



2022 Equity, Social Justice, and Advocacy Award

Award Description

The Equity, Social Justice, and Advocacy Award recognizes individuals at Harvard Medical School (HMS)/Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM) and within the HMS/HSDM-affiliate community who advance equity, social justice, and advocacy - contributions that affirm the HMS mission, HMS community values, and medical professionalism. Health equity and social justice advocacy – whether directed at our patients, practices, institutions, systems, or society – are inherent in medicine’s professional ethos. The National Academy of Medicine identified “equitable” as one of the six domains of health care quality, and defined the aim of “equity” at the population level to include improving “health status... in a manner that reduces health disparities... .” Further, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) acknowledges expertise and means within the academic medicine community to advance anti-racism efforts and advocacy to address health inequities affecting marginalized communities. Such contributions are consistent with the HMS mission:

To nurture a diverse, inclusive community dedicated to alleviating suffering and improving health and well-being for all through excellence in teaching and learning, discovery and scholarship, and service and leadership.

Eligibility

- The following individuals are eligible for this award:
 - **Faculty** – must be based at HMS/HSDM, or an HMS-affiliated hospital or institution.
 - **Trainee** – must be a house officer, clinical or research fellow, post-doctoral fellow based at HMS/HSDM or at an HMS-affiliated hospital or institution.
 - **Student** – must be enrolled at HMS/HSDM or HMS Division of Medical Sciences.
 - **Staff** – must work directly for HMS or HSDM (receiving a Harvard paycheck).

Nominations

- In addition to internal nominations, self-nominations and nominations from outside institutions, organizations or individuals will be accepted.

Award Guidelines

- The nominee’s work should result in practice or educational innovation, policy, culture change, or entrepreneurship that has positively impacted marginalized populations.
- The nominee’s impact can be evidenced and measured by contributions to clinical care and outcomes, scholarship, position statements, research, curriculum development, community engagement, expert testimony, and policies.
- The contribution must go above and beyond routine expectations required of the nominee’s position and responsibilities and may account for a change effected by the nominee. Efforts that contribute to such change, either transformative or incremental, will be considered.

Nomination Examples

- Developing an innovative curriculum that provides the knowledge and skill base to further social justice in at-risk communities.
- Raising awareness of immigrant health while creating accessible pathways to address their unique social and health needs.
- Utilizing data to advocate for changes that regulate tobacco advertising targeting youth in low-income communities.
- Modifying quality improvement efforts to include equity dimensions to effectively address clinical outcome gaps among populations.

For more information please contact:

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