



FOUNDATION FOR THE
**ADVANCEMENT OF
HUMAN SYSTEMS**

FAHS Minority Fellowship Program 2025-26 MFP Fellow Orientation

**Welcome, Fellows, to what promises to be your best year yet in mental health training
and marriage and family therapy education!**



@AdvanceHumanSys



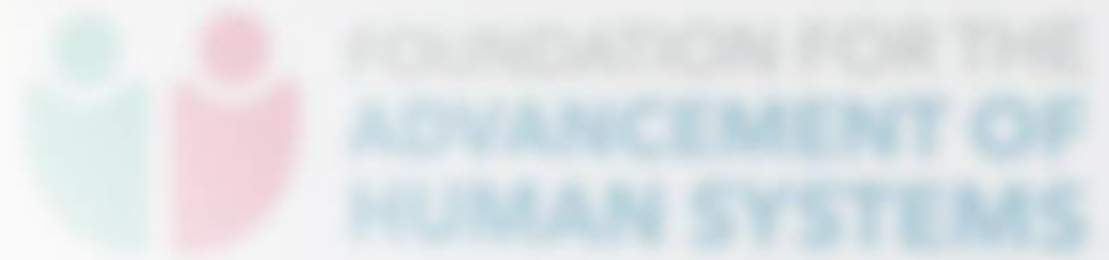
FAHS and the MFP

@AdvanceHumanSys



Webinar Agenda

- MFP Staff Introduction
- FAHS Mission and Vision
- Extended Service
- Program Requirements
- MFP Training Requirements
- MFP Training Events
- MFP Research Consultant
- Online Community
- Mentorship
- Things to Note
- Questions??



FAHS Staff



Christine Michaels, CAE
Chief Executive officer



Jermaine Lowery, MPH,
Chief operating officer



Lachey Horn
FAHS Manager

MFP Staff & Support



Grace Kabemba, MSW, PMP
Associate Director of the MFP



MICHELE BECK, M.Ed
MFP Program coordinator

Welcome, 2025-2026 MFP Doctoral Fellows

Kathryn	Alabi	National University
Rikia	Ancar	Loma Linda University
Mady	Cheng	Loma Linda University
Caleb	Cuthbertson	The Ohio State University
Alyson	De Jesus	Lee University
Rachel	Dublin-Ryan	The Ohio State University
Katrina	Edmonds	Eastern University
Brandon	Gardenhire	Texas Tech University
Ashley	Gomes	Kansas State University
Ian	Hammonds	Alliant International University
Charity	Kelly	Adler University
Sammie	Lancaster	University of Georgia
Kyung In	Lee	Alliant International University
Suyeon	Lee	Brigham Young University
Ashley	Lockley	Eastern University
Crystal	Lopez	Texas Woman's University
Dylann	Lowery	Florida State University
Marisa	Luciano	Florida State University
Gabrielle	Maloney	Drexel University
Andre	Morgan Jr.	Saint Louis University
Martinique	Nicol	Texas Woman's University
Jaida	Pryor	Texas Woman's University
Jasmine	Radjpaul	East Carolina University
Kei	Skeide	Antioch University New England
Annemarie	Sohn	Syracuse University
Frankline	Tshombe	Mount Mercy University

Welcome, 2025-2026 MFP Masters Fellows

Elizabeth	Baber	Lewis and Clark College
Carmen	Canales	Southern Connecticut State University
Leilanis	Cancel-Lopez	Northern Illinois University
Eva	Christensen	Lewis & Clark
Amber	Claussen	Seattle Pacific University
Cesar	Defuentes	Touro University Worldwide
Bashaina	Dumerant	Auburn University
April	Garcia	The Chicago School
Anyia	Gerald	Oklahoma Baptist University
Aniah	Harris	Texas Woman's University
Alaina	Haynes	California State University Northridge
Sarah	Heard	Northwestern University
Michael	Hubbard	University of San Diego
Vincent	Intersimone	Drexel University
Ki	Ip	Alliant International University
Gabriella	Jackson	Auburn University
Julius	Jofferion	The Ohio State University
Hyeon Hun	Kim	Indiana Wesleyan University
Nathan	Knebel	Brigham Young University
Maxwell	Muska	Christian Theological Seminary
Mary	Pistritto	Auburn University
Kalea	Power	California State University Long Beach
Noah	Renken	Kansas State University
Raquel	Santizo	The Chicago School
Jacqueline	Spradley	Mount Mercy University
Ray	Vidrine	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Ansley	Walker	University of Central Missouri
Cecilia	Yamas	University of Colorado Denver

Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems

Mission:

- The Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems (FAHS) exists to fund research focusing on healthy and strong human systems – individuals, couples, families and communities
- Status as a 501(c)3 organization.
 - This MFP Fellowship program is made possible through generous donations from FAHS supporters and a partial grant from SAMHSA.

Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems (FAHS)

- The vision of the Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems (FAHS) is to advance healthy relationships for individuals, couples, families, and communities
 - Research on best practices to strengthen the practice of systemic family therapy.
 - Promotion of education in systemic and relational practices.
 - Engagement in outreach to increase awareness of the marriage and family therapy profession.

FAHS and the MFP

- Provide financial support and professional guidance to graduate students pursuing degrees in Marriage and Family therapy.
- Provide a fellowship program open to Marriage and Family Therapy students who are committed to research in behavioral health that impacts the service delivery of mental health, substance use, and prevention services.

FAHS, MFP, and AAMFT+



Apr 22, 2024

Diversity in Practice: Having Healing Conversations - MICRO LEARNING



Apr 22, 2024

Relational Therapy: Healing Together - FULL EPISODE



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MFT Leadership

Membership

Spotlight



Apr 5, 2024

MFTs in Medicare: A 30-year Journey

AAMFT and its member Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) spent over 30 years advocating for inclusion as Medicare Part B providers. Hear from MFTs who were part of this important advocacy effort on how this achievement will shape the profession and improve access to care for the over 65 million Medicare beneficiaries.



 **Become a Medicare
Covered Provider!**

Jan 15, 2024

Enroll as a Medicare Provider



May 12, 2020

At Home with Sue Johnson

FAHS, MFP, and AAMFT+




Apr 22, 2024

Tech's Transformative Influence on MFT - MICRO LEARNING



Apr 22, 2024

Diversity in Practice: Having Healing Conversations - FULL EPISODE




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**SYSTEMIC FAMILY THERAPY
CONFERENCE 2024**
IN-PERSON | NOVEMBER 4 - 7, 2024
sponsored by the American Association for
Marriage and Family Therapy



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Video

SYSTEMIC THERAPY:
HOW FAMILY DYNAMICS
IMPACT MENTAL HEALTH

00:22:21

Apr 22, 2024

Systemic Therapy: How Family
Dynamics Impact Mental Health -

Video

RELATIONAL THERAPY:
HEALING TOGETHER

00:23:46

Apr 22, 2024

Relational Therapy: Healing
Together - FULL EPISODE

Video

DIVERSITY IN PRACTICE:
HAVING HEALING
CONVERSATIONS

00:24:00

Apr 22, 2024

Diversity in Practice: Having
Healing Conversations - FULL

Video

TECH'S TRANSFORMATIVE
INFLUENCE ON MFT

00:23:30

FINDING COMMUNITY
IN THE CRISIS

00:22:08

Video

NAVIGATING THERAPEUTIC
DECISIONS WITH
AN ETHICAL COMPASS

00:22:06

AAMFT Family TEAM

- The Family TEAM is a network of advocates willing to volunteer a bit of time and/or energy towards furthering MFT policy interest.
- The Family TEAM has the overarching purpose of increasing AAMFT member awareness and activity in AAMFT advocacy pursuits through targeted grassroots outreach.
- [Family TEAM Link](#)

Student Member Benefits with AAMFT Membership

- Some items that student members find most beneficial include:
 - Community and Collaboration with Access to [AAMFT Networks](#)
 - Professional Development with [Online Continuing Education](#)
 - [Free](#) Student Liability Insurance (for students in the US)
 - Free Ethics Consultation
 - Learning Libraries with Free Access to AAMFT's [JMFT](#), and the [UK, Australia and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy](#)
 - Subscription to [Family Therap-eNews](#)
 - Connections with practice, policy, and supervision with [Family Therapy Magazine](#)
 - Product and event discounts
 - Optional Engagement Programs
 - And more...

Extended Service

- Fellows will be required to sign a letter of commitment attesting that they will work for a period of two (2) years in a capacity that addresses the behavioral health that impacts the service delivery of mental health, substance use, and prevention services.
- Log onto the website for [more information](#).

MFP Mission

The FAHS Minority Fellowship Program supports learning through a workforce development program that trains graduate students to serve communities.

- to strengthen the behavioral health workforce by expanding the delivery of mental health, substance use, and prevention services to communities from trained marriage and family therapists (MFT) and MFTs working with populations
- Log onto the website for [more information](#).

MFP Objectives

- Increase the number of master 's-level marriage and family therapists trained in advanced practitioner skills committed to serving communities, including children, adolescents, and young adults (aged 16-25) in the United States.
- Increase the number of doctoral-level marriage and family therapists with advanced practitioner skills who are committed to advancing mental health, substance use, and prevention services in communities.
- Collaborate with appropriate mental health providers, training programs, and affiliated organizations to improve mental health, substance use, and prevention services to communities.
- Track and collaborate with MFP Fellows to assess the effect of the program on the broader community.

Role as Fellow

- Not an employee of FAHS or AAMFT
 - You will receive a badge for LinkedIn – should have an account
- Submit to all training guidelines and adhere to all deadlines
- Communication
 - With MFP program Staff through email (MFP inbox)
 - With cohort members through the community page
- Respect & Collaboration

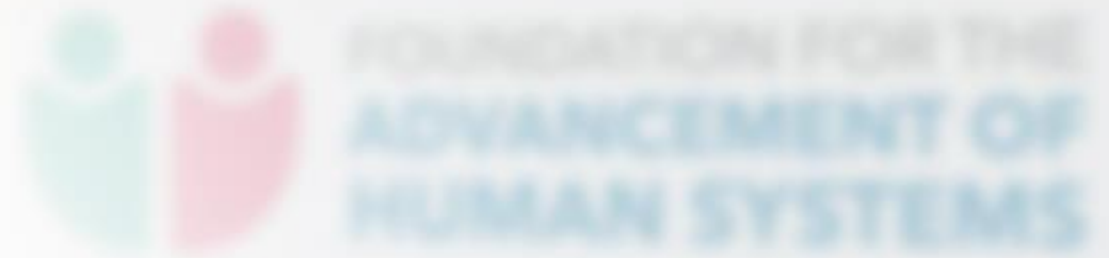
Doctoral Program Requirements Overview

- Reports and paperwork schedule
 - Academic and Fiscal Reports are due on the following dates:
 - December 4, 2025
 - February 26, 2026
 - May 28, 2026
 - August 13, 2026
- Stipends tied to deliverables
 - Stipends are scheduled to be issued on the following dates:
 - December 15, 2025
 - March 13, 2026
 - June 15, 2026
 - August 31, 2026
- Paperwork submission requirements
- Best practices for communicating with staff



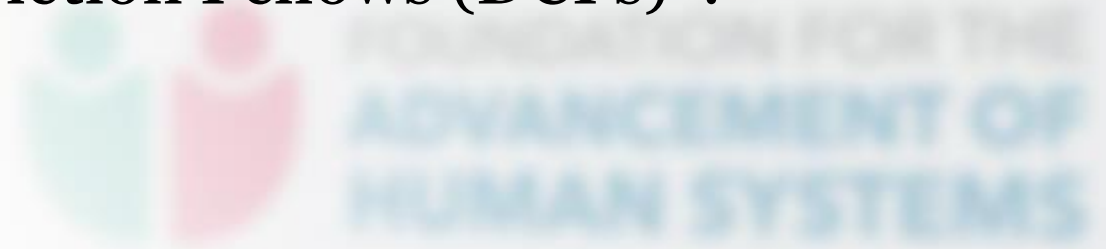
Masters Program Requirements Overview

- Reports and paperwork schedule
 - Academic and Fiscal Reports are due on the following dates:
 - December 4, 2025
 - March 19, 2026
 - June 18, 2026
 - August 27, 2026
- Stipends tied to deliverables
 - Stipends are scheduled to be issued on the following dates:
 - December 15, 2025
 - April 15, 2026
 - July 15, 2026
 - September 15, 2026
- Paperwork submission requirements
- Best practices for communicating with staff



Doctoral Stipends

- Fellows may be awarded an Educational Stipend of around **\$20,000** for Doctoral Fellows (DFs) and **\$16,000** for Dissertation Completion Fellows (DCFs)*.
- Stipends tied to deliverables.
- Schedule of payments



Masters Stipends

- Fellows may be awarded an Educational Stipend of around **\$12,000** for Masters (MFP-Y) Fellowship.
- Stipends tied to deliverables.
- Schedule of payments

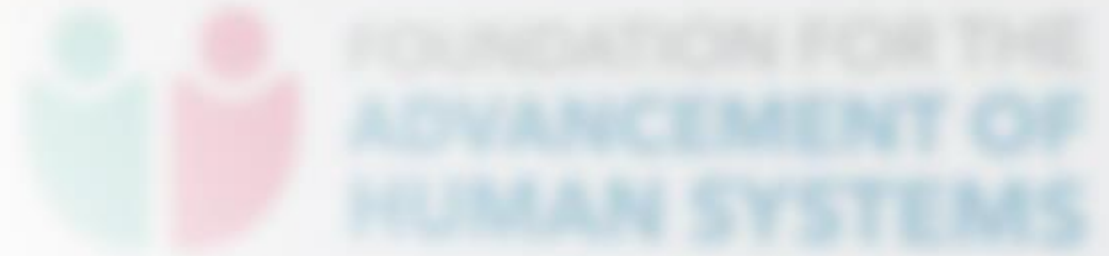


Technical Proficiency and Use of AI















- Fellows are encouraged to develop technical proficiency with productivity and data management tools such as Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook) or comparable software.
- All Fellow work will be reviewed for originality and appropriate use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools. Assignments must reflect the student's own critical thinking and writing, with proper citation of any AI assistance used in the development or creation of the work.
- A standard academic threshold of 20% similarity will be applied when assessing originality.
 - Submissions that exceed this benchmark or fail to acknowledge AI-generated contributions will be subject to disciplinary action, including restrictions and eligibility for coursework or program participation.
- Assignments will be labeled, Allow AI or AI Use Not Permitted
 - See the MFP handbook for more details

SurveyMonkey Apply (SMA)

- Assignments
- Assignment Completion
- Deadline dates
- Action column
- Submit Button



SMA Assignments Portal

	 Academic Progress Report 4 Deadline: Aug 6 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>
	 Request Adviser Review of Progress Report Deadline: Aug 6 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>
	 Mentorship Report Form 2 UD (Copy) Deadline: Jul 14 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>
	 Fellowship Survey Deadline: Aug 3 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>
	 Tally Sheet 2 (Copy) Deadline: Jul 7 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>
	 Research Philosophy Deadline: Jul 31 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>
	 Mentor Survey Deadline: Jul 23 2020 11:59 PM (EDT)	>

Incomplete



Assignment was started not
it's not completed



Complete

MFP Research Consultant (Doctoral/DCF Fellows)



- **Dr. Kristy Soloski, MFP Research Consultant**
 - Associate Professor
 - **Areas of Specialization:**
 - Quantitative methods of studying longitudinal, dyadic data with secondary data
- Contact Kristy Soloski during the following time blocks that she has set aside for MFP Consultations:
 - **TBD**
 - ***We cannot guarantee access to Dr. Soloski outside of the timeframes offered above.***
 - This means that you will be allocated two (2) time slots for this between **TBD**, and another set of two (2) time slots between **TBD**.
 - **It is the responsibility of the Fellow to establish contact with the consultant and document it.**

Research Consultant

- TI Quantitative Workshops
 - One half a day workshop at TI (**May 13 – 17, 2026**)
 - Student presentations on research
 - **Note** – Fellows with an exemption/excused absence from the Training Institute Quantitative Workshop will have opportunities to participate in alternative training by:
 - Reviewing the presentation materials from the event.
 - Reviewing the recorded version of the 2026 TI Workshop(s).
 - Practice running the data models with materials/tools provided by Dr. Soloski and the MFP.
 - Participating in alternate training options on the day of the event (in past years: Fellowship Roundtable).

Research Expectations

Research projects focus around : Training Doctoral Fellows to practice, develop, and disseminate research that will increase their scholarly basis in behavioral and mental health. Their scholarly work and publications help to bridge the gap between academia and the community while filling gaps in the literature

All Fellows will:

1. Begin or continue work (provided it meets MFP goals) on a research project. (MFP Director must approve the title of research)
 - a. *Proposal must include quantitative analysis.*
2. Continue working on this research from **December 2025 to July 2026.**
3. **Completion of the final project and delivery will be in quarter 4 and not at the Training Institute.**

Research Expectations (Cont.)

4. Participate in one-on-one consultations with a statistical and methodology expert around quantitative research related to the above project/poster.

5. Research Requirements:

- a. Research design cannot contain DEI, social justice, or harm-reduction frameworks
- b. Research cannot focus on a specific population or compare one population to another population. Population databases must have broad community representation.

Dissertation Expectations

Research projects focus around: Training Doctoral (and Dissertation) Fellows to practice, develop, and disseminate research that will increase their scholarly basis in behavioral and mental health. Their scholarly work and publications help to bridge the gap between academia and the community while filling gaps in the literature

All DCF Fellows MUST:

1. Be sure that the dissertation will fit with the MFP goals and mission.
2. Dissertations cannot focus on a specific population or compare one population to another.
3. The dissertation cannot contain DEI, social justice, or harm-reduction frameworks.
4. Dissertation must be approved by the dissertation committee and submitted via email (MFP inbox) by December 15, 2025. There are no exceptions to this requirement.

Doctoral Quarterly Webinar Dates

- January 6, 2026: Quarter 2 Webinar @ 11:30am EST
- March 17, 2026: Quarter 3 Webinar @ 11:30am EST
- June 16, 2026: Quarter 4 Webinar @ 11:30am EST

Masters Quarterly Webinar Dates

- January 20, 2026: Quarter 2 Webinar @ 11:30am EST
- April 21, 2026: Quarter 3 Webinar @ 11:30am EST
- July 21, 2026: Quarter 4 Webinar @ 11:30am EST

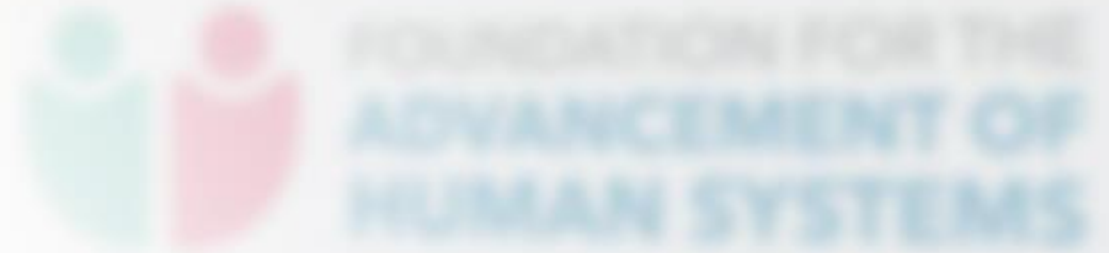
Leadership Symposium

April 16-18, 2026

- Location: Atlanta, GA
- Various Presenters and workshops
- More information oncoming
- We will be looking for Fellows who would like to present a project during the conference. Email the MFP inbox by December 01, 2025.

Skill Building Opportunity

- Public Speaking, Leadership, Networking, Critical Thinking, Subject Mastery, Communication



Training Institute (TI) May 13-17, 2026

- Location: Washington DC
- Various Speakers
- Fellow presentations:
 - Each Fellow will need to record a presentation
 - Will be evaluated throughout the course of the year, as well as during the TI, i.e., while presenting.
- **Mandatory** attendance
- Travel and hotel arrangements are covered through the Minority Fellowship Program
 - MFP staff will provide additional information leading up to the event.

Training Institute Preview

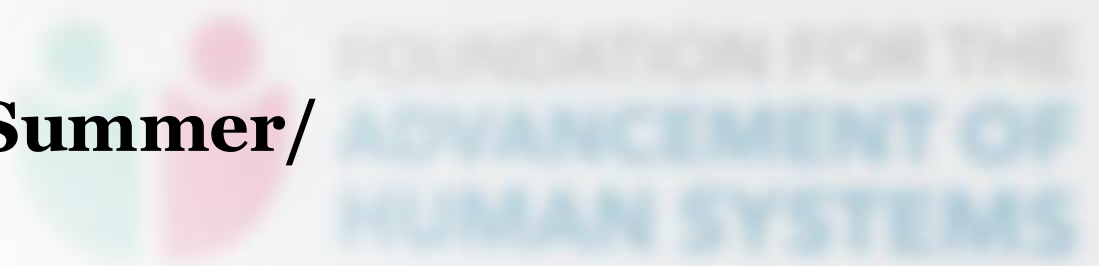


Doctoral Highlights of Training Requirements

- Research Orientation
- Intro to Publishing
- Research Workshop
- April 16-18, 2026: Leadership Symposium (optional)
- **May 13-17 , 2026: Doctoral Training Institute**
- September: Closing Webinar TBD
- **Intensive Training Institute (Summer July 2026)**
- Additional dates for Q2 –Q4 can be found in the training plan

Masters Highlights of Training Requirements

- April 16-18, 2026: Leadership Symposium (optional)
- **Intensive Training Institute (Summer/ July 2026)**
- September: Closing Webinar TBD
- Additional dates for Q2 –Q4 can be found in the training plan



Online Community

- This is the **“heart”** of the MFP communication system.
- Fellows can access information, share their thoughts, respond to each other.
- Instructions for creating your profile and logging on will be sent via email.

Here is the link to the Doctoral Fellow Homepage

Here is the link to the Masters Fellow Homepage

Online Community

Doctoral Fellows

Minority Fellowship Program- Doctoral (2024-2025)

Welcome Fellows

This is the AAMFT Minority Fellowship Program's Community. Here fellows can find research database resources, and MFP documentation. This MFP Community also hosts an interactive [discussion forums](#) and [libraries](#) which fellows can use to interact, collaborate and learn more about upcoming events, training opportunities and program announcements.

Please take some time to review the resources available in the **MFP Community** and contact **MFP Staff** at mfp@aamft.org if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

Important Dates to Remember- Access your Fellow Queue/Portal to see where you are with your submissions. All submissions should be via SurveyMonkey Apply!

MFP-D Fellow Resources 2024-2025

Fellowship
Resources/Documents

[Fellow Assignment](#)

Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems

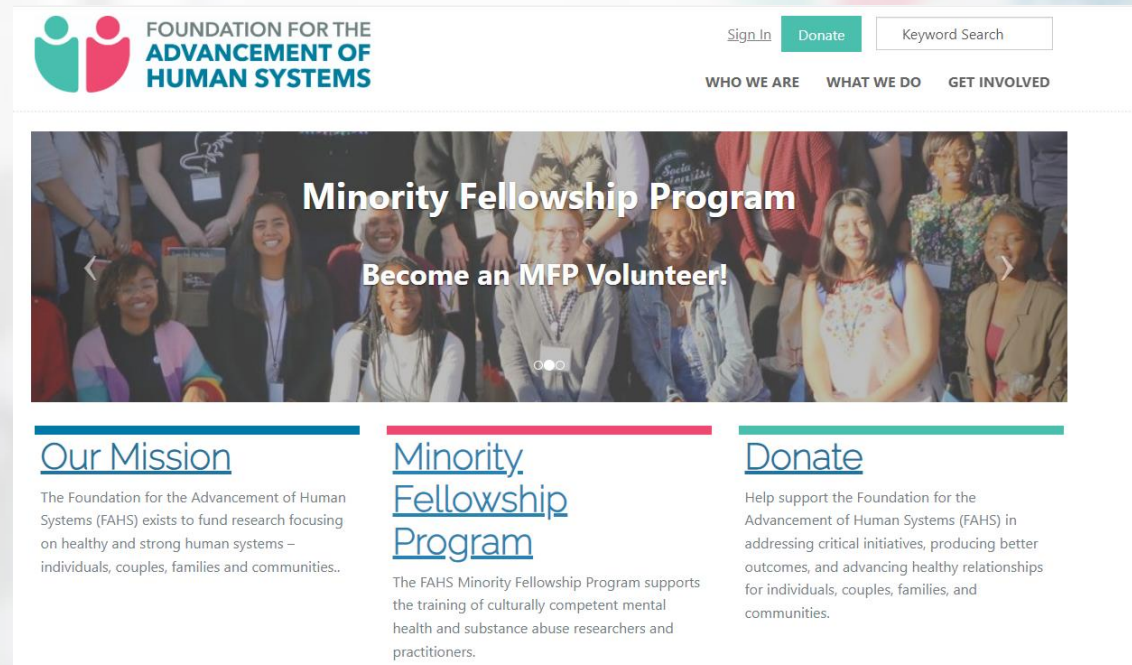
- FAHS Website – www.humansyst.org/foundation



A screenshot of the Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems (FAHS) website. The header includes the FAHS logo (two stylized figures, one green and one pink), the text 'FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN SYSTEMS', a 'Sign In' link, a 'Keyword Search' box, and navigation links: 'WHO WE ARE', 'WHAT WE DO', and 'GET INVOLVED'. The main content area features a large banner for the '2024 Call for Awards' with a group photo of diverse people. The banner text reads: 'Each year, AAMFT and the Foundation for the Advancement of Human Systems (FAHS) honors individuals for their unique contributions to MFT research and practice. We invite you to nominate or apply for the awards! Applications open September 1, 2023. Recipients will be announced in the summer of 2024. All nominations and applications are submitted online. The deadline for submitting applications for the AAMFT and FAHS 2022 Awards is December 15, 2023.' Below the banner are three columns: 'Our Mission' (describing FAHS's focus on healthy and strong human systems), 'Minority Fellowship Program' (describing support for culturally competent mental health and substance abuse researchers), and 'Donate' (encouraging support for critical initiatives). At the bottom, there is a link to 'FAHS Foundation FAQs' and a section titled 'FAHS Social Media Footprint' encouraging engagement on Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

Website

- [MFP Fellows Homepage](#): Working Documents
- [FAHS Website](#): Bios, Profile Pages
- Tracking: Forms, social media ([LinkedIn](#)), [AAMFT Membership](#), [SAMHSA](#)
- Internship info: <https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/jobs-internships/internships>



Media

- Practice for creating your own content
- Benefits to Participating in Social Media
- Celebrating Yourself
- Who are you outside of your studies?
- Social Media Challenges
- Follow US!



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ADVANCEMENT OF
HUMAN SYSTEMS



Mentorship

- Enhance professional and personal growth.
- SAMHSA requirements ([SAMHSA Strategic Objectives](#)).
- Leaders in the field to serve as mentors to Fellows.
- Career Development Plan assignment and Mentor Manual

Mentorship

- Mentorship Work Chart
- MFP Mentorship Guidelines will be sent to you

Increasing Self-Awareness in MFT

Building the Mentorship relationship is important and must start with a solid foundation. The Fellow must make sure to contact mentors and establish a first connection. The MFP recommends using a teleconferencing or face-to-face application for the first meeting. While meeting be open, honest, and showing integrity.

- 1) discuss your background, experiences, interests, expectations
- 2) make a schedule for frequency of contact (once a month to start) and method of contact
- 3) set preliminary goals of how the mentor relationship can be beneficial
- 4) Ask about your mentor's background, and any struggles he/she/they might have had in their career

Increasing Direction and Professional Development

Once trust has been built, now will be the time to set goals of professional development for the year with the mentor. The goal is to build a foundation that will set the stage for the mentor to identify resources and work towards engagement with MFT and behavioral health professionals.

Increasing Engagement in MFT

During the final stages of the mentorship program, the mentee should evaluate the goals and their progression through the mentorship program. The mentee should be able to identify other individuals and platforms that will help foster growth during academic and career transitions.

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Doctoral and Master Quarter 1 Assignments

- Signed Handbook- **Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 11:59 pm EST**
- MFP-D and MFP-Y Orientation Quiz- **Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 11:59pm EST** Use your Handbook, Training Plan, and Orientation Power Point Slides.
- Log into Community Page and Introduce Yourself- **Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 11:59pm EST**

Things to Note

- Change in Address, Banking account info, and contact information (Let us know first via the MFP inbox mfp@humansyst.org)
- When submitting/uploading any document, please label correctly. (ex: JDoe Direct Deposit)
- Fellows are expected to attend and participate in all training events. These functions include, but are not limited to the AAMFT SFTC Conference, Training Institutes, Webinars, SAMHSA Sponsored Webinars, etc.
- Fellow Communication to MFP Staff –Better to over communicate than to not communicate at all.
- **All Survey Monkey Apply Assignments for Q1 available on Thursday, November 20th**

Questions?



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