

THE JACKSON LABORATORY

OPEN HOUSE



SPOTLIGHT ON JOHNNIE MOORE DOTSON

Dr. Johnnie Moore Dotson is a Senior Project Manager in JAX Mice and Clinical Research Services, working with scientists to produce animal models that are used to address research questions for different diseases. For her role, a background in science and experience working with animals are important. “You can gain experience in science by working in a research lab or taking college courses with lab work. Experience with mice can be gained by working as an animal or research technician in a vivarium or a lab that uses animal models.”

Johnnie grew up in St. Louis, MO and credits two high school teachers for her decision to pursue Biology. “They had a strong passion for teaching science in a way that promoted critical thinking and learning through experience. In both classes, we did experiments using things that you can find at home. It helped me to connect the importance of science with my daily life.”

Johnnie earned a B.S. in Biology and a Ph.D. in Pharmacological and Physiological Science from St. Louis University. Her postdoctoral research at the University of Arizona in Tucson focused on the effects of diabetes on vision. Before joining JAX, she was an Adjunct Professor at a community college, and modeled her teaching style after her favorite teachers. “I admired that their teaching style was inclusive and reached diverse audiences.” Johnnie’s advice is to not be afraid to ask questions. “I think it is important to be both inquisitive and persistent in your pursuit of knowledge.”

