

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE & PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES (DFMPHS)



**Tweet from Chair, Tsveti Markova, MD, FAAFP**



Welcome to the new residents in the Family Medicine and Preventive Medicine programs!



Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences

**Vision, Mission, Values**

*The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences will promote health equity and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. We improve health and well-being by advancing the science and practice of Family Medicine and Public Health through innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and excellence in partnership with our communities. We embrace our core values of Excellence, Collaboration, Innovation, Integrity, Diversity & Inclusion, and Social Justice.*



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<http://www.familymedicine.med.wayne.edu/news.php>

ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC FUNDING AWARDED TO WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY PREVENTION (W'SUP)

**Angulique Outlaw, PhD**, Associate Professor and the Wayne State University Prevention (W'SUP) team have been awarded \$100,000 in Ending



the HIV Epidemic funding (CDC -flow down via the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services) to develop, promote, and pilot test an in-home rapid HIV testing program for high risk individuals ages 18 to 34 in the city of Detroit and Wayne County.

The project will be managed by **Monique Green-Jones, MPH**

and W'SUP Project Manager and will be promoted on social media platforms and participants will work, virtually, with an HIV test counselor during in-home testing and the follow-up process



(prevention or treatment planning). The project will officially launch on November 1, 2020 and will be implemented for one year. The project will serve as a pilot for a larger multi-site project involving in-home rapid HIV testing for adolescents and young adults.

In other news, on August 24, Dr. Outlaw was a presenter in the second of a four part series webinar organized by The Effi Barry Training Institute. Dr. Outlaw's presentation was titled *How to: Building and Conducting Community Based Participatory Research*.

The series invites participants to deep-dive into strategies and theories behind community engaged work with populations affected by HIV. The series introduces participants to the nuance of community engagement and cultural humility, provides concrete examples of guiding princi-

ples for Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR), and guides participants in implementing the results of CBPR in authentic and sustainable ways. The webinar encourages participants and organizations to explore ways to re-focus on community members as key partners and decision-makers, and to collaborate and innovate effectively with stakeholders while prioritizing them each step of the way. Dr. Outlaw's session: 1) discussed the rationale for a CBPR approach in public health research; 2) explained the process and challenges of forming and maintaining CBPR partnerships; 3) gave participants the importance of CBPR partnerships in the dissemination of research findings and community change; and 4) taught them how CBPR practices can be applied to community engagement in HIV prevention, care, and treatment programs.

# DFMPHS WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences is excited to welcome two new faculty.

**Rachel Mahas, PhD, MS, MPH** has joined us as an Assistant Professor-Clinician Educator and MPH Program Director. Dr. Mahas joins us from Madonna University where she was an Assistant Professor of Population Health Nursing. She was also its Program Director, Master of Public Health for two tracks: 1) Health Care Informatics and Quality Transformation, and 2) Population Health Care Management. Dr. Mahas holds a PhD of Philosophy in Health Education (Epidemiology) from the University of Toledo, School of Population Health. She is an alumna of Wayne State University where she received her Master of Science in Basic Medical Sciences. Dr. Mahas' research interests align with other faculty in



our department, namely, adolescent health and cancer prevention and control. Welcome back to WSU Dr. Mahas!

**Erin Madden, PhD** joined us as an Assistant Professor, Research Educator (tenure track) on September 1. She comes to us from the University of New Mexico Health Science Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico where she is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine with a secondary appointment in the Department of Sociology. Dr. Madden holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Her research interests include opioid use disorders in rural and tribal communities. She has a remarkable scholarly portfolio, has impressive teaching and mentoring experience, and is a well-funded researcher. Dr. Madden's home department will be



Family Medicine but she will collaborate through a number of interdisciplinary initiatives. Welcome, Dr. Madden.

We'd also like to welcome two new physicians who will be charged with the start-up of the 400 Mack Family Medicine Clinic. **Dr. Samantha McPharlin** and **Dr. Christopher Mann** are both Wayne State graduates who truly embrace our mission of taking care of the underserved in the City of Detroit and both came to us from Mercy Health Saint Mary's Family Medicine Residency in Grand Rapids, MI.

Welcome to the family Drs. McPharlin and Mann.



Samantha McPharlin, MD



Christopher Mann, MD

**Grant Announcements:**

5 proposals were submitted with FM faculty as PI plus another 10 from other departments that included a FM faculty as Co-I during June and July



# DIVISION OF POPULATION HEALTH CORNER

## 2020 THEME: PREVENTING VIOLENCE

**Jinping Xu, MD**, a Professor in DFMPHS, has received approval on her proposal for an enhancement to her existing PCORI award 14467-WSU. The Project Title is: Best Practices to Engage Black Men in the Development of a Cancer Health Equity Research Agenda.



**Julie Gleason-Comstock, PhD, MCHES**, became a Fellow in the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Grant Gener-

ating Project (GGP) with a NAPCRG peer-reviewed proposal titled "Achieving Blood Pressure Control Through Patient Engagement in Cardiovascular Health." Building on her previous research, the proposed randomized controlled study will seek to demonstrate that an intervention using the Health Belief Model and com-



munity participatory research methodology can improve blood pressure control for urban African-American adults. The NAPCRG GGP Fellowship serves

as a foundation for submission of a NHLBI grant. With **Dr. Victoria Neale** as her Mentor, Dr. Gleason joined Fellows from the United States and Canada graduating in August, 2020.

Congratulations to you both!

As community engagement training for WSU Center for Urban Studies AmeriCorps, Julie Gleason-Comstock, PhD, MCHES, presented "The Science of Public Health: Overdose Reversal, Part I" in an August virtual session.

## MI-AHEC RECEIVES CARES ACT FUNDING TO COMBAT COVID-19

In June 2020, Michigan AHEC received over \$95,000 in CARES Act funding from HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration). The funds are being used to enhance the infrastructure of three FQHCs (Federally Qualified Health Care Centers) in Michigan and an academic training program on best practices to prevent, prepare and respond in the delivery of telehealth services to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become clear that telehealth services are a critical means of delivering health care services. The CARES Act funds helps to provide technical support to the FQHCs and enhanced their readiness to respond to COVID-19 through telehealth technologies. The funds also helped prepare and train clinicians and students on the delivery of telehealth.

"We are very pleased to be able to use these funds to help train clinicians, students and staff who are serving vulnerable rural and urban populations throughout Michigan," said **Dr. Tsveti Markova**, Co-Principal Investigator of Michigan AHEC, Chair and Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences and Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education in the Wayne State University School of Medicine.



"The training and education we are providing is truly interdisciplinary," said **Dr. Ramona Benkert**, Co-Principal Investigator of Michigan

AHEC, Associate Dean of Academic and Clinical Affairs, and Associate Professor, Wayne State University College of Nursing. "The curriculum was developed by WSU College of Nursing and WSU School of Medicine faculty and the training was conducted by an interdisciplinary group of both students and clinicians."

The CARES act fund will be applied during Fiscal Year 2020/2021. The grant partners include two HRSA grantees: Michigan AHEC and NEPQR-BSN-PC (*Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention*) Program in the WSU College of Nursing. The FQHC partners include clinics in the Upper Peninsula, Mid-Michigan and Detroit.





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## FAMILY MEDICINE CLINICAL FACULTY RECEIVE FELLOW RECOGNITION

At this year's Michigan Academy of Family Physicians Annual Meeting, four of our department's voluntary faculty were conferred as 11 of this year's Fellows.

According to their website, "The AAFP Degree of Fellow was established in 1971 by the Congress of Delegates as a special recognition of Academy members who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues, as well as in their communities, by their service to family medicine, the advancement of healthcare to the American people, and by their professional development through medical education and research. As a Fellow, these distinguished individuals are entitled to all the privileges, ceremony, and honor bestowed by this degree. This year's fellowship class brings the total number of AAFP Fellows to more than 17,500 nationwide,

Our congratulations go to:

**Tess McCready, DO, FAAFP**, Clinical Associate Professor (core faculty of the WSU Family Medicine Residency program at Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital)



**Salieha Zaheer, MD, FAAFP**, Clinical Assistant Professor (core faculty of the WSU Family Medicine Residency program at Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital)



**Fatin Sahhar, MD, FAAFP**, Clinical Associate Professor (core faculty member in the DMC Family Medicine Residency Program and Student Faculty Coordinator for the WSU Family Medicine Clerkship at Bowman Center)



**Robert Hasbany, MD, FAAFP**, Clinical Assistant Professor (long-time preceptor of WSU students in Madison Heights practice)



We also extend our congratulations to **Dr. Zaheer**, who received notification from *Hour Detroit Magazine* that she was selected as a 2020 Top Doc to be listed in its yearly October issue. This list is based on a peer-review survey of approximately 23,000 physicians in metropolitan Detroit. Thousands of votes were cast honoring excellence in 93 different specialties.

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## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES/ LIFE-WORK BALANCE

In an article appearing in the *Today@Wayne* August 12, 2020 newsletter, employees were reminded of resources available to them for help with life - work balance as well as professional development.

HR has developed comprehensive offerings to support employees' physical, mental and financial well-being. The services provided through the [Ulliance Employee Assistance Program](#) are free, confidential and availa-

ble to employees and their family members, including parents.

New programs are available in the [Accelerate eLearning library](#) that feature a variety of remote work-related learning and development resources. Log into *Academica* to find short e-courses, videos and books on working virtually, leading virtually, personal well-being and virtual productivity.

Leaders and staff can also participate in a series of webinars to explore virtual leadership best practices, join learning communities and receive coaching to support employee learning, sharing and application of new knowledge.

We hope that you will take advantage of these resources in your personal and professional lives.

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# CLASS OF 2017'S DR. JAWAN GORGIS IS FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENT OF THE YEAR

*This article is reprinted from School of Medicine News dated July 10, 2020*

Wayne State University School of Medicine alumna Jawan Gorgis, MD, was named by the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians as one of only two Michigan Family Medicine Residents of the Year.



Group (FMIG), where I served as the faculty advisor. Jawan is inquisitive and resourceful, and has actively explored family medicine as a specialty choice. I have been impressed by her professional and pleasant demeanor, and her enthusiasm," Dr. Chadwell wrote.

Dr. Gorgis received the award during the virtual Academy Awards celebration on Aug. 8, which took place immediately following the virtual MAFP Annual Meeting.

As a student, Dr. Gorgis served as the education and training director for Street Medicine Detroit, coordinating and providing medical assistance to the city's most disadvantaged population. She was elected the school's national representative to the American Medical Association, and participated in the comprehensive Fabric of Society and Medical Political Action Committee Co-Curricular program, volunteering 150 hours in multiple community organizations, clinics and lobbying efforts. She obtained certification as an HIV counselor. She also was involved with multiple research studies resulting in a publication on her diabetes project. Her work with Street Medicine Detroit resulted in two posters she presented at national conferences.

Congratulations to Dr. Gorgis!

Dr. Gorgis who graduated from the School of Medicine in 2017, is a resident in Beaumont Health of Troy's Family Medicine residency program. Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development Margit Chadwell, MD, wrote Dr. Gorgis's recommendation letter for the Beaumont residency program.

The Michigan Family Medicine Resident of the Year award recognizes a Family Medicine resident (PGY-1, PGY-2 or PGY-3) who exhibits qualities of exemplary patient care, demonstrates leadership among colleagues, displays a commitment to the community at large and is dedicated to the specialty through involvement in the MAFP and AAFP, service to the residency program, and/or other Family Medicine organizations.

"I (had) the pleasure of getting to know Jawan through her engagement with our Family Medicine Interest

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# INCOMING MPH STUDENT RECEIVES THE 2020-2021 DEAN'S DIVERSITY MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP

**Kristian Rice**, a newly matriculated MPH student in our program was awarded the Dean's Diversity Master's Scholarship for 20-21.



The Dean's Diversity Master's scholarship is designed to attract outstanding new Master's students to Wayne State University and to support them

through successful degree completion. This one-year tuition scholarship covers up to 20 credits of tuition at the graduate school in-state rate.

The MPH Committee nominated Kristian because of her long-standing commitment to reducing health inequities and improve the public health of the Detroit community.

Congratulations Kristian and welcome to the WSU MPH Program!!



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## WSU MEDICAL STUDENTS ATTEND VIRTUAL AAFP CONFERENCE

Thanks to the support of a friend and donor of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences, 20 WSU medical students were able to attend the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) National Conference of Family Medicine Residents & Medical Students. The conference organizers were able to convert to an all virtual event to maintain its tradition of offering valuable learning, networking, and interacting with exhibitors despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The conference took place on July 30-August 1.

Participants had access to :

- 11 hours of live education opportunities through workshops and main stage sessions.
- On-demand access to all sessions- 30 hours of education-for 30 days after the conference.
- Virtual Expo Hall, including the ability to schedule one-on-one appointments with residency programs, recruiters, and other exhibitors.
- Networking opportunities, including the option of chatting (including via video) with fellow residents and students.

Our students are grateful to our donors and are in the process of providing personal notes to Dr. Bruce A. Kresge expressing their thanks for the opportunity afforded them through his gift to the department.

DFMPHS appreciates all its friends and donors who give our students various opportunities that they may not have had if not for their generosity.

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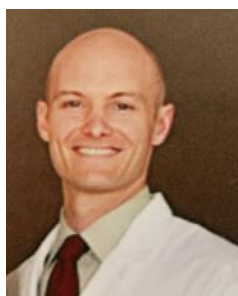
## PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT FOR FAMILY MEDICINE DOCTOR RETENTION IN MICHIGAN

During the 2019-20 academic year, the WSU Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences was very fortunate to partner with an anonymous donor to create the Bonnie Simmons-Sherr, MD scholarship award. Dr. Bonnie Simmons-Sherr practiced Family Medicine for nearly 20 years before her untimely death in 2009. She was deeply committed to addressing healthcare disparities and spent her entire career providing care to underserved vulnerable populations. This award was created to encourage graduating residents from the WSU Family Medicine Residency Program to practice in underserved communities in Michigan carrying on the legacy of Dr. Simmons-Sherr.

A selection committee led by the Family Medicine Residency Program Director was formed comprised of WSU Department of Family Medicine and Public Health faculty. This committee is responsible for adhering to established guidelines and protocols for candidate selection based on

specific inclusion criteria. The amount of the award is up to \$25,000 annually which will be adjusted based upon the number of recipients selected during the academic year. Upon graduation, the selected resident must have a signed contract to practice in a designated Health Profession Shortage area (HPSA) in the state of Michigan.

This year's recipient is **Dr. Philip Riley**, a graduate of Marshall University School of Medicine in West Virginia. During his three years in our Family Medicine Program, Dr. Riley distinguished himself as an outstanding resident, one of the best in his class, who displayed a strong interest addressing healthcare disparities with the goal of practicing in an underserved area upon graduation. Dr. Riley is now working in Brooklyn, Michigan at the Henry Ford Allegiance Family Medicine Center, an officially designated HPSA site.



Dr. Riley stated he is extremely honored and grateful to receive the Bonnie Simmon-Sherr award and looks forward to providing high quality healthcare to populations most in need. Dr. Riley will use these funds to apply towards his large medical school student loan debt and is extremely grateful for this very generous award.

"We are very proud to present the Bonnie Simmon-Sherr Scholarship Award to Dr. Philip Riley, a very deserving and outstanding graduate of the WSU Family Medicine Residency Program class of 2020," said Dr. Tsveti Markova, Department Chair. "Congratulations Dr. Riley!"

"I would also like to extend my appreciation to the philanthropic donors for their support of the department and commitment in providing resources for retaining our graduating residents in MI and providing care for the underserved."

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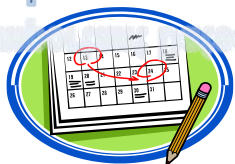
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## Important Dates



**September 7**—Labor Day University Closure

**September 23**—DFMPHS All Faculty Meeting

**November 3**—Election Day

**November 19**—DFMPHS All Faculty Meeting

**November 28 & 29**—Thanksgiving Holiday Closure

**December 23-January 3, 2021**—WSU Christmas and New Years Holiday Closure

**February 11**—DFMPHS All Faculty Meeting

**April 21**—DFMPHS Research Day

**June 17**—DFMPHS All Faculty Meeting

# THE *Scholar* SECTION

Below are the most recent publications from our faculty and staff, whose names are bolded.

- Rosati R, **Jamesdaniel S.** Environmental Exposures and Hearing Loss. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020;17(13):E4879. Published 2020 Jul 7. doi:10.3390/ijerph17134879
- **Gleason Comstock J, Janisse J,** Streater A, Brody A, Goodman A, Zhang L, Mango L, Dawood R, Costello W, Patton S, Paranjpe A, Welsh C, Welch R, Levy P. Efficacy of enhanced emergency department discharge for chronic hypertension management - Results of a randomized controlled trial. *Contemp Clin Trials Commun*. 2020 Jul 18;19:100613. doi: 10.1016/j.conctc.2020.100613. PMID: 32743119; PMCID: PMC7387778.
- Faculty and mentors from WSU Departments of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences (**Drs. Gleason-Comstock and Janisse**), Emergency Medicine (Drs. Brody, Welch and Levy) and Economics (Dr. Goodman), MPH students participated in research and authorship (MD/MPH: Shayla Patton and Andy Paranjpe; MPH: William Costello).  
[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7387778](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7387778)



Congratulations to Dr. Markova and her husband, Peter. They became grandparents to their first grandchild, Annabelle, born on July 27. Dr. Markova described Annabelle “a sweet baby girl, weighing in at 6 lb. 14 oz. with fuzzy hair and a strong cry.” Congratulations to the new parents and the new grandparents.

