

K12 Career Development Award

SYNERGY, Dartmouth's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), is pleased to offer NIH-supported Career Development Awards to qualified candidates. The K12 Career Development Award is a mentored research and training program designed to support early-career investigators committed to advancing clinical and translational science. The program's goal is to prepare the next generation of independent investigators who will accelerate the translation of discoveries into improved health for patients and communities.

Application Due: October 27, 2025

Program Start Date: December 1, 2025

**For more information
& to apply visit:**

[SYNERGY Clinical and
Translational Science K12
Career Development Award](#)

SYNERGY Needs & Interest Survey

SYNERGY offers Dartmouth clinicians, trainees, faculty, research staff, and investigators a wide range of free research services, trainings, and guidance to "turn biomedical research discoveries into health solutions" through Translational Science.

Please take this 5-minute SYNERGY Survey to share what support or training programs would be most useful for you, and encourage your colleagues to give their input too. Your feedback will directly influence where we invest our resources. The survey will close so don't miss your chance to have a say!

[SYNERGY Needs and
Interests 2025](#)

Partner Spotlight

COBRE Research Project Leader (RPL) Program – Partner opportunity supporting early-career investigators in rural health research.

[Learn more and apply](#)



(l to r) Steven Bernstein & Shelia Ryan

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Message from the SYNERGY MPIs

As we enter a busy fall season, we are thrilled to share the latest updates and opportunities from Dartmouth's Clinical and Translational Science Institute. This issue highlights the launch of our K12 Career Development Award, designed to support early-career investigators through mentored training in clinical and translational science. We also invite you to take part in our SYNERGY Needs & Interest Survey, which will guide how we prioritize training and support services in the year ahead.

Our Workforce Development Module continues to grow under strong leadership, and we are pleased to offer a robust Early Career Researcher Training Series—covering topics from ethical research conduct to entrepreneurship in medicine. Community engagement remains a cornerstone of our work, and we spotlight ways to get involved in Engagement Studios, our Community Advisory Board, and the new Community Engagement Interest Group.

Whether you are a faculty member, trainee, or community partner, we thank you for being part of this collaborative journey to improve health through translational science.

Warm regards,

Steven L. Bernstein, MD, Lead Principal Investigator and Director of SYNERGY

Anna N.A. Tosteson, ScD, Principal Investigator, Director, Research Program, SYNERGY
Keith D. Paulsen, PhD, Principal Investigator, SYNERGY

SYNERGY Workforce Development



"I am happy to support the next generation of scientists through my role as leader of the Workforce Development Module."

Diane Gilbert-Diamond, ScD



Under Dr. Diane Gilbert-Diamond's direction, SYNERGY's Workforce Development Module is building a pipeline of translational scientists ready to tackle rural health challenges through community-driven science. Dr. Gilbert-Diamond brings many years of training and mentoring experience along the educational continuum that includes over 50 undergraduate, graduate and medical students, many of whom have continued careers in medicine and biomedical research.

SYNERGY Early Career Researcher Training Series

SYNERGY, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Dartmouth, is offering an Early Career Researcher Training Series. Each month a leading expert will deliver a one-hour seminar, followed by a 30-minute networking lunch designed to foster connection.

Register [SYNERGY Early Career Researcher Training Series](#)

Seminar Topic	Instructor	Date & Time	Location
Cultivating Wellbeing	Diane Gilbert-Diamond, ScD , Professor of Epidemiology SYNERGY Module Leader	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, September 8, 2025	DHMC, Auditorium G
Ethical & Participant Safety Considerations	Cristina Ferrazzano Yaussy, MPH, CCRP , Director, Research Quality & Safety Shannon Sowards, MS Director of Human Research Protection Program, Administrative Director of the Dartmouth Health IRB	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, October 13, 2025	DHMC, ORO Conference Room
Mentorship	Deborah Hogan, PhD , Professor of Microbiology & Immunology SYNERGY K12 Program Co-Director	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, November 10, 2025	DHMC, Fuller Board Room
Study Management and Teamwork	Stephanie Acquilano, MA Research Project Director JoAnna Lezenaar, MD, MPH, PhD , Vice Chair of Research, Department of Pediatrics SYNERGY Pilot Program Co-Director Jennifer Bomberger, PhD , Professor of Microbiology & Immunology SYNERGY Pilot Program Co-Director	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, December 8, 2025	DHMC, Auditorium C, Auditorium D
FDA Regulatory Support Services	Andréa Volz, BS, CCRP , Research Regulatory Affairs Specialist	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, January 12, 2026	DHMC, Auditorium F
Community Engaged Research	Renée Pepin, PhD , Assistant Professor of Community Family Medicine SYNERGY Module Leader Elizabeth Carpenter-Song, PhD , Research Professor of Anthropology SYNERGY Module Leader	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday February 9, 2026	DHMC, Auditorium C, Auditorium D
Data Management	Kristen Anton, MS , Director of Research Informatics SYNERGY Module Leader	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, March 9, 2026	DHMC, Auditorium F
Entrepreneurship in Medicine	Keith Paulsen, PhD , Scientific Director Center for Surgical Innovation SYNERGY Multi-PI	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, April 13, 2026	DHMC, Auditorium C, Auditorium D
Leadership and Career Development	Steven Bernstein, MD , Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center Chief Research Officer SYNERGY Multi-PI	11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Monday, May 11, 2026	DHMC, Auditorium G

We invite you to join us for the series and to share the invitation with colleagues or trainees who would find it valuable.

Graduate Student Mindfulness Seminar Series

We're developing a new mindfulness training series specifically for our graduate trainees and researchers. To help us tailor the sessions to your needs, we're gathering input on interest and availability. If you'd like to share your thoughts or express interest in participating, please reach out to Elizabeth Repash at Elizabeth.M.Repash@hitchcock.org.

To learn more about Dr. Gilbert-Diamond's approach, watch her 20-min talk:

[Mindfulness & Training the Next Generation of Scientists | Diane Gilbert-Diamond](#)

Responsible & Ethical Conduct of Research Workshop Series

Join SYNERGY's RCR workshop series this winter (December – January). Designed for postdocs and faculty, the program consists of five live 90 minutes Zoom sessions covering professionalism, authorship, mentoring, data collection, and rigor & responsibility. We are collecting availability now to finalize dates.

Please complete this brief availability survey:

[SYNERGY
RCR Training](#)

SYNERGY Community Engaged Research

Meet the SYNERGY Community Engagement Leadership Team

Community engagement builds sustainable relationships through trust and collaboration, strengthening community well-being. The process should be enduring, equitable, and culturally sensitive to all participants, with a shared goal of addressing the concerns of the community.

[UC Davis | Principles of Community Engagement](#)



Elizabeth Carpenter-Song,
PhD



Renée Pepin,
PhD



Sally Kraft,
MD

SYNERGY's Community & Engaged Research (CER) program is building strong partnerships between community members and researchers to advance health equity across Northern New England. Through training programs, Community Advisory Board, and engagement studios, we bring novel perspectives into the research process to ensure studies are relevant, impactful, and responsive to community priorities.

Together, we are creating capacity for community engaged research.

Tools and Resources for Community-Engaged Research

The Community-Engaged Scholarship Hub provides a centralized collection of training materials, best practices, and example case studies to support high-quality community engagement across Dartmouth Health and Dartmouth College.

[Community Engagement Scholarship Hub](#)

Community Engagement (CE) Studio

A Community Engagement Studio is a one-time, structured session that connects researchers with community members to gather feedback on research design, implementation, translation, and dissemination. Facilitated by the Community Engagement Navigator at the Center for Rural Health Care Delivery Science, these studios help ensure research is relevant, feasible, and culturally appropriate, improving both quality and community acceptance.

If you are interested in participating in a CE Studio or a researcher looking to host a CE Studio, please email cehub@hitchcock.org.

For more information:
[CE Studio Flyer](#)

SYNERGY Community Engaged Research Consultation Form

SYNERGY offers personalized consultations that connect researchers with our expert team to advance community-engaged research. During your consultation, you'll have the opportunity to review and refine research methods, explore potential collaborations, and receive tailored guidance designed to enhance the quality and relevance to community priorities.

Get started here: [SYNERGY Community Engagement Consultation Form](#)



Inaugural SYNERGY Translational Science Symposium (June 2025), panel discussion on "Bridging Research and Community Impact." Left to right: moderator Michael Kurilla, MD, PhD, NCATS Director; Sara Kobylenski, MSW; Sally Kraft, MD; Alice Ely, MPH; and Elizabeth Carpenter-Song, PhD.

SYNERGY Community Engagement Interest Group

SYNERGY is gauging interest in a monthly Community Engagement Interest Group for faculty, post-docs, and graduate students who conduct or want to learn community-engaged scholarship. Each meeting will include research works-in-progress flash talks (share your project, methods, outcomes), review prominent community engagement literature, and open discussion on engagement strategies. Our goal is to build an active research community of practice.

If you are interested, please complete the short form below and we will reach out when we have finalized a start date.

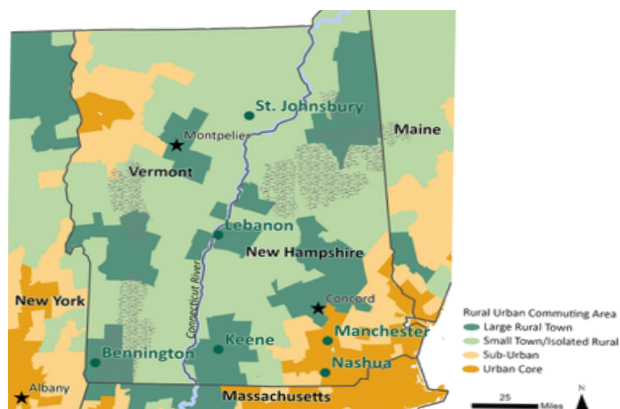
Sign-up for more information:

[Community Engaged Research Interest Group](#)

CORES Fall Conference

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Translational Research Institute (TRI) hosted the annual meeting of the Consortium of Rural States (CORES) on September 16-19, 2025. CORES is a collaborative research consortium of nine academic medical institutions that are working to improve health in rural communities and are funded by the Clinical & Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) at the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Diane Gilbert-Diamond presented on “Strategies to enhance physician and healthcare workforce retention in rural New Hampshire”



Upcoming Events & CTSA Networking Opportunities

If you have an event or training that you would like advertised, please submit it here: [Training Submission Form](#).

Date & Time	Meeting Topic	Location	Host Department	Registration
09/23/2025 4:00 - 5:00 PM	Rural Health Improvement Seminar (RISE) Series: Fundamental Insecurity and Paradoxes of Care in Rural New England Presented by SYNERGY Leader: Elizabeth Carpenter-Song, PhD	Virtual	Dartmouth Health Center for Rural Health Care Delivery Science	RISE Seminar Registration
10/01/2025 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	CARHE Fall Unconference on Rural Health Equity	Montshire Museum, Norwich, VT	Dartmouth Health Center for Advancing Rural Health Equity	CARHE Unconference Registration
10/13/2025 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	SYNERGY Early Career Researcher Training Series: Ethical & Participant Safety Considerations Presented by: Cristina Ferrazzano Yaussy, MPH, CCRP & Shannon Sowards, MS	DHMC, ORO Conference Room	SYNERGY CTSI	SYNERGY Researcher Training Registration
10/13/2025 12:00 - 12:45 PM	How To Do A Literature Review in the Health Sciences Presented by: Elaina Vitale	Virtual	Dartmouth Library	Literature Review Registration
10/14/2025 8:00 - 9:00 AM	From Space to Biomedicine: An increasingly interconnected world of systems, data, and AI Presented by: Dan Crichton	DHMC, Auditorium H	SYNERGY CTSI	N/A

[October 21, 2025 | Promise Partnership Collaborative Event](#)

Find Your Place in Our Learning Health System — Join Dartmouth Health and The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice for a collaborative event showcasing clinical innovation, research, and continuous improvement through coproduction. [Learn more & register](#)