

**Jackson Heart Study Graduate Training and Education Center**  
**Jackson State University**

**2023 SCHOLARS**



to his career as an epidemiologist.

**Tyler Duncan** holds a B.A. in History from Jackson State University and is presently pursuing a Master of Public Health Degree in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the College of Health Sciences at Jackson State University. His objective is to improve his public health skills to counter cardiovascular disease. Tyler's personal experience with chronic illness has sparked his curiosity and willingness to expand his knowledge. Tyler believes that this program will equip him with the necessary information and knowledge to better comprehend cardiovascular diseases and how to treat them accordingly. He considers the program as a stepping stone



program will be a crucial factor in advancing her career in public health and ultimately achieving her goal of becoming a principal investigator.

**Ayana Davis** holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation from Jackson State University. Currently, she is pursuing a Master of Science degree in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Jackson State University, where she has completed several certifications in continuing education. As a research coordinator, Ayana is motivated to study cardiovascular disease to support those who are fighting against it, especially after witnessing her close relative suffer from related complications. She is confident that the knowledge and experience gained through the



**August Slater** holds a B.S. in Psychology from Howard University and a Master of Arts in Global Environmental Policy from American University, both located in Washington, D.C. She has also completed various continuing education certifications. Currently, August is pursuing a Doctoral of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology at Jackson State University. August has been involved in research training programs since her high school years. Her first experience was with the National Institute of Mental Health's Career and Opportunities Research program at Jackson State University. August has work experience as a Program Manager of a biomedical research program. Through her work, she had the opportunity to work directly with research participants who had one or more chronic conditions in addition to depression and/or anxiety. This experience helped her to understand the undeniable connection between mental health and physical health. August is committed to further exploring this phenomenon



**Ryan Standfield** is currently studying for a Master of Science degree with the School of Public Health in the Department of Health Policy and Management at Jackson State University. He has a strong desire to work on the frontline in communities where cardiovascular disease is prevalent and create systems that can reduce its incidence. His ultimate aim is to establish a non-profit organization that will work towards reducing the high prevalence of this disease in chronically challenged communities. He is convinced that participating in this program will equip him with the necessary skills to be successful in fulfilling his goal by developing research and professional expertise in conducting research and creating evidence-based strategies for intervention and prevention of cardiovascular disease.



**Prosper Anane** is a William Carey University's first-year medical student, who aspires to become a Cardiothoracic Surgeon. Sadly, a heart attack took the life of a beloved relative, leading Prosper to pursue a mission to enhance his knowledge on cardiac diseases. Throughout his program, he hopes to gain the education needed to guide the community towards a healthy life through their hearts and become a dedicated servant to his patients and the general population.



**Korey Walter**, a medical student currently enrolled in Osteopathic Medicine at William Carey University. He holds both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Science. With his previous experience as a medical research technician, Korey is eager to expand his understanding of basic and clinical research in the field of cardiovascular health. He believes that the DHWS program can provide him with the tools and knowledge necessary to achieve his career goal of becoming an osteopathic physician. By utilizing the program, he hopes to enhance the care he provides to his patients.



**Andrea Golden** is currently pursuing a Doctoral of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology at Jackson State University. She obtained a B.S. in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Alabama. Andrea aspires to become a distinguished clinical psychologist and researcher. She hopes that the knowledge gained in this program will enhance her quality of research while obtaining guidance for future publications. Throughout the matriculation of the program, she expects the program to improve her communication skills and build confidence in presenting research. The goal is to utilize the training program to aid her research focus on cardiovascular disease by strengthening specific skills to research.



**Brittany Clayborn** holds a Bachelor of Science and is currently pursuing a degree in Public Health (Epidemiology) at the University of Southern Mississippi. She has completed research training, which has enabled her to network and present her findings at various research conferences, including the Mississippi Public Health Association Conference. Brittany sees this program as an excellent opportunity to advance her professional aspirations and launch her career in epidemiology. As she puts it, "My aim as an epidemiologist and public health professional is to focus on minority communities to better understand and tackle the health issues that affect them the most. Cardiovascular disease is the most significant problem not only in these communities but across the United States. By participating in this program, I will be able to address the most pressing health issue and explore the various challenges that arise from it." Brittany's commitment to improving the field of epidemiology to serve underserved communities will continue to drive her forward.