Fostering Diversity in HIV Research Program

**Program description:** Racial and ethnic diversity among HIV researchers is at a low and undesirable level. The Fostering Diversity in HIV Research Program is supported by the National Institutes of Health (R25MH119857) and designed to help overcome some of the barriers underrepresented in medicine/public health (URM) trainees face, thus advancing their careers and enriching scientific discovery. The program provides structured mentoring to create a welcoming environment for URM trainees that promotes rigorous research. It involves formal didactics and community of practice events over the course of one year, as well as high quality mentoring tailored to each individual trainee and their stage of training. Up to $10,000 in funding is available to support research, as well as enable conference attendance, travel (if needed and possible), and open-access manuscript publication. Trainee research concentrations fall along the HIV continuum of care domestically and/or globally, including areas such as the following:

- PrEP delivery and adherence
- HIV testing and outreach
- Linkage, retention in care, and ART adherence
- Improvement in care delivery for optimal health outcomes
- Maternal health and perinatal transmission

**Eligibility criteria** for trainees are as follows:

- Strong enthusiasm for HIV research
- Commitment to completion of proposed work
- Professionalism and reliability
- URM status according to the NIH definition: African American/Black, Latinx, Native American, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, and/or non-US citizen of color (e.g., diaspora from Africa, Latin America, or the Caribbean)
- URM applicants who are also sexual or gender minorities are particularly encouraged to apply
- Current enrollment at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health as a 2-year master’s students, PhD students or post-doctoral fellows; or a position at Mass General Brigham as a resident or post-doctoral fellow

**Applications:** Trainees can apply at [https://j.mp/34kGhDU](https://j.mp/34kGhDU) (due September 1, 2021). Applications involve brief statements of research interests and goals, as well as a CV and letter of recommendation.

**Program start date:** October 1, 2021

**Program leadership:** Jessica Haberer, MD, MS (MGH); Sherri-Ann Burnett-Bowie, MD, MPH (MGH); Wafaie Fawzi, MBBS, DrPh (HSPH)

If you have any questions, please email Jessica Haberer at jhaberer@mgh.harvard.edu or Lindsey Garrison (program manager) at legarrison@mgh.harvard.edu. You may also visit our website: [https://globalhealth.massgeneral.org/ourwork-items/fostering-diversity-in-hiv-research-program/](https://globalhealth.massgeneral.org/ourwork-items/fostering-diversity-in-hiv-research-program/)