Wayne State University MPH Program Newsletter #Public Health Warriors May, 2020



We are proud of our students, alumni and faculty fighting COVID-19!!

Meet Sajeda Ahmed, MPH (2018), Senior Quality Management Specialist with the HIV/STD Division of the Detroit Health Department.

"I have spent the last 2 months working at the Rapid Testing Clinic on site at 100 Mack Avenue (the new DHD location), assisting with both data entry and patient management.

The City of Detroit received the country's first batch of instant COVID-19 test kits, which provide results in as little as five minutes. The Detroit Health Department immediately went to work to test essential first responders, including the entire Detroit Police and Fire Department, and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. So far, I have helped to get over 200 individuals tested! This was a high priority on Mayor Duggan's agenda to battle the outbreak in Detroit, and crucial to ensure police and fire firefighters were cleared to work and keep the city safe.

In addition to COVID testing, my HIV/STD team also worked to help distribute non-perishable food to Detroiters who were not able to leave the house due to the pandemic. This included senior citizens as well as immunocompromised PLWH (People Living with HIV). Since March, we have packed and distributed over 300 boxes of food all across the metropolitan Detroit area.

I have never been more proud of being a public health professional and am especially proud to serve my home city with the knowledge and skills I have learned with my MPH experience: #WarriorStrong."





McKenzie Kudron, MPH (2016), BSN, RN is a registered nurse in the pediatric intensive care unit at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Jane Parayil, MPH
(2019) is a Public
Health Preparedness
Specialist with the
Macomb County
Health Department.
She helped set up
the Macomb County



COVID-19 testing site and distributes personal protective equipment (PPE) to local long-term care facilities, home health, and hospice organizations.

Contact Tracing Volunteers, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

Contact tracing identifies individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 and provides them with education, information and support to prevent the spread of infection.

- Jisha Titus, MPH (2016)
- Elizabeth Kim, MPH (2019)
- Angela Tiura, PhD, and MPH faculty

Detroit Health Department COVID-19 Volunteers

- MPH student Kulsoom Ahmed provides COVID-19 test results and next steps counseling.
- MD/MPH student Mara Darian performs COVID-19 Rapid Testing

Visit <u>Michigan.gov/fightcovid19</u> to volunteer with MDHHS.

Visit <u>Michigan.gov/Coronavirus Test</u> to locate a testing site.

Center for Disease Control

Arnetia Vaughn-Scott, MPH (2019) is a Public Health Analyst in Houston, Texas.

Daniel McIntyre, MPH (2019), conducts COVID-19 screenings at Detroit Metro Airport. He also receives daily COVID-19 updates from the CDC.

For more information about COVID-19, consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

John B. Waller and Methele (Mikki) Waller Endowed Scholarship

MPH student Deja Wilson received the John B. Waller



and Methele (Mikki) Endowed
Scholarship for 2019 in recognition of her excellent scholarship and community engagement. Dr.
Waller was the Director of the Detroit Health Department and

had tremendous influence in shaping public health policy. He was a past Chair of the WSU Department of Community Medicine and was instrumental in creating the MPH Program.

"I am truly honored for having been selected as the recipient of this award. It is because of Dr. Waller that students like myself have the opportunity to become innovators in the field of public health at this prestigious university. I hope that in my professional life I can be a good example to future public health students and represent Wayne State University and the Waller family with pride. Thank you once again for believing in me and enabling me to reach my fullest personal and professional potential."

