

February 2023 Newsletter

STRATEGIC PLAN WORK GROUP ACTIVITY

WCMEW started out at what will be a very active 2023 with five work groups convening their first meetings. Over 50 WCMEW partners, representing health systems, schools, colleges, and programs, and state agencies are represented on the groups. Below are descriptions of the groups:

- **Promoting Healthcare Careers and Recruiting Professionals**
This group will focus on the “front end” of the education and training pathway. Its initial work will include creating an inventory of active programs and their effectiveness. Next, the group will disseminate best practices.
- **Strengthening Our Physician Education and Training Pathways**
Two groups were created: one that will evaluate education and training pathways for physicians and another for nursing. Each group will identify shortages in capacity, determine root causes, and recommend solutions and action plans.
- **Retaining Professionals**
This group will focus on retention of healthcare professionals. Its activities will include research causes of workforce dissatisfaction and current efforts to reduce; and identifying and disseminating best practices.
- **Redesigning Care Delivery**
This group was created in recognition of the likelihood that, despite our best efforts in accomplishing the above, the shortage will still be significant. The group is charged with assessing current models of care and recommending improvements; and creating and disseminating an action plan.

Summaries of the meetings will be shared in our March newsletter.

RWHC ANNOUNCES THE 31ST ANNUAL MONATO ESSAY COMPETITION

RWHC has announced the 31st Annual \$2,500 Hermes Monato Rural Health Essay Competition. It is open to all students at the University of Wisconsin (any campus) as well as graduates within the preceding year. Students are encouraged to write on a rural health topic for a regular class (or independently) and then submit a copy to the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative as an entry before the June 1st deadline.

Previous award winners and topics as well as judging criteria and submission information are available at <http://www.rwhc.com/Awards/Annual-Monato-Essay>

ALPHABET SOUP



Following are February updates from Alphabet Soup members.

WiNC – Joseph Kilsdonk and Julie Richards

- WiNC is pleased to announce that our MCW-Prevea Green Bay Family Medicine Program was approved by ACGME for a resident complement increase. Starting with the new incoming class in July, the Program will increase from 4 residents to 6 residents per year. WiNC congratulates Dr Manal Soliman, Program Director and the MCW-Prevea Faculty and Residents for their work resulting in a successful ACGME site visit last year and now having the opportunity to expand.
- WiNC is also pleased to have two case studies in the current Wisconsin Medical Journal. One highlights the scholarly collaboration amongst WiNC partners and other statewide GME programs and the other highlights collaboration between WiNC member program and an academic partner. A goal of WiNC is to foster collaboration amongst programs, health systems, and the medical schools to support rural Wisconsin GME (“better together”). Thank you to Dr Adam Clements for his mentorship and leadership. <https://wmjonline.org/new-online/01302023-licata/>
<https://wmjonline.org/new-online/01302023-rivera/>
- WiNC in partnership with WCRGME is running Series 2 of its Rural GME Leadership Academy. Sixteen resident and faculty physicians are enrolled. The series runs monthly January through June and highlighted by a one-day in person Workshop in March. Topics being covered include; the value of GME, Academic Leadership, transition from physician to rural program director, and advancing critical reasoning skills along with monthly sessions around the clinical learning environment, curriculum development, evaluation & assessment, and remediation. If there is interest in future participation, please reach out to [Julie Richards](#) at WiNC.

WRPRAP – Bill Schwab, MD, and Denise Hix

- The WRPRAP Grant Application deadline is Monday, February 13th.
- UW-Department of Family Medicine and Community Health held an Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics Instructor course in January that included participants throughout the state. There are plans to hold another Instructor course next January, date TBD, which will be open for registration.
- UW-DFMCH is hosting a Fascial Distortion Model course April 15-16 in Madison. To register: <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/uwhealth/activity/search/detail/37667> or contact Denise.Hix@fammed.wisc.edu with questions.

WI AHEC – Liz Bush

- AHEC is currently recruiting for summer host sites for our **Community Health Internship Program**. They have received over 200 student applications and will begin reviewing those mid-February aiming to match students with community partner projects by the end of March. [Learn more here!](#)
- AHEC has partnered with UW Extension to offer a **resiliency series called WeCOPE**. It's a 7-session evidenced-based program that helps adults and providers cope with life stress. They have a FREE virtual zoom session scheduled for Tuesdays, 12-1pm, from March 21 - April 25, 2023 and also offer customized options for any partners interested in offering the program to your team. [Learn more here!](#)
- AHEC is gearing up to start a **quarterly e-newsletter!** They invite you to join our contacts list so you can stay in the know with Wisconsin AHEC. Simply visit [our website](#) and click on "Join our newsletter" in the upper right corner.

WAFP – Larry Pheifer

- Celebrating its 75th anniversary as a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians in August. Stay tuned for more details.
- New president of the Academy, Eric Stader, MD (Lancaster WI) was inducted at the annual meeting in January.
- A student and resident leadership conference will be held later this year.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact George Quinn, at gquinn@wcmew.org, or use the information provided below.

Liz	Bush	ebush2@wisc.edu	AHEC
Jennifer	Crubel	jcrubel@rwhc.com	WCRGME
Tim	Dybevik	dybevik2@wisc.edu	WORH
Denise	Hix	Denise.Hix@fammed.wisc.edu	WRPRAP
Joe	Holt, MD	jpholt@medicine.wisc.edu	UW WARM
Joseph	Kilsdonk	jkilsdonk@wincgme.org	WiNC
Tracy	Lindsey	trlindsey@scwahec.org	AHEC
Kenny	MacMillan	kmacmillan@wisc.edu	UW WARM
Randy	McElhose	Randy.McElhose@dhs.wisconsin.gov	DHS
Danielle	Parker	dparker@rwhc.com	RWHC
Larry	Pheifer	larry@wafp.org	WAFP
George	Quinn	gquinn@wcmew.org	WCMEW
Julie	Richards	jrichards@wincgme.org	WiNC
Lori	Rodefeld	lori.rodefeld@ssmhealth.com	WCRGME
Bill	Schwab	william.schwab@fammed.wisc.edu	UWMF/WRPRAP

WORKFORCE IN THE NEWS

[Gov. Evers, DHS Awards \\$1 million in Grants to Help Reduce Disparities in Behavioral Health Care System](#) – WI DHS

Gov. Evers and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) have awarded \$1 million in grants to increase access to mental health and substance use care for underserved communities. Ten organizations will each receive \$100,000 to develop projects that build on the ability of behavioral health professionals to support people with diverse values and beliefs.