

## Salk Fellowship has unusual challenge

By: Kris B. Mamula  
October 31, 2013

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation is kicking off its annual Salk Fellowship with an unusual project: come up with innovative ways to boost enrollment in the health insurance exchange.

Wednesday was match day for this year's 32 fellows to choose the agencies they wanted to work with during the five-month program. The fellows are new or recent graduate students from regional universities who are seeking health care-related careers in such areas as medicine, nursing, pharmacy and physical therapy.

Enroll America, Service Employees International Union and Allegheny Intermediate Unit were among the agencies fellows could partner with Wednesday.

The biggest group? Eight fellows chose a project suggested by guest speaker Allegheny County Health Department Director Karen Hacker, which is an outreach effort to people newly enrolled through the insurance exchange. The goal is to make new enrollees smarter consumers about health care choices and use of hospitals and other medical facilities.

The purpose of the Salk Fellowship: develop future health care leaders.

Kris Mamula covers health care, insurance and employee benefits for the Pittsburgh Business Times. Contact him at [kmamula@bizjournals.com](mailto:kmamula@bizjournals.com) or 412-208-3825.