

Susan G. Komen

Research Grants - Fiscal Year 2015

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The Ohio State University Breast Cancer Disparities Research Training Program

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Lead Organization: Ohio State University

Public Abstract:

Ensuring that the next generation of breast cancer researchers receive proper training with proper support from well-established researchers who have a wide array of training and experience is a vital step in the goal to end breast cancer forever. The Ohio State University (OSU) Breast Cancer Disparities Research Training Program will provide two master's and one doctoral trainee with opportunities to understand and eliminate disparities in breast cancer outcomes. Ohio provides a unique environment to pursue this area as breast cancer rates are high especially among underserved (rural, Appalachian, elderly) and minority populations in the state. The proposed training program will support the training of diverse individuals, including those from underrepresented groups through a combination of coursework and participation in mentored research focusing on breast cancer disparities. The program will provide full support to the trainees including tuition, stipend, mentoring, access to equipment, supplies, and pilot research support. The objectives of the training program are to:

- 1. Recruit two master's and one doctoral trainee to a transdisciplinary training program in breast cancer disparities research that includes mentored research and curriculum opportunities;
- 2. Provide hands on experience with research projects; and
- 3. Conduct evaluations of the training program and provide feedback to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Trainees will work with OSU researchers engaged in a wide range of breast cancer research. Some of the specific research projects (current and anticipated) that will be made available to trainees address risk factors



including behavioral influences, causes of breast cancer, responses to breast cancer diagnosis, symptom intervention, survivorship, prevention and control communication with a concentration on minority and underserved populations, patient navigation and activation, drug development, biomarkers, and tissue biology.

The program will also provide training in a wide, yet unique array of areas related to breast cancer disparities, that focus on the strengths of our mentors and our environment. Trainees will be supervised by a primary mentor and up to two secondary mentors with strong track records in breast cancer and/or disparities research and successful mentoring of graduate-level students. Trainees are expected to present their breast cancer disparities research at scientific meetings as well as participate in professional development seminars.

This program will improve knowledge of the causes of health disparities and effective methods of preventing, diagnosing and treating disease and promoting health. The training program will also enhance trainee's research and professional development skills, increase trainee's knowledge of disparities in breast cancer outcomes, provide support in developing new research projects, and chances of securing future research funding and careers in breast cancer disparities.

