# Advanced Health Systems Science Learning Opportunities

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# **Penn State College of Medicine**







# **Health System Science Master's Program**

### **Health Systems Science Masters' Program:**

- Align with training and experience of health professions learners and providers
- Develop competencies to improve care.
- Integrate within a four-year flexible MD curriculum
- Blend with a sub-focus on population health
- Offer initial certificate option with extension to a master's degree



## **Grant Team Members**

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# **Community Outreach/Service Learning Curriculum**

#### Community Outreach/Service Learning Curriculum:

- Student elective
- · Focus on skills in community outreach
- Immersive experience with underserved populations

#### Rationale:

- · Gaps exist between key needs identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and the formal student curriculum.
- · Three CHNA key concerns/priority areas are behavioral health, healthy lifestyles and chronic disease management.
- Key concerns in managing chronic disease include modifiable factors that could potentially be part of a service learning curriculum: lack of transportation, care coordination and transition between providers, patient compliance and self-management impacted by language barriers, cultural habits, family support and cost.
- · Authentic engagement with community health needs is critical to meaningful learning in several core domains of Health Systems Science – in particular Social Determinants and Population Health.

#### Overview:

- Goal of gaining hands on experience with the opportunities, barriers. successes, and frustrations of community-based efforts.
- · Elective opportunity guided by faculty and administrative leadership connected to specific sites.
- · Regular reflective exercises
- · Final project focusing on lessons learned and enduring skills for future community-based collaboration.



# **Mentored Student Mini-Grants**

#### Health Systems Science Mentored Mini-Grant Program:

- Mini-grants (up to \$2000) for students to develop medical student research (MSR) projects related to health systems science core domains including:
  - Health care structure and processes
  - Health care policy, economics and management
  - Clinical informatics/health information technology
  - Population health
  - Value-based care
  - Health systems improvement

#### Students may choose from the following project options, or undertake another project of their choice:

- Option 1: Apply the principles of Design-Thinking, Humancentered Collaborative Design, or User-Oriented Collaborative Design to the creation of a community-based project to improve health outcomes.
- Option 2: Join an ongoing project that provides opportunities for the student to add value.
- **Option 3:** Develop a patient-education workshop with specific focus on relevant areas of Social Determinants, Disparities, or an important health issue unique to that community.
- Option 4: Other (students chooses deliverable and receives) approval from faculty)

# Institutional Contact

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