**Change Champions**

**Programmatic Implementation**

The Change Champion program recruits student scholars primarily from previous DHHS HBCUs/MSIs Internship program cohorts to achieve the department’s strategic goal to provide more equitable opportunities for internship access within NC DHHS and supports the initiative to build a strong and inclusive workforce. In doing so, scholars gain valued professional experience that help attract, recruit, and retain public health, social workers, and other human services professionals for career opportunities with DHHS.

Change Champion scholars work collaboratively with campus health centers and DHHS staff to organize, lead, and facilitate outreach and engagement activities that promote best practices, testing, prevention, and treatment on the campus of HBCUs/MSIs in North Carolina. These priority areas represent a whole-person health and equity centered approach that strive to improve health outcomes for students from historically marginalized communities. Proposed topics for outreach include:

**Outreach Activity and Engagement By Month**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month/ Awareness Focus** | **Disparity Focus**  best practices, testing, prevention, and treatment | **Activity-**plan w/ Champions and Health Center Directors | **Internal Partner Group** | **Event to promote Strategic priority** |
| August  Mental Health | Mental Health | TBD | **MPOX CoAg**  -Langston, Noah, Candice and Catherine G. | -Investing in Mental  - |
| September | Suicide Prevention | **Activity:** Get the SCOOP, 988, NC CARE 360 | **DMH and NC CARE 360** | Social Media Engagement |
| October | Diabetes Awareness Champion MDPP Program in the OHE, connecting communities to diabetes management | **Activity:** Diabetes prevention | **OHE and ORH** |  |
| November | Digital Equity | Host an event on Campus | **ORH** |  |
| **December** | **Admin planning** | **Engagement Strategy** | **MPOX CoAg, Clinical Coordination Branch** | **Event** |
| Jan | National Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week | Increasing access to preventative measures against communicable and preventable diseases & mental health resources on campus | [**MPOX CoAg**](https://ncconnect.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/DPHHBCUMSIInternshipProgram/Shared%20Documents/General/Change%20Champion%20Program/HBCU%20Change%20Champion%20Workgroup/CBO%20COVID19%20MPox%20Hub/Mpox%20CoAg%20Implementation%20Proposal.docx?d=wdd82f38529ba40c585bfacf58a566c5b&csf=1&web=1&e=vup9MJ)  -Langston, Noah, Candice and Catherine G. | Mpox Focus Group and [Social Media Education Campaign](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/mpox/mpox-communications-toolkit) |
| Feb | Teen Dating Violence; National Black HIV/Aids Awareness; African Heritage and Health Week | Increasing access to preventative measures against communicable and preventable diseases | [**MPox COAG**](https://ncconnect.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/DPHHBCUMSIInternshipProgram/Shared%20Documents/General/Change%20Champion%20Program/HBCU%20Change%20Champion%20Workgroup/CBO%20COVID19%20MPox%20Hub/Mpox%20CoAg%20Implementation%20Proposal.docx?d=wdd82f38529ba40c585bfacf58a566c5b&csf=1&web=1&e=vup9MJ)  Langston, Noah, Candice and Catherine G. | [Social Media Education Campaign](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/mpox/mpox-communications-toolkit) |
| March | Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month; International Women’s Day (March 8th); Disability Awareness Month; Women’s History Month | Host an event highlighting barbershop program | Division of Public Health, Community and Clinical Connections for Prevention and Health Branch   * Tish Singletary * Courtney Ingram * Courtney Eggleston | [Recruit Participants to participate in program](https://www.communityclinicalconnections.com/) |
| April | National Social Work Month; Health Information Professionals Week; NPHW | Host an event highlighting barbershop program | [Division of Public Health, Community and Clinical Connections for Prevention and Health Branch](https://www.communityclinicalconnections.com/) | Recruit Participants to participate in program |
| May | Report/ Recruit | Report/Recruit | ALL Partners |  |
| June | HBCU Internship Program | HBCU Internship Program | N/A |  |
| July | HBCU Internship Program | HBCU Internship Program | N/A |  |

\*May-June Report writing with all partners