Procedures for New Center Trainees

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The Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity (formerly the Johns Hopkins Center to Eliminate Cardiovascular Health Disparities) was established in 2010 as a partnership of the Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health. The Center includes 39 faculty members and over 50 current trainees from the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health. We use transdisciplinary research collaborations to promote equity in health and healthcare for socially at-risk populations. The Center’s mission is to promote equity in health and healthcare for socially at-risk populations through advancing scientific knowledge, promoting sustainable changes in practice and policy, partnering with communities, raising public awareness of health inequities, and training scholars.

The Center uses community-based participatory research principles to build strong ties among researchers, healthcare provider networks, community members, and policymakers. The Center includes NIH and PCORI-funded intervention studies to improve the identification, treatment, and outcomes of patients with cardiovascular disease risk factors, including hypertension, diabetes, and kidney disease; a Training Core; an internal Steering Committee; and a 40-member Community Advisory Board (representing patients, family members, faith and community-based organizations, neighborhood associations, historically black colleges and universities, practicing clinicians, and public health agencies).
The Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity’s Training, Education, and Career Development Core, led by Tanjala Purnell, PhD, MPH, Associate Director for Training, Education, and Career Development, develops and oversees the implementation of didactic training and mentorship in health disparities and health equity research methods for pre-doctoral, post-doctoral, junior faculty, and senior faculty scholars in Schools of Medicine, Public Health, and Nursing within Johns Hopkins University and other academic institutions. Our training curriculum uses a transdisciplinary approach that integrates theories, concepts, and methods used by our Center’s research investigators. It combines original elements with proven training tools. Along with coursework taken for degree programs, trainees attend research seminars and participate in study team meetings, community advisory board meetings, and service learning experiences. Specific Core activities include:

- Facilitating opportunities for trainees to receive one-on-one mentorship from a Center faculty member with expertise in health equity research methods
- Facilitating opportunities for trainees to participate in Center study team meetings
- Developing and implementing in-person and online versions of the course, “Applications of Innovative Methods in Health Equity Research,” offered for academic credit in the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Department of Health, Behavior, and Society.
- Organizing health equity seminars (“jam sessions”) covering topics, such as best practices for health equity research, key lessons learned, roundtables with experts, and journal clubs
- Partnering with the Center’s Stakeholder Engagement Core and the Center’s social media team to provide live-stream and video recordings of didactic seminars
- Developing and maintaining a database with available research and didactic opportunities for potential Center trainees
- Developing and maintaining a database with research interests, prior research experiences, and skill sets of potential Center trainees
- Maintaining a database with health equity outcome metrics for prior Center trainees
- Engaging the Center’s Training Advisory Committee to support the Core’s activities
- Identifying new opportunities to partner with other existing health equity training and education efforts in the Schools of Medicine, Public Health, and Nursing.

We devote considerable time and resources to training the next generation of health equity researchers to ensure a lasting legacy for the work of our Center. Since 2010, over 60 clinical and public health scholars have participated in our Center’s faculty mentorship and training activities. Several alumni of our program have gone on to prestigious fellowships and/or have obtained funding.
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What We Do

Research: The Center develops evidence-based interventions addressing health disparities, conducts large-scale rigorous implementation and dissemination studies, and translates these into innovative improvements in population health.

Education and Training: Through formal didactics, mentorship, and sponsorship, the Center is preparing the next generation of health equity researchers, health professionals, and community leaders.

Patient and Stakeholder Engagement: Through the Center’s Community Advisory Board, we have built and sustained strong partnerships with diverse stakeholders, including patients and family members; community residents, activists and community-based organizations; faith leaders; business leaders; educational institutions; health care providers, purchasers, and administrators; city and state public health officers; and political leaders.
Our vision is to be a leading transformative force for health equity by using effective change strategies.

Our mission, through leadership, research, community engagement, education, and policy translation is to advance effective health system and community change, and policies and practices that will eliminate disparities and achieve health equity in the U.S., and around the world. The Center conducts transdisciplinary research, implements innovative programs, trains medical, nursing, allied health and public health professionals; activates and empowers patients and communities, and informs policy and practice. The Center's work holds true to core values of integrity, trustworthiness, respect for diversity, collaboration, innovation, rigor and social justice.

Our experience. With over 70 Center faculty and staff, our experience spans upwards of 30 years of innovative research and practice. Among us are preeminent scholars dedicated to identifying practical, effective solutions to achieve health equity for every person and family, across healthcare settings and communities, in partnership with governments, non-governmental organizations, and academia.
How To Get Involved

Non-Johns Hopkins Trainees/ Volunteers

To begin the training process at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity, it is important that all interested prospects follow the instructions below and complete all forms in a timely manner.

1. Application Link: http://volunteerservices.jhmi.edu/pages/app:volunteer
2. Placement Form Link: https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/volunteer_services/forms/volunteer_placement_form.pdf. Complete this form and send it to the volunteer office. (In person or email)
3. Volunteer Request Form Link: https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/volunteer_services/forms/volunteer_request_form.pdf. Complete this form and send it to the volunteer office. (In person or email)
4. The mandatory Background check is now completed online. After the volunteer office receives your completed application and placement forms, they will send a link via email to complete the background check.

For any additional volunteer information needed, please contact the volunteer office:
**Phone:** 410-955-5924
**Email:** volunteerservices@jhmi.edu

*Once steps 1-4 are complete, the volunteer office will provide the volunteer with a badge and JHED ID.*

After completing steps 1, 2 and 3 of the instructions above, we would like you to complete our online "interest survey" to better gauge your research background and interests. This way, our Training Team can better respond to your inquiry and move forward with connecting you with a potential Center faculty mentor and/or ongoing working group for your potential research in health disparities.

To complete the interest survey, please request it by sending an email to healthequitytraining@jhmi.edu. Once the survey has been completed, Dr. Tanjala Purnell, our Training Core Director or another Center associate, will get back to you soon after we receive the completed interest survey and availability from your top three chosen mentors.

Once you have been directed to your mentor, you will be added to our trainee email distribution list. This will provide you the opportunity to attend our monthly health equity jam sessions and other events. Trainees will also receive a detailed invite to attend meetings depending on the designated work group.

For HIPAA purposes, if not completed already, new trainees will be asked to complete required Human Subjects Research training.
**Johns Hopkins Trainees/ Volunteers**

To complete the interest survey, please request it by sending an email to healthequitytraining@jhmi.edu. Once the survey has been completed, Dr. Tanjala Purnell, our Training Core Director or another Center associate, will get back to you soon after we receive the completed interest survey and availability from your top three chosen mentors.

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For HIPAA purposes, if not completed already, new trainees will be asked to complete necessary training that will allow them to be added to the projects' IRB.
Contact Us

For general information and inquiries about the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity please view the Center's website.

For any additional information about the Training Core or if you would like to be added to the Center's Beat: Weekly Update and/or Health Equity Jam Session email lists, please contact healthequitytraining@jhmi.edu.

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