Division of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Workforce Development: MCH Pipeline Training Program

MISSION / PURPOSE
The Maternal and Child Health Pipeline Training Program (MCHPTP) promotes the development of a culturally diverse and representative health care workforce by recruiting undergraduate training students from economically and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities) into maternal and child health (MCH) professions. It recruits undergraduate students enrolled at institutions that have a demonstrated record of training individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds and who are underrepresented in the maternal and child health field. MCHPTP educates, mentors, guides and provides enriching experiences to increase students’ interests and entry into MCH public health and related fields such as pediatrics, MCH nutrition, MCH social work, MCH nursing, pediatric dentistry, psychology, health education, pediatric occupational/physical therapy, speech language pathology, etc. The program encourages and motivates students to seek careers in maternal and child health by making the appropriate undergraduate didactic research, clinical and/or field experiences available and exposing students to Title V and other MCH agencies that serve children and families. In addition, MCHPTP develops leadership skills, fosters a broader public health perspective, and explores the integration of primary care and public health to improve population health. MCH Pipeline Programs are all linked to at least one MCH long-term training program.

PROGRAM PROFILE
MCHB currently funds six (6) Pipeline programs with total annual awards amounting to approximately $930,000. The next anticipated grant competition for the Pipeline Programs is FY 2021.

Program Impact

► Trainees. In FY 2014, the Pipeline training program trained 168 short-term and 223 medium-term trainees and provided the knowledge and skills for public health practice and leadership that placed them on a career track for entering MCH-related professions.

► Over 78% of Pipeline trainees are from underrepresented racial groups and 19% are from underrepresented ethnic groups. These students are trained to serve underserved, disadvantaged MCH communities to reduce health disparities and improve service delivery to women, children, youth, families, and communities.

► Title V. In FY 2014, MCH Pipeline training programs reported collaborating with State Title V (MCH) agencies or other MCH-related programs on 34 activities in areas of service, training, continuing education, technical assistance, product development and research.

http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/training/
The Division of MCH Workforce Development provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation’s future leaders in maternal and child health.

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 because experiences in one life stage shape health in later stages.

The Division, part of HRSA’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau, 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. The Division 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 2015, the Division of MCH Workforce Development awarded 152 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.

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