



ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

Position Title:	Research Analyst
Organization:	The Afiya Center
Location:	Dallas, TX (In person)
Stipend:	\$66,000 per year in year one, \$70,000 in year two, a monthly health coverage stipend, and \$3,500 per year in professional development funding and up to \$5,000 for relocation costs
Start Date:	September 2023

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

[The Afiya Center \(TAC\)](#) was established in response to the increasing disparities between HIV incidences worldwide and the extraordinary prevalence of HIV among Black womxn and girls in Texas. TAC is unique in that it is the only Reproductive Justice organization in North Texas founded and directed by Black womxn. TAC programming takes a unique patient-centered awareness to work with Black womxn in the context of their bodily autonomy and identity. TAC mobilizes people across intersecting communities, including race, gender, socioeconomic class, ethnicity, culture, educational level, ability, etc, to support policy development that directly impacts the prevalence of an enhanced and sound social system in which Black womxn can live without the threat of death in the form of lower mortality and morbidity. TAC approaches community and constituent engagement from an authentic and organic perspective, which has allowed for the emergence of innovation in the HIV, public health, and reproductive justice, health, and rights spaces. This can be seen in TAC's trauma-informed, community-centered, grassroots community organizing, outreach, and engagement framework, where political advocacy, comprehensive education, leadership development and resource accrual and disbursement are the core pillars. TAC's mission is to transform the lives, health, and overall wellbeing of Black womxn and girls by providing refuge, education, and resources, while igniting the communal voices of Black womxn resulting in the full achievement of reproductive freedom.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Afiya Center seeks a Research Analyst to support research projects and research partnerships, as well as engaging community members in research activities and programming. Under the supervision of the Director of Programs, the Research Analyst will work in collaboration with TAC's Birth Justice and Research team to manage research projects initiatives and activities within the birth justice body of work. This includes, but not limited to literature reviews, community consultations, facilitation of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, coordinating participant outreach and engagement, preparing and disseminating research findings. The Research Analyst will primarily support two core projects centered on Black maternal mental health and improving mortality and morbidity outcomes in North Texas. These projects involve participatory action research and storytelling with under-examined patient populations including but not limited to those who are living with HIV, disabled, formerly incarcerated and currently incarcerated.

The Analyst will participate in ongoing dialogue with TAC staff and community partners to co-design and conduct research that strategically advances key research on Black sexual and reproductive health outcomes. The Analyst's responsibilities will include leading project evaluations, attending internal and external meetings, analyzing data, coordinating and conducting focus groups with community members with respect to their reproductive health and serving as the point person for TAC's key research partnerships with local academic institutions and organizations. The Analyst may be asked to assist with

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research grant writing opportunities, prepare reports, assist with policy analysis on Black maternal mortality, synthesize data as well as peer reviews and/or other publications that offer insight into improving Black maternal health outcomes and overall wellbeing.

The Analyst will have the opportunity to engage in research activities, acquire grant preparation skills, publish scholarly articles, enhance presentation skills, and network in the broader birth justice community. Specifically, the Analyst will be encouraged to take advantage of training opportunities offered by various funding partners. The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

Responsibilities and Tasks:

- Maintain positive relationships with TAC staff, our affiliate university-based researchers and community partners.
- Co-design and conduct research to advance TAC's birth justice framework.
- Conduct project evaluations.
- Secure research partnerships with local academic institutions and organizations.

Qualifications:

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields [here](#).
- Strong work ethic; takes initiatives to assure that tasks are completed and deadlines are met.
- Work independently with autonomous decision-making and problem-solving working collaboratively in a dynamic setting.
- Be abreast of how anti-blackness differently impacts Black folk in ways that other people of color do not experience.
- Strong knowledge of Reproductive Justice, health, and rights movements as well as emerging movements that either build up or threaten the life of RJ.
- Excellent organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills.

Preferred:

- Interest or expertise in Medical Anthropology, Sociology, Interdisciplinary Fields, Women and Gender Studies, Ethnic Studies.

APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: <https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships>
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: 9:00pm EDT, March 15, 2023.

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