

## *MCH Public Health Catalyst Program Fact Sheet*

### **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Maternal and Child Health Public Health Catalyst Program is to provide an increased focus on fundamental MCH content and competencies within schools of public health where no concentration currently exists; and provide MCH content exposure to an increased number of public health students, introducing students to careers in the maternal and child health field.

Catalyst programs provide MCH exposure to graduate students, including individuals from underrepresented backgrounds who are also underrepresented in the maternal and child health field.

The five Catalyst programs implement the following activities:

- Develop and offer a graduate-level credit bearing course focused on foundational MCH content,
- Support student organizations, events and activities that bring students together who are interested in maternal and child health, and
- Recruit qualified students from economically disadvantaged and racial/ethnic minority backgrounds.

### **COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES AND ALIGNMENT WITH TITLE V**

- Adopt a program philosophy that is geared towards the preparation of diverse students to enter careers in state Title V MCH programs and local public health agencies
- Educate students on the historical, legislative, and public health systems knowledge base regarding Title V and related programs in the United States
- Incorporate participation of state Title V practicing professionals and diverse stakeholders as curriculum advisors and as faculty
- Provide practicum opportunities for students in state Title V agencies

### **PROGRAM IMPACT**

#### **Trainees**

In FY 2015, the Catalyst Program trained 111 short-term trainees and 42 medium-term trainees.

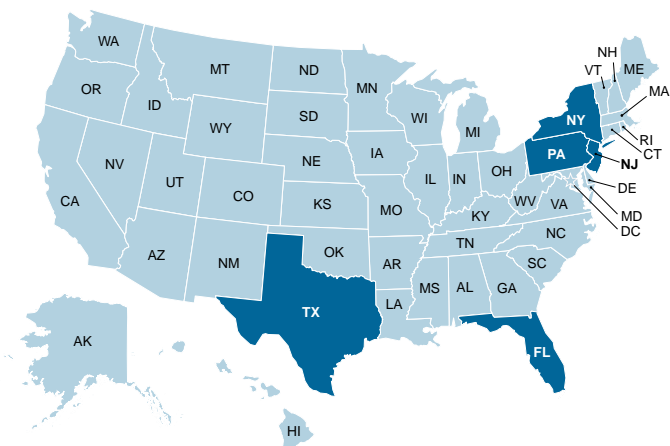
#### **Trainee Diversity**

In FY 2015, 54% of Catalyst trainees were from an underrepresented racial group and 16% were Hispanic/Latino.



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## PROJECT LOCATIONS

### Florida

- Florida International University, Miami

### New Jersey

- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Piscataway

### New York

- University at Albany, State University of New York

### Pennsylvania

- Drexel University, Philadelphia

### Texas

- Texas A&M University, College Station

## DIVISION OF MCH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DMCHWD)

DMCHWD, part of HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau, provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation's future leaders in maternal and child health (MCH).

Special emphasis is placed on the development and implementation of inter-professional, family-centered, community-based and culturally competent systems of care across the entire life course with experiences in one life stage shaping health in later stages.

DMCHWD supports programs established in federal legislation ([Title V of the Social Security Act](#) and the [Autism CARES Act](#)) to complement state and local health agency efforts. DMCHWD collaborates with state MCH programs, academic institutions, professional organizations, and other health training programs of the federal government to ensure that MCH initiatives are unique and based on evidence-based practices.

In FY 2016, DMCHWD awarded 161 grants, an investment of approximately \$47 million. Grants are awarded to develop trainees for leadership roles in the areas of:

- MCH teaching,
- Research,
- Clinical practice, and/or
- Public health administration and policy making.