

FEBRUARY 2026



Michelle Kirwan, MD
Pediatrics
Miami, FL

National Medical Association
(NMA)



Elisa Quince, DO
Emergency Medicine
Fresno, CA

Central Valley Community
Foundation
(CVCF)



Sylvanus Teboh, MD
Psychiatry
West Fargo, ND

National Medical Association
(NMA)



Vanessa Wong, MD
Family Practice
Honolulu, Oahu, HI

National Council of Asian Pacific
Islander Physicians
(NCAPIP)

*A message from Dr. Shaneeta Johnson
-CHEF Fellowship Director*

Welcome Class of 2026



“

“We are thrilled to welcome our sixth cohort of the Climate Health and Equity Fellowship, bringing together doctors from across the country representing underrepresented in medicine communities. Their dedication to advancing climate and health equity is inspiring and we look forward to the impact they will make. We hope you enjoy this edition of the CHEF Connection, where we continue to share insights, stories, and progress from our growing network.”

For 2026, our sixth year of the CHEF Fellowship, we are proud to announce our cohort of four physician Fellows representing critical frontline specialties of Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, and Psychiatry.

This year’s cohort represents multiple regions of the United States, including the newly represented state of North Dakota.

CHEF IN ACTION & UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us from February 28 - March 3, 2026, for this pivotal gathering of leaders, experts, and educators committed to driving progress toward a healthier, more sustainable, and just future.

On Sunday, March 1st, 10:15 - 11:00 AM ET, join us for a session featuring newly inducted CAEN members, Drs. Audrey Tanksley, Ifeanyi Olele, and Keisha Callins, as they showcase their dynamic work in driving impactful change in their communities and beyond.



Our Planet, Our Health 2026 CONVENTION

February 28 - March 3, 2026 | Arlington, Virginia & Online

[REGISTER HERE](#)

SPOTLIGHT: CHEF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT NETWORK (CAEN) DR. EARL STEWART, JR

Dr. Earl Stewart Jr., 2023 CHEF Fellow located in Georgia, serves as the Medical Director of Health Equity at Wellstar Health System. In partnership with Eat Right Atlanta and Wholesome Wave Georgia, Wellstar Health System collaborated to establish a Food for Health site in Douglasville, GA, to provide free produce prescriptions, nutrition classes, and health screenings for patients experiencing chronic diet-related illness and food insecurity.



INVEST IN CHEF

with your tax-deductible donations:



1. Scan the QR code:
Or Go to [THE DONATION PAGE](#)

2. Click on "ONE-TIME GIFT"

ONE-TIME GIFT MULTI-PAYMENT GIFT RECURRING GIFT



3. Enter your donation amount (\$2,500, \$1,000 or whatever you are able to gift towards supporting the CHEF Fellowship for 2026 and beyond) in the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health section

4. Enter your donor information

5. Click on Additional comments about your gift and include "CHEF DONATION" in the box

Alternate method:

Donate by Check/mail

Payable to George Mason University Foundation

Mail to: GMU Foundation, 4400 University Drive, MS 1A3, Fairfax, VA 22030

Memo line: Climate & Health Equity Fellowship (CHEF)/Medical Society Consortium

George Mason University Foundation, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3), EIN: 54-1603842. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

[Climate & Health Equity Fellowship website](#): Visit us for prior CHEF Connection newsletters, op-eds, and to learn more about CHEF