



The
Commonwealth
Fund

The Commonwealth Fund Fellowship

in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University



PREPARING
TOMORROW'S
LEADERS IN HEALTH

2023/2024



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 historically marginalized 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.

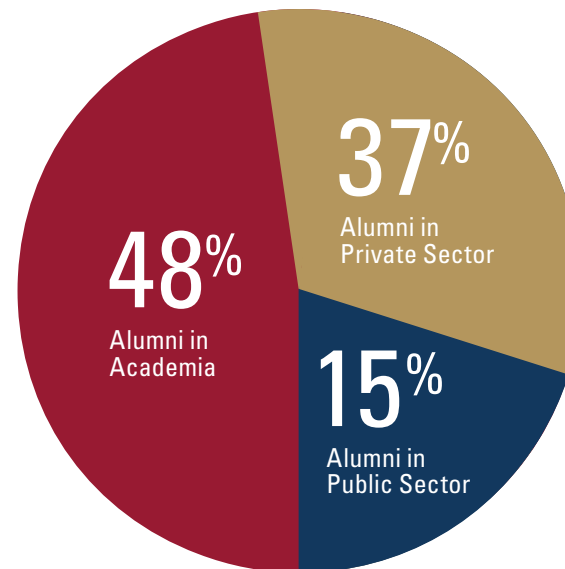
Up to five one-year, degree-granting fellowships will be awarded per year. Each fellowship provides: \$60,000 one-year stipend, full tuition, health insurance, books, fellowship travel and other program related expenses, including financial assistance for a practicum project.



27 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP

1996-2022

The Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University welcomed its inaugural class in 1996. To date, 156 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).



CLINICAL DISCIPLINES:

Internal Medicine
Pediatrics
Family Medicine
OB/GYN
Surgery
Psychiatry
Emergency Medicine
Cardiology

76% have made media appearances to discuss public health and minority health issues.

70% have published their research work in peer-reviewed journals. Between 1997 and 2022, approximately 1897 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and other forms of publication have appeared.

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

81% have held academic appointments at schools of public health and/or medicine.

Advisory Committee/Board & Recognitions



THE COMMONWEALTH FUND FELLOWS' EXPERIENCES AT HARVARD

Leadership & Policy Training



“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

Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Director, African Women’s Health Center, Brigham and Women’s Hospital; Kate Macy Ladd Professorship, 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 workings 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

Senior Vice President, Equity and Community Health; Founder, Senior Advisor, and Faculty, The Disparities Solutions Center, Massachusetts General Hospital; Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Co-Founder, Quality Interactions, Inc.

Networking



“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

Professor, Department of Health Systems Science, Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine



“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

Chief Health Equity Officer, Anthem, Inc.



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

Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 2, US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

Skill Development



“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

Senior Associate Vice President, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement; Executive Director, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health; Clinical Professor, Steve Hicks School of Social Work; Professor of Psychiatry, Dell Medical School, The University of Texas at Austin

Mentorship



“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

Center Assistant Director, and Director, Division of Prehospital & Emergency Training, Gordon Center for Simulation and Innovation in Medical Education; Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

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 Hm Chen, MD, MPH – 2001

Chief Medical Officer, Covered California; Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco



“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 a better vision for the future of our career.”

Jay Bhatt, DO, MPH, MPA – 2012

Managing Director, Deloitte and Executive Director of the Center for Health Solutions and Health Equity Institute; Primary Care Physician, Family Christian Health Center



“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

Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Screening Business Unit, Exact Sciences

FELLOWSHIP YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

In particular, fellows report that the fellowship's unique combination of coursework with site visits, leadership forums, and shadowing activities has proven to be an effective and unique way to bring together academic training with real world experience. The fellowship provides them "excellent opportunities" to network with national health leaders and exposes them to the most fundamental issues in health policy facing this country in the twenty-first century.



Seminar Series on Leadership 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 and Special Sessions are designed for fellows 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

Former Director, DC Department of Health, Washington, DC



Health Care Utilization and Cost among Homeless Medicaid Recipients

Monica Bharel, MD, MPH – 2012

Former Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health; Senior Public Health Advisor, Advanced Clinical



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

Founder, Medical Director, Aether Medicine PLLC, Wayne, PA; Faculty Clinical Associate, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA



Addressing the Role of FQHCs in Caring for Victims of Human Trafficking: Recommendations for Moving Forward

Kimberly S.G. Chang, MD, MPH - 2015

Family Physician and Director of Human Trafficking and Healthcare Policy, Asian Health Services (AHS), Oakland, California; Commissioner, President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, & Pacific Islanders; Vice Speaker of the House, Executive Board, National Association of Community Health Centers; Co-founder, HEAL Trafficking



Incompetent to Stand Trial: Strategies for Jail Release and Community Re-Entry

Morgan M. Medlock, MD, MDiv, MPH - 2018

Commissioner, Behavioral Health Administration, State of Colorado



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 exposes 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, 2022

Notification of 2023-2024 Fellows: March 1, 2023

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://cff.hms.harvard.edu/how-apply>

Application materials and instructions are available electronically.

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 historically marginalized 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.



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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 historically marginalized 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 (HKS) are required, **including application for financial aid at HKS.**

Acceptance to both 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.

FELLOWS 2022-2023

Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard University



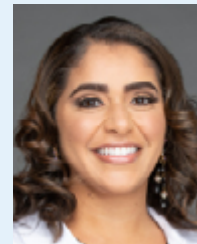
Nora Abo-Sido, MD

Nora Abo-Sido, MD was most recently a resident physician in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. Dr. Abo-Sido aspires to be a physician-advocate with a career as both a clinician and leader in health policy for vulnerable communities. She is co-founder of the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease Program. While in medical school, Dr. Abo-Sido collaborated with students and faculty to establish a multidisciplinary clinic in a Boston jail to provide incarcerated patients with compassionate, evidence-based healthcare and continuity of care post-release. She is the recipient of the Medicine & Pediatrics Program Directors Association (MPPDA) Walter W. Tunnessen, Jr., M.D., Award, presented to one resident nationally for excellence in clinical care, education and advocacy. Dr. Abo-Sido received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 2018.



Eftitan Akam, MD

Eftitan Akam, MD was most recently chief resident physician in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. Her long-term career goal is to cultivate national public health work around climate disasters and on-the-ground medical response; she is interested in climate change prevention, disaster preparedness, and humanitarian relief. In 2021, she completed a Fellowship at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics. Dr. Akam received her medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in 2018, and is the co-founder of Melanated and Dedicated (MaD) Scientist outreach Program.



Nasrien E. Ibrahim, MD

Nasrien E. Ibrahim, MD is an Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiologist. She is interested in advancing health equity and alleviating the effects of structural racism in organ allocation. In 2021, Dr. Ibrahim was invited by the White House Office of Public Engagement to participate in the Leaders in Health Equity Roundtable Series. She serves on the Dean's Advisory Board for the University of Cincinnati, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences and is the Founder and Director of The Equity in Heart Transplant Project™, a nonprofit that provides need-based financial assistance to patients with end-stage heart failure undergoing a heart transplant. Dr. Ibrahim received her medical degree in 2008, and completed her residency in internal medicine in 2011, and a cardiology fellowship in 2014, all at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Dr. Ibrahim also completed fellowships at the University of Colorado and Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School in 2015 and 2017, respectively.



Kevin M. Simon, MD

Kevin M. Simon, MD is the inaugural Chief Behavioral Health Officer for the City of Boston, Boston Public Health Commission. In addition, he is an Attending Psychiatrist at Boston Children's Hospital, an Instructor in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and a current Commonwealth Fund Fellow at Harvard University. Dr. Simon practices as a Child, Adolescent, and Adult Psychiatrist & Addiction Medicine specialist caring for youth through the Adolescent Substance use & Addiction Program "ASAP" clinic at Boston Children's Hospital. As a researcher, Dr. Simon has received federal funding for work focused on the intersections of mental health, substance use, and justice involvement in youth and young adults. He completed clinical fellowships in child & adolescent psychiatry and addiction medicine at Boston Children's Hospital / Harvard Medical School and a residency in adult psychiatry at Grady Hospital affiliated with Morehouse School of Medicine, in Atlanta, GA. He received his medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. His writings on health equity, mental health, and substance use are in notable journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine, American Journal of Public Health, and Health Affairs.



Brittany Watson, MD

Brittany Watson, MD was most recently a family physician at Affinity Health Center, a FQHC in Rock Hill, SC. Dr. Watson has demonstrated interest and investment in public service; she is passionate about diversifying the medical workforce, and access to affordable healthcare and basic health education. She received the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine 2019 Resident Teacher Award, given to a graduating resident in recognition of demonstrated interest, ability and commitment to family medicine education. She was appointed as American Academy of Family Physicians Leading Physician Well-being Scholar in 2021. Dr. Watson received her medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2016.




Joseph L. Henry Oral Health Fellowship

in Minority Health Policy



Zerita C. Buchanan, DDS

Zerita C. Buchanan, DDS is a fourth-generation dentist and a proud HBCU graduate. Her commitment to health equity led her to be recognized as a “Healthcare Hero” by her alma mater Spelman College. Her private practice, Dental Dreams, LLC, serves as an innovation hub for HBCU students interested in the STEM sciences. Since 2014, Dr. Buchanan has served as the Assistant Director of Increasing Diversity in Dentistry (IDID), a national pipeline program for minority college students interested in pursuing a career in dentistry. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and The Links, Inc. Dr. Buchanan received her dental degree from UNC Adams School of Dentistry in 2014.

A large, close-up profile photograph of Joseph L. Henry, a Black man with a short beard and mustache, looking off to the side. He is wearing a dark sweater and a grey jacket.

“Consider the fellowship if you are interested in policy and healthcare delivery systems dealing with vulnerable groups. This is a window of opportunity.”

FELLOWSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Myron Allukian, DDS, MPH

Corresponding Member, Department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine; Vice President American Fluoridation Institute; Former Dental Director, Boston Public Health Commission

Joseph Betancourt, MD, MPH

Senior Vice President, Equity and Community Health; Founder, Senior Advisor, and Faculty, The Disparities Solutions Center, Massachusetts General Hospital; Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Co-Founder, Quality Interactions, Inc.

Monica Bharel, MD, MPH

Former Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health; Senior Public Health Advisor, Advanced Clinical

Judy Bigby, MD

Former Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Sara Bleich, PhD

Professor of Public Health Policy, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Carol K. Pforzheimer Professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study
*Currently on leave to serve in the Biden-Harris Administration

O'Neil A. Britton, MD

Senior Vice President Operations, Associate Chief Operations Officer, Mass General Brigham; Instructor in Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Alice Hm Chen, MD, MPH

Chief Medical Officer, Covered California; Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco

Kevin Churchwell, MD

President and CEO, Boston Children's Hospital; Robert and Dana Smith Associate Professor of Anesthesia, Harvard Medical School

Chester Douglass, DMD, PhD, MPH

Professor Emeritus, Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine

William V. Giannobile, DMSc, DDS

Dean, Professor of Oral Medicine, Infection, and Immunity, Harvard School of Dental Medicine

Donald A. Goldmann, MD

Chief Scientific Officer, Emeritus, and Senior Fellow, Institute for Healthcare Improvement; Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; Professor of Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Joseph P. Gone, PhD

Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University; Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Faculty Director, Harvard University Native American Program

Dora Hughes, MD, MPH

Chief Medical Officer, CMS Innovation Center, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Lisa I. Iezzoni, MD, MSc

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Health Policy Research Center, Mongan Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital

Ichiro Kawachi, PhD

John L. Loeb and Frances Lehman Loeb Professor of Social Epidemiology, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Thomas H. Lee, MD, MSc

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Chief Medical Officer, Press Ganey

Nicole Lurie, MD, MSPH

Director, CEPI-US (Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations); Former Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response; Senior Lecturer, Harvard Medical School

Barbara McNeil, MD, PhD

Ridley Watts Professor and Chair, Department of Health Care Policy; Professor of Radiology, Harvard Medical School; Professor of Radiology and Practicing Radiologist, Brigham and Women's Hospital

Joshua Metlay, MD, PhD

Interim Chair, Department of Medicine; Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine; Peter L. Gross, MD, Chair in Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital; Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Joseph Newhouse, PhD

John D. MacArthur Professor of Health Policy and Management, Harvard University

Deborah Prothrow-Stith, MD

Dean and Professor of Medicine, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Valerie L. Ward, MD, MPH

Senior Vice President, Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer; Director, Sandra L. Fenwick Institute for Pediatric Health Equity and Inclusion; Director, Office of Health Equity and Inclusion, Boston Children's Hospital; Assistant Professor of Radiology, Harvard Medical School

David Williams, PhD

Florence & Laura Norman Professor of Public Health; Chair, Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Professor of African and African American Studies and of Sociology, Harvard University

Jonathan Woodson, MD

President, Uniformed Services University





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