

FEBRUARY 2021

# SRFC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The Robert R. Frank SRFC's monthly periodical designed to update stakeholders on key developments



## A Game Changer

After nearly a year, the United States is in full swing of vaccine delivery. Over at Wayne State, the Campus Health Center (CHC) began distributing the COVID-19 vaccine to front-line health professions faculty and students in active clinical practice/rotation as of January 21st. However, even as more of our Wayne State community begins to get vaccinated, President Wilson has ensured that face covering and social distancing requirements will remain in place.

As Wayne Medicine COVID-19 protocols loosen, clinic leadership will revisit the timeline of re-opening the clinic.

COVID-19  
VACCINE

### THIS MONTH'S FEATURED ARTICLES

COVID-19 Vaccine  
Fundraising Updates  
Featured Events

# Building Momentum

*SRFC's new E-Board experiences early success in fundraising*

The clinic's first fundraiser involved a raffle in which students could win a "date" with some of the most beloved professors amongst the M1 class. Preliminary counts have been recorded, and profits have well exceeded the \$400 mark, with estimates to reach as high as \$800. Credits go to the Fundraising department for the ingenious idea behind this event, and let this be the jumping point to even stronger fundraisers in the coming months!

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# Understanding a Legacy

*Community voices to fuel a virtual museum experience*

In honor of Black History Month, we are partnering with the WSU Black Medical Association to provide the community with a virtual museum experience in "And Still We Rise"! Click [here](#) to register.

A key feature of this presentation will utilize patient/physician testimonials from various time points in history, so we can engross the audience with the sentiments of the times. If you or a loved one are of African-American descent and has experienced healthcare in Detroit in the past couple of decades, we need your testimonial! Please email [wsu.srfc.events@gmail.com](mailto:wsu.srfc.events@gmail.com) if you are interested.

# New Faces, Same Mission

*A fresh generation of driven M1 students take on the Executive Board mantle*

As of January 2021, the SRFC has had its routine change of directors. Here are the new hands at the helm!



**Luz Nagle**  
*VP, Internal Affairs*



**Riaz Nabi**  
*Director of Operations*



**Ann-Cathrin Guertler**  
*Director of Care*



**Kriti Babu**  
*Director of Finance*



**Eyouab Tadesse**  
*Director of Marketing*

# Physician Spotlight: Ralph Williams, M.D.

*From Detroit, for Detroit*



In the first entry of our "Physician Spotlight" series, Eyouab sits down with SRFC's Medical Director, Dr. Ralph Williams:

*ET:* So how did you first become involved with SRFC?

*RW:* I was recruited into the family department in the School of Medicine to work in undergraduate education. They were looking to fill certain positions and SRFC reached out to me after seeing my dedication to working with the underserved communities, which is thanks to my upbringing from East Detroit. I inherited this position from Dr. Chadwell, who did a phenomenal job in starting up the clinic—it's been a true honor trying to fill in her shoes.

*ET:* We're grateful to have you! What do you think is the most important thing you've learned from your work with us?

*RW:* I would say navigating the challenges of the social dilemmas that ail the folks who slip through the cracks. I constantly remind our students that the patients we treat are typically classified as the working poor.

These are people who are not established enough to have insurance, but not impoverished to be eligible for certain welfare programs. They're working just as hard—harder than me—and yet it's that much tougher for them to get by.

*ET:* Could you speak on SRFC's impact on Detroit's underserved?

*RW:* Well, we've been around for 10 years, which something to applaud. In that time, we've impacted the lives of more than one thousand families. Providing medications, preventing hospitalizations...it adds up. We're really showing what urban clinical excellence looks like.

*ET:* Love that answer! What do you hope for the future of the clinic?

*RW:* I would love to see a stronger network of community partners to which we can refer patients to, and greater opportunities for student education. At the end of the day, this clinic is completely student-run, and I'm looking forward to expand on that and turn it into a full-on teaching site.

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