



2019 Training Researchers to Eliminate Disparities (TREND)

Program Announcement

Disparities in breast cancer outcomes exist since some people from different racial or ethnic backgrounds, or those who live in certain communities, die at higher rates than the average. At Susan G. Komen, we are committed to changing this statistic, and set a goal to cut the number of breast cancer deaths in half by 2026.

The field of disparities research has significant challenges, including a lack of resources to support comprehensive research projects, limited data sets to clearly address research questions, a shortage of people trained to solve these problems, and no venue through which scientists and patient advocates can collaborate to overcome these barriers. This results in later diagnosis, different responses to treatments, and not participating in clinical trials due to systemic bias.

Komen is pleased to announce a Training Researchers to Eliminate Disparities (TREND) grant opportunity. The Application instructions and application system will open on August 26, 2019. Submission deadline is October 17, 2019. For more information visit <http://www.komen.org/RFA>.

Breast Cancer is the most common cancer and the leading cause of cancer death among Hispanic/Latina women.

Komen’s Disparities Research Program prioritizes research designed to understand the biologic, behavioral, social and systems causes of breast cancer disparities and test interventions for alleviating these disparities.

Komen is the only organization supporting a comprehensive, global training program focused on ensuring that the next generation of emerging leaders has the tools they need to make a difference.

African-American women die from breast cancer 40% more than white women.

Why are you focusing on Breast Cancer Disparities Research?



GTDR/TREND Trainee Lauren Barber with Mentor and Komen Scholar, Dr. Julie Palmer.

“As a GTDR Trainee, I have been given the opportunity to pursue one of my interests, which is to study breast cancer disparities. My interest in breast cancer research stems from when my mother was diagnosed in 2013. She is a breast cancer survivor, but watching her go through her diagnosis and her treatment really made me want to study breast cancer and better understand the disease.”

Why is the TREND program important?

“The GTDR program brings together different types of sciences. As a trainee, I get to see what else is going on out there in other programs and how it all comes together to help the patients.”



GTDR/TREND Trainee Aileen Fernandez

KOMEN'S CALL TO ACTION

Training Researchers to Eliminate Disparities (TREND) Grants are intended to establish and/or to sustain an innovative training program for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, or early career faculty members who are seeking careers dedicated to understanding and eliminating disparities in breast cancer outcomes across population groups.

Over the past 10 years, Komen has provided funding to outstanding training programs to ensure that a diverse pool of highly trained scientists will emerge as the next generation of leaders in the field of breast cancer research focused on disparities in breast cancer outcomes.

Why disparities research is so important



Patient Advocate
Barbara Segarra Vazquez

“As a two-time breast cancer survivor, I am living proof of the importance of research in saving lives. I was fortunate to have access to care and be able to see my children grow-up and become a productive professional woman. Sadly, health disparities prevent many breast cancer patients from obtaining the best outcomes. There are many issues tied to health disparities and vary among the different communities. We need committed researchers willing to study the factors that contribute to disparities, and attention should be given to the diversity of the study populations in research. Everyone deserves equal opportunity to the best care in order to survive a cancer diagnosis.”

“The question is not whether there is a difference in the nature of their cancers or whether biology and access play a role, but whether there is anything we can do about it.”



SAB Member Lisa Carey, MD

Susan G. Komen®

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Questions? Learn more at www.komen.org.