

## Yale-China Association

# Chia Family Foundation Health Fellowship Program at Yale 2016-17 Fellowship Announcement

### General Introduction

Made possible by a generous grant from the Chia Family Foundation and the support of Xiangya School of Medicine for Chia Fellowship recipients from Hunan, the Chia Family Health Fellowship Program seeks to improve the general health and health education of the people of Hunan and Yunnan through public outreach programs and by promoting the role of Chinese women in the health professions. The Chia Fellowship gives special emphasis to health projects that are concerned with the prevention and management of infectious and chronic diseases in the communities, and that focus on health issues faced by vulnerable or overlooked populations in Hunan and Yunnan.

Four Chia Fellowships at Yale will be awarded for 2016-17, two for candidates from Hunan and two for candidates from Yunnan. Each Chia Fellowship has two components: a semester (6 months) at Yale University, followed by project implementation in Changsha or Kunming.

### Program Priorities

There are two distinctive features of the Chia Fellowship. First, it is aimed at advancing the careers of early- to mid-career women in the health professions. Second, the Chia Fellowship looks for projects aimed at prevention and management of infectious and chronic diseases, especially those among historically underserved and/or vulnerable populations in Hunan.

### The Chia Fellowship Program

In the summer of the Chia Fellowship year, Chia Fellows will go to Yale for one semester. While at Yale, each Chia Fellow will have the opportunity to study and develop her research proposal under the guidance of Yale faculty; at the conclusion of the six months at Yale, each Chia Fellow will submit an application to the Yale University Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the proposed project activities in China that will be conducted upon returning to China, after project is approved by the IRB.

Upon returning to China, each Chia Fellow will implement her project by conducting any field research necessary and then by sharing with colleagues her research findings and problem-solving strategies, and carrying out educational outreach programs. Chia Fellows have up to two years to complete their research projects, with project funding support of up to \$6,000.

### Chia Fellowship Candidate Qualifications and Selection Criteria

Chia Fellowship candidates will be reviewed and selected in October 2015 by a committee composed of representatives of the Yale-China Association and the Xiangya School of Medicine. In accordance with the desires of the donor, only women working in the fields of medicine, public health, and nursing in Hunan province are eligible to apply for the program. Proposed projects should focus on infectious and chronic disease prevention, management, and self-care in the community. Projects that address health problems faced by disadvantaged or overlooked populations will be given special emphasis. Following a review of proposals submitted by the candidates, the selection committee will invite selected candidates for interviews at Xiangya in late October, 2015.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

1. The candidate's academic and professional strength, and preparedness for the Chia Fellowship Program.
2. The candidate's professional motivation, training and experience.
3. Overall assessment of the proposed project according to the following:
  - Quality of the research plan

- Feasibility of the research/project plan
- Relevance of the research/project plan to program priorities as stated above
- 4. The availability of an appropriate Yale faculty mentor.
- 5. The likelihood that the proposed work will continue upon return and support from superiors.
- 6. The candidate's potential to influence health practice and policy in Hunan.
- 7. The candidate's commitment to community service and potential to continue to work in the same priority areas as outlined by the program.
- 8. The candidate's English ability. (Candidates are expected to be able to understand English academic lectures, read academic journals, and to carry on conversations about their work.)

Proposed projects will be judged upon their academic merits and topic, as well as an applicants' likelihood to continue to work in the priority area, as listed above, beyond the completion of the Chia Fellowship. Chia Fellowship recipients will be announced in late December 2015 or January 2016.

#### Funding Requirements

Currently, Yale requires a financial support letter from your institution indicating a monthly minimum salary support of \$2,400 for your Yale stay. We ask that you provide a letter of support from your institutional leader on the institutional letterhead, indicating their agreement to provide the following funding support for your Fellowship to Yale, including: 1) Round trip travel to the U.S.; 2) Health insurance costs for your U.S. visit; 3) Living expenses for six months at Yale, including: a) Rent; b) Utilities; c) monthly living stipend; d) \$6,000 in project funding.

Institutions must provide proof of funding for Chia Fellows to Yale-China Association prior to arrival at Yale; alternatively funds may be transferred to Yale-China for management. Chia Fellows without adequate funding in place prior to their arrival may experience a delay in departure, or, in the most extreme cases, selection as a Chia Fellow may be rescinded.

#### Application Process and Time Table

Application forms and instructions are available at the International Cooperation Offices of the Xiangya School of Medicine and online at [www.yalechina.org](http://www.yalechina.org). The 2016-17 Chia Fellowship candidates will be interviewed in October 2015, with final decision announced in December 2015 or January 2016, which will allow new Chia Fellows ample time to prepare for their studies at Yale the following fall, and to make arrangements with their superiors for completing their projects when they return to China.

Each applicant should submit two copies of the application, one copy to Xiangya and one copy to Yale-China (via email) by **Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. Please send your applications to the following emails or contact the following offices if you have questions.

**Dr. ZHANG Xin**  
**Deputy Dean**  
**Xiangya School of Medicine**  
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