

# Jim Bernstein Health Fellows Program

Pre-Application Webinar for 2024-2026 Cohort  
March 12, 2024



**FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH**  
LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

*MOVING PEOPLE AND IDEAS INTO ACTION*

# Today's Objectives



- Review the foundation of the Jim Bernstein Health Leadership Fellows Program
- Review the core components of the program
- Review the application process
- Questions and Answers



# Fellowship Mission

- Prepare emerging leaders to work in and improve the health of rural and other underserved communities in NC
- Honor the legacy of Jim Bernstein, founder and long-time director of the NC Office of Rural Health



Foundation for Health  
Leadership & Innovation

# BERNSTEIN FELLOWS

# Jim Bernstein's Beliefs

- Everyone has a right to health care.
- Health care should be delivered in a respectful, patient-centered manner.
- Health care systems should belong to the communities where people live and providers practice.
- Successful health care organizations are led by talented, dedicated, and well-trained leaders.



# Fellowship Overview

- Two-year period
- Begins every October
- Leadership development
- Healthcare sector primary focus
- Learning to collaborate with state and local leaders
- Recognizing strengths and challenges of rural communities







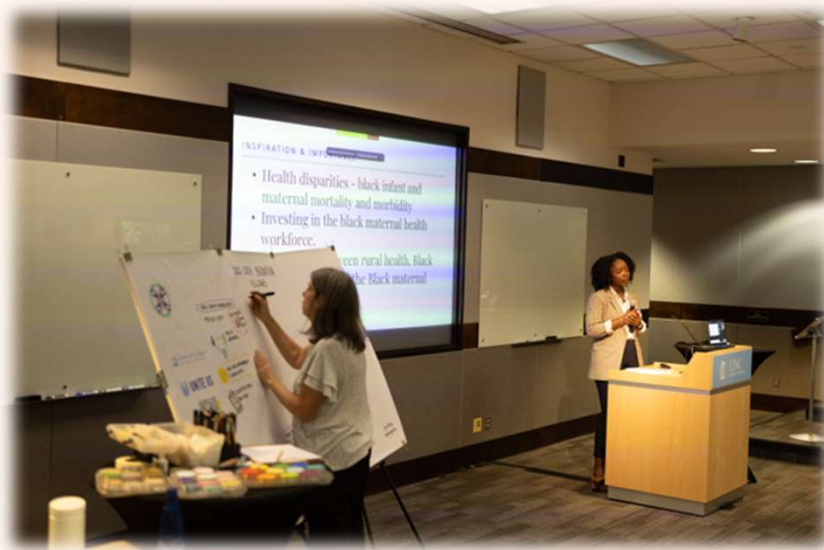
# Fellowship Components

- Educational sessions to enhance Fellows' leadership skills and understanding of rural health care and rural communities
- Completion of an individual project addressing an important health care issue at the state or community level
- Mentoring by a key health care leader
- Engagement with health leaders and institutions at local, state, and national level
- Two experiential learning retreats





# Fellowship Project



## **Projects vary in focus, and have included:**

- design, launch, and/or evaluation of pilot programs
- creation and implementation of assessment tools
- development and distribution of best practice toolkits

## **Projects may benefit:**

- a Fellow's organization
- a regional or statewide task force or initiative
- the community at-large

Fellows may also choose to work together on a group project.



# Fellowship Project

- Work with a self-chosen mentor to facilitate
- Will respond to periodic requests for updates on progress
- Will provide a summary presentation/product at the Bernstein Event during final meeting





# Fellowship History

- The first class of 2 Fellows began their Fellowship in 2006
- Classes totaling 4-5 Fellows began in 2011
- Since 2006, 49 Fellows have completed the program
- The current class of 7 Fellows will graduate this October





# Fellowship Criteria

Fellows represent numerous professional backgrounds including but not limited to practitioners, nutritionists, pharmacists, administrators, social workers, etc.

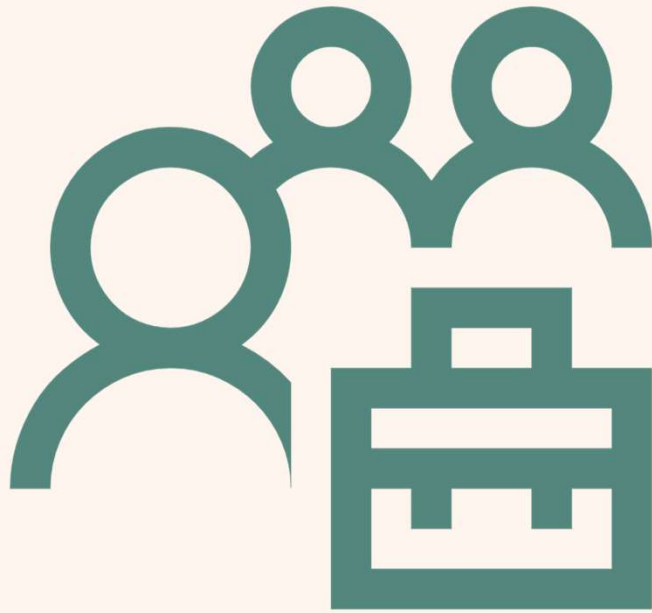
The program does not require an advanced degree.

Applicants must:

- Work in an organization in or serves a rural and/or underserved community in North Carolina
- Demonstrate a commitment to community-driven health care
- Demonstrate a commitment to remaining in North Carolina
- Demonstrate leadership potential
- Be sensitive to cultural diversity among client populations
- Hold realistic expectations about working in rural or underserved communities and with vulnerable populations



# Funding for Fellowship



- Fellow's employer provides salary support (via 10-12% of work week dedicated to Fellowship time)
- Foundation covers event and travel costs associated with required educational sessions
- Each Fellow receives a stipend to support development and implementation of Fellowship project



# Application Requirements

- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Written statement of interest
- Letter of support from employer
- Letter of recommendation from a professional source
- Signed statement of understanding and commitment

**Email submissions to:**

[Lisa.tyndall@foundationhli.org](mailto:Lisa.tyndall@foundationhli.org)

**Or mail package to:**

FHLI, Attn: Nel  
Edwards, 2401 Weston Parkway,  
Suite 203 Cary, NC 27513

**The deadline to submit materials is March 30th, 2024!**



# Statement of Interest Contents

- Why are you interested in participating in this program and what is your understanding of what the program can offer you as a health professional?
- What are your strengths and challenges as a health professional?
- What personal and professional goals do you hope to achieve in this program
- What does achievement of those goals look like (how will your goals be measured) at the end of the Fellowship term?
- What are some areas of interest you wish to pursue in the development of your Fellowship project?
- What communities and agencies would be impacted by your project interests, and how can your project work bring positive and lasting change to these communities and agencies?



# Important Dates

- **Application Opens:** February 1st
- **Deadline to Apply:** March 30th
- **Interview:** TBD
- **Orientation:** October 2nd-3rd, 2024





# Contact Information and Questions

- Directors of the Fellowship
  - Hugh Tilson, J.D.
  - Randy Jordan, J.D.
- Foundation for Health Leadership and Innovation Staff
  - Lisa Tyndall, PhD, LMFT [lisa.tyndall@foundationhli.org](mailto:lisa.tyndall@foundationhli.org)
  - Nel Edwards, MBA [nel.edwards@foundationhli.org](mailto:nel.edwards@foundationhli.org)