Learning community: Challenges in future abortion research

Overview

The Society of Family Planning Research Fund is seeking participants to join a time-limited learning community for researchers focused on key methodological and conceptualization questions in research on abortion access. The learning community will provide space for deep discussion and engagement around how research practice must transform in response to anticipated seismic shifts in the US legal abortion landscape.

The objectives of this discussion space are:

- To develop conceptual models of abortion navigation and obtainment;
- To incubate new approaches to capturing harm, disparities, and access; and
- To explore methodological challenges and opportunities presented by a more fragmented service delivery landscape.
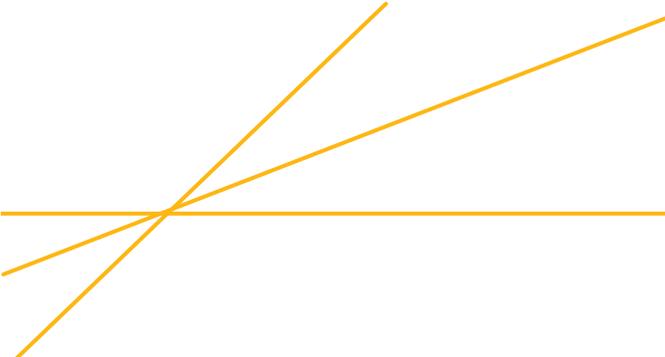
Program

Selected individuals will join grantees from the Society's recent funding opportunity to discuss a series of key questions and workshop issues sourced from research underway and in development. Additionally, the learning community will offer a structured networking opportunity for researchers conducting related research, potentially facilitating future collaboration. Please note that, while the Society staff provide facilitation and administrative support, this is a space for peer support and discussion amongst colleagues.

Eligibility and selection process

We anticipate inviting up to ten additional participants to join the learning community and are seeking individuals who have recent, ongoing, or planned research that is relevant to methodological and conceptualization issues around abortion access. In addition, we will prioritize individuals who identify as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color). We invite members to express interest in joining the learning community by May 22, 2022. Please find the expression of interest form here.

Express your interest in joining by May 22, 2022

Program details

All sessions will be held via Zoom for 75 minutes. All applicants must be able to commit to attend at least 50% of the following sessions:

- June 15, 2022
- July 20, 2022
- August 17, 2022
- September 21, 2022
- October 19, 2022
- November 16, 2022
- December 14, 2022
- January 18, 2023
- February 15, 2023

Examples of key questions that participants will discuss in the learning community space:

- What methodological approaches are well-matched to a more fragmented service delivery experience?
- What is the meaning of method preference in a highly constrained environment?
- What are key outcomes to document harm?
- What approaches are appropriate to document disparities in abortion access? If there are racial disparities in abortion access, what would it look like to actually measure this?