Consortium Wide Support for DEI & COVID

Education and Career Development - Identifying and amplifying shared education resources and nurturing collaborations are key goals for the CLIC Education Team. Our continued outreach to education leaders at 22 CTSA hubs, consortium ECs and the development of a COVID-focused education discussion group enabled us to be responsive to evolving needs. The Well-Being during COVID-19 and Beyond initiative, a CTSA consortium collaboration, emerged and resulted in a CTSA Program Working Group application. Our team has also provided consultation and assistance as training programs worked to adapt to virtual environments, and we are developing an anti-racism training series to help CTSA teams create inclusive and equitable spaces.

Impact of COVID-19 on CTSA Program Hubs and Trainees - Collaborating with CTSA Steering Committee sub-committee and 14 writing groups of hub PIs, faculty, and staff to evaluate CTSA Program hubs’ adaptations to disruptions in research operations due to COVID-19. Conducted surveys of 60 hubs for use in development of manuscripts. Conducted surveys of adaptations and perceived impact of COVID-19 on TL1 trainees and KL2 scholars. Preliminary results were used to guide discussion at the Spring 2020 Joint Meeting. A more detailed analysis was published in the Journal of Clinical and Translational Sciences (JCTS).

Insights 2 Inspire (i2i) / From Insights to Action (FITA) - The I2I is a series of blogs and/or webinars highlighting strategies implemented by hubs to improve on a given Common Metric. The 2020 series focused on the Careers Metric with respect to recruiting and retaining underrepresented and women scholars or trainees, organized in 5 themes: Diversity & Inclusion; Recruitment; Application Process; Mentoring; and Evaluation. Strategies shared represent the work of 18 institutions across the nation, and 15 hubs presenting on the webinars. Taking this series one step further, CLIC translated the themes into 6 actionable strategies towards organizing research programs with an equity and inclusive lens. This is outlined in the “From Insights to Action” resource.


Communications / Website - With >200 COVID-19 tagged stories, the CLIC website is the central CTSA Program portal for hubs to read about and disseminate information about COVID-19 efforts. Our COVID-19 website page provides a site for CTSA Program hubs to share information about COVID-19 research at their institutions, collaborate through the discussion forum, and obtain resources to support educational activities.

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