



Community Health Fellowship Program

UT Southwestern
Medical Center

Program Overview

The Community Health Fellowship Program (CHFP) introduces pre-clinical medical students to community-based participatory research (CBPR) and emphasizes the importance of collaboration as a means for addressing community health problems in underserved communities.

Goals and Objectives

The focus of the experience is to develop relationships between the UT Southwestern (UTSW) Medical Center Community, and community-based health and social service delivery organizations in the Dallas Fort Worth Metroplex. The partnerships are designed to assist community-based organizations in identifying the needs of those they serve. All work is done in a way that benefits the participating organization, while teaching medical students the value of collaboration to achieve optimal health outcomes among underserved communities.

The CHFP annually offers medical students an opportunity to address the health care needs of underserved patients in a community-based setting and gain applied research knowledge through participating in a didactic research training curriculum combined with developing and implementing a community health agency-based research project.

This fellowship is nine weeks during the summer and provides a stipend. Supplemental sessions are required to refine community projects and equip students with basic HIPAA research and human subjects training prior to the summer program. A limited amount of additional funding is also available for presenting research findings at national or regional professional meetings and conferences.

Program Curriculum

The nine-week program blends interactive lectures to provide participating students with the necessary knowledge to successfully conduct community-based research. Among the topics included in this facet of the program are the following:

- Behavioral Medicine
- Biostatistics
- Bioethics
- Study Designs
- Cultural competency in CBPR
- Data Analysis & Interpretation
- Health Disparities
- Original Research Presentations
- Health Literacy
- Homelessness
- Race and Medicine

Students participating in the program complete a CBPR project under the guidance of a community mentor and a faculty mentor from UTSW. Academic work each student is responsible for developing are:

- Manuscript draft/executive summary
- Oral presentation
- Abstract
- Poster presentation submission to conference

Ongoing guidance and support will be provided throughout the fellowship to ensure students are able to successfully meet the above deliverables.

For more information contact:

Nora Gimpel, M.D.

Nora.gimpel@utsouthwestern.edu

Chief, Community Health Section
Director of Community Health Fellowship Program

Hillary Verver

Hillary.verver@utsouthwestern.edu

Program Coordinator
Community Health Fellowship Program