2022 Schedule of Events

September 16 – 24
Friday, September 16: The kickoff

4:45-6 p.m.: Orientation meeting for fellows

*Potomac (main classroom)*

6-8:30 p.m.: Evening program

*Dogwood Courtyard (outdoors)*

Introduction of the fellowship: **Audrey Shelto**, President, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation

Introduction of the fellows and keynote speaker: **Larry Tye**, Fellowship Director


**Keynote:** *Healing Journalism*

**Dr. Francis Collins** served for more than twelve years as director of the National Institutes of Health. A physician-geneticist-theologist and best-selling author, Collins led the Human Genome Project and is now Acting Science Advisor to President Biden.
Saturday, September 17:  Pointing the way

8:30-9:45 a.m.  Up closer  
Putomac

Nancy Barnes, NPR’s top news official, joins Washington Post Associate Editor Bob Woodward for a conversation on where journalism is headed, and where it should go.

10-11:15  Can the public’s health survive climate change?
Putomac

Not unless we act fast, say Drs. John Balbus, Georges Benjamin, and Aaron Bernstein. Balbus is interim director of HHS’ Office of Climate Change and Health Equity. Benjamin has spent 20 years running the American Public Health Association. Bernstein heads the Center for Climate, Health and the Global Environment at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

11:30-1 p.m.  Laying out the challenges  
Dogwood Courtyard  
(Lunch)

Few people have thought more creatively about what lies ahead in health care than our guests: Andrew Dreyfus runs Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Dr. Kedar Mate is president of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and the Lucian Leape Institute.

1:30 p.m.  Meet in lobby for transportation to Fenway Park.

2:30 p.m.-last pitch  
Offsite - Dinner


We head to Fenway to meet with Sox GM Chaim Bloom and Boston Globe baseball writer Alex Speier, tour the park, and watch Boston crush the Royals with guests including Nancy Barnes, Georges Benjamin, Francis Collins, and Kitty and Mike Dukakis.
Sunday, September 18: Worrying about forgetting and about medical mistakes

8:30 a.m.  Meet in lobby for transportation to site visits.

9:30-11:30 a.m.  Care for the long-term  
Offsite

We look at creative long-term care with these hosts: Deborah Donovan at the Higashi School, Tom Grape at Benchmark Senior Living, Dawn Matchett at the Hearth community for at-risk seniors, and MA Veterans Affairs Secretary Cheryl Poppe at the Soldiers Home.

noon-1:30 p.m.  Alzheimer’s and other aging challenges  
Dogwood Courtyard  
(Lunch)

Over lunch, we discuss challenges of aging with Alice Bonner, former secretary of elder affairs in Massachusetts and current senior advisor for aging at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement; Toby Edelman, senior attorney at the Center for Medicare Advocacy; and Dorene Rentz, co-director of the Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

1:30-4 p.m.  Down time

We catch our breaths – exercising, napping or whatever we want.

4-5 p.m.  Debrief

Potomac

We talk amongst ourselves about what we’ve seen and heard and start thinking about how to translate that into stories.

5-7 p.m.  Med errors and mea culpas

Over dinner, we and our speakers focus on medical errors and patient safety. Dr. Amy Boutwell is president of Collaborative Healthcare Strategies. Linda Kenney directs the peer support program at the Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety. Dr. Rick van Pelt is vice president of clinical practice transformation at the University of Alabama-Birmingham Health System.
Monday, September 19:  

**New ways to think about life’s essentials**

8:30-10 a.m.  

*Novel approaches to understanding and attacking obesity*

_Dogwood Courtyard_

Christopher Lynch is acting director of NIH’s Office of Nutrition Research. Dr. Walter Willett is professor of epidemiology and nutrition at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

11-1:15 p.m.  

*Suicide: An epidemic and an enigma*

_Dogwood Courtyard  (Lunch)_

Michael Lindsey, dean of the NYU School of Social Work, focuses on preventing suicides among Black youths. Matthew Nock, a psychologist at Harvard and MacArthur fellow, is researching ways to predict and prevent suicides. Dr. Jordan Smoller, head of psychiatric genetics at Mass General, is studying how big data and genomics can identify suicide risks.

1:15-4:15 p.m.  

*Rest up*

Take a nap, head to the fitness center, or get ready any way you choose for the long night ahead.

4:30 p.m.  

*Meet in lobby for transportation to Boston Health Care for the Homeless*

5:30-7:30 p.m.  

*Homelessness: Who, why, and what to do*

_Offsite - Dinner_

Setting a context for what we’ll see on Boston’s streets are Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP) Medical Director Denise De Las Nueces, Pine Street Inn Director Lyndia Downie, Boston Shelter Commission Director Jim Greene, Boston EMS Chief Jim Hooley, author Tracy Kidder, former MA public health commissioner and HHS assistant secretary Howard Koh, BHCHP President Jim O’Connell, and BHCHP CEO Stephanie Sullivan.

8:30 p.m.-midnight  

*Street stories*

We ride with the Pine Street vans or EMS ambulances or divide into groups to tour the McInnis House respite center or the streets of Boston on foot.
Tuesday, September 20: Ending addictions and unfairness

7:45-9 a.m.  Waking up slowly or not at all

After a late night, sleep in or join us over breakfast to talk about what you saw on the streets.

9:15-11 a.m.  Paying for it and paying forward

Potomac

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure helped steer the passage of Obamacare, and now she’s steering its implementation and integration into other federal health programs as head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

11:15-1 p.m.  Fresh eyes on the opioid epidemic

Overlook (Lunch)

Gary Mendell, whose son Brian died of addiction, is founder and CEO of Shatterproof, a non-profit focused on ending the epidemic. Sam Rivera, director of OnPoint, oversees New York City’s first-in-the-nation supervised injection sites. Dr. Nora Volkow heads the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

4-5:45 p.m.  Meditations

Potomac, Susquehanna, Allegheny, Shannon

We get a hands-on look at complementary medicine with Sarah Ernst-Edwards and Lisa Gorman from 360 NeuroMuscular Therapy, Reiki practitioner Ann Muchowski, Chris Householder and Rachel Jenkins from Perfect Postures, Lisa Keyes from Dedham Acupuncture, David Sholemon of 3 Body Healing Arts, and psychologist and sleep specialist Lisa Strauss.

6-8 p.m.  It’s time to root out rather than just recognize health care disparities

Overlook (Dinner)

Over dinner with our therapists we hear from Dr. Eliseo Perez-Stable, director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.
Wednesday, September 21: Era of the virus – looking back and ahead

8:45-10:45 a.m. A glimpse ahead from the rear-view mirror

Potomac

Past CDC directors Dr. Tom Frieden and Dr. Julie Gerberding cull lessons from the Covid pandemic that can help us prevent and prepare for future public health crises, with help from Bill Hanage, who studies the evolution and epidemiology of infectious diseases at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

11-1:30 p.m. Parsing out roles and responsibilities

Overlook (Lunch)

The Coronavirus posed challenges everywhere from Congress and the press to the public health community. We look at the lessons learned with Governor Charlie Baker of Massachusetts and Dr. Dave Chokshi, the health commissioner who steered New York City through the pandemic.

1:30-4:30 p.m. Walk, run, bike, talk, sleep

5-7:30 p.m. Sounding alarms and changing approaches globally

Potomac (Dinner)

We extract lessons for the future from countries that handled the pandemic right, and those that demonstrably didn’t. Our guides are Dr. David Heymann, formerly chairman of Public Health England and a senior official at the WHO and CDC; Greg Hunt, the former health minister who led Australia’s Covid response; and Jennifer Nuzzo head of Brown University’s new program on Pandemic Preparedness and Response.
Thursday, September 22:  Stories that need telling inside medicine and out

8:45-10:15 a.m.  The big picture on mental illness  
Potomac  

Dr. Joshua Gordon is director of the National Institute of Mental Health. Dr. Tom Insel ran NIHM from 2002 to 2015.

10:30-11:45 a.m.  Debrief  
Potomac  

We talk amongst ourselves about what we’ve seen and heard and start thinking about how to translate that into stories.

noon-1:45 p.m.  Making sense of the data  
Potomac  
(Dinner)  

Charlie Ornstein is a managing editor at ProPublica, a Pulitzer Prize winner and an expert on data-driven journalism.

1:45-5:45 p.m.  An afternoon off  

Weather allowing, a van will take anyone who wants to Thoreau’s Walden Pond to swim, walk, meditate or sit on one of the beaches.

6-8 p.m.  Long-form storytelling  
Dogwood Courtyard  
(Lunch)  

Deb Brody is editorial director at the Harvest imprint of HarperCollins. Katherine Flynn is a partner at Boston-based Kneerim & Williams Literary Agency. Margaret Engel directs the Alicia Patterson Journalism Foundation. NPR host Scott Simon’s latest book is Sunnyside Plaza.
Friday, September 23:  

**Stories that need telling inside medicine and out**

9:00 a.m.  
Meet in lobby for transportation to site visits.

10-11:30 a.m.  
**Cutting-edge health challenges**

*Offsite*

Harvard Medical School Dean George Daley shows and tells us how his stem cell lab works. Diane Davey, director of McLean Hospital’s Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Unit, introduces us to her program and residents. At Fenway Health, CEO Ellen LaPointe explains their push for health equity and social justice. Dr. Eric Rubin, editor-in-chief of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, gives us a tutorial on getting the most out of his and other medical journals. At the Ragon Institute, we learn about the wars against HIV, Covid, and other diseases from Director Bruce Walker and his colleagues Amy Barczak and Doug Kwon.

12:30-2 p.m.  
**Taking direction**

*Dogwood Courtyard*  
(Lunch)

Over lunch, we discuss post-pandemic coverage with CDC director Dr. Rochelle Walensky, Washington Post Health and Science Editor Steve Smith, and CNN Health Executive Producer Ben Tinker.

2:30-5:30 p.m.  
**Take a break.**

5:45-9:30 p.m.  
**Toasting our time together**

*Dogwood Courtyard*  
(Dinner)

With a surprise guest(s).
Saturday, September 24: Wrapping up

9:00-11:30 a.m. Translating your lists into stories

Potomac

We break into three groups, with each journalist presenting her or his list of stories while the rest of us suggest sources, storytelling strategies, and other ways to make those ideas resonate with readers, listeners and editors. Group leaders are Karen Brown, John Lauerman and Larry Tye.

Brown is a reporter at New England Public Radio, focusing on health, mental health, children’s issues, poverty and other ways of looking at the human condition.

Lauerman is a reporter-at-large for Bloomberg News, recently returned from London to Boston and focusing on health and higher education.

Noon-1:00 p.m. Goodbyes

Lunch with our group, then you can head home or anywhere.