The Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University

PREPARING TOMORROW’S LEADERS IN HEALTH

2019/2020
ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

Based at Harvard Medical School, the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University is a one-year, full-time, academic degree-granting program designed to prepare physicians, particularly physicians from groups underrepresented in medicine, to become leaders who improve the health of disadvantaged and vulnerable populations through transforming healthcare delivery systems and promoting innovation in policies, practices and programs that address health equity and the social determinants of health. Fellows will complete academic work leading to a Master of Public Health degree at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health or a Master of Public Administration at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. The program incorporates the critical skills taught in schools of public health, government, business, and dental medicine with supervised practicum, shadowing, mentorship, leadership forums and seminar series conducted by Harvard senior faculty and nationally recognized leaders in healthcare delivery systems and public policy.

Up to six one-year, degree-granting fellowships will be awarded per year. Each fellowship provides: $60,000 one-year stipend, full tuition, health insurance, books, fellowship travel and other program related expenses, including financial assistance for a practicum project.
The Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University welcomed its inaugural class in 1996. To date, 132 fellows have been trained, including those funded by the California Endowment Scholars Program and the Oral Health Fellowship Program (funded by The California Endowment, HRSA, the Dental Service of Massachusetts/Delta Dental Plan and Harvard School of Dental Medicine).

23 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP
1996-2018

69% have been invited for interviews on TV, radio and newsprint to discuss public health and minority health issues.

71% have published their research work in peer-reviewed journals. Between 1997 and 2018, approximately 1066 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and other forms of publication have been published.

100% engaged in policy, research and/or service delivery related to minority health and vulnerable populations.

76% have held academic appointments at schools of public health and/or medicine.

Advisory Committee/Board & Recognitions

- Awards & Honors: 66%
- Advisory Committee/Boards Assignments: 90%
The Commonwealth Fund Fellowship was a career altering experience. The one-year journey taught me how to be a critical thinker and how to ask the most pertinent questions. I learned about public health issues, leadership skills, and health disparities. I returned to clinical work as a public health practitioner with the goals of bringing about social change to improve women’s health.

Nawal Nour, MD, MPH – 1999
Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Faculty and Students, Director, Ambulatory Obstetrics Practice, Director, African Women’s Health Center, Brigham and Women’s Hospital; Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School

“The Fellowship was an incredible, transformative experience that changed my career trajectory forever. Prior to the fellowship I had little understanding of the inner working of leadership, minority health, and health policy. After my fellowship training, I felt equipped to create a path focused on leading efforts to address racial/ethnic disparities in health and health care.”

Joseph Betancourt, MD, MPH – 1998
Director of the Disparities Solutions Center at the Institute for Health Policy, Massachusetts General Hospital; Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School

“I came to Boston with my wife. No family. No familiarity with Boston. I knew what to expect from conversations with prior fellows, but was unsure how the fellowship would work out for me. However, in reflecting back on the year, I now have a large extended family in my cohort of fellows and in the Reede Scholars across the nation. I also now recognize how participating in this fellowship was undoubtedly the best way I could have spent this year.”

Darrell M. Gray, II, MD, MPH – 2014
Director, Community Engagement and Equity in Digestive Health, Assistant Professor of Medicine, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

“I would not be where I am today without the Fellowship. The Fellowship prepared me to be a physician leader and policymaker. The fellows that I have gotten to know through the fellowship have been my most trusted friends and colleagues.”

Quyen Ngo-Metzger, MD, MPH – 1999
Scientific Director, US Preventive Services Task Force Program; Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality - Center for Primary Care, Prevention, and Clinical Partnerships
Empowerment & Advocacy

“"The fellowship taught me more than public health leadership; it showed me how to pursue my passion in life. I am a different, better, stronger, more complete person now because of this life-changing journey. I am ready to change the world!”

Chandak Ghosh, MD, MPH – 2000
Senior Medical Advisor, US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

"The incredible role models that we have access to during the fellowship from Dr. Reede, to the public health and health policy leaders, allow us to see that there is a myriad of ways that we can effect change to help end healthcare disparities in our society.”

Ivette Motola, MD, MPH, FACEP, FAAEM – 2005
Assistant Director of the Gordon Center for Research in Medical Education at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine; Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Emergency Medicine and Director of Simulation Education for the UM-Jackson Memorial Hospital Emergency Medicine Residency Program

“"This program has been transformative. It has helped me develop a framework, a knowledge base, and leadership tool. The mentorship has been extraordinary…The mentorship of our practicum experiences helped us think about future work in a better way. We learned to ask better questions. The program also helped crystallize better a vision for the future of our career.”

Jay Bhatt, DO, MPH, MPA – 2012
Chief Medical Officer and President and CEO of the Health Research and Educational Trust of the American Hospital Association (AHA)

Skill Tool Box

“Every day I use analytical skills, negotiating skills, research skills or networking skills, to name a few, that were acquired or strengthened by my fellowship experience.”

Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., MD, MPH, MBA, FAPA – 2002
Associate Vice President, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement; Executive Director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health; Clinical Professor, The University of Texas at Austin

"The comradery, the family, that we develop as part of this fellowship, I continue to very regularly lean on the other fellows – those who proceeded me, were part of my group, and those who came after.”

Durado Brooks, MD, MPH – 1999
Vice President, Cancer Control Interventions, American Cancer Society, Inc.

Mentorship

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Post-Fellowship Support

“…The best thing about the Fellowship has been the people: my co-fellows, the alumni network, Dr. Joan Reede and her staff. It is a privilege to be part of a group of physicians whose common mission is to eliminate disparities, fight inequities and improve access and quality of care for our nation's most vulnerable populations.”

Alice Chen, MD, MPH – 2001
Deputy Director and Chief Medical Officer, San Francisco Health Network, San Francisco, CA; Professor of Medicine, University of California San Francisco

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FELLOWSHIP YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

In particular, fellows report that the fellowship’s unique combination of course work with site visits/leadership forums/shadowing activities has proven to be an effective and unique way to bring together academic training with real world experience, providing them “excellent opportunities” to network with national health leaders and exposing them to the most fundamental issues in health policy facing this country in the twenty-first century.

Seminar Series on Issues in Minority Health Policy and Minority Health

The seminar sessions explore the public policy issues impacting the health status of minority and disadvantaged populations.

Leadership Forums and Special Sessions

Leadership Forums/Special sessions are designed to interact with nationally recognized physician leaders from the public, private and academic sectors.

Examples of Fellows’ Practicum Projects

| Access to Quality Cancer Care: Creating an Agenda for Action |
| LaQuandra Nesbitt, MD, MPH – 2007 |
| Director, DC Department of Health, Washington DC |

| Health Care Utilization and Cost among Homeless Medicaid Recipients |
| Monica Bharel, MD, MPH – 2012 |
| Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health |

| Reducing Readmissions in the Indian Health Service |
| Anne Newland, MD, FACP, MPH – 2013 |
| Chief Executive Officer, North Country HealthCare, Flagstaff, AZ |

| Role of Managed Care Organization in Long-Term Services and Support for Children with Disability in New Hampshire: Policy and Practice Implication of the State Innovation Model |
| Asare B. Christian, MD, MPH – 2014 |
| Attending Physician, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital; Instructor, Department of Physical Medical and Rehabilitation, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine |

| Addressing the Role of FQHCs in Caring for Victims of Human Trafficking: Recommendations for Moving Forward |
| Kimberly S.G. Chang, MD, MPH - 2015 |
| Physician and Human Trafficking and Health Care Policy Fellow, Asian Health Services, Oakland, CA |

| Incompetent to Stand Trial: Strategies for Jail Release and Community Re-Entry |
| Morgan M. Medlock, MD, MDiv, MPH - 2018 |
| Director of Community Outreach and Engagement, and New Program Development, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Howard University Hospital, Washington, DC |
ANNUAL MEETING,
REUNION OF ALUMNI,
AND CURRENT FELLOWS

The annual meeting is held in the spring of each year for current and alumni fellows. The former fellows are expected to assess the relevance of the Fellowship program in terms of their professional experiences of the post-fellowship years, and the current fellows present their practicum projects at the meeting. This annual gathering also provides the opportunity for both current and former fellows to share professional and academic experiences. An alumni annual symposium is held in conjunction with the annual meeting.

Site Visits
The site visits enable fellows to obtain the first-hand experiences of problem-solving and policy-making processes in public health management and afford them an opportunity to network directly with key administrators from federal, state, local agencies and organizations (e.g. NIH, HRSA, FDA, OMH, CMS, PCORI in Washington, DC; Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Institute for Health System Innovation and Policy at Boston University).

Shadowing
The shadowing experience provides fellows a unique opportunity to interact more directly with nationally recognized public health and policy leaders and to expose fellows to the central issues and challenges encountered by public health leaders.

Career Development
Examples of topics covered under career-development include: Self-awareness; Cultivating a network and mentoring; Increasing visibility; Expanding career options; Documenting.
HOW TO APPLY

Deadlines
Application Due: December 1, 2018
Notification of 2019 - 2020 Fellows: March 1, 2019

All inquiries and requests for application materials to both the Fellowship and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/ Harvard Kennedy School should be addressed to:

Joan Y. Reede, MD, MPH, MS, MBA
Director, The Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University, Minority Faculty Development Program Harvard Medical School
164 Longwood Avenue, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02115-5818

Tel: 617-432-2922
Fax: 617-432-3834
E-mail: mfdp_cff@hms.harvard.edu

For more information, please visit:
https://mfdp.med.harvard.edu/cff/how-apply
Application materials and instructions are available electronically.

Review Criteria & Selection

Applications will be reviewed for:

- Academic and training qualifications
- Commitment to a multicultural perspective in program planning, program implementation, and policy analysis
- Experience in projects devoted to increasing quality care and access and improving the capacity of the health care system to address health needs of minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations
- Evidence of leadership potential

The Fellowship Advisory Committee, comprised of distinguished faculty, health leaders, administrators, and the program director, will review applications, interview candidates and select the fellows.

Applicants must complete applications to both the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University and the Master of Public Health Program of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, including application for financial aid at the Chan School.

For those applicants who already have an MPH degree, applications to both the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University and the Master of Public Administration Program of the Harvard Kennedy School are required, including application for financial aid at HKS.

Acceptance to graduate school and the Fellowship is necessary for program participation. Applicants not accepted to the Fellowship will still be eligible for admission to the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health or the Harvard Kennedy School.

Eligibility

- Physicians who have completed residency and who are either BE/BC. Additional experience beyond residency, such as chief residency, is preferred.
- Experience or interest in addressing and improving the health needs of minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations as well as in advancing system change in ways that improve the health for all populations, but with particular emphasis on vulnerable populations.
- Strong evidence of leadership experience or potential, especially as related to community efforts, quality improvement, transformation of health care delivery systems, and/or health policy.
- Intention to pursue a career in policy, public service, and/or academia.
- U.S. citizenship or U.S. permanent residency.
Nusheen Ameenuddin, MD, MPH

Dr. Nusheen Ameenuddin is currently an Assistant Professor and Consultant (tenured staff physician) in the Division of Community Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN. Previously, she was a pediatrician at MeritCare Clinic and a full-time active medical staff in pediatrics at North Country Regional Hospital, Bemidji, MN. She is most passionate about advocating for underserved populations and immigrant populations who face significant barriers to healthcare, including language, health literacy and transportation. In response to the recent measles outbreak in Minnesota, Dr. Ameenuddin participated in a vaccine education outreach as part of a joint effort between the Minnesota Department of Health and the state’s chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, traveling to Somali mosques to educate and vaccinate. These efforts halted the spread of measles before any deaths occurred. She has also taken to social media with the #KeepKidsCovered Twitter video campaign she helped spearhead in response to efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Ameenuddin received her medical degree in 2002 and her MPH degree in 1998 from the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS. She completed a residency in pediatric and adolescent medicine at Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Mayo Clinic, in 2005.

Daniel Gonzalez, MD

Dr. Daniel A. Gonzalez was most recently the Adult Psychiatry Chief Resident and a Clinical Fellow at Cambridge Health Alliance, Harvard Medical School. He has been a service leader on both the Latino Mental Health Clinic and the Gender and Sexuality Clinic and Consultation Service at Cambridge Health Alliance. From 2006-2010, he served as a Research Associate and an Outreach Educator at Fenway Health, a Boston-based community health center whose mission is to enhance the wellbeing of all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, as well as people in the local neighborhoods and beyond, through access to the highest quality health care, education, research and advocacy. Dr. Gonzalez is most interested in improving the quality of behavioral health care and patient experience for LGBTQ+ Latinx patient populations. His clinical interests include intersectionality research, LGBTQ+ Latinx mental health advocacy, minority health policy, resilience-focused interventions, and wellness promotion. Dr. Gonzalez received his medical degree from Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine (formerly known as The Commonwealth Medical College), Scranton, PA in 2014.

Shantel Hébert-Magee, MD

Dr. Shantel Hébert-Magee was most recently a Cytopathologist and Associate Professor of Pathology, Affiliated Faculty at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. As the founding Director of Academic Pathology at the Center for Interventional Endoscopy, Florida Hospital, Orlando, FL she brought a vision of academic medicine to community practice. She has focused her clinical-effectiveness and device-development research on addressing early detection and diagnosis of pancreaticobiliary malignancy working collaboratively with academic, community, and industry partners. Her global health initiatives focused on early detection of pancreatic cancer have been conducted in Asia, Europe, and South America. Prior to joining the faculty at UCF, Dr. Hébert-Magee was an Assistant Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Associate Scientist in the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. She was a 2011 Charles Barkley Health Disparities Research Awardee and Minority Health Disparities Research Training Scholar. She has authored more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, editorials, white papers, and book chapters. In 2015, she launched
Under the Scope Foundation, a 501c3 using microscopy and pathology to mitigate the sociobehavioral and environmental factors associated with pancreatic cancer in underserved communities. Dr. Hébert-Magee’s calling to public health dates back to her teen years in her hometown of New Orleans, where she worked on initiatives around the city’s teen HIV incidence rate. A future project would combine her interest in cultural consumption patterns, chronic diseases, and cancer as a result of socioeconomic inequalities. Dr. Hébert-Magee received her medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in 2005. She also completed her Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency as Chief Resident at Georgetown in 2009. She completed a Translational Research Fellowship in Pathology at the National Cancer Institute in 2010 and Cytopathology Fellowship at UAB in 2011.

**Shaina Lipa, MD**

Dr. Shaina Lipa most recently completed her Orthopaedic Residency in the Harvard Combined Orthopaedic Residency Program in Boston, MA. She is also the Vice Chair of the Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Diversity Inclusion Resident and Fellow Committee. Dr. Lipa is dedicated to the improvement of health and healthcare disparities, with a particular need for advocacy in orthopaedic surgery. She aspires to improve musculoskeletal health and the healthcare disparities that women, African Americans, and Hispanics face with regard to more severe arthritis and functional limitations. She has a long history of involvement with the Student National Medical Association, serving as University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) chapter president and several regional leadership positions. She has mentored young men and women in pipeline programs, such as the Physicians Medical Form’s “Doctors On Board Program,” whose mission is to encourage more African American/Black students to become physicians. She was a recipient of the National Medical Fellowship Community Service-Learning Program, where she led an intervention program for women at high risk for violence. Dr. Lipa received her medical degree with distinction from the UCSF School of Medicine in 2014. During medical school, she participated in the Visiting Clerkship Program in the Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership at Harvard Medical School.

**Jennifer Parker, MD, PhD**

Dr. Jennifer Parker was most recently Chief Resident in Radiology Oncology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital/Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL. Previously, she was a Diagnostic Radiation Resident at Yale New Haven Hospital. While still early in her career, Dr. Parker has conducted breast and cervical cancer clinical research and has presented at national meetings. She has been an active member of SNMA for over a decade, serving on the local, regional, and national levels and last served as National Vice-President of SNMA from 2011-2012. For the past few years Dr. Parker has served as President of Northwestern McGaw Underrepresented Residents and Fellows Forum, an organization committed to increasing and retaining diversity in medicine and advocating for the practice of socially aware and culturally competent medicine. She also works closely with the Graduate Medical Education Office on recruitment of those underrepresented in medicine. Dr. Parker is committed to serving the needs of racial and ethnic minorities, elderly patients, immigrants and other vulnerable populations who often present with more advanced disease and who exhibit less understanding of their diagnosis and its significance. Her goal, through the policy implementation process, is to coordinate integrated care across hospital systems and to ultimately improve health care delivery. Dr. Parker earned her Ph.D. in Chemical and Systems Biology from the Medical Scientist Training Program in 2011, and received her medical degree in 2012, both from Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA.
Consider the fellowship if you are interested in policy and healthcare delivery systems dealing with vulnerable groups. This is a window of opportunity.

Montressor Upshaw, DDS, MBA

Dr. Montressor Upshaw was most recently Dental Director at Neighborhood Health, where he managed the operations and clinical practice of four dental safety net clinics, portable dentistry, and a mobile dental bus in Alexandria, VA. He has dedicated his career to dental public health working in community health centers in cities such as Nashville (TN), Bronx (NY), Hartford (CT), and Bangor (ME). Dr. Upshaw has participated in the National Health Service Corps Program as a scholar and national ambassador. Dr. Upshaw has held academic adjunct faculty positions with the University of Connecticut and NYU Lutheran Dental Residency where he provided clinical supervision to dental students and residents. Prior to dentistry, Dr. Upshaw was an educator with the Atlanta Public Schools and member of Teach For America. He has long been an advocate for public health and advancements in dental insurance coverage. His goals are to develop national health policies that address the elimination of health disparities, create more school-based health clinics and develop more opportunities for minorities to pursue a career in dentistry. Dr. Upshaw received his DDS from Meharry Medical College in 2008 and his MBA from the University of Maryland in 2014.

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FELLOWSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Myron Allukian, DDS, MPH
Associate Professor of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine

Joseph Betancourt, MD, MPH
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Monica Bharel, MD, MPH
Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health

Judy Bigby, MD
Executive Director, South Africa Partners, Boston, MA

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