

TAG OVERVIEW

Initiated in September 2015, the goal of the **Trainee Ambassador Group (TAG)** is to: 1) foster connections between trainees across the MCH Training Program; 2) provide trainees with leadership development opportunities; and, 3) strengthen the link between trainees and the Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB).

Through collaboration, the TAG aims to accomplish the following:

- Strengthen the link between trainees and MCHB
- Increase awareness about the importance of utilizing and engaging trainees
- Increase current trainee awareness/knowledge about the full range of training programs
- Improve communication and collaboration among trainees within and across training programs
- Facilitate connections between current and former trainees
- Provide trainees with additional leadership development opportunities

TAG Cohort 1 (2015-16) Highlights

Developed "*An Introduction to the MCH Training Program for Trainees by Trainees*," a video to orient new trainees to the breadth of MCHB-funded MCH training programs.

Conceptualized an online mentoring resource, *MCH Connects*, to connect those in the MCH network.

GENERAL AMBASSADOR ROLES & LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- Meet, interact, conceptualize ideas, and implement activities and strategies centered on trainee engagement.
- Devise, review, and provide input on documents, presentations, communications, and/or other resources and tools.
- Create and post ideas and topics around relevant areas of interest to trainees through the Trainee Listserv.
- Provide feedback on the TAG experience as a professional development opportunity.
- Co-facilitate monthly virtual TAG meetings.
- Contribute content to the trainee LinkedIn page.
- Write "*Time with TAG*" spotlight highlighting trainee experiences.
- Conduct "TAG Talk" update during MCHB Training Program meetings or other training program interactions, either in-person or virtually.
- Attend, present, and/or serve as panelists on a TAG-related or trainee engagement activity at virtual or in-person meetings, as they arise (i.e. the Making Lifelong Connections [MLC] meeting, Autism CARES meeting, etc.)

TAG Cohort 2 (2017) Highlights

Developed and facilitated a plenary session at the Making Lifelong Connections (MLC 2017) Conference introducing trainees to *MCH Connects*.

Launched *MCH Connects* in September 2017 and organized and facilitated a nation-wide webinar to correspond with the launch.

Provided input on trainee experiences related to training on cultural competency and health equity for MCHB's Diversity & Health Equity Collaborative.

AMBASSADOR LEADERSHIP ROLES

In addition to the responsibilities listed above, each Ambassador has the opportunity to take on a leadership role. Each TAG member will be asked to indicate their preferred leadership role at the start of the cohort.

- **Making Lifelong Connections-TAG (MLC-TAG) Liaison** – One Ambassador participates on the MLC Planning Committee for monthly meetings to contribute the trainee perspective, and share MLC updates during monthly TAG meetings. The Liaison collaborates with the MLC Plenary Session Facilitators to develop and present the TAG plenary session at MLC.
- **MLC Plenary Session Facilitators** - Two Ambassadors collaborate with the MLC-TAG Liaison/TAG to develop and present the TAG plenary session at MLC.
- **MCH Connects Liaison** - Three Ambassadors (one each quarter) support the TAG’s networking initiative, **MCH Connects**, leading TAG discussions around ways to improve and support MCH Connects; responding to general questions from MCH Connects users; bringing feedback from users back to the TAG; and developing/updating a 'How To' guide to orient future MCH Connects liaisons.
- **AUCD Virtual Trainee (VT) Liaison** - The LEND and/or DBP Ambassador maintain monthly contact with the **AUCD VT** increasing communication between AUCD and the TAG on trainee engagement activities and strategies, and identifying areas for collaboration across the AUCD VT and TAG trainee engagement work.

- **TAG APPLICATION REVIEW PANELISTS** – Participate in a review panel comprised of MCHB staff, Altarum staff, and Ambassadors to review, evaluate, and discuss applications and provide recommendations on the subsequent TAG cohort.
- **TAG Meeting Coordinator** – One Ambassador supports the development of the monthly TAG meeting agenda by soliciting input from fellow Ambassadors.
- **TAG Connection and Engagement Leader (CEL) Coordinator** – One Ambassador maintains regular communications with the CELs to connect them with information and resources that can be disseminated to their local training programs.
- **Subcommittee Chair/Member** – Participate in subcommittee(s) to conceptualize ideas and implement activities and strategies to further engage trainees.

TAG Cohort 3 (2018) Highlights

Developed and facilitated a plenary session at the Making Lifelong Connections (MLC 2018) Conference on using values to inform mentoring experiences.

Developed a TAG subcommittee structure to work on program engagement, trainee engagement, and TAG communications activities.

Conceptualized a new trainee leadership role, the TAG Connection and Engagement Leader (CEL).

TAG Connection and Engagement Leader (CEL) Role

TAG Ambassadors value experiences that enrich their MCH training as well as MCHB-supported opportunities for networking, leadership, and professional development. The 2018 TAG developed the TAG CEL role to strengthen trainee engagement at the university level while providing additional leadership opportunities for motivated trainees. The TAG CEL will serve as an integral TAG partner in sharing important information and other resources with trainees, increasing the viability and visibility of TAG initiatives designed for trainees. For 2019, the TAG hopes to engage 2-3 TAG CELs across the country with the potential to expand this initiative in future years.

The TAG CEL will support the TAG in meeting its goals by: 1) increasing trainee engagement through on-the-ground promotion of in-person and virtual trainee activities; 2) cultivating leadership skills in a supportive, non-competitive, and pre- and/or post-professional environment; and, 3) serving as a link between MCH trainees and the TAG to share timely and relevant resources from the TAG, MCHB, and other MCH stakeholders.

Position Description

- Communicate with the TAG CEL Coordinator as the local liaison to the TAG
- Present short PowerPoint presentations to trainees at your local university's training program with support from the TAG CEL Coordinator. Notes and guidance will be provided for presentations with support from the TAG CEL Coordinator available to answer questions and help facilitate the process
- Share MCH and TAG-related news, information, and opportunities through various channels (i.e. social media, listservs). Once selected, TAG CELs can determine a schedule among themselves regarding posting responsibilities
- Be available for one 1-hour virtual TAG meeting during your tenure

Time Requirements

- One-year volunteer commitment (January-December 2019)
- Approximately 1-2 hours per month

Benefits

- Develop valuable professional skills
- Gain a clearer understanding of HRSA, MCHB, MCH Training Programs, the TAG, and the wide range of opportunities available to trainees
- Raise your profile within the MCH field
- Leadership experience to list on your resume
- ***If interested in becoming a TAG Ambassador in the future, the TAG CEL role will allow you to “dip your toe” into the world of the TAG with a lower time commitment and local focus***