Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI) is a unique, nationally-recognized health research center in Chicago. We offer a variety of educational and research opportunities for health care profession students and institutions. We seek to improve future clinicians’ understanding of: 1) their patients; 2) system-and population-level factors that influence the health of groups of individuals; and 3) health research data and methodology. Given health care’s recent shift toward patient-centered care, prevention, and value-based reimbursement, a thorough understanding of these issues is critical for all students and providers.

SUHI Population Health Institute
The 2nd annual SUHI Population Health Institute will be held June 3-7, 2019. This week-long institute will immerse health care professionals, administrators, and students in the dynamic world of population health. Based on our experience developing and implementing clinical and community health initiatives, conducting health equity research, and providing evidence-based and community-informed consulting services, we offer participants a unique opportunity to expand their education and training into this increasingly important field.

Internship Programs
SUHI offers two unique public health research internship opportunities: (1) an intensive summer program and (2) an academic-year internship. Interns work on current SUHI research projects, such as hospital-based interventions, epidemiological studies, or quality improvement initiatives. Summer interns also attend seminars on over 25 population health topics, participate in community and clinical tours, partake in a public health book club, and volunteer in nearby communities. The summer program takes place at Mount Sinai Hospital, located in North Lawndale, a historically rich, but socioeconomically poor Chicago community.

During the academic-year internship, students work remotely with a SUHI epidemiologist on research tasks such as conducting literature reviews, writing manuscripts or research briefs, and gathering publically-available data. Interns disseminate their work through multiple formats, including presentations to research and clinical staff, research briefs, publications in academic journals, and presentations at national conferences.
Teaching and Consulting
SUHI’s teaching methods focus on building practical skills and knowledge, while exposing future health professionals to the broad range of social, financial, and environmental factors that influence health. We offer didactic seminars and skill-building workshops on a wide variety of topics, including research methods, program evaluation, health disparities, social determinants of health, and conducting health assessments. SUHI staff teach courses and guest lecture both in-person and online. SUHI epidemiologists also provide a variety of other academic consultation services, such as assistance for faculty and students with research methodology and statistics, serving on accreditation research subcommittees, and mentoring students working on special certificates or degrees with distinction in research. Examples of recent consultancy projects include guiding the curriculum development of a population health program at an academic medical institution and supporting the development of a local university’s community advisory board.

Academic Partnerships
Working with future health care providers through teaching, mentoring, and consulting is an important component of our mission to improve community health. We focus on providing tailored, flexible, and professional support to all of our academic partners. We carefully evaluate internship experiences and provide full evaluation reports to stakeholders. Our diverse team, and abundance of research experience, allows us to provide both evidence- and community-based insight that is increasingly relevant in today’s evolving health care landscape.

For more information about training and partnership opportunities, please contact us at pophealthtraining@sinai.org.

Sinai Urban Health Institute
SUHI is located within the Sinai Health System (SHS), a safety-net health care system. SUHI’s vision is for all communities to thrive in health. We work to achieve this vision by identifying health disparities, addressing these disparities with innovative solutions, and rigorously evaluating our work to ensure effectiveness. Since our founding in 2000, we have grown to a diverse staff of over 30 epidemiologists, project managers, research assistants, and community health workers. In addition to our research expertise, SUHI has a wealth of experience teaching and mentoring health professions students from numerous universities and fields.