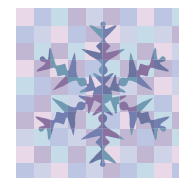


# DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE & PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES



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



Incredible year for our department. Many accolades for students, residents and faculty accomplishments! Thank you all for your dedication and tireless efforts!



Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences

## Mission Statement

*We are committed to improving the health, well-being, and environment of individuals, families, and communities by advancing the science and practice of family medicine and public health through innovation and excellence in research and education.*

## Acronym Soup



**STFM** —The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine

STFM is an association of nearly 5,000 innovative family medicine educators which include medical school professors, preceptors, residency program faculty, residency program directors and others involved in family medicine education.

## RESEARCH SHOWS “NEGATIVES” IN COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING PROMOTION DISSUADE AFRICAN-AMERICANS

Department of Family Medicine Associate Professor, Todd Lucas, PhD worked with a team of researchers on a study that sought to examine the potential for cultural differences in the effects of gain-framed and loss-framed messaging. Gain-framed messaging emphasizes the positives of taking action, while loss-framed messaging emphasizes the negative that can occur from inaction.



The study found, in effect, that messaging about the negative effects of not seeking colorectal cancer screening is unlikely to be an effective tool with African-Americans. Instead, emphasizing the positives of cancer screening may be a more successful messaging tactic. It became clear that broadly construed messaging strategies should be “carefully vetted” before they are targeted across cultures.

Message framing literature has suggested for years that loss-frames are generally better at compelling cancer screening behavior, but loss-framed messages

may be having the exact opposite effect on African Americans, who thus far haven't been well attended to in the message framing literature, “ Dr. Lucas said. “Emphasizing bad things that could result from not being screened may not be an effective messaging strategy, unless perhaps it is done in a way that seems culturally targeted to African-Americans,” for example a loss-framed message combined with a culturally-targeted self-control message.

Worldwide, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in men and second most common in women, with more than 1 million cases diagnosed annually. African-American have the highest rates of the disease and the highest death rate from colorectal cancer of any ethnic group in the United States. Improved screening and screening rates could mitigate those rates, but effective communication strategies are critical to boost screening numbers. The study was funded by a

competitively—awarded Research Enhancement pilot grant from Wayne State University's Office of the Vice President of Research, and has led to Dr. Lucas securing a \$1.5 million R01 grant from the National Cancer Institute. With that grant, he and his collaborators will attempt to further examine the findings in a sample of African-Americans in the Detroit community who are noncompliant with recommended colorectal cancer screening. He will test efficacy of professionally developed gain- and loss-framed video messaging to alter receptivity to fecal immunochemical, or FIT Kit, testing, an in-home cancer screening tool that may appeal to those reluctant to undergo more invasive screen, like colonoscopy. Partners in the extended study include Trail Productions Inc., Metronet (a consortium of primary care practice-based research network helping to identify participants), the Population Studies and Disparities Research Program of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and Quest Diagnostics.

Article excerpted from School of Medicine's *Prognosis E-News* dated September 9, 2015

WSU School of Medicine  
Department of Family Medicine  
& Public Health Sciences

Primary Business Address  
3939 Woodward Ave., 2nd & 3rd Floors  
Detroit, MI 48201  
Phone: (313) 577-1421  
Fax: (313) 577-3070  
[www.med.wayne.edu/fam](http://www.med.wayne.edu/fam)

Master of Public Health Program  
3939 Woodward Ave., 3rd Floor  
Detroit, MI 48201  
Phone: (313) 577-1051  
Fax: (313) 577-3070  
[www.med.wayne.edu/fam/mph](http://www.med.wayne.edu/fam/mph)

FM and TY Residency Programs  
1101 W. University Drive, 2-South  
Rochester, MI 48307  
Phone: (248) 601-4900  
Fax: (248) 601-4994  
[www.med.wayne.edu/fam/residency](http://www.med.wayne.edu/fam/residency)

Clinic Sites  
1135 W. University Drive, Suite 250  
Rochester, MI 48307  
Phone: (248) 650-6301  
Fax: (248) 650-5486  
[www.wsufamilycare.com](http://www.wsufamilycare.com)

26400 W. 12 Mile, Lobby A, Ste. 111  
Southfield MI 48034  
Phone: (248) 359-8073  
Fax: (248) 359-8036

1560 E. Maple Road  
Troy, MI 48083  
Phone: (248) 581-5151  
Fax: (248) 581-5199  
[upgdocs.org/Troy](http://upgdocs.org/Troy)



## Important Dates

public health papers



2015-2016 DFMPHS All  
Faculty Meeting Schedule  
8:30–11:45 AM

February 17, 2016  
April 20, 2016  
June 15, 2016

# HOW MOMS-TO-BE DEAL WITH STRESS MAY GUIDE BABY'S DEVELOPMENT

A mother's stressed psychological state has the capacity to negatively influence her baby's development. Luckily, early interventions can be offered during pregnancy to help her prepare for parenthood and promote positive mother-infant relationships.

These results are from a collaborative study led by John Porcerelli, PhD, ABPP, the principle investigator and lead author of 'Defense mechanisms of pregnant mothers predict attachment security, social-emotional competence, and behavior problems in their toddlers.' "Our study demonstrates that the mental life of mothers during pregnancy—particularly the way they automatically, unconsciously, cope with stressors—has an impact on the mother-child attachment relationship with their toddlers," he said.

Dr. Porcerelli's lab coded coping and defense mechanisms from 84 interviews with pregnant mothers from Washtenaw County's Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area who were recruited through posters at public locations and at agencies serving low-income families. Healthy coping and defense mechanisms in response to stress include humor, anticipation, suppression, altruism, etc. Examples of mala-

daptive defenses include denial, projection, splitting, and apathetic withdrawal.

Dr. Porcerelli says, "Pregnancy and caring for young children is a stressful process and it is normal and typical to feel some anxiety or low mood during this time.



We encourage mothers who are struggling to reach out to someone they trust and share their feeling about the challenges of parenting

and seek professional help if needed— a pediatrician, an infant mental health provider, and/or their family physician." He notes that struggling parents can develop healthier defenses through regular social contacts with supportive family and friends, support groups and various psychological interventions that encourage thoughtful exploration of parenting. Social support can come from a variety of places and isn't always from a spouse or the child's father.

This study was a follow up to a four-year project conducted through Eastern Michigan University. The initial study allowed Dr. Porcerelli and his team to empirically test a long standing clinical hypothesis that had never been tested. The team is now in the process of coding and analyzing the same types of

interviews with mothers when their children are 2 years old. "This will help us understand the stability and change of defense mechanisms over time, and perhaps understand the effects of stress on changes in defenses," he said.

The results of this study will be published in an upcoming issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*. An in-press version is already available at <http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ajp.2015.15020173>

Article excerpted from the School of Medicine's *Prognosis E-News* dated October 5, 2015



## NEWS FROM MICHIGAN AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER (MI-AHEC)

The Michigan Area Health Education Center (MI-AHEC) announced the recent appointment of a new co-principal investigator, Dr. Tsveti Markova, Professor and Endowed Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences. Dr. Markova will work alongside Dr. Ramona Benkert, co-principal investigator and Interim Associate Dean for Academic and Cultural Affairs of the Wayne State University College of Nursing and the MI-AHEC team. "I am honored to join the AHEC team and contribute to future advancements of its interdisciplinary education mission," commented Dr. Markova.

Michigan AHEC is funded by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Wayne State University (WSU). Academic partners include WSU's College of Nursing, School of Medicine, Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Science and School of Social Work; the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry; Central Michigan University; Western Michigan University; and Northern Michigan University.

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In other news, MI-AHEC has been awarded a one-year, \$1.2 million grant from HRSA. MI-AHEC will use the funds to continue to strengthen its statewide network of 5 regional centers and provide an unprecedented number of health care career preparation initiatives, clinical experiences and continuing education programs for health care professionals in communities throughout the state, especially in underserved areas in rural parts of the state of Michigan.

"Michigan AHEC is well-positioned to help address this shortage with its statewide network that reaches all 83

counties, a fully functional database management system and collaborative partnerships and community advisory boards throughout the state. We are looking forward to a great year with more initiatives than ever before that have great potential to positively impact Michigan's state of health," said Dr. Ramona Benkert.

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MI-AHEC, along with the Department of Pediatrics, has been awarded a one year \$750,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Children and Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section. This grant funding was originally available to only a few select universities—Wayne State University not being one of them. Working collaboratively with the government affairs teams across the University and Wayne State University Physician Group the process became an open grant competition and Wayne State was awarded the funding.

The funding is effective November 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. It is approved to accomplish the following:

- Add a board certified behavior analyst certificate cohort with 15 students in spring and fall semesters—May and September 2016
- Develop a board certified assistant behavior analyst degree program
- Enroll 15 students into the board certified assistant behavior analyst degree program by fall semester (September 2016)
- Develop a registered behavior technician train the trainer program and train three agencies to replicate within their system

- Train and credential 70 registered behavior technicians
- Develop an autism spectrum disorder screening, create an assessment and intervention curriculum and provide it to 350 health professionals through distance learning technology
- Develop an autism spectrum disorder screening, assessment and intervention clinical training, and deliver it to 100 students in family and pediatric medicine, nursing and physician assistant programs.

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Finally, MI-AHEC has completed its full statewide implementation of the AHEC Database Management System (ADMS-pronounced Adams).

ADMS is a robust database management system created by the Georgia AHEC program with the services of IT Savvy Consulting.

The benefits of ADMS will 1) help MI-AHEC collect program data in a uniform manner across the state of Michigan, 2) report MI-AHEC program activity for the HRSA Performance Report twice a year, 3) track program trainees as they progress from being pipeline program participants to becoming healthcare professionals (outcomes reporting), and 4) report to program partners various metrics related to their MI-AHEC supported programs.

Welcome Dr. Markova to the AHEC Team and congratulations to all MI-AHEC Team members on your continuing good work!!





We are pleased to be recognized in the field of Family Medicine and are often asked to comment on current topics in the news. In October, Dr. Pierre Morris, a physician in DFMPHS's Rochester and Troy clinics, shared Halloween safety advice for young trick-or-treaters in an October 27 *Detroit Free Press* article. These are good tips to remember each year.

When weather is on the cooler side, Dr. Morris says for children under the age of 2, the rule of thumb is to dress them in one additional layer than you do yourself. Because they have a larger ratio to surface area to body mass, they lose body heat faster.

Other advice:

- Keep kids from running house-to-house to avoid fractures, loose teeth and abrasions of the face due to falls
- Use sidewalks. Don't cut across yards or driveways
- Make sure costumes fit properly. Vision should be unobstructed by masks or hats
- Wear bright-colored costumes (or add reflective tape to costumes and treat bags)
- Wear sturdy, slip-resistant shoes
- Approach only well-lit houses
- Parent and children should carry flashlights. Aim the beam below chest level
- Be aware of neighborhood dogs
- Take a cell phone
- Inspect candy before children eat it. Be especially mindful of choking hazards (hard candies and caramels are especially problematic for younger children), allergies and treats that are not factory-wrapped

## FAMILY MEDICINE PHYSICIANS FEATURED IN THE 2015-2016 BEST DOCTORS IN AMERICA LIST

Wayne State University Physicians Group announced 73 of its affiliated physicians appear on the Best Doctors in America® list for 2015-2016. Only the top 5 percent of doctors in the United States earn this prestigious honor by impartial peer review.

Congratulations to Family Medicine physicians, Tsveti Markova, Fred Rosin and Kendra Schwartz.

In a confidential review, current physicians listed answer the question, "If you or a loved one needed a doctor in your specialty, to whom would you refer?" Best Doctors, Inc. evaluates the review results, and verifies all additional information to meet detailed inclusion criteria.

The Best Doctors list is the largest continuous independent survey of medical professionals. Those named in the

list are nominated by physicians using a peer-to-peer process doctors use to identify the right specialists for their own patients. Physicians cannot pay to be listed and cannot nominate or vote for themselves. The results are derived from polling more than 40,000 physicians in the U.S.

A very impressive achievement. Congratulations Drs. Markova, Rosin and Schwartz.



Frederick Rosin, MD  
Assistant Professor



Tsveti Markova, MD, FAAFP  
Professor and Endowed Chair



Kendra Schwartz, MD, MSPH  
Professor and Assistant Dean



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT DFMPHS FACULTY RECEIVE WSU SOM FACULTY AWARDS

The Department of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences would like to recognize and congratulate Juliann Binienda, PhD and James Janisse, PhD for receiving the Wayne State University School of Medicine 2014 College Teaching Award.

Drs. Binienda and Janisse received their awards at this year's Awards Ceremony hosted by Assistant Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional

Development, Linda Roth, PhD and Vice Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development, Virginia Delaney-Black, MD, MPH on October 28 during a reception held in the Margherio Family Conference Center.

Congratulations and keep up the

good work Drs. Binienda and Janisse!!



Juliann Binienda, PhD  
Assistant Professor



James Janisse, PhD  
Assistant Professor

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## WSU'S GRADUATE SCHOOL AWARDS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

In a partnership with Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans and Community Wellness, Wayne State University has awarded a \$30,000 Workforce Development Scholarship to 19-year Wayne County Employee, Theresa Brestovansky. She manages the County's food program and also is a part-time student in the Wayne State University School of Medicine's Master of Public Health degree program.

A master of public health degree is the professional degree for individuals interested in pursuing a career in public health and is viewed as necessary for leadership positions within the County health system.

Wayne County has established a strong history of working closely with the Wayne

State University program leadership and students to offer a range of practicum and master's project experiences. The County was the program's first community partner when the WSU School of Medicine launched the degree program 10 years ago. "The intention was to initiate a long-term partnership with a local organization. This is a great opportunity to advance WSU's role in aligning graduate training in public health with the needs of our public health workforce. We look forward to opening these new avenues of collaboration," said Kimberly Campbell-Voytal, PhD, RN and MPH program director.

"Wayne County was the first organization to step up and say, 'We want to work with you and your students on your practicum curriculum.' We are

proud of our ongoing partnership with them, and this launches the program to a new level, with the opportunity for tailored academic courses to address worksite needs and two-way, mutual learning," said Dana Rice, Dr. P.H. and MPH Practicum Director.

For more information about the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences' Masters of Public Health Program, visit <http://www.familymedicine.med.wayne.edu/mph/>

Article excerpted from Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans & Community Wellness and Wayne State University September press release.

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## SENIOR MEDICAL STUDENT ELECTED TO AAFP SOCIETY OF TEACHERS OF FAMILY MEDICINE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences is proud to recognize senior medical student Phillip So, MPH on his election to the American Academy of Family Physicians' (AAFP) Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Board of Directors at its National Conference for Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students.



Mr. So is pursuing a Family Medicine Residency. "In Family Medicine, Mr. So has discovered a blueprint for his life's work as a physician. Given his experience and special interest in a future career in medical education, he will be a valuable asset to the STFM representing the student perspective," said Margit Chadwell, MD Assistant Professor and Family Medi-

cine medical education advisor. He will serve a one-year term representing the student view on issues pertaining to student and resident education in Family Medicine. He will attend regular board meetings, phone conferences and major conferences, including the November Association of American Medical Colleges National Conference in Baltimore; the April STFM Annual Spring Conference in Minneapolis; and the August AAFP National Conference in Kansas City. He will also serve as the contact point for any students attending the January 2015 STFM Conference on Medical Student Education in Phoenix, AZ.

Mr. So received a master of public health degree from Emory University School of Public Health in 2011, and worked for the World Health Organiza-

tion in China before coming to the WSU School of Medicine. Here, he coordinated health screening and education with the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association. During a summer externship in Family Medicine he had the opportunity to do some primary care research on Graduate Medication Education. "I ended up presenting the work at STFM conference, where I got in touch with WSU Family Medicine faculty and began talking about ways to get more involved.

He joined the Michigan Academy of Family Physician Education Committee, and earlier this year organized the first statewide leadership summit for Family Medicine interest groups at medical schools in Michigan.

Congratulations Phillip!

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## MEDICAL STUDENT TAKES TOP POSTER PRIZE AT AAFP CONFERENCE

Class 2016 medical student, Taneev Escamilla, MPH took one of three first-place prizes awarded for poster presentation at the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Family Medicine Experience September 29-October 5 in Denver, CO. The conference is the largest meeting in the United States of family physicians, with more than 5,000 national and international attendees.



Patterns and Their Risk in Myocardial Infarctions,” analyzes the dietary and physical activity information collected from a Costa Rican population case-control study. The project was her master’s thesis, and is relevant for the United States and the globe.

“We identified lifestyle patterns that existed in a Costa Rican population. Each lifestyle pattern was defined by both dietary and physical activity behaviors. This is important since most research to date has described ‘lifestyle’ as either dietary or physical activity, but not together,” she said.

Global health is one aspect of health care about which Ms. Escamilla is especially passionate. Born in Mexico around the time of a large earthquake, she and her family immigrated to Canada shortly after. She “grew

up globally” she said, living in Germany, Mexico, Utah, Michigan, Washington, Minnesota, California and Illinois. “When you move as frequently as I did, the general understanding and importance of society and community are more flexible than singular,” she said. “Primary care physicians are beacons for our community’s health care needs, they are the ‘voice’ for our community’s health care needs. Additionally, they are advocates for our community’s needs and are positioned to encourage change in health care policy. This is a cause I have been active in as a medical student and will continue to advocate as a future family medicine physician.”

Article excerpted from School of Medicine *Prognosis E-News* dated October 22, 2015.

Ms. Escamilla’s work was selected from approximately 100 posters. She attended the conference with departmental support from Family Medicine Chair and Professor Tsveti Markova, MD, and also presented at the AAFP’s adjoining Global Health Workshop, held October 2-4.

Her winning poster, “Addressing a Global Health Epidemic: Identifying Lifestyle

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## HEALTH IS PRIMARY: A DETROIT TOUR

DFMPHS Endowed Chair, Tsveti Markova, MD, FFAFP was one of 8 panelists for the Detroit stop of America’s Family Physicians’ Health Is Primary (HIP) visit on October 21. Panelists highlighted how Michigan is using primary care to deliver on the Triple Aim of better health and quality at lower costs.

Participants discussed innovations they’ve made at their organizations, including reducing emergency department visits, promoting quality care over quantity care, improving care coordination, the importance of the patient-centered medical home, the need to involve patient perspectives, a fruit and vegetable prescription program, improving access to care in underserved communities and extending Michigan’s primary care incentive program.

Approximately 100 attendees at the event included leaders in family medicine and primary care, employers, health stakeholders, policymakers and media.

After the panel discussion and lunch, participants boarded a bus to tour Community Health & Social Service (CHASS) Center. CHASS is a community-based, not for profit organization formed to develop, promote, and provide comprehensive, accessible and affordable quality primary health care and support services to all residents of the community, with special emphasis on the underserved African-American and Latino population.

HIP is a three-year communications campaign to advocate for the values of family medicine, demonstrate the benefits of primary care, and engage patients in our health care system.

The aim is to build a primary care system that reflects the values of family medicine, puts patients at the center of their care, and improves the health of all Americans.

The goal of the traveling tour is to showcase the primary care innovations taking place across the country. (Detroit was one of the stops in the tour that started in March, also traveling to Seattle, Raleigh, Chicago, and Denver). The day prior to the Detroit tour, DFMPHS had the opportunity to showcase the Robert R. Frank Student Run Free Clinic at an event funded through the Bridges to Equity program. (Refer to article on Page 7)

For more information about this event visit read the *SOM Prognosis E-News* article dated November 2.



# “MEET UP AND EAT UP” WITH THE LIONS AND FORD INVITES AAFP TO OBSERVE

The day prior to the October 21 Health Is Primary: A Detroit Tour, DFMPHS invited representatives of Health is Primary and Michigan Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) to attend the *Meet Up & Eat Up with the Lions and Ford* event at Eastern Market. DFMPHS’s federally funded Bridges to Equity program continues as an official partner of the *Meet Up & Eat Up with the Lions and Ford*. The event brings in students from a Detroit public school to promote health, nutrition and exercise. Our medical and public health students participate in this event where they engage collaboratively in community-based projects to provide health education.

In addition to the regular Meet Up & Eat Up event, family medicine medical school students and residents were on hand to participate in a focus group surrounding Family Medicine and Workforce Development and Education, Practice, and Technology.

The Student Run Free Clinic was showcased by the DFMPHS at the event as an exemplary practice of utilizing primary care to improve community health.

- In Detroit there are more than 100,000 uninsured residents in the city. In order to extend access to primary care services to this underserved population, volunteer medical students for WSU SOM opened the Robert R. Frank Student Run Free Clinic in 2010
- The Student Clinic provides free continuity primary care to uninsured community members in Detroit. This clinic is fully staffed by volunteer WSU medical students, overseen by family physicians and run in collaboration with Mercy Primary Community Care Center. The partnership allows the clinic to deliver diagnostic laboratory testing, pharmacy services, and preventive care services like flu shots. Through a grant and partnership with the Kresge Eye Institute, ophthalmology residents are able to provide comprehensive eye exams and follow-up care for the patients.
- Because the Student-Run Free Clinic is run fully through fundraising efforts, all services are offered completely free. The clinic demonstrates the value of

primary care in providing efficient, effective and quality care. In 2014, the clinic provided all of its services for less than \$15,000.

Thanks to focus group participants: Christopher Lajeunesse—Year IV MS  
Kaitlin Seryak—Year IV MS  
Jay Jarodiya—Year II MS  
Dr. Eleanor King—PGY1  
Dr. Alexander Yang –PGY2

Also, thank you to Philip Lupo of Trail Productions for providing videography services during the event. We must also recognize Dana Rice, Dr.PH for the amazing job she has done each month with the *Meet Up & Eat Up* event. Final thanks to Dr. Markova and Dr. Margit Chadwell, Assistant Professor Medical Student Education for bringing this extra facet of the event that allowed the WSU School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences along with our faculty, students and residents to highlight our efforts to embrace the philosophy of Health Is Primary.

Great job everyone!!



L to R: Central MI student attendee; WSU Family Medicine resident Alex Yang; Debra McGuire, MAFP Chief Executive Officer; Dr. Markova, Family Medicine Department Chair; and Oakland/Beaumont student attendee.



Dr. Margit Chadwell, Assistant Professor-Medical Student Education (middle) enjoyed the event with WSU student participants

Dr. Markova answers questions during focus group discussing Family Medicine and Workforce Development and Education, Practice, and Technology.



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# REPORT ON PARAGUAY MEDICAL MISSION

BY DR. MARGIT CHADWELL, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, FAMILY MEDICINE MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION

This past summer, I had the exciting opportunity to join a medical team to Paraguay and to serve as an extension of our department's public health mission globally. This land-locked country in the heart of South America has rich soil, yet few resources. Both the individual physical and public health needs of the population are very evident. Our team, organized through Crosspointe Church locally and Gateway Teams nationally, included an infectious disease specialist, a dentist, a senior medical student, two pre-med students, a former paramedic, and a military logistician to assist with the clinics. I was happy to contribute my experience in Family Medicine and prepared a suitcase full of Spanish patient education materials for the most common conditions we expected to see.

After almost 24 hours of travel and a short welcome and rest in our host homes, we began six intensive days of clinics (medical, dental, and optical) in five of the poorest neighborhoods around the capital city of Asuncion. Each morning we transformed a local school into our medical base, complete with a fairly well-stocked pharmacy of medications we had pre-purchased from a local pharmacist. Our daily visits were around 250 patients, and each practitioner partnered with and worked through an interpreter. We treated a great variety of medical issues, with poorly controlled hypertension and numerous respiratory ailments being the most common. Many children

presented with symptoms of internal parasites and very poor dental health. Eyeglasses were in great demand and we underestimated the need, having to purchase 300 glasses locally in addition to the 300 we brought. Patients lined up early and waited throughout the day with their children in 90-100 degree heat in the "Paraguayan winter"!

A number of local hospitals and associations asked us to speak on various clinical, public health, and professional topics. We completed 4 seminars at major hospitals, including the Military Hospital, the Institute of Tropical Diseases, and the main 1,000-bed public teaching hospital (IPAP) which has an incredible 6,000 medical students across their campuses. We tag-teamed our presentations, with Dr. Saravolatz, Chief of Internal Medicine at St. John Hospital and an Infectious Disease Specialist, speaking on sepsis, the most common hospital condition. I followed with a lecture on the role of healthcare providers in addressing interpersonal violence, which is a very serious and common problem in Paraguay, ranking in the top ten causes of death in that country per the World Health Organization statistics. At each seminar, we encouraged local physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals to volunteer their services in the surrounding communities. Several assisted us in the clinics and they have offered to partner with us in future clinics as well.

Our team's long-term goal was to establish a sustainable and ongoing effort to meet the needs of those who have no access to medical care and to empower patients to make lasting improvements to their health through basic education and spiritual support. A local church partner worked with our team to provide follow-up with feeding programs and interventions for struggling households in these neighborhoods. The model of delivering one-on-one primary care, building bridges with the local community, and engaging with the academic institutions to effect change on high-impact a strategic model we employ here in our own city through initiatives like the Student-Run Free Clinic, our Bridges to Equity Program, and our student and resident education in Family Medicine. Paraguay is actively developing its primary care delivery system with the development of multiple family medicine residency programs over the last ten years and is embracing this model of care. It was a privilege to have had the chance to contribute a small part and to learn so much in turn from the very genuine and grateful Paraguayan people. In thanking the team, one patient remarked, "Nobody cares about us. Thank you for caring about us!"

For more information, contact Dr. Chadwell at [mchadwel@med.wayne.edu](mailto:mchadwel@med.wayne.edu)





“With American Doctors”



Horse and cart transportation in Paraguay



Patients lined up early and waited throughout the day with their children in 90-100 degree heat in the “Paraguayan winter”



Dr. Chadwell with a mother and her three children



Medical mission volunteers posing for a photo after taking a lunch break



Dr. Chadwell providing a lecture on the role of healthcare providers in addressing interpersonal violence, which is one of the top ten causes of death in Paraguay per the World Health Organization statistics.

# REMEMBERING A COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND PROFESSOR JOEL AGER, PH.D.

Our long-time colleague, friend and faculty member, Joel Ager, PhD, passed away unexpectedly this month. Joel has been a member of the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences since 2006. Although he officially retired from Wayne State University's Psychology Department in 1998, he never truly 'retired'.



Dr. Ager received his Bachelors in Philosophy in 1950 from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. He received his Master in Psychology at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York and followed with his PhD in 1960. He joined Wayne State University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology in 1958. Dr. Ager was promoted to Associate Professor in 1966 and full-tenured Professor in 1975. During his tenure in the Psychology Department, he taught graduate courses in statistics and measurement and provided methodological consultation for a wide variety of research projects in the department, the College of Nursing, the School of Medicine, as well as for other units in the University.

In 1994 he helped to create the Center for Healthcare Effectiveness Research (CHER), serving as interim director until a permanent director was named. In 1998 he retired from Wayne State University's Psychology department; how-

ever, he remained working full-time for CHER as a senior statistician. In 2006, the CHER and Community Medicine departments were merged into the Department of Family Medicine, which is when Joel became a member of our team. He was still working a couple days a week in DFMPHS's Woodward Gardens academic offices before his passing.

Throughout the years his expertise was requested on various grants and as a part-time faculty member, he was fully-funded through his grant support.

During his career at WSU, Dr. Ager served as PI on four NIH grants in the area of family planning service provision and as Co-PI on numerous other grants including several in the area of effects of fetal toxic substance exposure on child development. Dr. Ager's main methodological interests were in specification of control variables in regression analyses and in development of non-parametric analogues to Analysis of Variance.

Dr. Ager was a valued collaborator, genuinely nice and friend. He was well respected by his peers, colleagues and students who sought his counsel. He enjoyed participating in the department's fun events especially the weekly Wednesday morning

fika (coffee breaks) where department members gathered for refreshments, casual conversation and most recently, working on a group puzzle (he was a very good puzzler!)

He is survived by his children, Joel Ager III (Christine); John Ager (Cyndi) and Catherine Ager; his sister, Patricia (Mark) Lewis, and five grandchildren.

We will surely miss him.



Dr. Ager in his 'margaritaville' costume for the Department's 2014 Halloween potluck

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THIS WILL BE THE FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
2015 YEAR. HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW  
YEAR. SEE YOU IN 2016!!

