

HEALTH EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE – JULY 2022



We cannot think of a better truth than that which pulsates through the words of Harvey Milk – “Hope will never be silent.” June was PRIDE month, a month of celebration of our LGBTQ+ community, recognizing the impact of LGBTQ+ individuals on history locally, nationally, and internationally. Diversity and inclusivity are vital to the research we conduct and to individuals and communities touched by science.

Last month, CCTST leaders completed our **Cultural Humility Train-the-Trainer workshops** and are pulling together resources on cultural humility for dissemination. We are also scheduling a series of refreshers so that we have all the tools necessary for disseminating cultural humility practices. We hope to provide tools and resources in the near future.

We have implemented a **survey on diversity dimensions** for our CCTST speakers (i.e., Grand Rounds, Spring Speaker Series). This allows us to ensure that we are accountable to our commitment towards increasing the number of speakers who are women and who are underrepresented in medicine and science. This month, please tune in to our grand rounds entitled: [A Brief History of Racism in Medicine: Where We Were, Where We Are, and Where We Hope to Go](#).

The CTSA Program Steering Committee established a DEI Task Force in 2020. With the acknowledgment that the DEIA (diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility) work is something that needs to be ongoing, the CTSA Program Steering Committee decided to transition the DEI Task Force to the **DEIA Enterprise Committee** starting January 1, 2023. This is exciting as we can make change locally and nationally with this new enterprise committee.

This year, the Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS), the primary scientific association affiliated with CTSA hubs, developed a DEI mission statement. Jareen Meinzen-Derr (CCTST co-Director) is a member of the **ACTS DEI committee**, which is tasked with developing and enacting strategies to address diversity, equity, and inclusion across all ACTS activities. This year we developed our statement of commitment to DEI and have been developing action items we will enact. Please see here for the [ACTS DEI commitment statement](#).

Finally, we will be revamping our DEI webpage on our [CCTST site](#) to reflect our teams, our work, our commitment, and our compassion.