

THE BUZZ

Residency Coordinators' Forum Newsletter

'Tis the Seasons



'Tis the seasons to review, renew, rebuild, and restore. This year has been filled with changes, achievements, and encouragement. Kudos to the coordinators who made changes for the better through multiple achievements whether they were big or small, and who have encouraged others by taking chances and paving pathways for others to follow. In this issue, 'The Buzz' would like to take a moment to look back at our many accomplishments and activities throughout this year, so that we can make bigger and better changes/accomplishments in the New Year.

Our Residency Coordinators have made unforgettable progress and memories. We have been taught on many levels that we define our success, not others and that strength cannot exist without struggle. We have fostered an environment of success and encouragement and have taken major steps in the right direction.

Let us embrace the New Year knowing that even if we are scared to do it (anything); we should do it scared. Together we will say R.I.P. to the opportunities we missed because we were scared, shy, or had low self-esteem. Instead, in the New Year we will aim to be 1% better each day resulting in us being closer to achieving our goals. Therefore, when our changes have been accomplished, we will then have no need to announce them but to bloom/evolve.

Editors:

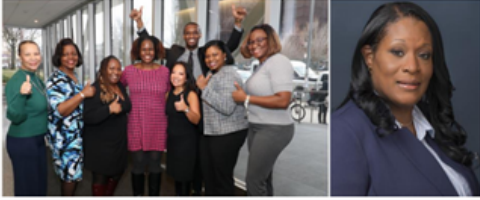
Devareco Wilkie & Chelsea Cole

RPCF END OF YEAR REVIEW

Training Administrators of Graduate Medical Education Grow in Number at Downstate

By Office of The President | Feb 21, 2023

Congratulations to the newly-minted Training Administrators of Graduate Medical Education (TAGME). The Residency Program Coordinator Forum (RPCF) announced that eight Downstate coordinators recently became TAGME certified. In 2022, six coordinators successfully passed the initial or maintenance of certification versions of the TAGME certification exam with a 100 percent pass rate; in all, SUNY Downstate now boasts and celebrates the certification of these individuals.



Kudos to Chantal Littrean, MPH, C-TAGME (Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation), Yvonne Henry, C-TAGME (GME), Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME (GME, formerly Psychiatry), Kino Williams, MS, PHR, CPHQ, C-TAGME (Radiation Oncology), Mariaverna Sevilla, C-TAGME (Family Medicine), Natasha Henry, C-TAGME (Pathology), Devareco Wilkie, MSc, C-TAGME (Obstetrics and Gynecology) and, Debra Owens, MD, C-TAGME (Sports Medicine).

The National Board for Certification of Training Administrators for GME was established in 2009 to ensure a comprehensive level of services, training, knowledge, and leadership through certification for the administration of GME programs for physicians-in-training.

The success of the pass rate on the exam resulted from creating a TAGME study portal that houses resources available to any Downstate coordinator wanting to take the 2023 certification examination. This learning portal and self-initiated study preparation are essential to this year's upcoming candidates.

TAGME coordinators are instrumental in leading our Graduate Medical Education (GME) residency and fellowship training programs. They have demonstrated commendable leadership achievements, including becoming nationally recognized ACGME Awardees, organizing a Healthy Living Fair for the community, and directing a regional program coordinator's annual educational symposium. The program coordinators' professional development and accomplishments continue to acknowledge them as outstanding leaders on our Downstate campus.

Congratulations and thanks to the RPCF, the College of Medicine, and the Office of Graduate Medical Education, and especially to Ross Clinchy, Ph.D., vice dean for Faculty Affairs, and Teresa Y. Smith, M.D., MEd, FACEP, associate dean of Graduate Medical Education and Affiliations both of whom have supported this initiative to certification from the beginning.



Health Fair Theme

SUNY Downstate 2nd Annual Healthy Lifestyle Fair Focuses on Autism Awareness and Acceptance

SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University's 2nd Annual Community Healthy Lifestyle Fair, Celebrating Autism Awareness and Acceptance, will focus on the vibrant and diverse world of autism, celebrate neurodiversity, and foster understanding, compassion, and acceptance for individuals on the autism spectrum.

Reported autism rates continue rising—currently 2.8 percent across the United States, and 18 percent of children have neurodisabilities (NDs). The highest rates of autism in New York State occur in urban areas, including Brooklyn's diverse communities of Black, Latino, and immigrant families. Census data and current autism prevalence estimate Brooklyn is home to 18,000 children with autism.

Across the lifespan, the impact of autism and other NDs significantly burden individuals, families, and communities. Individuals with autism and NDs experience high rates of behavioral, medical, and mental health problems. Yet, those in low-income, minority, and immigrant communities have the least access to healthcare services.

Along with therapeutic services such as Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapy and appropriate school programs, one proven approach to treating autism is Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), typically covered through health insurance. Yet, approximately 70 percent of families with Medicaid healthcare coverage have, until recently, had no access to quality ABA services. Despite anticipated changes, ABA access for Medicaid recipients remains limited. Significant health disparities continue in accessing neurodevelopmental evaluation, early identification, and treatment and care.

Harris Huberman, M.D., developmental pediatrician in the Pediatrics Department at University Hospital at Downstate, will discuss how autism presents, neurodiversity, treatments and care.

Dr. Huberman and colleagues in Psychology, Child Neurology, Child/Adolescent Psychiatry, and Gastrointestinal Services are leaders in strengthening integrated care and treatment. In 2021, Downstate received a federal HRSA grant to begin a Leadership Education in Neurodisabilities (Brooklyn LEND) program to address disparities and improve care for individuals with autism and other NDs.

Jennifer Morrison-Diallo, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, LEND project director, works to reduce these disparities through training where professionals, family members, and self-advocates with NDs learn together, concentrating on evaluation, clinical care, advocacy, community awareness, and systems change.

Meseret Tena, M.D., and Eugene Dinkovich, M.D., lead Downstate's Pediatric Outpatient Clinic and Faculty Practice Clinic where developmental screening is part of pediatric primary care. Call (718) 270-7207 for if you need a primary care appointment.

For an initial developmental evaluation and care for autism and NDs, call Downstate's Child Development Clinic at (718) 270-2272.

For inquiries about the Brooklyn LEND Program, email LEND@downstate.edu.

The FREE Annual Community Healthy Lifestyle Fair will occur outside 445 Lenox Road from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. UHd physicians and the Residency Program Coordinators Forum sponsor it in collaboration with the Offices of Graduate Medical Education, Government & Community Relations, Strategic Planning, Diversity Equity Inclusion House Staff Council, and external partners. There's lots to enjoy: family activities, yoga, prizes, and healthy food. Get essential health checks like blood pressure, hearing, and vision. Some screenings might need insurance details. For more information or to be a sponsor, contact UHdHealthFair@downstate.edu.

- 500 word article focusing on Autism
- Published in Caribbean Life September 6 2023
- Will feature Dr. Huberman and his team



Downstate Represents at 2023 ACGME Educational Conference

Wins Two (2) Awards:
Barbara Ross-Lee DO DEI (Institution) Award 2022: SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University
Debra L. Dooley GME Program Coordinator of Excellence Award 2023: Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME



Kino Williams presented at the Association of Radiation Oncology Program Coordinators on the Program Director/Coordinator Relationship. The meeting was held on February 22, 2023, at the Gaylord and Opryland Resort and Conference Center, in Nashville TN.



UHD's Patient Safety and Quality Fair 2023



EVENTS COORDINATORS HOSTED & PARTICIPATED IN

COORDINATORS JOIN DOWNSTATE IN CELEBRATING EARTH DAY



STATISTICS

1970

FIRST EARTH DAY

1 Billion

INDIVIDUALS MOBILIZED FOR
ACTION EVERY EARTH DAY

190+

COUNTRIES ENGAGED



JHS 292 CAREER DAY



R.P.C.F.
Residency Program Coordinators' Forum

**SUNY DOWNSTATE RESIDENCY PROGRAM COORDINATORS' FORUM
ANNUAL EDUCATION RETREAT
2023 Hybrid Event**

**"BUILDING COMMUNITIES:
Empowering Coordinators to be Leaders on
Their Campuses"**

Keynote Speaker: Kaytlyn Hope, MHA, C-TAGME
Program Manager, Graduate Medical Education
Boston Children's Hospital

Additional Speakers Include:

- **Madda Alonzo, Ed.D., CEAP**
Manager
Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University
- **Christina Ballo**
Director, Dept. of Radiation Oncology
University of Pennsylvania
- **Lynette Biello**
Fellowship Coordinator
Maimonides Medical Center
- **Esanno Benedict, MEd**
Program Administrator II
Cape Fear Valley Health

Fire Side Chat Speakers Include:

- **Juliet Arthur, PsyD (c), MHA, C-TAGME**
Affiliation and Contracts Administrator, GME
2023 ACGME Debra L. Dooley
Award Recipient
- **Debra Owens, MS Ed, C-TAGME**
Project Analyst
Division of Sports Medicine
- **Kino Williams, PsyD (c), MS, PHR,
CPHQ, C-TAGME**
Senior Staff Associate
Radiation Oncology Residency Program
- **Wynetta Knight, DMHA, MPA**
Academic Coordinator
Department of Urology

Friday, August 4, 2023
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

To register, please click on the link or copy and paste it into your browser:
<https://www.southstate.edu/education/retreat>

Residency Program Coordinators Forum (RPCF) 4th Annual Educational Retreat



DOWNSTATE PHYSICIANS PRESENT THE 2ND ANNUAL

Community Healthy Lifestyle Fair

Celebrating Autism Awareness and Acceptance

Saturday, September 9, 2023
 445 Lenox Road (at Brooklyn Ave.)
 10:00am to 4:00pm

Transportation: B12, B35, B41, B44, 2 and 5 trains

GIVEAWAYS AND ACTIVITIES Healthy Lifestyle Medicine · Health Screenings
 Community Resources · Cooking Demos
 Raffles · Yoga Classes · Kids Activities · Giveaways

This is a **FREE** community event, sponsored by Physicians of University Hospital at Downstate (UHD) and Residency Program Coordinators Forum in collaboration with the Offices of Graduate Medical Education, Government & Community Relations, Strategic Planning and the Diversity Equity Inclusion House Staff Council.

Disclaimer: Some screenings will require you to present your insurance card(s).

FOR MORE INFO:
 UHDHealthFair@downstate.edu
 Kino Williams - 718-270-8906
 Alishia Goodridge - 718-270-3866

Scan the QR Code or visit:
<https://kinyurt.com/KJAM3>



Downstate Physician's 2nd Annual Healthy Lifestyle Community Fair
 Theme: Celebrating Autism Awareness and Acceptance

400+ Health Fairgoers

463 Testing, Screening and Assessments Completed

100+ Volunteers

126 Health Fair Patients

40 Vendors
17 Sponsors

14% of Health Fair Patients to Follow-Up Care at Downstate

270 Schoolbags Distributed

Average Age of Health Fair Patients: 66 years

Collaboration amongst UHD, COM, CON and SOPH

Residential Status

Residential Status	Percentage
Brooklyn	85%
Other	15%
Urban	0%

Patient Type

Patient Type	Percentage
UHD Patients	65%
Non-UHD Patients	35%

Ethnicity of Health Fair Patient Population

Ethnicity	Percentage
White	55%
Black	25%
Hispanic	15%
Asian	5%
Other	0%

A Day of Screenings, Education and Fun



A Day of Screenings, Education and Fun



2023 POTLUCK



GME Hello's and Goodbye's

Well Hello There	Till We Meet Again
Denise Chung, MPH Director, GME	Pamela Bowman-Snagg Director, GME
Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME Affiliation and Contracts Administrator, GME	Stephanie Lane Director of Affiliations, GME
Sharon Graham Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Program Coordinator	Gillian Linton-Wells Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Program Coordinator
Kassaundra Johnson Infectious Diseases Residency Coordinator	Lisa Pierce Medical Education Systems Manager, GME
Chantal Littrean, MPH, C-TAGME Internal Medicine Residency Administrator	Maureen Thompson Internal Medicine Residency Administrator
Audra Koenig Psychiatry Residency Administrator	
Debra Owens, M.Ed., C-TAGME Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation/Sports Medicine GME Coordinator	

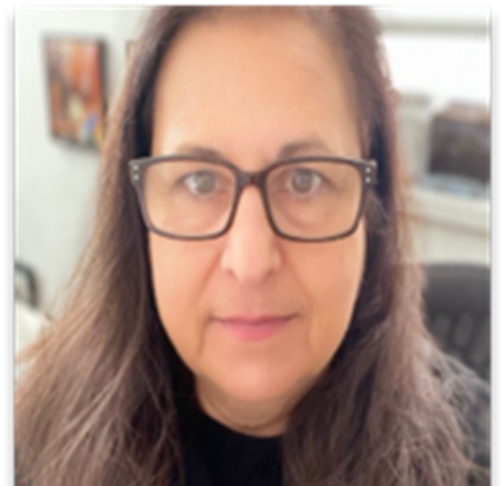
CHANGING OF THE GUARDS...DIO'S



- **Teresa Y. Smith, MD, MSED, FACEP**
- **2019-2023**
- **3 ACGME Awards**
- **Full Continued Institutional Accreditation**

Welcome Our New DIO

- **Lisa Dresner, MD, FACS**
- **2023 - present**
- **Vice Chair of Education, Dept of Surgery**
- **Program Director, Surgery Residency Program**



STAY TUNED FOR WHAT RPCF HAS IN STORE IN 2024

As we embark on a new year, the RPCF Executive Committee is working on many new initiatives that would benefit all our coordinators and coordinators both local and national. Some of these endeavors for 2024 include:

- Revamping the RPCF committees including the addition of appointment timelines
- Creation of a Coordinator Wellness Program at Downstate
- Grant Writing workshops and initiatives
- ACGME Annual Meeting Presentation and Networking Event: March 7 – 9, 2024
- Attending the virtual NSAMA conference, which our very own Kino Williams will be hosting on April 5, 2024.
- RPCF Annual Educational Retreat – carded for Friday, August 2, 2024
- Re-introduction of the TAGME Toolkit
- Increasing the number of TAGME-certified coordinators
- Completion of doctoral dissertations for two (2) RPCF executive members
- And much more...so stay tuned!



SHOUTOUTS



Shoutout to Darell Banks- Downstate's Santa for organizing this toy drive and donating to our very own Children's Center.



CONGRATULATIONS to **Kino Williams**, for winning the **ACGME Debra L. Dooley Award**.

Please check out the article from SUNY Downstate's President Bulletin on this:

<https://www.downstate.edu/about/office-of-the-president/presidents-bulletin/2023/11-13/kino-williams-acgme-excellence-award.html>

SHOUTOUTS



Fellowship Coordinators wear many hats. **Deborah Battle Pointer**, fellowship coordinator of three Pediatric fellowship programs: Neonatology, Infectious Disease, and Nephrology has just released two publications now available on Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and other platforms.

Before coming to Downstate, Deborah was the Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid at Cornell University (Ithaca) and Director of Engineering (undergraduate and graduate) Admissions at Columbia University. With over 20 years of experience in college admissions and financial aid,

Deborah published the book “**College Planning for High School Students**”. “Over the years I have met many students like myself who were first-generation college students who needed help mastering the college admissions process and had only the guidance counselor to help them. There was such a need for this book.”

As a Peabody Award winner for television, Deborah co-founded and executive produced the television show “**Def Poetry**” on HBO. A poet herself, Deborah wrote her first mystery novel “**Def on the Mic**”. “It was fun writing a murder mystery that took place in the spoken word/ poetry.com.



WELLNESS CORNER



[Did you know we were featured
in the Presidents Bulletin?
Click On Me To View The Article](#)

“We advocate for ourselves and each other.”

RPCF BIRTHDAYS

November

Spinel, Dorina - 11/5
Maxwell, Marjorie - 11/6
Anthony, Shelly - 11/19
Littrean, Chantal - 11/22

December

Cole, Chelsea- 12/2
Fraser, Nicole - 12/25
Adams, Selina - 12/28



10 SELF-CARE PLANNING TIPS FOR 2024



Here are some self-care planning tips for 2024:

- 1. Mindful Moments:** Incorporate daily mindfulness practices, such as deep breathing or short meditation breaks, to help manage stress and promote mental well-being.
- 2. Digital Detox:** Set aside dedicated time each day to disconnect from electronic devices, fostering a healthier balance between online and offline activities.
- 3. Hydration Habit:** Establish a hydration routine by keeping a reusable water bottle at hand, ensuring optimal physical health and energy levels.
- 4. Sleep Sanctuary:** Create a relaxing bedtime routine and maintain a consistent sleep schedule for improved overall health and cognitive function.
- 5. Fitness Fusion:** Explore diverse forms of exercise to keep workouts engaging, such as combining cardio, strength training, and flexibility exercises.
- 6. Nourishing Nutrition:** Plan well-balanced meals that include a variety of nutrients, promoting both physical and mental well-being.
- 7. Hobby Harmony:** Dedicate time to hobbies or activities that bring joy and relaxation, fostering a sense of fulfillment beyond professional responsibilities.
- 8. Social Support System:** Cultivate meaningful connections with friends, family, and colleagues to build a strong support network for emotional well-being.
- 9. Goal Setting:** Set realistic and achievable personal and professional goals, breaking them down into smaller tasks to enhance motivation and satisfaction.
- 10. Reflect and Recharge:** Regularly assess your self-care practices, adjusting and refining as needed to ensure they align with your evolving needs throughout the year.



Happy
Holidays

&

Happy New Year

2024

Editors:

Devareco Wilkie & Chelsea Cole