

Global Mental Health Research on Social Drivers of Mental Illnesses across The Lifespan

gmhCONNECT

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The overall goal is to facilitate the success of graduate and health professional students, medical residents, postdoctoral trainees, and early-career faculty who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, as well as early career researchers as independent GMH researchers by providing specialized training and mentorship which addresses the unique challenges and complexities of social driver intervention research in GMH. The purpose of this program is to facilitate their success as independent researchers and members of the research community in global mental health.

Background

Within global mental health, there is growing recognition of the gaps in understanding how to intervene on social drivers to substantially reduce the global burden of disease attributable to mental illnesses.

gmhConnect is based at the University of Illinois at Chicago and George Washington University.

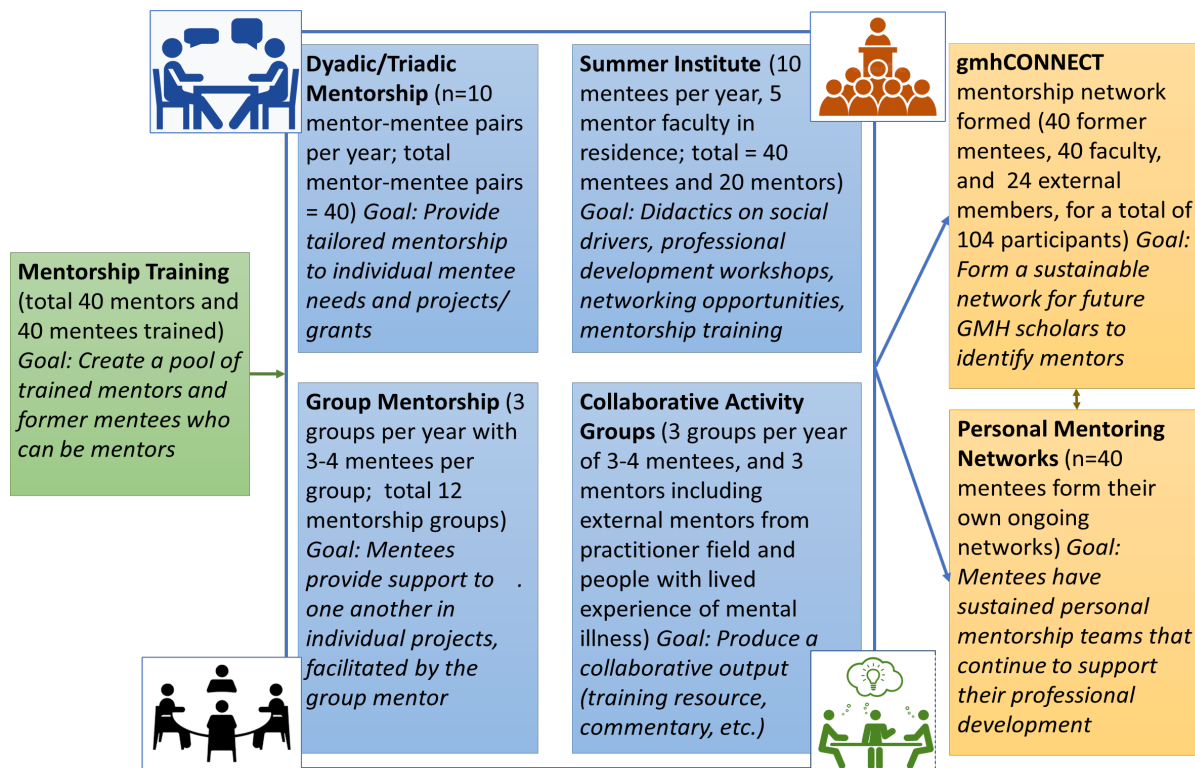
Mentorship network includes:

- U.S. and international faculty of senior global mental health researchers
- People living with mental illness from the Global Mental Health Peer Network
- Practitioners from the WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, and major humanitarian organizations



Mentorship Training Program

40 mentees receive dyadic/triadic mentorship, group mentorship, and participate in the summer institute and collaborative activity group, ultimately resulting in a sustained personal mentoring network. 40 mentors are trained on mentoring skills. And, a sustainable gmhCONNECT network is formed with 100+ members.



Aim 1

Provide training, primarily through a Summer Institute, which advances the trainees' research knowledge and skills on the ways in which social drivers impact mental illness, prevention, and care and how social drivers and their impact can be addressed through interventions.

- One week-long GMH Summer Institute either at UIC or GWU with different group of 10 selected mentees each year
- The mentees will engage in a series of lectures, seminars, interactive sessions, and peer-led sessions.

Aim 2

Provide one-year of focused intensive mentorship (dyadic and triadic) from a US and LMIC pool of multidisciplinary and diverse GMH experts to support the mentees' research interests and career trajectories.

Mentor Matching	Dyadic Mentoring	Triadic Mentoring
<p>Mentees complete survey to identify their mentorship needs and preferences</p> <p>Survey reviewed by the Leadership Committee</p> <p>Mentees will be matched with a faculty mentor based upon both deep-level similarities and identity-level similarities in accordance with what matters most to the mentees.</p> <p>Mentees will also have an opportunity to meet with different mentors during the Summer Institute at the beginning of their mentorship year.</p>	<p>Once paired, mentors and mentees are expected to meet no less than monthly, most likely via video-calls on a digital platform.</p> <p>With their mentor's support and guidance, the mentees will finalize the Individualized Development Plan and Mentoring Compact</p> <p>Mentorship will likely include providing technical expertise, professional career skills; facilitating scholarly writing and grantsmanship; providing leadership development; helping to identify potential collaborators; and helping to establish interdisciplinary or translational collaborations.</p>	<p>In some cases, the mentee will have another mentor from their home institution or from the LMIC.</p> <p>In this case, two mentors can meet with one mentee as a mentoring triad.</p> <p>They may also be working with another young scholar, student or trainee, either in the U.S. or in the LMIC.</p> <p>Mentees will learn about triadic mentoring in the Summer Institute and their assigned mentor will also help to guide them.</p>

Aim 3

Provide a range of synergistic guided learning opportunities including:

Online Group Mentoring Workshops

- Monthly 60-minute online group mentoring workshops of groups comprising 3-4 mentees each, will convene beginning after the Summer Institute.

GMH Collaborative Action Groups

- In the Summer Institute, we will also create specialized tracks of 3 or 4 mentees focusing on similar topics, methods, region, or other overlapping interest. These groups will meet throughout the week of the Summer Institute and then in small group monthly online meetings for the 12 months of intensive mentorship.

Engagement with People Living with Mental Illness, Community-Based Practitioners, and Policymakers

- Mentees will be encouraged to build personal mentoring networks that also include practitioners and people with lived experience of mental illness. These groups can share about their needs, meanings, and priorities in relation to GMH. People living with mental illness, practitioners, and policy makers are all potential "end users" of GMH research.

Convene a Yearly Global Mental Health Research Satellite

- The network will sponsor a whole day satellite meeting at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) annual meeting. The CUGH meeting brings together over 170 academic institutions and other organizations from around the world to engage in addressing global health challenges.

Aim 4

Evaluate the impact of gmhCONNECT on the mentee's networks, knowledge and productivity, with an emphasis on equity and collaboration when evaluating productivity metrics.

Program Directors

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