



Monday Memo – September 8, 2014

In June, Jillian Joseph, our most recent physician assistant addition to the Department, joined the practice in Barre.

Welcome Robin, Amanda, Marcy, Christie and Jillian.

New Grant

Carole Upshur (PI) and Linda Weinreb (Co-PI) recently received an NIAAA grant in the amount of \$431,000 (R21AA020871), in collaboration with the National Health Care for the Homeless Council Practice Based Research Network, to conduct a national epidemiological survey of women served in 11 different primary care clinics across 9 states (Arizona, California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, and Texas). The survey will focus on substance use and mental health service needs and barriers.

Professional Service

Sara Shields' term as a member of the HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality (SACIM) ended on July 31. In her final month she co-chaired the Committee's most recent virtual meeting on July 8-9, with a focus on patient-centered care and quality issues as well as prevention strategies. She also helped author two letters to the Secretary. Sara has been appointed to the Massachusetts Medical Society's Committee on Maternal & Perinatal Welfare for 2014-15. Finally, Sara has also been asked (due to her work as co-chair of the Worcester Healthy Baby Collaborative) to join the MA State Team for the Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN) initiative to reduce infant mortality. CoIIN is a HRSA-sponsored initiative that is now going national after success in the Southern states..

Video Productions

UMass Medical School has been selected by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) to be the first institution featured in its resource titled the "Health Equity Research Virtual Site Visit," which highlights "outstanding health equity research portfolios at AAMC-member institutions." The Virtual Site Visit includes videos, webinars, presentations, journal articles and other resources from UMass Medical School that showcase its research, curricula and care delivery. Featured Department related UMMS programs and activities include one by Warren Ferguson on criminal justice health, one by Suzanne Cashman (and others) on the population health clerkship, and one by Lee Hargraves and Warren Ferguson on their CHEIR grant work focusing on Community

Health Workers using patient videos to address hypertension.

Media

Herb Stevenson is quoted extensively in the Sunday, September 7 Telegram and Gazette article on concussions and sports.