajectory of their illness [so they can] lead meaningful lives, with less pain and suffering."

DEPART Jail: Decreasing Psychosis-Associated Recidivism with Treatment in Jail
Belmont, Massachusetts

Kelly Scanlon, LICSW
Rakesh Karmacharya, MD, PhD



"Having a cohesive team with a shared vision and value orientation coupled with nimble and flexible leadership proved critical in being able to lean into this project, expand our capacity, and implement an effective intervention."

Somewhere To Go: Enhancing Access to Medication Assisted Treatment in Rural Maryland
Baltimore, Maryland

Seth Himelhoch, MD, MPH
Marian Currens, CRNP-Adult
Jewell Benford, LCSW-C
Eric Weintraub, MD

2018-2021 COHORT

BRIDGING BORDERS: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AMONG IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

HOUSTON, TEXAS



BUILDING ACCESS, ENGAGEMENT, and RESILIENCY THROUGH TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



DEVELOPING a DIGITAL WEB TO ADDRESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISPARITIES in RURAL NEW YORK STATE

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

IMPROVING ACCESS TO PEDIATRIC HEALTHCARE in FRONTIER REGIONS THROUGH THE USE of INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

MISSOULA, MONTANA



MATERNAL HEALTH MATTERS
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

PROMISE for SUCCESS: PROMOTING RESILIENCE and OUTREACH THROUGH MULTI-TIERED INTERVENTIONS and SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN

RESPONSIVE SCHOOLS: BUILDING a TRAUMA RESPONSIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY for ALL CHILDREN

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

TOGETHER, LET'S end THEIR WAR: PROMOTING a CULTURE of HEALTH AMONG VETERANS on the GULF COAST

MOBILE, ALABAMA

UNIVERSIDAD del TURABO HEALTH AMBASSADORS

GURABO, PUERTO RICO

" WE HAVE LEARNED that **WE** CAN DO MORE TOGETHER THAN WE CAN ALONE "



"We need to remember that Unaccompanied Minors are resilient. It is also important to remember that, despite having high levels of trauma, they are often afraid to seek help, which is why we need to ask them what happened and how we can help."

Bridging Borders: Community Partnerships to Support Mental Health among Immigrant Children

Houston, Texas

Johanna Báez, PhD, LCSW
 Nohemi Garcia, LMFT, LPC
 Adriana Gutierrez, MA, LPC-S
 Sanghamitra Misra, MD



"We want every birthing person to have a safe, healthy, happy delivery that is uncomplicated by racial and income inequalities."

Maternal Health Matters

New York, New York

Jamillah Hoy-Rosas, MPH, RDN, CDCES
 Omara Afzal, DO, MPH, FACOG



"When trauma-informed care is integrated into all of emergency medicine, the trauma that clinicians and patients carry will lead to meaning and renewal, and we can move from surviving to thriving."

Building Access, Engagement, and Resiliency through Trauma-Informed Care

Boston, Massachusetts

Hanni Stoklosa, MD, MPH
 Samara Grossman, MSW, LICSW
 Annie Lewis-O'Connor, PhD, NP-BC, MPH, FAAN
 Nomi Levy-Carrick, MD, MPhil
 Eve Rittenberg, MD



"How about we respond to our children with compassionate actions promoting a culture of resilience?"

PROMISE for Success: Promoting Resilience and Outreach through Multi-tiered Interventions and Supportive Environments

Ypsilanti, Michigan

Jessie Kimbrough Marshall, MD, MPH
 Brenda Averett, MA, LSC, LPC, LSW
 Polly Gipson Allen, PhD



"I hope that we can all strive for a future...where we continue to spend more time together with technology, where we use technology to actually enhance our time together."

Developing a Digital Web to Address Behavioral Health Disparities in Rural New York State

Rochester, New York

Jennifer Richman, MD
 Michael Hasselberg, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC
 Wendi Cross, PhD
 Kathryn Lewis, LCSW



"Stress happens, but it does not have to turn into secondary traumatic stress."

Responsive Schools: Building a Trauma Responsive Learning Community for All Children

Indianapolis, Indiana

Wanda Thruston, DNP, PNP, RN
 Barbara Pierce, PhD, LCSW
 Megan Carlson, MSN, PPCNP-BC, RN



"We have learned that we can do more together than we can alone, and we can do it in a way that we believe creates community rather than burnout. We can offer 24/7 access to care across Montana's 147,000 square miles."

Improving Access to Pediatric Healthcare in Frontier Regions Through the Use of Innovative Technology Solutions

Missoula, Montana

Emily Hall, DO, FAAP
 Allison Young, MD, FAAP
 Chelsea Bodnar, MD, MPhil, FAAP



"I want this to be a message of hope that things can change; as providers we must remember that addiction is a family disease, and our communities need to be ready to care and support each member of that family."

Together, Let's End Their War: Promoting a Culture of Health among Veterans on the Gulf Coast

Mobile, Alabama

Erin Lunn, PA-C, MHS
 Jeremy Fletcher, PT, DPT, OCS
 Marjorie Scaffa, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
 Joseph Currier, PhD



"We would like to ask you to help ensure that everyone can always enjoy a full plate, plant seeds, share meals, break chains, build bones."

Universidad del Turabo Health Ambassadors

Gurabo, Puerto Rico

Ursula Aragunde-Kohl, PsyD
 Fernando Janer, ND, MSW
 Lydael Vega-Otero, MSW

2019-2022 COHORT

ADDRESSING RISK FOR DEPRESSION
and UNMET SOCIAL NEEDS AMONG
IMMIGRANT LATINA MOTHERS

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



HEALTH ENGAGEMENT
LEADING TO PREVENTION

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

CASEY HEALTH: COORDINATING
ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT
EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

JUSTICE HEALS:
HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERVENTIONS
for SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

CREATING A LEGAL SYSTEMS
SUPPORT and HEALTH CARE
EXCHANGE TO PROMOTE
ENGAGEMENT in PRIMARY
CARE SERVICES

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

KOKUA: KUPUNA
OUTREACH and
KNOWLEDGE in
UNDERSERVED AREAS

HONOLULU, HAWAII

PARTNERING for
PALLIATIVE CARE:
IMPROVING QUALITY of
LIFE in RURAL COMMUNITIES

OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON

EMPOWERING HAWAII'S
HOMELESS: A DIABETES
and PRE-DIABETES EDUCATION
and RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

HONOLULU, HAWAII



"WE ILLUSTRATED what HAPPENS when a SMALL GROUP
of PEOPLE with a SHARED VISION COME TOGETHER & ACT"

REIMAGINING SCHOOLS
AS A PLACE for IMPROVING
THE HEALTH of CHICAGO'S
CHILDREN

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



"Go for it! In partnership with the community, with cultural awareness, with humility and flexibility, and with a plan for ongoing evaluation, adaptation, and dissemination. Get to work."

Addressing Risk for Depression and Unmet Social Needs among Immigrant Latina Mothers
Baltimore, Maryland

Flor Giusti, LCSW-C
Rheanna Platt, MD, MPH
Sarah Polk, MD, ScM, MHS



"You can build a community of people who don't fall through the cracks. You can build it...by listening to your client and seeing what the client actually needs. And then those cracks become flowers. We're the flowers."

Health Engagement Leading to Prevention
Asheville, North Carolina

Shuchin Shukla, MD, MPH
Kathey Avery, BSN
Francisco Castelblanco, DNP



"Every child is born with an innate desire to thrive. And it is our responsibility as adults in children's lives to help them lead a healthy life."

CASEY Health: Coordinating Activities to Support Empowerment of Youth
Lexington, Kentucky

Charles R. Carlson, PhD
Julie Plasencia, PhD, RDN
Angela Grubbs, DNP, APRN
Audrey Darville, PhD, APRN
Craig S. Miller, DMD, MS



"Our team is looking at the outcomes for both humans and animals with the goal of ensuring a truly One Welfare model to serve both our survivor and shelter dog populations."

Justice Heals: Human-Animal Interventions for Survivors of Sexual Assault
East Lansing, Michigan

Megan Spedoske, LMSW
Tana Fedewa, LMSW
Marie Hopfensperger, BS, DVM



"This started because a doctor heard about a court that provided social services instead of jail time or fines, and she picked up the phone and asked for a meeting."

Creating a Legal Systems Support and Health Care Exchange to Promote Engagement in Primary Care Services
Newark, New Jersey

Stephanie Bonne, MD
Patricia Ann Walling, MS, DNP
Colleen Smith, LCSW



"Kōkua is the Native Hawaiian word for 'help.' Its deeper meaning is to extend help in a sacrificial way, with no interest in personal gain. It is this value that we hope to embody in our project and impart to others."

KOKUA: Kupuna Outreach and Knowledge in Underserved Areas
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Chad Kawakami, PharmD
Pia Lorenzo, MD
Robin E. S. Miyamoto, PsyD



"This plant [in our logo] has an 'Olelo No'eau, a Native Hawaiian proverb, which... translates to 'I am a wind-resisting 'a'ali'i plant; no gust can push me over.' This...was perfect for everything our team represents and for the main focus of our project, building resilience."

Empowering Hawai'i's Homeless: A Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes Education and Resilience Initiative
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Aukahi Austin Seabury, PhD
Francie J. Julien-Chinn, PhD, MSW
Marjorie K. Leimomi Mala Mau, MD, MS
Dee-Ann L. Carpenter, MD
Camlyn Masuda, PharmD



"We all deserve this kind of care. We all deserve healthcare professionals who can help us explore fears and hopes."

Partnering for Palliative Care: Improving Quality of Life in Rural Communities
Okanogan, Washington

Karen Jacobsen, MA, LMHC
Kevan Coffey, DNP
Sheila Brandenburg, RN, CHPN
Justin Porter, BSN, Paramedic
Raleigh Bowden, MD



"The school environment represents an important venue for providing resources and programs to optimize children's health and wellness."

Reimagining Schools as a Place for Improving the Health of Chicago's Children
Chicago, Illinois

Tarrah DeClemente, MPH, RDN
Jeannine Cheatham, MSN
Anna Volerman, MD
Kenneth Fox, MD
Stacy Ignoffo, MSW

2020-2023 COHORT

ADDRESSING THE VETERINARIAN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS THROUGH AN ACT-BASED PROGRAM

KENT, OHIO



REDUCING THE BURDEN OF DIABETIC KIDNEY FAILURE IN LATINX PATIENTS: A COMMUNITY-BASED, PATIENT-CENTERED APPROACH

DENVER, COLORADO

BREAKING SILENCES IN THE MODEL MINORITY: A NATIONAL INTERVENTION TO INCREASE MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND DECREASE STIGMA IN ASIAN IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

WASHINGTON, DC

EMPOWER NOLA

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA



"WE ARE ONLY AS HEALTHY AS THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US" 

COMMUNITY BASED DOULAS - LAVISH TO ESSENTIAL SUPPORT

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

PEOPLE, PETS, LOVE: ENGAGING THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND TO BUILD TRUST AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE NEIGHBORS

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

CROSSING SECTORS TOGETHER: FORGING A NEW PATH HOME FOR MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHRONICALLY HOMELESS PATIENTS

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

WAKE COUNTY FAMILIAR FACES HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA





“Veterinary teams have one of the highest rates of emotional distress and suicide. Our Unburdened education modules are decreasing stress and burnout for more than 600 team members nationwide.”

Addressing the Veterinarian Mental Health Crisis through an ACT-Based Program
Kent, Ohio

Alanna Updegraff, PhD
Lisa Wiborg, LISW-S
Mary Beth Spitznagel, PhD
Meg Sislak, DVM, DACVR



“Untreated diabetes and kidney failure tear families apart and strip away years of life from Latinos. People-focused policies and diabetes awareness and education bring light to this dim tunnel.”

Reducing the Burden of Diabetic Kidney Failure in Latinx Patients: A Community-Based, Patient-Centered Approach
Denver, Colorado

Kayce Sol, BSN, RN
Rocio Pereira, MD
Adrian Boka, PharmD, BCPS
Lilia Cervantes, MD
Natalie Ritchie, PhD



“Breaking silences is one solution to mental health stigma and youth suicide in Chinese immigrant families.”

Breaking Silences in The Model Minority: A National Intervention to Increase Mental Health Awareness and Decrease Stigma in Asian Immigrant Families
Washington, DC

Juliana Chen, MD
Weiyang Xie, PhD, HSPP
Justin Chen, MD, MPH
Jian (Lily) Chen, RN, MA, CNE



“Behind those smiles as the music stops, children are living through profound traumatic events. Empower NOLA provides training specifically designed for the helpers who help the children of New Orleans.”

emPOWER NOLA
New Orleans, Louisiana

Rhonda M. Jackson, LMSW
Maurice Sholas, MD, PhD
Lauren Teverbaugh, MD
Arnold H. James, PhD



“Black birthing mamas and their babies deserve to celebrate their first birthday together.”

Community Based Doulas – Lavish to Essential Support
Asheville, North Carolina

Dolly Pressley Byrd, PhD, CNM
Amanda Brickhouse Murphy, CNM
Crystal Cené, MD, MPH, FAHA
Beth Buys, MD



“Seattle Veterinary Outreach leverages the love people have for their pets to bring medical care to pets and people and connect them to vital health, housing, and social service resources.”

People, Pets, Love: Engaging the Human–Animal Bond to Build Trust and Improve Access to Healthcare for Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors
Seattle, Washington

Hanna Ekstrom, DVM
Cholette Ness, LVT
Jessica Lowery, BSN, RN-BC
Cathrine Wheeler, MD



“We connect people to the care that they need to heal after hospital discharge.”

Crossing Sectors Together: Forging a New Path Home for Medically Complex Chronically Homeless Patients
Buffalo, New York

Amanda Anderson, MSN, MPA, RN
Deborah Heigl, BS, RNCM
Sharon Hewner, PhD, RN, FAAN
Donna Gatti, RN



“We are working to provide integrated health services to vulnerable individuals who have frequent interactions with the crisis systems. Our model reduces costly human suffering and is reproducible.”

Wake County Familiar Faces Health Collaborative
Raleigh, North Carolina

Thava Mahadevan, MS, LCAS
José G Cabañas, MD, MPH
Keturah Beckham, MSW, LCSWA, LCAS-A, CHC
Jason Wittes, PharmD
Derrick Hoover, MD, FAAFP

Sharing Lessons Learned

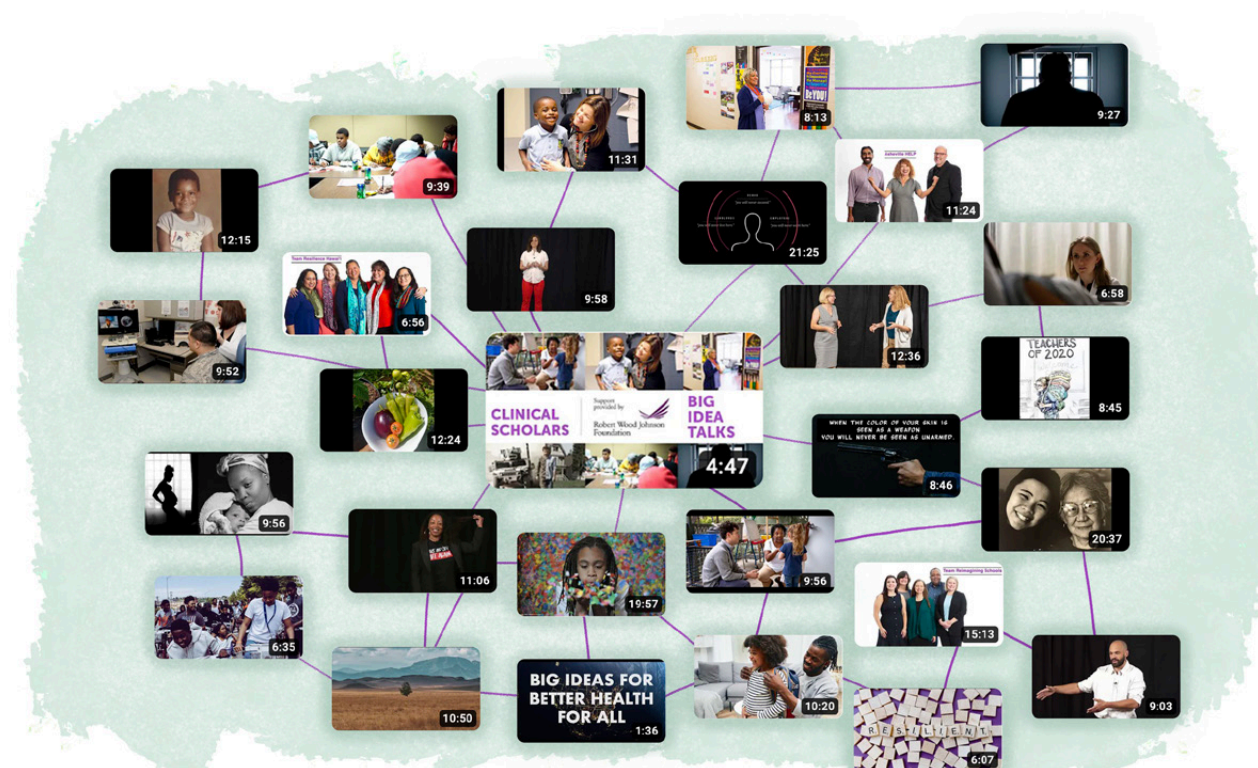
Clinical Scholars Fellows work on complex problems that impact communities across the United States. Sharing lessons learned is a key part of addressing systemic issues, fostering collaboration, and advancing equity.

Community Toolkits:

Community toolkits share best practices and lessons from the 44 projects carried out since 2016. Designed for diverse audiences—from clinicians to community organizations—the toolkits cover topics ranging from oral health to trauma-informed healthcare.

Big Idea Talks:

Clinical Scholars teams have recorded dozens of TED-style talks—available on YouTube—sharing moving stories about the innovative ways they are advancing health equity in their communities.



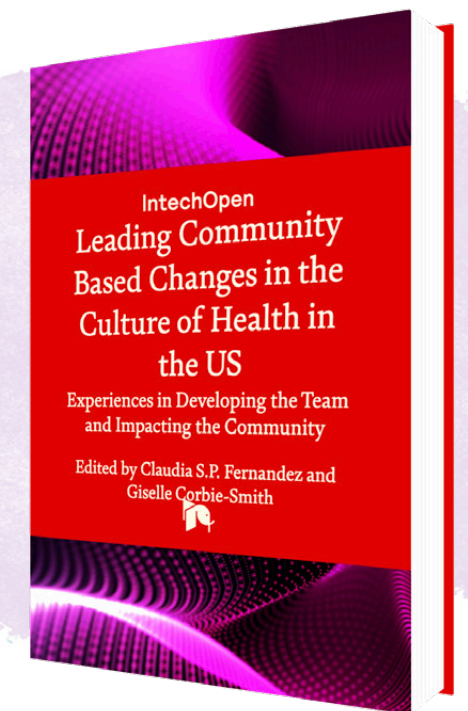
E-Books:

How do we equip leaders with tools centered in equity, diversity, and inclusion to transform the health of their communities as well as their own career paths?

- Leading Community-Based Changes in the Culture of Health in the US: Experiences in Developing the Team and Impacting the Community:** With many chapters co-authored by program Fellows, this 2021 e-book is an invaluable resource on solutions for tackling health disparities.
- In 2024, the program team will publish a second e-book—tentatively titled **From Clinical Practice to Public Health Applications: The Successful, Sustainable, and Scalable Outcomes of the Clinical Scholars Program**—also featuring chapters by program Fellows.

“An inspiring anthology of public health projects led by clinicians and community leaders to solve pressing health disparities.”

—Dr. Howard Liu,
Chair, Department of Psychiatry,
University of Nebraska Medical Center



Program Design: Interdisciplinary Teams + Equity-Centered Leadership

Working in **interdisciplinary teams** creates the opportunity for healthcare providers to bring diverse insights and skillsets to bear on complex health challenges in their communities.

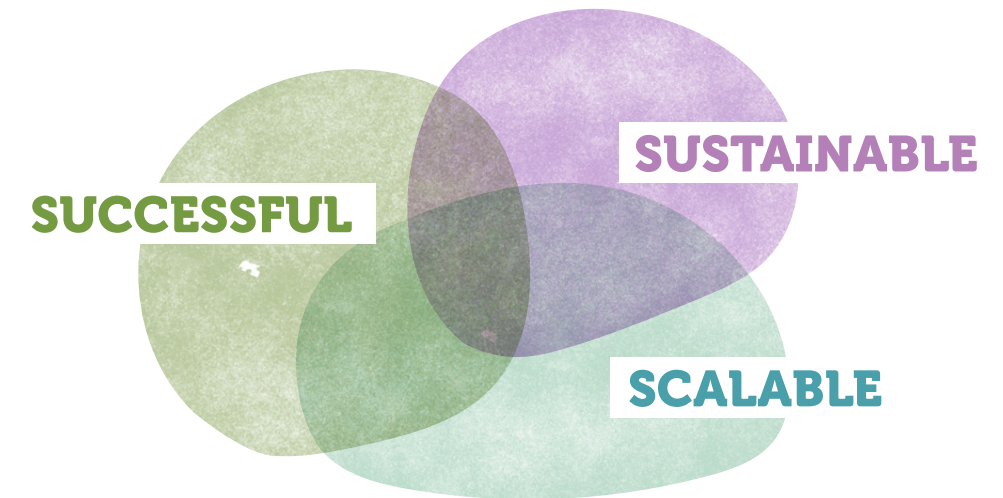
Equity-Centered Leadership (ECL)—developed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill—is a validated, evidence-based model designed to provide the leadership infrastructure needed to:

- **Co-create solutions to complex, persistent health equity challenges.**
- **Radically alter the systems that impact people’s health outcomes.**
- **Transform the health and wellbeing of communities.**

ECL departs from conventional leadership development in four key ways.

- **Team focus**—Rather than focusing on individuals, the model builds the shared, collaborative leadership capacity of interdisciplinary teams.
- **Adaptability to context**—Rather than prescribing a single approach for all people in all places, the model is accountable and adaptable to local context.
- **Leadership from anywhere**—Rather than focusing on leadership from a position of formal authority, the model embraces the leadership of people in any role.
- **Learning through application**—Rather than delivering training in a vacuum, the model advances learning through a blend of experience, reflection, and application.

Designed to make system-change efforts **successful, scalable, and sustainable**



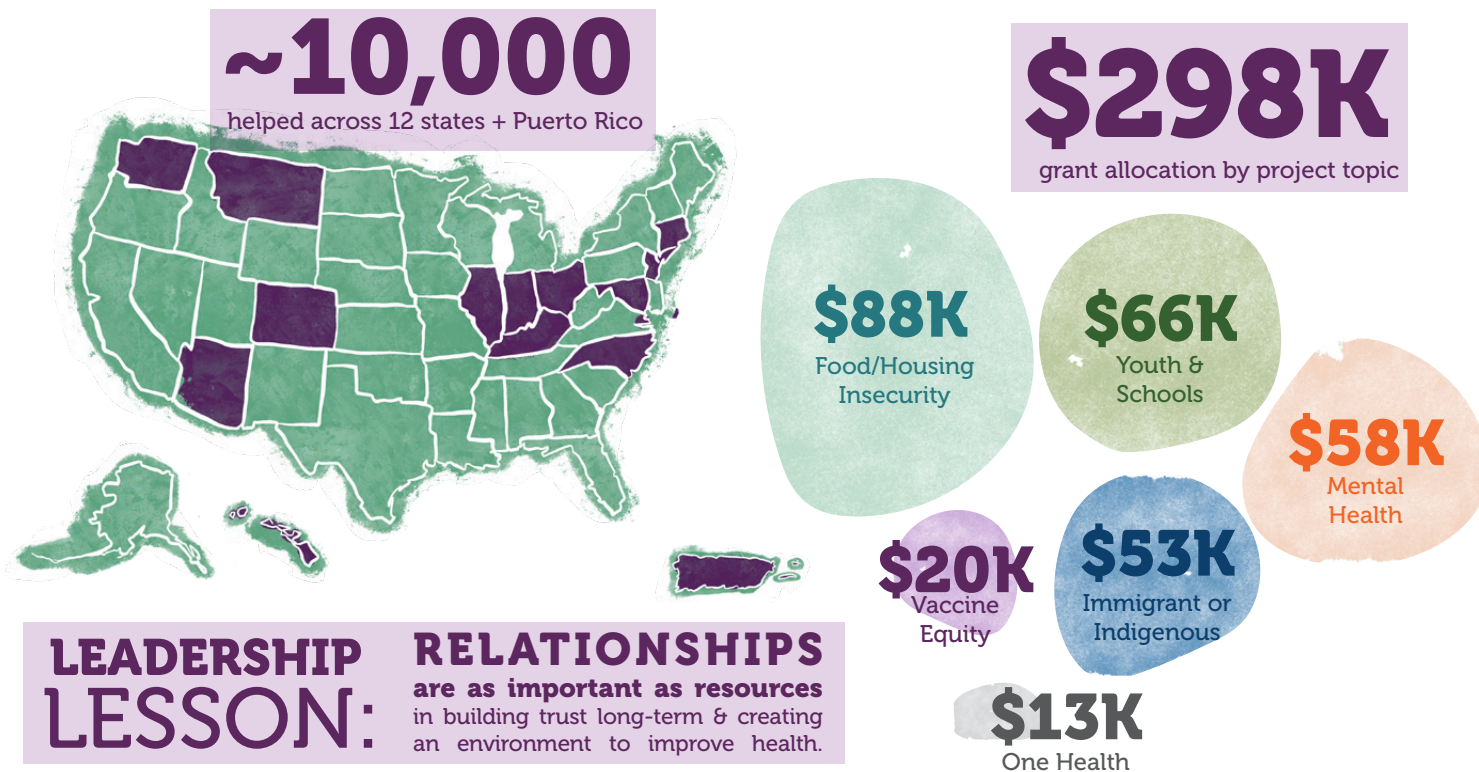
Built on the foundation of an **integrated skill set**



Responding to COVID-19

In a time of unprecedented need, Clinical Scholars awarded \$298,000 in COVID rapid response grants for 22 projects nationwide. With these funds, Clinical Scholars Fellows provided crucial support to communities experiencing increasing health disparities due to structural inequalities, helping 10,000 people and animals across the country. The Fellows tackled wicked problems presented or exacerbated by COVID—from mental health needs to food and housing insecurity to harmful healthcare gaps.

By preventing in-person gatherings, the pandemic impacted Fellows' experiences of the Clinical Scholars program. It also multiplied the challenges of building new collaborations. Yet Fellows forged over 100 cross-sector partnerships, learning valuable lessons transferable to health equity work beyond COVID.



The People Behind Clinical Scholars



Staff & Partners

Giselle Corbie, MD, MSc: Co-Director
 Claudia Fernandez, DrPH, MS, RD, LDN: Co-Director
 Rachel Berthiaume, MPH: Deputy Director
 Kathy Donald, MS: Deputy Director
 Melissa Green, DHSc, MPH: Deputy Director
 Vincent Holloway, MBA: Online Learning Coordinator
 Liz Wozniak, MA: Online Learning Coordinator
 Michelle Abel-Shoup: Program Manager
 Rachel Quinto: Program Manager
 Gabrielle Diekmann: Communications Specialist
 Oak Ritchie: Communications Specialist
 Karl Whetzel: Communications Specialist
 Timberly Leakes: Program Assistant
 Danielle Reigel: Program Assistant
 Guarav Dave, MD: Lead Evaluator
 Cheryl Noble, MSW, MPH: Project Evaluator
 Katie Brandert, PhD, MPH, CHES: Consultant and Team Coach
 Angela Rosenberg, DrPH, PT: Consultant and Executive Coach
 John Beranek: Team Coach
 Sarena Dacus, MPH: Team Coach
 Colleen Svoboda, MPH: Team Coach
 Roger Hall, PhD: Executive Coach
 Debbie Jepsen, MSc: Executive Coach
 Mitch Owen, EdD: Executive Coach
 Collin Rustin, MA: Executive Coach
 Al Richmond, MSW: Program Partner
 Melvin Jackson, MSPH: Program Partner

Paige Castro Charisse Iglesias, PhD: Program Partner
 Mysha Wynn: Program Partner
 Ruben Fernandez, JD: Program Partner
 Brandon Grimm, PhD, MPH: Program Partner
 Lisa Simpson BM, BCH, MPH: Program Partner
 Bonnie Cluxton, JD, MPH: Program Partner
 Jennifer Messenger: Program Partner
 Ashley Bloom Royal: Program Partner
 Tovar Cerulli, PhD: Program Partner
 Madeline Byers: Program Partner
 Shadiin Garcia, PhD: Program Partner
 Rick Bloom: AV Partner
 Josh Kline: AV Partner

RWJF

Richard Besser, MD
 Sallie George
 David Krol, MD, MPH
 Melissa Nahm
 Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, MBA
 Herminia Palacio, MD, MPH
 Kaytura Felix, MD, MPH
 Deborah Bae, MBA, MPA
 Dee Colello
 Beth Toner, RN
 Mimi Turi
 Christine Lee
 Leah Devlin, DDS, MPH

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Eliana Perrin, MD
Wizdom Powell, PhD
Rocio Quinonez, DMD, MPH, MS

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Michael Anderson
Vineet Arora, MD
Roxi Beck
Taffe Benson Clayton, PhD
John Berkeley
Joseph Betancourt, MD, MPH
Sarah Birken, PhD, MSPH
Nabal Bracero, MD
Angela Bryant, JD
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Bettina Byrd-Giles
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Bailey Goldman
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Jessica Gourneau, PhD, LP
Stedman Graham, MEd
Patty Grant
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James Johnson, PhD
LaShaune Johnson, PhD
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Nancy Lopez
Kimberly Manning, MD
Sharon Delaney McCloud, CDE
Allison Metz, PhD
Blair Miller, PhD
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Keith Payne, PhD
Roger Pearman, EdD
LaTonya Pegues
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Dave Roberts
Loren Robinson
Rick Rocchetti
Scott Rosas
Eda Roth
Christopher Shea, PhD
Ilona Sher
Brian Sims, PhD
Ben Slate
Cheryl Stroud, DVM, PhD
Aswita Tan-McGrory, MBA, MSPH
Jessica Thompson
Joseph Thompson
Todd Tinkham
Sarah Walker, PhD
Linda Tarr Whelan, PhD
Cherie Wilson
Bharathi Zvara, PhD

Student Assistants

Chigozirim Asonye
Caroline Chandler, MPH
Kishan Changela
Bahij Dahdal
Ellison Henry, MPH
Sundeep Kaur
Catherine Lee
Keiyitho Omonuwa, MPH
Anjali Paintal, DPT
Jireh Roselle
Iteka Shah
Susie Smith, MSIS
Nazarene Tubman
Belle Williams



Focused
on equity.

Rooted
in relationship.

Informed
by interdisciplinarity.

The unique impact of Clinical Scholars teams will continue to ripple outward, transforming the health and wellbeing of communities across the country.



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SCHOLARS**

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