Meet Tia C. Manning, M.D. . .

Dr. Tia Manning acknowledges that the path to her accomplishments is paved with support from the Title VII programs she participated in along the way. As an undergraduate student at The College of New Jersey, she participated in a variety of summer programs through the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ). Those programs helped confirm her love for medicine and strengthen her application. Once she was accepted to New Jersey Medical School’s (NJMS) Class of 2007, the HCOP FIRST program for incoming medical students helped ease her transition into the rigors of a medical curriculum. While in medical school, Dr. Manning continued her involvement in the programs, serving as a teaching assistant for other programs sponsored through the school’s HCOP and its Hispanic Center of Excellence (HCOE).

In July of 2011, she joined the faculty at UMDNJ as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics. Currently, she serves as Assistant Director of the Office for Diversity and Community Engagement, from which many of NJMS pipeline programs are run. Clinically, she is Pediatric Hospitalist at The University Hospital in Newark, NJ and serves as an attending in both the Pediatric Emergency Department and General Pediatric Inpatient Service.

“Because of the profound impact HCOP-sponsored programs had on my life and career path, I now seek to facilitate the growth of students, by helping them bring their goals to fruition and to achieve their full potential in health careers.”

About the Program

The Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) is authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. Together with the Centers of Excellence (COE), HCOPs function to increase the representation of minority and disadvantaged students in the health professions.

Program activities include an intense academic enrichment program during Phase 1, MCAT preparation during Phase 2, and research during Phase 3. Each phase is supplemented with clinical experiences.

More information on the program activities is available on the website: http://njms.rutgers.edu/education/odace/NERA/index.cfm

According to Tia . . .

As a teaching assistant while in medical school and a clinical preceptor during residency, I was able to see firsthand the effects these programs have on future health care professionals from the viewpoint of an educator. If those students had not been afforded the opportunity to take part in the programs, a great disservice would have been done, not only to them, but all those who come after them, and all those whom they will serve during their lives.

HCOP programs are vital to the evolution of medical education and the future of medicine. By creating opportunities for early exposure to health careers, HCOP sponsored programs provide talented and disadvantaged students with a well-lit path to excellence. The programs offer academic enrichment and support as well as provide the mentorship and guidance necessary for success.

For more information, contact: Association of American Medical Colleges, Government Relations
655 K Street NW, Suite 100 ● Washington, DC 20037 ● Ph: 202.828.0525

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