



## **BREAK THE CYCLE 18**

**Deadline for application: September 16, 2022**

**Date of selection: September 30, 2022**

**Date of conference: April 17-18, 2023**

**Break the Cycle Director: Leslie Rubin MD**

**Break the Cycle of Children's Environmental Health Disparities program focuses on raising awareness of children's health disparities and on cultivating future leaders among national and international university students and trainees.**

[Invitation Letter](#)

The application form will be available on Friday August 12

The application is now open

[APPLY](#)

Questions? Please contact Nathan Mutic [nathan.mutic@emory.edu](mailto:nathan.mutic@emory.edu)

BREAK THE CYCLE OF  
CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES  
18th ANNUAL PROGRAM  
2022-2023

The Southeast Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit at Emory University is proud to celebrate 18 years of our work with trainees across the country to Break the Cycle of environmental health disparities.

The SE PEHSU Break the Cycle (BTC) program supports student-driven research projects that explore social, economic, and environmental factors that adversely affect children's health and well-being and develop creative strategies to promote health and well-being for children, thereby, Breaking the Cycle of Environmental Health Disparities.

**Project Guidelines**

University trainees from all disciplines are invited to develop research projects that creatively address social, economic, and environmental factors that adversely affect the health of children. Trainees are required to identify a mentor in their university departments to sponsor, monitor, and guide their projects. There are a limited number selected for full participation in the program each year so apply

now! The application form is available [here](#).

- All applications are evaluated based on the following criteria:
  - a) A focus on the cycle of environmental health disparities
  - b) The quality and academic rigor of the proposal
  - c) Project feasibility
  - d) Project novelty
  - e) Addresses sustainable goal for future work.
- The BTC faculty hold monthly conference calls each month during the project period to support the progress of research projects, share ideas and assure that the project is on track and consistent with the spirit of the BTC program.
- At the end of the project period, trainees will present their projects and research outcomes at a hybrid conference open to the public. The conference date has been set for April 2023.
- Trainees will produce research manuscripts on their projects and then submit them for publication in an international journal.
- We look forward to following the careers of the trainees and will remain in contact as they develop their academic or professional careers.

## **Desired Outcomes**

To inspire trainees from a variety of academic disciplines to explore the relationship between adverse social, economic and environmental factors and the health and development of children and to creatively generate strategies to address the challenges.

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To collaborate with an interdisciplinary team of academic leaders from different universities and colleges to creatively examine the broader landscape of health disparities.

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To promote leadership among trainees.

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To encourage faculty and our university partners to promote academic interest and social awareness of children's environmental health disparities.

## **Environmental Health Disparities**

Children who grow up in circumstances of social and economic disadvantage are at greater risk for exposure to adverse environmental factors and are more likely to suffer adverse health and developmental consequences. Break the Cycle supports an interdisciplinary set of trainee-driven research projects that explore the environmental, economic and social factors that adversely affect children's health and creatively develop strategies to promote the health of children, thereby, Breaking the Cycle of Children's Environmental Health Disparities.

## **About the Program**

Trainees are required to work with academic mentors from their respective university programs to submit a proposal. All proposals will be reviewed, and a limited number will be chosen based on the selection criteria. Selected trainees will have the opportunity to work with the PEHSU Break the Cycle faculty and other trainees from around the country as research projects advance. BTC research findings will be disseminated at the annual BTC conference in the spring of 2023. There will be monthly conference calls to review projects and provide perspectives and guidance on the projects. During these conference calls, faculty and trainees will have the opportunity to communicate and collaborate with their counterparts in other disciplines and among collaborating universities. Trainees will write a scientific manuscript on their BTC project and will be published in an international peer-review journal and as a chapter in a textbook.

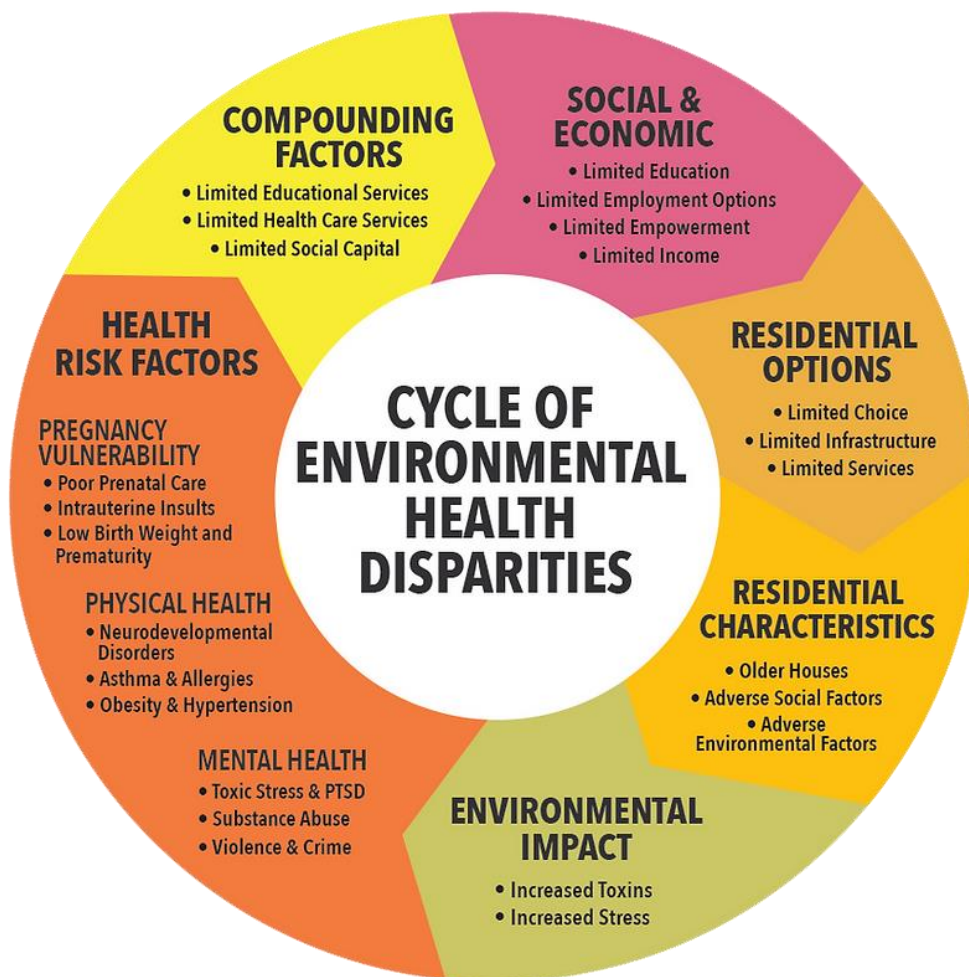
## **Who Can Apply**

Trainees from all disciplines and academic levels are encouraged to apply. This includes undergraduates, graduate students, medical residents, and fellows.

## A History of Success

Since the inception of the Break the Cycle program in 2004-2005, The SE PEHSU has partnered with over **50** different university departments in **12 States** in the USA as well as from **Africa** and **Latin America**, and the team has successfully supported environmental health research for over **150** students.

BTC trainees have published in **13** international journal supplements and **13** public health textbooks.



Please email [lrubi01@emory.edu](mailto:lrubi01@emory.edu) if you have any questions regarding your proposal or mentored support.