

PRACTICUM SITE PROJECTS

Leaders in Equitable Evaluation and Diversity (LEEAD) is an evaluation training program designed to develop a pathway of diverse leaders in culturally responsive and equitable evaluation (CREE) that includes the following components: mentoring (throughout), online curriculum (fall), and practicum (spring/summer). After completion of the online curriculum, LEEAD Scholars have the opportunity to apply new knowledge by working with a Practicum Site on a CREE-focused evaluation project.

LEEAD Practicum Sites are partnered evaluation firms, foundations, think tanks, universities, and nonprofit agencies who contract with LEEAD Scholars to enhance evaluation projects with their unique insights informed by their research experience and evaluation training in CREE.

Here are examples of how the 2019-2020 Scholars applied their CREE practice to support Practicum Site Projects:

Developing a foundation's research approach and ensuring data collection is sensitive to the COVID-19 environment

[Dr. Kimberly Harris](#) partnered with the [Hartford Foundation for Public Giving](#) to help Foundation staff develop their research approach, ensuring that the data collection is sensitive to the COVID-19 environment and that findings are responsive to emerging factors affecting small business owners and entrepreneurs during the COVID-19 crisis. The results of the research will inform the Foundation's future investments and resources and will be shared with local and national funders, small business infrastructure organizations, small business owners and entrepreneurs, and the community at large.

Reviewing and enhancing the equity in the evaluation framework of a program

[Dr. L. Brooke Keliikoa](#) partnered with [IMPAQ International](#) and applied her CREE skills to this project by reviewing and enhancing the equity in the evaluation framework, including timeline, data sources and inputs, and data elements, to determine whether there is any room for refinement. The mission of this program is to strive for optimal health of all residents and the workforce in Santa Clara County by eliminating illness and premature death attributed to the use of tobacco products.

Leading the development and implementation of CREE virtual trainings for grantees

[Dr. Tiberio Garza](#) partnered with [Mathematica](#) to lead the development and implementation of CREE virtual trainings for grantees. The purpose of these training sessions is to support the grantees' ability to implement CREE into their measurement and evaluation plans and to grow the knowledge of staff at the Foundation on key topics related to measurement and evaluation.

Refining strategies and tools to ensure that communities are empowered through data collection and evaluation

[Dr. Jennifer Torres](#) and [Dr. Nitya Venkateswaran](#) partnered with **[Two Gems Consulting](#)** to apply their CREE expertise to the refinement of strategies and tools to ensure that they are empowering communities through data collection and evaluation. Their process has been documented so that others in the field can replicate it and help reduce the support of white supremacist practices that taint and underscore the field of evaluation.

Developing a framework-based approach to measurement, learning, and evaluation

[Dr. Sandy-Asari Hogan](#) partnered with **[ORS Impact](#)** to co-lead the development of a framework-based approach to measurement, learning and evaluation, reviewing draft frameworks and materials, and assessing alignment with CREE principles and approaches. Dr. Hogan also applied a CREE lens as they assisted in prototyping an innovative solution; tested that prototype; and determined the viability for commercial distribution for successful prototypes.

Creating a work plan around a center's research and capacity-building evaluation activities

[Dr. Rachel Powell](#) partnered with **[Child Trends](#)** to create a work plan for a center's research and capacity-building evaluation activities to ensure they are culturally responsive and equitable. This work contributed to the center's knowledge base in three priority areas: (1) relationship patterns and trends, (2) program design and implementation, and (3) program effectiveness and evaluation.

Assisting an institute by building CREE capacity amongst grantees

[Dr. Ebony Reddock](#) and [Dr. Jennifer García](#) partnered with **[Michigan Public Health Institute](#)** to assist them with evaluation for annual grantee portfolio-level. They built CREE capacity amongst grantees through debriefing and discussing findings, providing tools and resources, and providing technical assistance so that grantees are better able to measure individual and joint efforts and ensure they are contributing to equitable communities where children thrive.

Want to learn more about past LEEAD Practicum Projects? [Click here!](#)
Email questions to Team@ExpandingtheBench.org