



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For more information, contact:**  
Anna Chen, achen@burness.com

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**  
**THE MAYDAY PAIN & SOCIETY FELLOWSHIP: COMMUNICATING SCIENCE & IMPROVING CARE**

***New Fellows to Join Community of Experts Advocating for the Pain Management Field***

[Apply online](#) between May 2, 2025 – May 30, 2025

NEW YORK (May 2, 2025) – The Mayday Fund, a New York City private foundation dedicated to alleviating the incidence, degree, and consequence of human physical pain, announced today that it will begin accepting applications for the 2025 - 2026 *Mayday Pain & Society Fellowship: Communicating Science & Improving Care*.

The fellowship will train 10-12 clinicians and researchers from the United States and Canada who are passionate about improving pain care and who are dedicated to building communications skills and strategies aimed at reducing human suffering from acute and chronic pain. These Fellows must already work on research and evidence-based approaches to advance what is known about pain and how best to care for it.

The application is available at [www.maydayfellowship.org](http://www.maydayfellowship.org), and the application period will be open between Friday, May 2, 2025 – Friday, May 30, 2025. The fellowship will launch with a workshop from Sunday, November 2, 2025 – Wednesday, November 5, 2025, in Washington, DC.

“The burden of pain is large —and too often pain is misunderstood,” said Christina Spellman, Executive Director of The Mayday Fund. “Through the Mayday Fellowship, we offer pain clinicians, researchers, advocates, and individuals with lived experiences the power of communications to drive change. By amplifying the voices of those at the forefront of pain care, research, and advocacy, we hope to foster a deeper public understanding of pain and its consequences. Clear communication skills will accelerate progress toward a better understanding of pain and how to treat it.”

Since 2004, The Mayday Fund has supported a public engagement and leadership training program that has provided 108 Fellows with communication and public outreach skills. The vision behind the Mayday Fellowships is that with tools to communicate more effectively, experts can help lead the conversation to share evidence-based science and practices in pain management to ensure better patient care.

In addition to the three-day workshop in Washington, DC, the fellows will receive follow-up support and coaching from communications experts from Burness, a social change communications firm.

The fellowship is guided by a multi-disciplinary Advisory Committee, comprising leaders working in the United States and Canada. The full committee is:

- **Samina Ali, MD**, Professor, Pediatrics & Emergency Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Alberta; Chair, Pediatric Emergency Research Canada (PERC); Western Canada Hub Lead, Solutions for Kids in Pain (SKIP); Research Director, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, University of Alberta; 2019 Mayday Fellow
- **Christine Chambers, PhD**, Professor, Departments of Psychology & Neuroscience and Pediatrics, Dalhousie University; Scientific Director, Solutions for Kids in Pain (SKIP); 2012 Mayday Fellow
- **Hance Clarke, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine and Institute of Medical Science, University of Toronto; President, Canadian Pain Society; Staff Anesthesiologist, Director Pain Services Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network; Canada Research Chair - Chronic Pain, Mental Health & Substance Use; 2019 Mayday Fellow
- **Renee C.B. Manworren, PhD, APRN, FAAN**, Elizabeth C. Poster Endowed Professor and PhD Program Director, College of Nursing and Health Innovation, The University of Texas at Arlington; 2012 Mayday Fellow
- **Linda Porter, PhD**, Former Director, Office of Pain Policy and Planning, National Institutes of Health; Co-chair, Federal Pain Research Strategy and National Pain Strategy, Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee, National Institutes of Health
- **Gregory Terman, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine and the Graduate Program in Neuroscience, University of Washington; 2011 Mayday Fellow
- **Erin E. Young, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology, Pain and Perioperative Medicine; Director, Clinician Scientist and Research Track; Medical Student Research Liaison; Department of Anesthesiology, University of Kansas Medical Center; 2019 Mayday Fellow

For more details on the fellowship requirements, the application and expectations, please visit [www.maydayfellowship.org](http://www.maydayfellowship.org)

# # #

### **About The Mayday Fund**

*The Mayday Fund was established in 1992 to further Shirley Steinman Katzenbach's commitment to social and medical causes. The Board of Directors decided to adopt Mrs. Katzenbach's special interest in the treatment of pain as the Fund's mission. The name MAYDAY commemorates the date of her birth and is the international word signaling a cry for help, taken from the French "m'aidez" or "help me."*

*The Mayday Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization since 1992, engages only in philanthropic grant activities defined by its mission targeting the alleviation of pain. It should not be confused with any other organization that uses a similar name or includes "mayday" in its representation.*