

Jackson Heart Study Graduate Training and Education Center
Jackson State University

2022 SCHOLARS



Elizabeth Jones has a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology from Jackson State University. She is currently enrolled in the School of Public Health Doctor of Public Health in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at Jackson State University. Elizabeth has a life-long interest in Health Sciences which led her to want a career in public health, specifically in epidemiology. Public Health became a more desirable interest during her undergraduate studies at Tougaloo College where she was recruited as a Jackson Heart Study Scholar. Elizabeth's philosophy is to provide equity to all individuals and she is very passionate about assisting individuals at their point of need.



Shelia Moore has a Master's in Environment Health from Mississippi Valley State University. She is currently enrolled in the School of Public Health with an emphasis on Health Policy Management at Jackson State University. Shelia is a part of the Lambda Sigma Honor Society and she is a volunteer with the Delta Cardiovascular Health Examination Survey in the Mississippi Delta. Shelia's mission is to build bridges instead of building walls by closing the health and wealth gap.



Russell Coleman has a Bachelor of Science from Tuskegee University, majoring in Biology. He is currently enrolled in the University of Southern Mississippi in the Department of Public Health in Epidemiology. As a student at the “prestigious” Tuskegee University, he successfully managed a rigorous course load as a Biology Pre-Health scholar and Baseball player. In addition, he engaged in community service initiatives as a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. His success in managing the academic and extracurricular rigor of his undergraduate education illuminated his aptitude and competency in tackling rigorous coursework and obligations. Time management and discipline are integral to his personal philosophy, for he is intentional in his time and efforts to impactful causes. He intends on making the most of this opportunity as a DHW Scholar by engaging and valuing every moment. This opportunity directly aligns with his career goals and aspirations. He intends to become a cardiologist, working in underserved communities to bring equitable education and health resources and to communities that lack access.



Chineka McGee has a Master’s in Computer Science from Jackson State University. She is currently enrolled in William Carey University Medical School pursuing a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. Chineka is a self-learner and has participated in a variety of volunteering activities to help care for the people of her community since early childhood. She discovered her passion for education while volunteering to teach computer skills at the local library. Her health care career begins at the Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center where she begins to educate her family and community on health literacy which became the seed for her desire to work with an underserved population. Chineka stated that being a part of this program will give her the training needed to focus on cardiovascular disease research, and take better care of her patients with high blood pressure, obesity, and other chronic health illness. This training program will also help me become a better program evaluator to health communities, and develop and implement strategies to overcome barriers to addressing health disparities within the underserved population. Chineka is also a Licensed Practice Nurse (LPN).



Plabo Williams has a Bachelor of Science degree from Alcorn State University. Plabo is currently enrolled in the School of Public Health at Jackson State University in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology. Plabo works in the healthcare arena at St. Dominic Hospital as a Nurse Assistant/Lift Technician Specialist. He feels that being in this program will allow him to focus on CVD, and show the connection that CVD has on the other body systems. Also, being in this program will give him an opportunity to achieve a career in public health that gives him a great sense of accomplishment. Plabo has a desire to educate males on public health issues and be a beacon of light while providing an excellent example for the next generation. He wants to implement quality healthcare skills while serving as a role model for others to follow.



Precious McKnight has a Master's in Public Health with a concentration in Behavioral Health, Child and Maternal Health from Jackson State University. She is currently enrolled in the School of Public Health in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Jackson State University. Precious stated that Cardiovascular disease is very dear to her heart and being in this program will give her an opportunity to research facts and information that can possibly make life easy for those suffering from this deadly disease. However, her real passion is Hypertension and why it disproportionately affects African Americans.



Dasia Dyson has a Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration, from Jackson State University. Currently, Dasia is enrolled in the School of Public Health in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Jackson State University. Dasia knows that the Jackson Heart Study is a world-renowned research study and she is ecstatic to have this research opportunity. She plans to use time management skills to make good use of program activities and extracurriculars. She is an advocate for minority health and wants to learn more about how this research will lead to prevention and control methods for the minority population. Having this opportunity, Dasia plans to be fully committed to doing what is required and needed in order to accomplish her research and training goals as an epidemiologist.