

"The most exciting elements of Interdisciplinary Research Leaders are learning from other cohort members and the resources available for participatory action research with local residents."

—Dominic Moulden, Resource Organizer,  
Organizing Neighborhood Equity

# COLLABORATE: ADVANCE COMMUNITY CHANGE

INTER  
DISCIPLINARY  
RESEARCH  
LEADERS

For teams of researchers  
and community partners  
APPLICATIONS OPEN  
JANUARY 2018

## Lead the Way to a Culture of Health.

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders is a national leadership program for teams of researchers and community partners, including nonprofit or government professionals, organizers, and advocates. These teams use the power of applied research—working with the community to explore critical issues and apply the findings—to advance health and equity. Their innovation helps build a Culture of Health, one that enables everyone in America to live longer, healthier lives.

- Collaborate with other innovative thinkers to lead change in programs and policies
- Extend your work in a new direction through a collaborative research project
- Receive financial support for program participation, as well as research project funding

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program



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*Team from Alabama*



*Team from Puerto Rico*



*Team from Ohio*

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"I am invigorated to be part of a network of academics and community partners united by the potential for collaborative research to create meaningful social change."

—*Farrah Jacquez, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati* (PICTURED ABOVE: BOTTOM LEFT)  
VISIT [INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG](http://INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG) TO MEET MORE TEAMS.

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"The program provides us an opportunity to conduct a study that has both practical and policy implications for the most stigmatized individuals in our community."

—George Mugoya, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Alabama

Billy Kirkpatrick, PhD; Safiya George, PhD; and George Mugoya, PhD, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team from Alabama. VISIT [INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG](http://INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG) TO MEET MORE TEAMS.

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Michael Topmiller, PhD; Farrah Jacquez, PhD; and Jamie-Lee Morris, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team from Ohio. VISIT [INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG](http://INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG) TO MEET MORE TEAMS.

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"The program provides the right fit of training, resources, mentoring, and guidance about program expectations to ensure success."

—Maribel Campos, MD, MBA, MSc, FAAP, Associate Professor, University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus

Cristina Palacios, PhD, MSc; Alexandra Reyes, MEd, RDN; and Maribel Campos, MD, MBA, MSc, FAAP, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team from Puerto Rico.

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"It's a great opportunity to contribute to an agenda that is driven by the community and uses evidence to achieve health equity."

—Julio López Varona, JD, Lead Organizer, Make the Road Connecticut

Julio López Varona, JD; Michele Kilpatrick, JD; and Julia Henly, PhD, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team from Connecticut. VISIT [INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG](http://INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG) TO MEET MORE TEAMS.

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—Dominic Moulden, Resource Organizer, Organizing Neighborhood Equity

Derek Hyra, PhD; Mindy Fullilove, MD; and Dominic Moulden, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team from New Jersey and Washington, D.C. VISIT [INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG](http://INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG) TO MEET MORE TEAMS.

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"I am most excited about increasing my knowledge and awareness of how to build a Culture of Health by listening to the stories and gathering the resources provided through Interdisciplinary Research Leaders."

—Sabrina Kelley, Resident Services Manager, Fresno Housing Authority

Yumiko Aratani, PhD; Irán Barrera, PhD; and Sabrina Kelley, MPH, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team from California. VISIT [INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG](http://INTERDISCIPLINARYRESEARCH-LEADERS.ORG) TO MEET MORE TEAMS.

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# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Each year, we select a new class of fellows to build their leadership skills, tap into funding for new projects, get refreshed and inspired, and increase their impact. Collaborating across sectors and disciplines, they build connections between factors that shape health, well-being, and equity—such as education, neighborhoods, social services, income, and faith.

## APPLICATION CRITERIA

We seek teams of three—two researchers and one community partner—interested in applied research to build a Culture of Health. To drive change in every sector, teams represent both health and nonhealth fields and are cross-disciplinary when possible. **Our annual themes for 2018 focus on rural populations, and applicants should choose one of two tracks: Solutions for better health care delivery; or addressing the social and economic determinants to prevent chronic conditions and to promote health, wellbeing, and equity.**

Teams must:

- Incorporate multiple disciplines, such as public policy, design, health, transportation, social work, education, and urban planning.
- Have two researchers, each with a terminal degree (PhD, MD, DrPH) or a master's degree with evidence of extensive professional experience, including significant research and publications.
- Include one community partner with community-oriented knowledge and relationships who is interested in gaining research capacity to increase impact.

## PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Over the course of the three-year program, fellows will:

- Receive an annual amount of \$25,000 per person for participation in the program and research project funding of up to \$125,000 for the team—for salary, research costs, and more.
- Work on their team project with national program advisers.
- Develop high-level leadership skills through mentorship, networking, and an advanced leadership curriculum.
- Continue working in their home communities and apply knowledge to local needs.

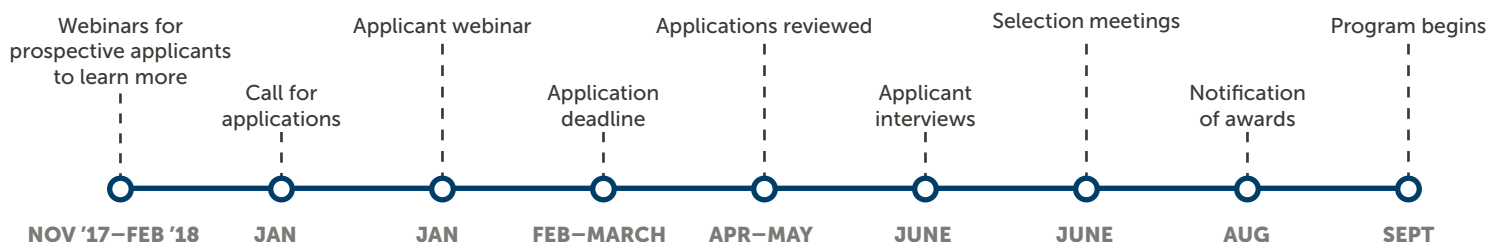
## RESULTS: ENHANCED SKILLS AND LEADERSHIP

Upon completion, fellows will have connections with a national group of leaders working in diverse sectors and will be equipped to:

- Lead and collaborate across sectors, professions, and disciplines.
- Engage with communities and influence systems and institutions.
- Apply research and data to strengthen programs and policies.
- Demonstrate a deep understanding of equity, Culture of Health, research, and other concepts.
- Advocate for systemic change.
- Frame issues and build public support.

## 2018 TIMELINE

Timeline subject to change. Check our website for updates.



## INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH LEADERS

A National Leadership Program

**INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH LEADERS IS LED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA. PARTNERS INCLUDE:**

AcademyHealth  
ISIAH  
Twin Cities Local Initiatives Support Corporation

## LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS AT RWJF

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders is just one of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's leadership programs for people who are interested in applying their expertise—no matter what they do—to help make our country healthier and more equitable. Some other programs are:

- Clinical Scholars, for health professionals in clinical, academic, or community settings
- Health Policy Research Scholars, for second-year doctoral students from underrepresented populations and/or disadvantaged backgrounds
- Culture of Health Leaders, for individuals from every field, profession, and sector

Information about these and additional leadership programs at:

[www.rwjf.org/changeleaders](http://www.rwjf.org/changeleaders)



Learn more and sign up for updates: [www.interdisciplinaryresearch-leaders.org](http://www.interdisciplinaryresearch-leaders.org)



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