



## **Health Justice Fellowship Program**

The Health Justice Fellowship is a program created by the Beyond Flexner Alliance dedicated to nurturing the growth of trainees who already show a commitment to advancing health justice in health professions training. The Health Justice Fellowship will consist of a nine-month virtual program with a four day in-person intensive during the Beyond Flexner National Student Assembly Summit & Hill Day. All fellows will be provided a \$2,000 stipend for their time and effort. To be eligible, you must be currently enrolled as a student in good standing at a U.S. medical school, dental school, nursing school, physician associate program, or school of public health.

To apply, fill out this application: <https://forms.gle/THYFYgrCus9m9imaA>

### **Mission:**

Despite decades of effort on the part of the health professions community to understand and combat health inequities, significant differences in health and healthcare outcomes have persisted in the United States. Thanks to scholarship in the social sciences and humanities as well as the insight of activist collectives throughout history, our understanding of these phenomena has evolved to recognize the frameworks of structural oppression that drive them.

The dehumanizing frameworks of race, gender, sexual orientations, class, etc that drive inequity did not originate within the body or healthcare, but their influences permeate both. Combatting these forces requires interdisciplinary and intersectional work that cuts across the professions and through the academy. The potential to lead this necessary paradigm shift already exists within a dynamic crop of current trainees from diverse backgrounds. They are already applying their experiences toward the design of health justice programs that can fundamentally change their institutions and communities. However, the health professional training apparatus works to homogenize, ultimately isolating and suppressing these vital talents.

The Beyond Flexner Alliance's Health Justice Fellowship Program aims to nurture the talents of trainees who already show promise and commitment to advancing health justice in health professional training. Within this space, fellows will hone their skills and broaden their networks in ways that will sustain them in pushing health professional institutions to be more socially accountable. Our ultimate goal is to create a dynamic community dedicated to nurturing an insurgent politic among the next generation of leaders in healthcare that represent the values, perspectives, and wisdom of the those greatest affected by systems of oppression, those that have historically been barred from the academy and the health professions.

## **Fellowship Goals:**

1. **Data & Research** – *Making the Personal Political* | Using first-hand experiences from trainees from historically underrepresented backgrounds to inform social mission data collection and research.
2. **Practice Implementation** - *Supporting Tomorrow's Leaders Today* | The fellowship is dedicated to amplifying the voices and work of current health professional trainee activists organizing to advance social justice in health professional education.
3. **Community** –*Democratizing Data & Dismantling Academic Silos* | The fellowship aims to provide trainees with the skills, resources, and interdisciplinary network needed to sustainably advocate for the equitable reallocation of resources from anchor academic health centers to support community-led initiatives at combating the structural determinants of health.
4. **Policy** –*Advancing Social Accountability* | Using Data, Best Practice Implementation, and Coalition building to foment the political will necessary to advance social mission in health professional education policy and increase in social accountability within academic health centers.

## **Objectives:**

1. To promote structural competency among participants sensitizing them to the socio-political and historical factors that inform health inequities by driving individual health behaviors.
2. To provide a historical and theoretical understanding of social mission in health professional training institutions
3. To show tangible examples of academic health centers demonstrating social mission within their host communities across the country.
4. To increase critical consciousness among participants
5. To provide hands on opportunities to develop multimedia educational experiences for peer health professional trainees and the lay public
6. To hone organizing skills in the formation of interdisciplinary coalitions for the advancement of health justice in health professional training and health care at large.
7. To expose trainees to health policy research through active participation in research projects.
8. To expose trainees to domestic health policy leadership through exposure to leaders in the field.

2021-22 BFA Health Justice Fellows  
(Left to Right): Erina Horikawa;  
Daniel Tounsel III; Zena Ahmed;  
Wajeha Mahmoud.



## **Fellowship Details**

The fellowship will last from September 2022 to May 2023 and will include the following activities:

### **Monthly Virtual Seminar Sessions**

- Seminar Session Once Per Month with guest facilitators (1.5 hour each) – 9 Months Total
- Sessions will generally occur on Thursday evenings from 8 to 9:30pm ET
- In the first half of the program, the seminars will serve as a forum for fellows to engage in discussion with invited guests on topics related to advancing social mission in health professional training and advancing health equity overall.
- In the second half of the program, sessions will pivot to skill building for advocacy/activism initiatives.
- Please refer to syllabus for dates, descriptions, and pre-readings.

### **Student Assembly Learning Communities**

- Fellows will participate in learning communities with peer leaders from the BFA Student Assembly.
- Learning communities consist of groups of health professional student leaders and faculty advisors who meet on a regular basis to share best practices in student-led advocacy for the advancement of social mission in health professional education.
- BFA Health Justice Fellows will be required to attend at least three learning community meetings during the program.

### **Mentorship Opportunities**

- Health Justice Fellows will have monthly 1-on-1 meeting with fellowship program director and/or HJ fellowship coordinators.
- Meetings will function as a mentoring and networking opportunity where fellows will be connected to network of past Health Justice Fellows and allies within the Beyond Flexner Network.

### **Virtual Activities**

- Collaborating with co-fellows to lead three [Student Assembly Webinars](#) and related advocacy efforts during the fellowship. Advocacy efforts can include, but are not limited to social media campaigns, letters writing, op-ed writing, and more.
- Creating coalitions around advocacy campaigns

### **Health Policy Research**

- Fellows will be given the opportunity to collaborate with the research groups within the Beyond Flexner Alliance and [Mullan Institute for Workforce Equity](#) to assist with conducting

and disseminating research focused on health equity and social mission in health professional training.

- During the October seminar session, research team leaders from BFA & the Mullan Institute will describe their work as well as opportunities for fellows to get involved on their research teams.
- Although not mandatory, participation can include:
  - Taking part in research group meetings (2 hours per month)
  - Working on deliverables asynchronously to help with project advancement

### **In-Person Intensive**

- Taking part in the Beyond Flexner National Student Assembly Summit & Hill Day in Washington DC
- The Summit & Hill Day will take place from Friday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to Monday March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Representing trainee perspectives, serving as a BFA trainee ambassador during the summit, and taking part in advocacy activities. The role of trainee ambassador includes:
  - Assisting speakers and plenary panelists during the summit.
  - Representing the BFA Health Justice Fellowship to other student attendees.

### **Stipend**

- Each fellow will be given a stipend of \$2,000 for participation in the fellowship.

### **How to Apply**

- To be eligible you must be currently enrolled as a student in good standing at a U.S. medical school, dental school, nursing school, physician associate program, or school of public health.
- Please use the survey link to fill out the application <https://forms.gle/THYFYgrCus9m9imaA>
- Application deadline is 11:59PM ET on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

2021-22 Health Justice Fellows  
with BFA Leadership Team  
Members at BFA Conference  
2022 (Top Left to BottomRight):  
Zena Ahmed, Daniel Tounsel III;  
Isabel Chen; Raashmi  
Krishnasamy; Erina Horikawa;  
Robert Rock; Wajeha Mahmoud.

