



*"The Center for Health Equity Transformation (CHET), Lexington Kentucky, is located on the original homeland of diverse Native peoples who arrived over 10,000 years ago. The most recent among them were the Shawnee. Today, Kentucky is still home to over 25,000 Native people representing scores of tribal groups. CHET recognizes the injustices Native peoples have endured. Through this statement, we hope to begin the long process of healing."*

Visit our  
Website

## CHET's Weekly Communication Digest

### CHET Call for GRA Applications

Application window: January 10 - March 1, 2022

The Center for Health Equity Transformation (CHET, <https://chet.med.uky.edu/>) welcomes applications for a graduate research assistantship focused on innovative, transdisciplinary and impactful health equities research. CHET's



focal research involves preventing and improving outcomes from cancer, substance use, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes/obesity in vulnerable, traditionally underserved populations. Graduate students from all disciplines, including social sciences, public health, biomedical informatics, health policy, and others, are welcome. CHET research assistants will work with faculty engaged in a diverse array of research approaches, including community-based participatory research, survey design, policy, intervention, and dissemination and implementation science. CHET research assistants will engage and support efforts in research conduct, development of scholarly products (presentations, abstracts, peer-reviewed manuscripts), professional networking, enriching activities (speaker series, workshops), mentoring undergraduate students, statistical analysis, grantsmanship, and development of communication and promotional materials.

This is a full-time graduate research assistantship with a competitive stipend and tuition. The start-date is negotiable, and the assistantship may be renewable for multiple years. Members of underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted beginning **January 10, 2022**. Interested individuals should send one PDF file to [CHET@uky.edu](mailto:CHET@uky.edu) by **March 1, 2022** that contains the following:

1. Cover letter outlining the applicant's interest in health equity research and career aspirations
2. CV
3. A list of three references with contact information
4. One writing sample

## A Fond Farewell: CHET Core Faculty Transition to New Roles

**Dr. James Keck**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, has transitioned to a new position as a Research Physician with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) in Anchorage, Alaska as of January 10th, 2022.



The mission of ANTHC is to "provide the highest quality health services in partnership with our people and the Alaska Tribal Health System." Dr. Keck will work with the Research Services team to better understand the substantial health disparities facing the Alaska Native people, the indigenous peoples of Alaska. Dr. Keck served previously as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer with the CDC's Arctic Investigations Program office in Anchorage. "I look forward to continuing the kind of community-engaged, team-based, multidisciplinary health research that CHET and UK helped me appreciate during the past five years," said Dr. Keck.



**Dr. Rafael E. Pérez-Figueroa** will be joining the Rutgers School of Public Health as the Associate Dean of Community Engagement and Public Health Practice in February of 2022. He will be appointed as an Associate Professor in the Department of Urban-Global Public Health and Medicine.

"I am honored to join the Rutgers School of Public Health community at this critical time. As Associate Dean of Community Engagement and Public Health Practice, I look forward to contributing to fostering cooperation between the school and relevant communities and populations. By

meaningfully and intentionally incorporating community perspectives and guidance, we would better understand community needs and concerns, create lasting bonds, build trust, and strengthen the quality and impact of our public health work. My vision is to engage in a form of community action addressing health inequities, promoting social justice, and working together to end all forms of discrimination."

I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to serve as core faculty at CHET. Addressing health inequities is a community endeavor. At CHET, I have worked with students, community members, staff, and faculty engaging in a common vision on health equity, building capacity, and fostering collaboration. Through community engagement we are working to translate, diffuse, and implement evidence based strategies into community practices and changes in policies that disproportionately impact under resourced communities. We have an opportunity to align our research and education efforts with the policy making and community practice process to bring value to minoritized and marginalized populations facing inequities. I am committed to this goal and look forward to continuing collaborating with CHET from my new platform."

## 16th Annual Geisel MLK Health Equity Celebration

Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

January 14-15, 2022

Registration: <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/dice/mlk/>

The Dartmouth College Geisel School of Medicine will host its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Health Equity Celebration January 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, and we hope that you can join us! This year's theme is "Race-Based Medicine: Acknowledging Medicine's Trajectory and Our Role in Shaping Its Course."

We have an exciting array of speakers planned from across the country. All events are free and open to the public. We will be offering CMEs/CNEs for attendance.

For additional details regarding the scheduled events and earning CMEs/CNEs, please visit: <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/dice/mlk/>.

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## **National Equity Atlas Fellowship**

Deadline: January 21, 2022

Application: <https://nationalequityatlas.org/lab/fellowship>

The National Equity Atlas research partnership, a collaboration between PolicyLink and the USC Equity Research Institute, is seeking applicants for its 2022-2023 class of National Equity Atlas Fellows.

The fellowship provides an exciting opportunity for advocates working to dismantle structural racism and advance equitable policy change to deepen their data knowledge and skills. Fellows will have the opportunity to learn from other community-based leaders from across the country, share their experiences, and potentially collaborate on original data projects.

Fellows' home organizations will receive a \$7,500 stipend to support their participation in the program, and fellows will have opportunities to engage with data and policy experts, collaborate with National Equity Atlas staff, and receive training to access datasets, conduct analyses, and create maps, dashboards, and other data visuals in Tableau and other visualization software.

By the end of the program, Fellows will be able to design, develop, and produce their own custom data visualizations — such as fact sheets or interactive dashboards — to support their policy advocacy campaigns, with dedicated support and technical assistance from Atlas team members.

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## **Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series**

January 25, 2022

8:00am

Zoom: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/81749382834>

As part of the University of Kentucky College of Medicine's Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series, the Neuroscience Research Priority Area, and Donna Wilcock, PhD are excited to host Lisa L. Barnes, PhD for her talk, "Epidemiology of cognitive aging in older African-Americans." on January 25, 2022 at 8am.

The Lecture will be presented virtually, in conjunction with UK Neurology Grand Rounds

## Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series

### "Epidemiology of cognitive aging in older African Americans"

presented by:

#### **Lisa L. Barnes, PhD**

- The Alla V. and Solomon Jesmer Professor of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine
- Dept. of Neurological Sciences, Rush Medical College
- Neuropsychologist, Rush Alzheimer's Disease



Hosted by Donna Wilcock, PhD, and presented in conjunction with UK Neurology Grand Rounds

**January 25, 2022 8am**

**<https://uky.zoom.us/j/81749382834>**

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## Graduate Training Opportunity

The University of Kentucky Human Development Institute is leading a five year Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal and Child Health Bureau in partnership with the University of Louisville and Eastern Kentucky University. LEND programs share the overall mission of improving the health of infants, children and adolescents with autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities. A major focus of LEND is to increase the number of professionals with the knowledge and skills to provide evidence-based screening and diagnosis, as well as supports to individuals and families.

We are accepting applications across disciplines for the 2022 – 2023 academic year. A total of nine trainees will be accepted in the LEND traineeship, which includes leadership coursework and a rich array of clinical and community placements each semester. Trainees commit to 15 hours of LEND activities each week.

1. Complete LEND [online application](https://uky.azi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vAMf2dLWxdaRV4) by March 4 (available: [https://uky.azi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5vAMf2dLWxdaRV4](https://uky.azi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vAMf2dLWxdaRV4))
2. Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled with finalists
3. 2022 – 2023 trainees notified by April 15. A total of nine selected trainees receive a nine month fellowship.

Trainees must be one of the following:

- enrolled in a graduate or post-graduate training program in a LEND discipline

- a family member of an individual with an intellectual/developmental disability
- an individual with an intellectual or developmental disability

Visit [hdi.uky.edu/kylend](http://hdi.uky.edu/kylend) to learn more and to apply online. Contact the Kentucky LEND Project Director [caroline.gooden@uky.edu](mailto:caroline.gooden@uky.edu) with any questions, or to schedule an informational session for your department and interested students!

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## Upcoming Events

### **The Social and the Science: Psychosocial and Biomedical Research on COVID-19**

UK Student Poster Session

February 18, 2022

Abstract Submission:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsuCG6UsLFXbJOHbRiy4bmggckVm\\_LH\\_oqQln1EK3OX-f-sWg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsuCG6UsLFXbJOHbRiy4bmggckVm_LH_oqQln1EK3OX-f-sWg/viewform)

Deadline: Monday, January 31, 2022, at 11:59 p.m

Contact: Mia Morales [mmo348@g.uky.edu](mailto:mmo348@g.uky.edu)

### **Sister Circle 2022 "EmpowHer" Conference**

February 24-25, 2022

More information: <https://www.uky.edu/cgd/sister-circle-2022>

### **2022 Substance Use Research Event**

March 1, 2022

Registration: <https://www.research.uky.edu/SURE>

Deadline: February 4, 2022

### **15th Annual Graduate Student Regional Research Conference**

March 24-25, 2022

University of Louisville

Registration: <https://louisville.edu/graduate/gsc/research-conference>

### **UNITE Inaugural Research Event**

May 4, 2022

More information: <https://www.research.uky.edu/unite-research-priority-area/unite-news-events>

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## Collaboration Column

This weekly column provides space for any of our CHET affiliates to seek out involvement of others. We request that contributions be no more than 3 sentences and include contact information.

If considered appropriate, contributions sent to [chet@uky.edu](mailto:chet@uky.edu) by Thursday will be included in CHET's Friday digest. Contributions will be run twice, unless requested otherwise.

For more information, please contact the Communication Subcommittee via [chet@uky.edu](mailto:chet@uky.edu)

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## Biostatistics and Research Design Core

To request a consultation with the CHET Biostatistics and Research Design Core, please click the following link: [https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9GlfBA9n9aPOFlb](https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9GlfBA9n9aPOFlb)

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## CHET Student and Trainee Listserv

Please encourage your students and trainees to join our listserv here: [bit.ly/joinchet](https://bit.ly/joinchet)