Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) Fact Sheet

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) programs prepare maternal and child health leaders in adolescent and young adult health within at least five (5) core disciplines, including medicine, nursing, nutrition, psychology, and social work by providing interdisciplinary leadership training to health and related professionals at the graduate and postgraduate levels.

The LEAH program:

• **Prepares** trainees/fellows for leadership roles in public health practice, clinical care, research, training, and support to improve youth-centered, community-based care for adolescents and young adults while enhancing the capacity of community and Title V state programs;

• **Integrates** biological, developmental, mental and behavioral health, social, economic, educational, and environmental health training within a public health framework;

• **Emphasizes** technical assistance, continuing education, and collaboration with state and local public health, education, youth development, and human services agencies and providers with a maternal and child health focus; and

• **Develops, enhances, or improves** evidence-based patient-centered, family-involved, culturally competent, community-based care plans and practices for adolescents and young adults.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Reach

In FY 2016, over 96% of LEAH program graduates (5 years following completion of program) were engaged in work related to MCH populations and 100% demonstrated field leadership in academic, clinical, public health practice and/or public policy and related activities.

Faculty

LEAH faculty served on the Healthy People 2020 Adolescent Health Workgroup, bringing the scholarship, practical experience, and interprofessional approach to the public health framework. LEAH faculty and trainees gave clinical, research, and policy presentations and provided over 700 continuing education courses to advance the field and provide workforce development in adolescent health.

Core faculty at each site include pediatricians and internists who are sub-boarded in adolescent medicine, nurses, psychologists, nutritionists, and social workers. Faculty oversee the clinical experiences of trainees, as well as research, field experiences, and academic performance. Faculty also engage in clinical health services and social epidemiological research and provide continuing education and technical assistance for the health professional and policymaking communities.

Title V

In FY 2016, all seven LEAH programs reported collaborating with state Title V (MCH) agencies or other MCH-related programs on 1,294 activities in areas of service, training, continuing education, technical assistance, product development and research.
DIVISION OF MCH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DMCHWD)

DMCHWD, part of the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau, provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation’s current and future leaders in maternal and child health (MCH). The Division also provides leadership through state and community-based capacity building programs.

Special emphasis is placed on the development and implementation of interprofessional, family-centered, community-based and culturally competent systems of care across the entire life course.

DMCHWD supports programs established in federal legislation (Title V of the Social Security Act, the Autism CARES Act, and the 21st Century CURES Act) to complement state and local health agency efforts. DMCHWD partners with state MCH programs, academic institutions, professional organizations, and other health training programs of the federal government to ensure that MCH workforce development programs are grounded in emerging and evidence-based practices.

In FY 2016, DMCHWD awarded 161 grants, an investment of approximately $47 million.