

The Pediatric Center News – May 2016

Emory University School of Medicine

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta



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Department of Pediatrics recognizes staff with 2016 Staff Appreciation Awards



The **Bright Idea Award** was awarded to **Kira Moresco**, Research Laboratory Manager, (Infectious Diseases). Kira has one year of service and has made a tremendous impact on our research operations in the time that she has been in the Department. She has broken through interdepartmental barriers to improve communications, established new procedures for tracking lab waste, and developed innovative training programs to ensure equipment is used properly thus saving the Department time and money. Her knowledge has directly impacted the effective start-up of new labs critical to our research efforts.

The **Unsung Hero Award** recognizes those individuals that work tirelessly behind the scenes and was awarded to two honorees. They are not often recognized, but without their dedication, our Department would not function very well. This year's honorees are **Jackie Riley**, Residency Program Coordinator II (Administration), and **Shantisa Fulgham**, Senior Business Manager (Human Resources).



Jackie Riley (left) has 24 years of service and has managed our residency program for a number of years. She is a humble and quiet, but effective champion for trainees and their needs. We could not run such a large training program without her efforts.



Shantisa Fulgham (right) has 3 years of service and has been behind the scenes attending to our financial matters, and has received high praise from the School and Central Administration. You've heard the saying "no money, no mission": Shantisa has ensured we have money to fulfill our research mission.



The **S.T.A.R. Award** recognizes **Service, Teamwork, Attitude** and **Reliability**. Our honoree this year, **Rosa White**, Senior Secretary (Administration), has 11 years of service and she is recognized for being a bright spot in everyone's day. Whether greeting visitors, reserving conference rooms, assisting co-workers, or answering the phone, Rosa always provides great service, is a team player, has a beautiful attitude, and can always be counted on for a friendly smile and helping hand.

The **G.E.M. or Going the Extra Mile Award** identifies those who go above and beyond, and model superior service. And again, we had a difficult time choosing from among all our great nominees so we have two honorees, **Denise Jacobson**, Program Coordinator (Human Resources), and **Maureen LaRossa**, Nurse Clinician (Neonatology).

Denise Jacobson (right) has six years of service and is recognized as a strong resource for our faculty, department administration, and the School. She has served on various process improvement committees across the School, and her input is highly valued. She partners with Dr. Hal Simon to manage faculty promotions. She always communicates with a happy demeanor, and makes those she interacts with feel that they are top priority.



Maureen LaRossa (left) has nine years of service and has been a key player in our neonatal follow-up program for almost 40 years. She has worked with substantial energy and determination to provide optimal services for every patient, and she has quietly influenced her colleagues to achieve their best. She has been an integral part of the neonatal team, and has helped the program reach the highest level of success.

The final category is the **Healthy Living Award**. This award recognized the person who exemplifies healthy life practices. Our honoree this year is **Aaron Rae**, Technical Director (Flow Cytometry Core Facility), who has six years of service. Over the past year, Aaron (right) has transformed his own health through healthy eating and exercise, and he has encouraged others to do the same. He has made exercise a priority, and sets a great example for all of us.



To all recipients...



Department of Pediatrics is well represented at Emory Staff Fest 2016

Pictured below is the Pediatric RAS volleyball team during the volleyball tournament.



Pediatrics residents triumph over GYN-OB residents in Meconium Cup Softball Game



The 23rd Annual Meconium Cup softball game was played on May 25 between the Gyn-OB and Pediatrics residents. Pediatrics was victorious with a score of 7-3. The trophy will be returned to its proper home in the Program Office.



The Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC) announces the first cycle of the WHSC Synergy Awards to support new collaborative projects between the schools, centers, and faculty of the WHSC.

This announcement seeks proposals for novel research projects led by faculty of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center schools and centers. These awards are meant to spark new, synergistic interactions between investigators and potentiate scientific achievements of the highest quality and impact. Applications are solicited from faculty of all disciplines at the schools of medicine nursing, public health, Yerkes Primate Center, the Winship Cancer Institute and other units, from basic to clinical, and from all levels of academic rank. Collaborations across all WHSC entities are eligible for consideration, and proposals must include faculty members (primary appointment) from at least two schools (SOM, SON or SPH) as co-principal investigators. These awards are not intended to support already established projects or minimal extensions of ongoing research programs. Collaborators who have worked and published together in the past are not excluded, but the project itself must be new, highly innovative, and as yet unfunded and unpublished.

Synergy Awards will consist of up to \$100,000 with an award term of one year. Applicants must present a credible plan describing how they will make substantial progress with one year of funding. Carryover of funds to a second year will be considered with justification under special circumstances.

The application deadline is **June 30, 2016**, and funding will begin September 1. Up to 4 Synergy Awards will be made this cycle.

For more information or to submit your proposals: Anita Bray abray@emory.edu

Several DOP residents presented their research at national meetings

PAS

Jane Stremming Assistant Program Director

[Echocardiographic Septal Flattening and Right Ventricular Pathology and Mortality in Very Low Birth Weight Infants](#)

Jane Stremming, Usama Kanaan, Prabhu Shankar, Curtis Travers, Anne M. Fitzpatrick, Shilpa Vyas-Read.

Anisha Bhatia PL-2

[Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease – What's the Real Impact?](#)

Anisha D. Bhatia, Pooja K. Reddy, Michael S. Kelleman, Lazaros K. Kochilas, Matthew E. Oster.

[Effectiveness of Routine Delayed Cord Clamping on Short-Term Outcomes in Very Low Birth Weight Infants](#)

Anisha D. Bhatia, Andrea F. Kane, Andi L. Shane, Jessica C. Arluck, Patricia W. Denning, Ravi M. Patel.

[Routine Clinical Use of Lactobacillus Rhamnosus GG Therapy and Risk of Necrotizing Enterocolitis in Very Low Birth Weight Infants](#)

Andrea F. Kane, **Anisha D. Bhatia**, Patricia W. Denning, Andi L. Shane, Ravi M. Patel.

Rob Gonsalves PL-2

[Post-Transplant Hyperglycemia and Diabetes Mellitus in Pediatric Heart Transplant Patients](#)

Robert F. Gonsalves III, Chad Y. Mao, J. Nina Ham

International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation

Chalani Ellepola, PL-1

Genetics of Cardiomyopathy

C. Ellepola, L. Knight, and S.R. Deshpande

American Thoracic Society

Ben Wisniewski PL-2

[Pediatric Tracheocutaneous Fistula Closure Following Tracheostomy Decannulation](#)

Benjamin L. Wisniewski, Emily L. Jensen, Jeremy D. Prager, Todd M. Wine, Christopher D. Baker

More Accomplishments, Honors, Awards and Rankings in Pediatrics

Uriel Castaneda received a **CATCH** grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The mission of the CATCH program is to support pediatricians to collaborate within their communities so that all children have access to needed health services and a medical home. Uriel is working on a program to provide promotoras, community health workers, in a school based health center at Riverwood High School. His proposal was one of only 15 funded in this cycle.



The Georgia College of Emergency Physicians has selected **Dr Carmen Sultan**, a graduating Pediatric Emergency Medicine fellow, as an ED attending at Egleston and Hughes Spalding starting in July.

Willie J. Parks, M.S., M.D., F.A.H.A., has been named fellow of the American Heart Association.

Cynthia Wetmore, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, was elected to the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Section on Hematology/Oncology. Dr. Wetmore serves as the Director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Research for Emory + Children's, and Director of the Developmental Therapeutics Program in Aflac Cancer & Blood Disorders Center. Her new 3 - year term with the AAP will begin on November 1, 2016 and extends through October 31, 2019

Congratulations to our Emory and Moorehouse pediatric residents who presented posters this year at the annual Children's Healthcare of Atlanta New Horizons conference. This was our first year with poster presentations and many conference attendees were excited to see the great work that our resident physicians are doing. We had two presenters from the Emory Pediatrics program. **Nehal Bhandari** (2nd from far right) is a third-year pediatric resident who will be staying with us for an urgent care fellowship starting this summer. **Caitlin Nichols** (far right) is a pediatric intern who joins us from the University of Massachusetts.



From Donna Hyland: CEO Update/ Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Highlights:

1. Joint Commission visit - Outstanding survey. CHOA is assessed against 275 standards. Achieved 97% at Egleston, 98% at Scottish Rite.

2. Children's named one of FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" for 11th year in a row.

3. Beacon Award for Excellence - This is a national award given by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. It commends hospital units that employ evidence-based practices to improve patient and family outcomes. The national criteria are consistent with Magnet Recognition, the Baldrige National Quality Award and the National Quality Healthcare Award. Two units at Children's won the Beacon Award this year.

- Cardiac Intensive Care Unit received the Silver-level Beacon Award
- Cardiac Step-down Unit at Egleston received the Gold-level Beacon Award - only step-down unit in the country to win the Gold-level Award

4. Transplant team - Performed 80 lifesaving organ transplants in 2015. Children's is ranked #2 in the country for pediatric solid organ transplants overall and ranked #1 for heart transplants and kidney transplants.

Wellness:

5. A 90-day Challenge - Executive team set fitness goals and worked on eliminating added sugar from their diets. Executive Team retreat - participated in a single day of the Corporate Athlete program.

Quality:

6. Quality and Patient Safety: Zero Serious Safety events in Q1.

- CLA-BSI rate was 1.91 infections per 1,000 central line days YTD was below the target rate of 1.94.
- Egleston NICU had zero CLA-BSIs in Q1
- Transplant Unit has gone without CLA-BSI for 19 months
- Hem/Onc service line had zero CLA-BSI for March and only one BSI in the first 4 months of 2016. In 2015 during this same time, they had 5, which is an 80% reduction in infections!
- Zero Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections and zero incidents of Ventilator Associated Pneumonia in Q1.

7. Aligning a strong Physician Network is one top priority for 2016. To achieve this, Children's is building a Clinically Integrated Network and more closely aligning physicians.

- TCCN has close to 1,200 members including 425 primary care providers
- Confident will reach 2016 targets of clinical integration goals

One new practice is in the process of onboarding and four practices are in discussions with Children's.

