Frequently asked questions regarding the Health Leadership Fellows Program

Who is a “typical” graduate of the Health Leadership Fellows program?

They are professionals in decision-making positions of influence in organizations serving children from communities of poverty or frail elders. All are empowered to lead change and influence outcomes. A list of graduated fellows is posted on the Health Foundation’s website, www.hfwcny.org

Are all fellows from health care organizations?

No, fellows are from nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, community-based agencies, foundations, educational environments, and safety-net and healthcare organizations serving vulnerable older adults and young children impacted by poverty.

Is there a fee for participation as a fellow?

No, all expenses are paid by the Health Foundation for Western and Central New York. The Foundation invests more than $18,000 per fellow.

Is there required participation of a fellow’s organization’s President/Board chair?

Yes. Each Fellow’s supervisor must sign an agreement authorizing the fellow to participate fully without having to utilize vacation or personal time. The organization’s board chair or CEO is asked to attend an opening dinner or luncheon, the final graduation and project presentation. Additionally, he/she will be expected to participate in the program evaluation process.

How will the composition of the seventh cohort of fellows be determined?

The cohort will reflect diversity of age, gender, race, ethnicity and organizational mission. Geographical proximity will be considered in order to facilitate successful and on-going collaborations among fellows and their organizations.

How long is the program?

The fellowship lasts 18 months and consists of 4 residential sessions and a full-day graduation program. Each Fellow is required to attend two meetings prior to the start of the program and each residential session. Intersession work consists of assigned readings, team meetings and work on team assignments.