



## *Monday Memo – June 22, 2015*

### **Graduate Medical Education**

Two Department graduations were held Friday evening.

· The Fitchburg Family Medicine Residency held its annual graduation ceremony at the Chocksett Inn. Congratulations to the graduates, who, in addition to successfully completing their three years of residency, also were intrepid survivors of the residency's change in practice site from Community Health Connections to our new practice at Health Alliance. Graduates included: Christine Wang Ashour, DO; Crystal Benjamin, MD; Kavita Deshpande, MD; Edward Jackman, MD; Jennifer Smith, MD; and Jeff Wang, MD.

A Memorial plaque was presented by the residents in memory of Carol Roberts who provided many years of dedicated service to our residents and faculty as administrative assistant for the residency.

Awards included: STFM Resident Teacher Award: Jennifer N. Smith; Specialist of the Year: Alexandra Evindar; Teachers of the Year: David Ammerman, Felix Chang, Sunny Jain

· The Department sports medicine fellowship also held its graduation this year for the first time in its own separate ceremony. Honored by our sports medicine faculty and family were our graduates, Nathan Cardoos, MD and Tara Futrell, MD. Nathan will be going on to a faculty position with the Boston University Sports Medicine Fellowship Program working with both BU and BC Athletics. Tara Futrell will be returning to private practice as a sports medicine specialist with Valley Medical Group in Northampton Massachusetts.

## Medical Student Education

· Medical students Kathryn Bailey, Elizabeth Rosen and Rachel Erdil were recognized on June 13 by Congressman James McGovern and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi at an event at Community Harvest in Worcester to highlight the Farm-to-Health Center project, to prescribe fresh fruit and vegetables to those in need, and to improve the chances of physicians talking with patients about food inaccessibility. The program offers free vegetables and fruits to hundreds of families throughout the growing season at the Family Health Center of Worcester. In the first year, Community Harvest Project in Grafton, a non-profit farm that grows food for area food banks, donated 7,000 pounds of fresh produce to the Farm-to-Health Center group, enabling it to provide fruit and vegetables to 116 families per week. Melanie Gnazzo is the faculty advisor at FHCW for this Capstone project.

## Publications

· Jeff Baxter is first author and Robin Clark a co-author of: Baxter JD, Aweh G, Clark RE. Adherence to buprenorphine treatment guidelines in a Medicaid program, *Substance Abuse*, 36(2), 174-182, 2015.

## Presentations

· Barry Saver presented two posters at the AcademyHealth annual research meeting in Minneapolis: "Developing Persuasive Interventions for Controversial, Evidence-Based Cancer Screening Recommendations - a Role for "Medicine Avenue" Marketing?", and "The CONDUIT Study to Improve Control of Hypertension with Uploading of Home Monitoring Data to the EHR and Nurse-Based Protocols – Implementation and Outcomes"

· Nic Apostoleris was a plenary speaker at the Saffron Strand Homeless Workforce Conference in Richmond CA. His talk, "Current topics in health care for persons experiencing homelessness," included a discussion of the psychological benefits and practical risks of encouraging employment for persons experiencing homelessness.

· Amber Sarkar recently completed the two year Practitioner Program with the Kraft Center for Community Health, during which she focused on diabetic care at the Family Health Center of Worcester. She presented her poster titled *On the Road to Team Based Diabetic Care: A Marathon of Initiatives*, at the Kraft "Power in Partnership" Symposium in Boston MA on June 12.

## **Professional Service**

· Rebecca Lubelczyk, Associate Clinical Professor in Family and Community Medicine, Utilization Management Physician Advisor for Massachusetts Partnership in Correctional Healthcare and President of the Society of Correctional Physicians, testified at the annual AMA House of Delegates meeting in Chicago, IL on June 7th, in support of Resolution 511 on Hepatitis C treatment access to incarcerated populations. Dr. Lubelczyk testified at the AMA's Reference Committee as the correctional physician expert for the resolution developed in conjunction with the American Association of Public Health Physicians (AAPHP) which requested that the AMA support initiatives to increase access to Hepatitis C treatment for patients who would benefit the most and towards maximum public health benefit, which included correctional facilities. The resolution also requested that correctional and public health physicians be included in the development of national hepatitis C guidelines. The AMA resolution was adopted as an amended of a currently existing policy (Policy H-440.845).