

# Melissa Owens selected for inaugural cohort of DNP Postdoctoral fellows

The Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute for Evidence-based Practice in Nursing and Healthcare selected eight candidates from a highly competitive pool of applicants to participate in its first Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Melissa Owens, DNP, APRN-Rx, FNP-BC, NCSN, was one of the nurses selected for this one-year, mentored fellowship program. Dr. Owens is a family nurse practitioner and recently received a DNP degree from the Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing. She is also the director of clinical operations for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn Program, a partnership with UHM Nursing and the Hawaii State Department of Health. Dr. Owens is also the clinical lead for the Hawaii Interprofessional Education Collaborative in partnership with multiple University of Hawaii health science schools.



These fellows, representing nursing leadership, clinical practice and academia, will work with the Fuld Institute for EBP and their home organizations to elevate their experience in evidence-based practice and decision making, evidence-based quality improvement (EBQI), implementation science and strategies, system leadership, innovation and navigating change in complex systems.

The goal of the program aims to create premier DNP experts who

accelerate the translation of evidence into practice and leverage the synergies between EBP, research and quality improvement to advance healthcare delivery and/or population health outcomes in real world settings.

“We couldn’t be more excited about launching this fellowship and our inaugural cohort. These outstanding nurses sit in positions where they have extensive reach across the entire healthcare spectrum. They come from across the United States (east coast to Hawaii) and work in acute, ambulatory and community settings in adult and pediatric care,” said Cindy Zellefrow, DNP, MEd, RN, LSN, PHNA-BC, academic core and DNP fellowship director. “They hold leadership positions in large healthcare systems, work in national-level organizations that inform and drive nursing professional development and teach in higher education. We’re looking forward to an exciting year of personal and professional growth as, together, we continue to make evidence-based practice the way we approach decision making in all realms and not ‘something else to do!’”

For more information about the fellowship, read the full press release online.