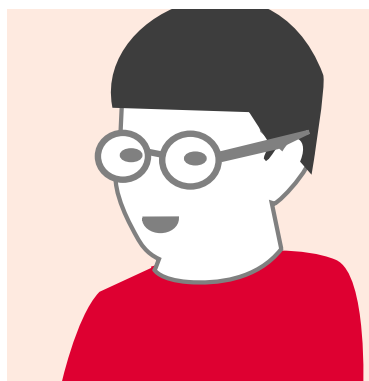


# BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS

MCH Training Program

## PROGRAM HISTORY AND STRATEGY

Children's health has dramatically improved over the course of this century. Once-prevalent causes of death such as childhood diseases and infections have been effectively prevented or treated through safer milk supplies, immunizations, antibiotics, and tech-



nological advances. Pediatricians who once spent most of their time treating acute illnesses are now faced with “new morbidities” in children, such as injuries, mental and emotional disorders, developmental problems, and

other complex issues. The field of behavioral pediatrics evolved from the need for increased collaboration between professionals in the fields of pediatrics, psychology, and psychiatry to address children's needs. In 1986, the behavioral pediatrics program was established to prepare pediatric residents to address these “new morbidities.”

## PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

The behavioral pediatrics training program focuses on (1) supporting fellows in behavioral pediatrics to help prepare them for leadership roles as teachers, researchers, and clinicians; and (2) providing pediatric practitioners, residents, and medical students with essential biopsychosocial knowledge and clinical expertise. The purpose of the program is to enhance behavioral, psychosocial, and developmental aspects of general pediatric care.

Fellows are expected to gain clinical expertise in the practice of behavioral pediatrics and to develop

leadership attributes that extend beyond clinical acumen and skills.

## HIGHLIGHTS

*Faculty and Fellows.* Training grant funds support faculty who demonstrate leadership and expertise in behavioral pediatrics teaching, scholarship, and community service and fellows who have completed training to be board-eligible in pediatrics.

*Curriculum.* The 3-year fellowship program curriculum includes course work and clinical exposure to psychosocial and biological sciences, growth and development, adaptation, injury prevention, disease prevention, and health promotion. Projects are also required to cosponsor, with child psychiatry, an ongoing Collaborative Office Rounds (COR) group as a training experience for fellows and a continuing education experience for community providers.

*Continuing Education and Technical Assistance.* Grantees must also provide continuing education activities for practicing physicians and are encouraged to offer technical assistance and consultation to pediatric residency training programs that are in the early stages of developing their own behavioral program components.

## PROGRAM PROFILE

- In FY 1999, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau funded nine grants in behavioral pediatrics, with annual grant awards totaling \$1.2 million.
- The grant awards, including some supplementary awards, range from \$110,000 to \$261,000, with a mean award amount of \$132,000.

## Present Grant Recipients

STATE	GRANTEE
CA	University of California, San Francisco
MA	Boston University Children's Hospital, Boston
MD	Johns Hopkins University University of Maryland, Baltimore
NY	Montefiore Medical Center
OH	Case Western Reserve University
PA	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
RI	Rhode Island Hospital

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