Monday Memo – August 20, 2018

Awards & Recognition

• Congratulations to Youcef "Joe" Bellil of Easter Seals Massachusetts and Linda Long-Bellil, Ph.D., JD of UMass Medical School. Their efforts over the past thirty years working to improve the lives of their fellow citizens with disabilities will be recognized by the Disability Policy Consortium at their Annual Reception and Awards Ceremony, October 11, 2018.

• On Friday, August 17th, third year medical students participated in a new interstitial curriculum on criminal justice health, believed to be the first required course on this topic in the country. Warren Ferguson directed the course and gave the first of two plenary sessions. Each student participated in two breakout sessions on important clinical areas for justice involved populations.
  • **Primary care behind bars:** Tom Groblewski, DO, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health
  • **Mental health care:** Ken Appelbaum, MD, Professor of Psychiatry
  • **Substance Use Disorders:** Kate Pivovarova, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
  • **Adolescent Medicine and the Juvenile Justice System:** Ann Sattler, MD, Professor of Pediatrics
  • **Chronic Infections from Injection Drug Use:** Alysse Wurcel, MD, Assistant Professor, Infectious Disease Division, Tufts Medical Center
  • **Community Reentry:** Warren Ferguson, MD, Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health

The half-day curriculum concluded with a panel on criminal justice reform including representatives from MassInc and JustLeadershipUSA.

Publications

• **Paula Gardiner’s** journal article *Health Disparities in Access to Nonpharmacological Therapies in an Urban Community* has been accepted in the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine.

• **Paul B. Kirby, Anna L. Christensen, Louise Bannister, Valerie Konar.** “Association between Practice Participation in a Pediatric-focused Medical Home Learning Collaborative and Reduction of Preventable Emergency Department Visits by Publicly-insured Children in Massachusetts.” Multi-institutional collaborative and QI network research Issue 5, Volume 3
Save the Date for the Department’s Annual Retreat: Friday, October 26, 2018

REASON #4 to come to the Department Faculty Retreat: The agenda will include a track for those who provide maternity services:

- The morning session, presented by Jennifer Moffitt, Perinatal Services Manager at Family Health Center of Worcester, will provide an overview of an innovative childbirth class at the health center - *Mindfulness-Based Childbirth and Parenting* (MBCP) - as well as the growing research on MBCP, including pilot research at FHCW.
- A lunch table discussion (moderated by Kristina Gracey, Sara Shields, and Claudia Pierre) will focus on the use of a new *Family Medicine OB Faculty Development Tool* in furthering career discussions.
- In the afternoon session, Kristina, Sara and Claudia will moderate a session devoted to *Complexity in Maternity Care: Moving Towards Consistent Care Practices*. The discussion will include the management of gestational diabetes, hypertension and obesity. Bring your most challenging case for discussion. We will be applying for risk management CME credit.