

Creating Belonging

The Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion's (DEI) Cabinet and Committees are committed to creating a brave space for dialoguing, processing and raising awareness of crucial DEI issues. The DEI Office, Cabinet and Committees will continue to nurture the growth and development of our faculty, staff and learners by elevating our collective consciousness across our campuses through forming a sense of belonging, providing education and training opportunities, and creating positive change.

For more information, please contact the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at kumcdei@kumc.edu

Affinity groups are formed based on the collective interests of campus community members. They are a designated brave space where everyone in that group shares intersectionality and experiences. Affinity groups can be a place for individuals in a community who have been historically excluded to feel less isolated and become more connected.

All KU members are welcome.

The purpose of Affinity Groups at KU Medical Center is to support and advance the DEI Cabinet's Framework and Strategic Initiatives:

- Cultivate diverse, equitable and inclusive environments in which to learn, work and serve.
- Attract, recruit, and retain diverse faculty, staff and students who experience a sense of belonging and empowerment to grow while a member of the KUMC community.
- Serve as a resource network and create opportunities for professional development for KUMCs' community members.

FOCUS (Faculty of Color United in Support) is looking for KUMC faculty members who are interested in supporting faculty of color. FOCUS provides those who are interested with a safe space to engage in meaningful dialogue and advance the understanding of opportunities and challenges within our academic institution. If you are interested in joining and supporting these efforts, please get in touch with kumcdei@kumc.edu. Co-Facilitators: Dr. Frances Yang and Dr. Adriana Queiroz.

INSPIRE (International Students and Professionals Interconnected in Research and Education) is looking for KU Medical Center members who are visiting or have immigrated to the U.S. to share their academic and life experiences as members of the KU Medical Center community. If you are interested in creating a space of mutual support for international faculty, staff, and students, please get in touch with kumcdei@kumc.edu. Co-Facilitators: Dr. Alice Zhang and Dr. Erica Cruvinel.

Allyship includes caucus groups of faculty, staff, and students to provide mentorship and continued growth for allies at KU Medical Center to develop their knowledge and action against discrimination and inequity. To learn more, contact kumcdei@kumc.edu. Co-Facilitators: Dr. Kristina Bridges and Dana Reinert.

PRISM is looking for KUMC faculty, staff, and students who are interested in advocating for LGBTQIA+ individuals through the support of campus-wide activities and goals that enhance visibility, foster allyship, and empower conversations that inspire systemic change and challenge discrimination within the KUMC community. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch with kumcdei@kumc.edu. Co-Facilitators: Ryan Gove and Dr. Candice Moran (they/them).

WITI (Women in Technology International) focuses on the engagement and support of women in the Healthcare Information Technology Services and other women currently in technical areas or interested in technical fields. WITI is an open forum for women and people who support technical services to collaborate and grow. To learn more, contact womenintech@kumc.edu. Leadership team: Heather Leckey, Michelle Clark, or Ria Moss.

Hispanic and Latinx Friends (HLF) is seeking faculty, staff, and learners to join. HLF's goals include creating community and support for Hispanic and Latinx colleagues and friends at KUMC. To learn more, contact kumcdei@kumc.edu. Co-Facilitators: Dr. Jaime Perales Puchalt and Mariana Ramirez.

TIPIS (Together Indigenous People Inspiring Success) is looking for faculty, staff, and learners to join. TIPIS goals include creating community & support for Indigenous persons at KUMC; providing a resource for mentorship; increasing visibility of Indigenous culture; and promoting Indigenous health advocacy. To learn more, contact kumcdei@kumc.edu. Co-Facilitators: Cherie Taphonso, Christina Pacheco, and Dr. Kristina Bridges and Dr. Rachel DiTeresi.

Workshops and Group Therapy with Counseling and Educational Support Services. Workshops and group therapy teach students new ways to cope with personal and interpersonal challenges in a group setting. To learn more about ongoing opportunities for students and residents, contact Counseling and Educational Support Services or visit <https://www.kumc.edu/academic-and-student-affairs/departments/counseling-and-educational-support-services/our-services/psychological-counseling-services/workshops-and-group-therapy.html>.