Summer HIV/AIDS Research Program (SHARP)

Overview: 12-week paid summer internship program for underrepresented undergraduate students designed to build interest and skills to conduct research on HIV or related health disparities. Based at San Francisco Department of Public Health and funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. PIs: Jonathan Fuchs, MD, MPH and Willi McFarland, MD, PhD, MPH&TM.

Components
Recruitment & Selection
- Recruitment network includes Historically Black Colleges and Universities, local partner schools, and SF Department of Public Health contacts
- Rigorous selection process with initial application, phone screen, in-person interviews, and reference checks; 4-6 students selected each year out of approximately 80 applicants

Summer Activities
- Research project matched to student’s interests and supervised by a team of co-mentors; mentoring facilitated by mentorship agreement and regular meetings
- Weekly seminars and workshops led by SFDPH researchers and local university faculty, including a Final Symposium with presentations from each scholar
- Opportunities to shadow clinicians, study visits and community consultations
- Networking events with other scholars and mentors

Alumni Activities
- Alumni serve as peer mentors to current scholars and are encouraged to attend events
- Alumnus Scholar liaises between current scholars, mentors, and staff (new in 2014)
- Webinars support on-going alumni research projects
- Alumni eligible for financial support to present at national conferences

More Information
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