

# DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry

Highland Hospital

Newsletter of One of the Premier Family Medicine Departments in the United States

January 2015

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## Highland Family Medicine CenteringPregnancy Program Promotes Maternal/Child Health

Highland Family Medicine implemented a CenteringPregnancy Program last fall under the direction of Scott Hartman, MD. The model of care, designed by a midwife nearly 15 years ago, has shown positive results across the country in improved birth outcomes, lower maternal morbidity, an increase in breast feeding and higher patient satisfaction.

"Highland Family Medicine is an ideal practice to offer the CenteringPregnancy Program," said Dr. Hartman, who works with residents and nurses on Monday nights to offer patients health care, education and support.

At the heart of CenteringPregnancy is the group medical visit which has proven successful in other programs for diabetes and asthma. Each group includes 5-10 pregnant women. The visit starts with individual weight, blood pressure and belly checks and baby heart rate monitoring by a resident/preceptor team. Patients record their own results in a log.



Patients Dionne Lovett and Terri Gilbough participate in yoga with nurses Tajma Atwood, and Patti Prudon.



Dr. Scott Hartman works alongside residents Dr. Ani Kolasa-Lenarz and Dr. Karolina Lis in the CenteringPregnancy Program.

Then the patients participate in yoga together and/or learn something about pregnancy or infant care. But the most meaningful part of the group visit is the opportunity for the women to share their pregnancy journeys and motivate and encourage each other.

"I really enjoy the fellowship of the CenteringPregnancy program," said Dionne Lovett, a Rochester mother of four. "All of the other women in my group are first-time moms and I am glad to share my experiences with them."

Highland Family Medicine was one of eight sites chosen by the Perinatal Network of Monroe County to become funded by their Healthy Start Grant and become a certified Centering site. Highland Women's Health at Culver Road and at Lattimore Road are sister sites.

Many residents at HFM have been involved with the Centering program, but the two resident leaders are Karolina Lis, MD and Anastasia Kolasa-Lenarz, MD. Additional members of the CenteringPregnancy Steering Committee include: Tajma Atwood, RN; Laura Boorum, PRA; Lynn Essig, MA; Kim Gemayel, NP; Deb Pierce, MD; Patti Prudon, RN and Heidi Tompkins, RN, Clinical Manager.



Thoughts  
FROM THE CHAIR

Highland Family Medicine was the first residency primary care practice in New York state to earn Patient-Centered Medical Home accreditation, and, in 2014, we achieved recertification. There is no doubt that innovative approaches to managing patient care through increased outreach, new strategies for diabetes managements and group session for depression and pain management are yielding more patient-centered, efficient care.

But we are going beyond this too. In this newsletter you will read about our CenteringPregnancy program which brings the benefits of group visits to obstetric care as well. We have opened a successful Suboxone clinic, expanded our residency to include an emphasis on geriatric care and continue to expand our global health efforts as well.

We are proud of our growing programs but prouder still of the work of the talented, compassionate people who devote their lives to Family Medicine. In these pages you will also read about our up-and-coming residents and about Honeoye Valley Family Medicine and the alumni of our residency program who have devoted their lives to the family practice and to resident education and migrant health as well.

Family Medicine and Primary Care are at the heart of the changing face of health care in our country. Without question, as we move from a volume-based reimbursement system, the success of any health care system will rely upon the strength of its primary care.

The University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine residency program is the largest producer of primary care residents of the University of Rochester Medical Center and Rochester practices. We will continue to increase educational and career opportunities for students and clinicians and attract more dedicated physicians and other providers to the profession.

Best Wishes,

Thomas L. Campbell, MD (1972)  
William Rocktaschel Professor and Chair,  
Department of Family Medicine

## Initiative Focuses on Training in Geriatric Medicine for Family Medicine Residents

The Highland Family Medicine Residency is committed to geriatric medicine training and services for elders in our community. Two family physicians, Drs. Ian Deutchki and Kristen Thornton, hold board certification in geriatric medicine and joined the Department of Family Medicine faculty in 2011. Since their arrival, they have been spearheading efforts to enhance resident training in the care of older adults.

“Our goal is to have our residency training in geriatric medicine to be among the finest in the nation,” said Dr. Thornton. “We feel confident that our graduates will possess the skills necessary to provide patient and family-centered care to medically complex older adults.”

Drs. Deutchki and Thornton both practice at Highland Family Medicine and Monroe Community Hospital, where they provide long-term care. At Monroe Community Hospital they precept family medicine residents during a 24 month longitudinal long-term care rotation, as well as during the month long block rotation in geriatric medicine. They have developed an interdisciplinary geriatric medicine lecture series as part of the core teaching curriculum.

Teaching in this series is provided by Drs. Thornton and Deutchki, and has included guest speakers from the Division of Geriatrics/Aging, neurology, respiratory therapy, and wound care. A new geriatric medicine area of concentration has been developed for residents seeking to gain additional expertise in the care of older adults,



Dr. Kristen Thornton consults with resident Dr. Laura Gift.

as well as to engage in scholarly and teaching activities.

Residents like Laura Gift, D.O., who recently had an opportunity to present at the American Geriatric Society National Conference, are benefiting from the program. “The opportunities for training in geriatrics at our residency program are unique,” said Dr. Gift. “I appreciate the chance to be able to complete my residency with a strength in geriatric medicine skills.”

The practice now offers geriatric medicine consultations and Welcome to Medicare and Medicare Wellness visits as a service to our patients. The department also has extensive expertise in palliative care, with several faculty members holding board certification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

## Highland Family Medicine Introduces Suboxone Program

A Suboxone program for long term treatment of opioid dependence was launched at Highland Family Medicine in 2014. The clinic is held each Wednesday morning under the direction of Elizabeth Loomis, MD and Holly Russell, MD.

“Suboxone is a partial opioid agonist used for the long term treatment of opioid dependence,” said Dr. Russell. “It is similar to methadone, except it can be given in an outpatient setting and patients do not have to come to the doctor

every day. Most come once/month when they are stable.”

Currently 18 patients are being cared for and the program is consistently getting new referrals. “We have taken over the care of a lot of patients who have been on it long-term from other providers and wanted to switch care to us for the convenience or at the request of their current providers to make room for new patients,” said Dr. Russell.

*continued on page 7*

## Global Health Program



# Global Health Program Update: Looking Back and Looking Ahead

By Doug Stockman, MD, Director of Global and Refugee Health

It is sometimes good to look back as we plan for the future. We started going to Honduras in the Fall of 2003. As of May 2014, we have visited Honduras 21 times, missing only once for political unrest. We decided on San Jose as our main project site in October 2005 and have stayed in San Jose every time since then. Given we are only on-site for about 11 days each trip due to travel constraints, and there is about 6 months between trips, it is inspiring to think of just how much we have accomplished.

### Far-Reaching Positive Effects

Over 40 Department of Family Medicine residents have visited Honduras, most of those residents going 2-3 times. Following graduation, some of these residents have spent considerable time overseas working in resource-poor settings. In addition to residents, the trips have enriched the lives of many medical students, nursing students, dentists, a few undergraduates and multiple other people from various walks of life. The positive effects of our Global Health program on people from the US and Canada is far reaching.

Although we are doctors, our work in San Jose has always addressed the determinants of poor



*Department of Family Medicine presenters at the AAFP Global Health Workshop in San Diego include Scott Hartman, MD, Ani Kolasa-Lenarz, MD, MPH, Rachel Long, DO, and Barbara Gawinski, PhD.*

health, even when they are outside the medical realm. A quantitative look back reveals we have built 220+ improved cook-stoves, 128+ latrines, 83+ pilas, and distributed over 273 water filters. Five piped water systems have been installed, with a 6th nearing completion, helping an estimated 700 people. Six families have increased their protein intake through our help constructing fish farms. Ninety micro-loans have been made in an effort to address the significant poverty of the population.

We recently completed our sixth year of offering scholarships to the very poor of San

Jose, enabling many children their only chance to attend school after the sixth grade. These interventions are really making a difference in the lives of many hundreds of people, both in Honduras and in the US. We believe that through helping others, working side by side with them, that humanity has the best chance at long term health.

### Medical Student Volunteer Commitment

A University of Rochester medical student, Joshua Bach, has decided to take a year off between his third and fourth year of medical school to volunteer in San Jose, Honduras. He is the son of a former DFM graduate, Dr. Ephraim Bach. This is an exceptional opportunity to accelerate our current efforts in San Jose! Presently, when a roadblock is encountered in Honduras, all forward progress stops until we return on our next trip. With Joshua on the ground, we should overcome many of these small barriers.

In addition to helping with all our current activities, Joshua will be collecting data related to childhood nutritional status and its correlation with our interventions. The medical school provides a stipend to cover Joshua's living expenses while in Honduras. We are in need of additional funds in anticipation of more projects getting done over the next year. If you have an interest in supporting our efforts, visit the Department's web site at [www.urmc.rochester.edu/family-medicine/global-health/support-us.cfm](http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/family-medicine/global-health/support-us.cfm), where an on-line donation can be made.



*Left, Jeff Harp, MD and above, Jeff Harp, MD and Gene Bailey, MD, '92.*

*Photos by Deborah Pierce.*

## ALSO in Alaska

Department faculty Dr. Jeff Harp and Dr. Deborah Pierce traveled to Alaska with alumnus Dr. Eugene Bailey '92 to teach at an ALSO (Advanced Learning Support in Obstetrics) training course. New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) established the course in an Alaskan hospital to provide ongoing ALSO training on-site to clinicians in the area. The hospital serves a primarily Native American and Alaskan population.

## Resident Spotlight



### Nicole Cannan Vavrina, DO

"My initial decision to apply for residency at the University of Rochester was easy – to come back home after spending 8 years away at undergrad and medical school," said resident Nicole Cannan Vavrina, DO. "But, as I rotated through the Family Medicine Department as a visiting fourth year medical student, I immediately saw it wasn't just the location, but the people at Highland Family Medicine that would truly make this my home again."

A graduate of the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Dr. Vavrina earned her Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. She chose Family Medicine because it gives her the opportunity to see a variety of patients and tailor her approach to their care to uniquely fit each one.

"My choice to be a family physician lays in my unyielding conviction that providing primary care entails knowing the entire story -- understanding patients as individuals and treating them as such," says Dr. Vavrina. "Each patient comes before me with their own beliefs, moral values, culture, family and way of life and it is my responsibility to treat each patient within the context of that life style."

Dr. Vavrina hopes to stay in the Rochester area to practice in a full spectrum outpatient practice where she is able to serve her individual patients and the community as a whole.

"Nikki is a positive force in our program," said Steve Schultz, MD, Residency Director. "She not only provides excellent care for patients, she always has her eye out for how to help her colleagues. I have received several unsolicited kudos from other departments on her clinical excellence and work ethic."

## Highland Family Medicine Rides Again at Tour de Cure



*Above, Dr. Matt Devine with his wife Anne, oldest daughter Hannah and youngest daughter Emma.*

*Left, team members Cindy Jones, friend, joins Highland Family Medicine staff members Carolyn Braddock, NP, Gina Lamanna, MS and Loren Oster, RN at Tour de Cure.*

Highland Family Medicine was again a big part of the Tour de Cure for the American Diabetes Association in 2014. This year Matt Devine, DO, Associate Medical Director Highland Family Medicine worked with Highland and Strong leadership to create a larger UR Medicine team. The Highland SpinOut team was part of this team.

In total there were 150 riders on the UR Medicine team – 100 of those riders were Highland SpinOuts including 21 Highland Family Medicine employees and an additional 17 more patients/family/friends of Highland Family Medicine.

In total the SpinOut team raised over \$25,000 for diabetes, and the entire UR Medicine team raised over \$52,000!



*You can count on seeing Highland Family Medicine staff members like Evan Flores, Medical Assistant; Jamila Crossdale, Family Planning Community Health Educator and Heather Sled, Medical Assistant at educational events in the South Wedge in Rochester.*

## Alumni Spotlight **Feature**

### Honeoye Valley Family Practice: A Legacy of Care

The brick building at 23 Ontario Street in Honeoye Falls has been a medical facility for over 80 years. Originally a private proprietary hospital, the site has now served as Honeoye Valley Family Practice for 40 years and as the home of two of its doctors.

In 1974, Dr. David Ness, a new graduate of the University of Rochester Family Medicine Residency, began to practice there. In 1980 he was joined by his wife, Dr. Mary Kay Ness, a new graduate of the program, and her classmates, Dr. Jules Zysman and Dr. Nadette Jacob, another married couple. In 1985, a familiar face at Highland Family Medicine, Nurse Practitioner Maggie Bank joined as well.

#### **Starting Out**

The couples remember the early days when, according to Dr. Zysman, "all a beeper did was beep, and you didn't know if your patient was having an emergency or an ear infection." The Nesses had a swinging door between their home and office so they could easily see patients and their three children had ready access to them. Drs. Zysman and Jacob set up a make-shift office in their garage so that they were available to their patients and their three children when they were on call.

Honeoye Valley Family Practice has grown and changed to embrace current health care initiatives. In 2002, it became one of the first medical practices in the Rochester area to have fully electronic medical records and is in the process to be certified as a medical home in the Spring of 2015. But, Dr. Zysman says, "At the heart of this successful practice is that we are still idealistic doctors who love to practice." Dr. Jacob agrees and calls Family Medicine "a most meaningful vocation." All the physicians stress the strong commitment they feel to the community where they lived and worked and also served as school district doctors.

Today Dr. Zysman still works at the practice while Dr. Jacob recently retired to help care for her grandchildren. In 2007, Drs. David and Mary Kay Ness also retired from active practice. But they remain involved in volunteer migrant health in upstate New York and do medical missionary work in western Mexico. Dr. Mary Kay Ness still serves as a preceptor for Family Medicine residents at Highland Family Medicine.

#### **A Strong Influence**

All the doctors were strongly influenced by the late Eugene Farley, MD, founder of the University of Rochester Family Medicine Residency Program, who visited the practice several months before his death. "Gene was the most visionary person I've ever met," said Dr. Mary Kay Ness. "It was a privilege and an honor for us to know him." The physicians feel the same about the Family Medicine profession. "It's a wonderful life," said Dr. David Ness. "We are blessed to have compassionate, eager young people who are still joining our ranks."

The practice now includes four other graduates of the University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine residency program including Dr. Alicia Zysman Cromwell, daughter of Drs. Jules Zysman and Nadette Jacob, who also serves as a clinical instructor along with Dr. Jennifer Frese. Other program graduates include Dr. Gaylinn Greenwood and Dr. Lisa Gambino. They are joined in the practice by Dr. Mariesa Howe, Dr. Joseph Picca, Dr. Sherry Ehrmentraut and Alexis Schneider, NP.



*Drs. David and Mary Kay Ness*



*Dr. Jules Zysman and Dr. Nadette Jacob*

## Welcome



**Janneke Volkert, MD** is Senior Instructor, University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine. Dr. Volkert comes to Rochester from Denver. She attended Wesleyan University and Dartmouth Medical School.



**Magdalene Lim, Psy.D.** has joined the Behavioral Health Service team at Highland Family Medicine as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Primary Care Family Track – Geriatrics. Dr. Lim completed her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology at the Palo Alto University, under the PGSP-Stanford Psy.D. Consortium Program.



**Kevin Kless, MD** is Assistant Professor, University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine. Dr. Kless comes to Rochester from Seattle. He attended Middlebury College and received his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine.



**J. Kent Powers, MD** is a new Maternal Child Health Fellow. He comes to us from the University of Alabama at Birmingham Huntsville Family Medicine Residency program. In addition to his MD, Dr. Powers also has an MS and a BS from Mississippi State University.



**Jamie Bishop** is Administrator, Highland Family Medicine. Bishop served as Administrator, Pluta Cancer Center and Executive Director, Pluta Cancer Center Foundation, Inc.



**Niral Tilala, MD** is also a Maternal Child Health Fellow. He comes to us from the Genesis Family Medicine Residency Program in Davenport, Iowa where he was a faculty member. He was also an adjunct clinical professor at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

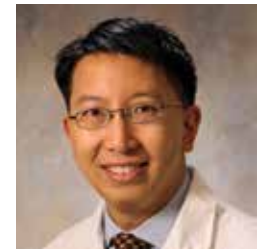


**Maria V. Karipidis Pouria, MD** is our new Sports Medicine Fellow. Dr. Pouria is a Rochester native and completed her undergraduate work at the University of Rochester. She comes to us from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.



**Yukiko Simoneaux, MB** is a new academic fellow. Dr. Simoneaux completed her residency in the Department of Family Medicine and received her medical degree from Hyogo College of Medicine in Japan.

## Dr. Mendoza Selected to Serve on STFM Task Force To Develop Leading Change Live Events and Training



STFM recently launched the Leading Change Tier 2 Task Force to develop and disseminate curriculum and resources to educate and empower family medicine faculty to lead change within their institutions, larger surrounding environments, and their nation. The task force will focus on addressing higher-level, more in-depth topics through live events and live training.

Michael Mendoza, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Highland Family Medicine is among 11 physicians from across the country who were selected to be on the task force. John Franko, MD, department chair at East Tennessee State University, a 20-year member of STFM, and a member of Association of Department of Family Medicine (ADFM) for 7 years, chairs the Leading Change Tier 2 Task Force.

“Training future leaders is key to family medicine’s growth,” said Dr. Mendoza. STFM launched the first Leading Change Task Force in 2013 to create online learning modules that develop leaders in all areas of family medicine. The task force created 12 online learning modules that were released to the public in April 2014. Those modules can be found at: <http://www.stfm.org/OnlineEd/LeadingChangeCurriculum>.

## Fringe Festival Features Physician Authors

The Rochester Fringe Festival featured Department of Family Medicine physicians Colleen Fogarty, Francesca Decker, Mila D’Cunha, Steve Schultz and Natercia Rodrigues reading their work in “Heart & Soul: Medicine and Life” at Writers and Books in Rochester. The spoken-word performance featured the doctors reading poems, short essays or 55 word vignettes. Many of their words are inspired by their patients and their own lives.



*Fringe Festival participants included: Natercia Rodrigues, MD; Colleen T. Fogarty, MD MSc; Stephen Schultz, MD, and Mila D’Cunha, MD. Francesca Decker, MD, MPH also participated. Photo by Jeff Sciortino.*

# Faculty Accomplishments

## Selected Publications

**Carroll JK; Winters PC; Sanders MR; Decker F;** Ngo T; Sciamanna CN. "Clinician-targeted intervention and patient-reported counseling on physical activity." *Preventing Chronic Disease*. 2014; 11(1):E89.

Cronholm PF; Singh V; **Fogarty CT;** Ambuel B. "Trends in violence education in family medicine residency curricula." *Family Medicine*. 2014; 46(8):620-625.

Doherty WJ, **McDaniel SH,** Hepworth J. "Contributions of medical family therapy to the changing health care system." *Family Process*. 2014;53:3:516-528.

Elwyn G; Dehlendorf C; **Epstein RM;** Marrin K; White J; Frosch DL. "Shared decision making and motivational interviewing: achieving patient-centered care across the spectrum of health care problems." *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2014; 12(3):270-5.

**Epstein RM.** "Realizing Engel's biopsychosocial vision: resilience, compassion, and quality of care." *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*. 2014; 47(4):275-87.

**Fiscella K; Winters PC; Mendoza M;** Noronha GJ; Swanger CM; Bisognano JD; Fortuna RJ. "Do clinicians recommend aspirin to patients for primary prevention of cardiovascular disease?" *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Epub 2014 Aug 05.

**Fiscella K.** "Tackling disparities in influenza vaccination in primary care: it takes a team." *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Epub 2014 Aug 16.

**Fogarty CT;** Freedy JR; Mauksch LB. "Why and how should behavioral faculty publish scholarly work?" *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*. 2014; 47(4):289-97.

**Fogarty CT;** Mauksch LB. "The family in our lives."

*Families, Systems & Health: The Journal of Collaborative Family Healthcare*. 2014; 32(3):257-8.

Greener DT; Quill T; Amir O; Szydlowski J; **Gramling RE.** "Palliative care referral among patients hospitalized with advanced heart failure." *Journal of Palliative Medicine*. Epub 2014 Jul 28.

Jerant A; Kravitz RL; Sohler N; **Fiscella K;** Romero RL; Parnes B; Tancredi DJ; Aguilar-Gaxiola S; Slee C; Dvorak S; Turner C; Hudnut A; Prieto F; Franks P.

"Sociopsychological tailoring to address colorectal cancer screening disparities: a randomized controlled trial." *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2014; 12(3):204-14.

**McDaniel SH,** Doherty WJ & Hepworth J. *Medical Family Therapy and Integrated Care, 2nd Ed.* Washington DC: American Psychological Association Publications. 2014.

**McDaniel SH, Campbell TL, Schultz S, Rosenberg T & deGruy F.** "Innovations in teaching about transdisciplinary professionalism and professional norms." *Establishing Transdisciplinary Professionalism for Improving Health Outcomes.* National Academies of Science Press. 2014; Pp. 101-107.

**McDaniel SH,** Grus C. Cubic B, Hunter C, Kearney L et al. "Competencies for psychology practice in primary care." *American Psychologist*. 2014;69:4:409-429.

**McDaniel SH & deGruy FV** (Eds). *Psychology and Primary Care: A Special Issue of the American Psychologist*. 2014;69:4.

**Naumburg E; Brown EJ.** "Sexual dysfunction" in *Family Medicine: Ambulatory Care and Prevention-Sixth Edition; Section IV-Reproductive Health.*, ed. Smith MA; Shimp LA; Schragger S; McGraw-Hill. 2014; 915-31.

**Pierce D.** "To get good care, it helps to be the right kind of patient" *Washington Post*. April 8, 2014.

Pollard RQ; Betts WR; **Carroll JK;** Waxmonsky JA; **Barnett S;** Degruy FV; Pickler LL; Kellar-Guenther Y.

"Integrating primary care and behavioral health with four special populations: children with special needs, people with serious mental illness, refugees, and deaf people." *The American Psychologist*. 2014; 69(4):377-87.

**Rodrigues N; Fogarty, CT.** "Why the 'annual physical' for healthy adults is a poor use of clinician time" *Family Doctor, A Journal of the New York State Academy of Family Physicians*. 2014; 2(4).

Shields E; **Mirabelli M;** Amsdell S; Thorsness R; Goldblatt J; Maloney M; Voloshin I. "Functional and imaging outcomes of arthroscopic simultaneous rotator cuff repair and bankart repair after shoulder dislocations" *American Journal of Sports Medicine*. Epub 2014 Sept 26.

Steiner B; Cochella S; Jortberg B; Margo K; Jerpak C; Last A; **Mendoza M;** Tobias B; Johnston E; Robinson M. "STFM develops preceptor guidelines and a position statement on student use of electronic health records." *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2014; 12(2):179-80.

**Taggart C;** Frazier JK. "Wheezing" in *Family Medicine: Ambulatory Care and Prevention-Sixth Edition; Section I-Common Problems.*, ed. Smith MA; Shimp LA; Schragger S; McGraw-Hill. 2014; 518-24.

Walczak A; Butow PN; Clayton JM; Tattersall MH; Davidson PM; Young J; **Epstein RM.** "Discussing prognosis and end-of-life care in the final year of life: a randomised controlled trial of a nurse-led communication support programme for patients and caregivers." *BMJ Open*. 2014; 4(6):e005745.

*continued from page 2*

The physicians have also done several Suboxone inductions, which involves starting someone when they are in withdrawal. The program has space for up to 60 patients, so has room for new patients as well.

"This is a huge service to the community as currently there is a wait list of 6-8 weeks at most chemical dependency places to begin Suboxone therapy," said Dr. Russell.

The clinic preferentially takes patients who are already Highland Family Medicine Primary Care patients, but will also take outside patients who want to come only for Suboxone therapy when space allows. For more information, contact Highland Family Medicine Suite 400 (585) 279-4600, or come to suite 400 and pick up an enrollment packet.

## In Memoriam: Richard Rockefeller, MD



The Department of Family Medicine mourns the death of Richard Rockefeller, MD '82, tragically killed in an airplane accident earlier this year. After he completed his Family

Medicine residency at the University of Rochester, Dr. Rockefeller practiced and taught family medicine in the Portland, Maine area until 2000, and where he continued to

be engaged with a variety of humanitarian and environmental interests. Over the past decade Dr. Rockefeller supported several avenues of health research, including cancer immunology and, more recently, MDMA (ecstasy)-assisted psychotherapy for post-traumatic stress. He spoke on "Ecstasy and the Agony of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder," this spring at the URM Department of Family Medicine fifth annual Gene and Linda Farley Lectureship. "Richard was a great doctor, humanitarian and friend," said Dr. Tom Campbell, Department Chair. "He will be sorely missed but has left us a lasting legacy of his life's work and passionate commitment to health care."

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## CDC Renews Support, Awarding \$4M for Deaf Health Research at UR

The Rochester Prevention Research Center (RPRC): National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR) received a \$4.35 million award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to continue promoting good health among Deaf American Sign Language users and people with acquired hearing loss. The funding cycle has begun with \$750,000 and continues for five years.

“We are grateful to have the financial support to continue our mission to eliminate health disparities with communities of deaf sign language users and people with acquired hearing loss,” said Steven Barnett, MD, director of the RPRC and Associate Professor of Family Medicine.

The RPRC at the University of Rochester is the only research center in the world that works with deaf sign language users and people with acquired hearing loss to prevent disease using community-based participatory research. Historically, people in these groups have been excluded or overlooked, resulting in populations that are underserved, understudied, and undereducated in terms of health practices and health knowledge.

The latest grant will fund an adaption and second clinical trial of the Deaf Weight Wise (DWW) program, an in-person healthy lifestyle intervention developed by deaf and hearing researchers and community members. The initial DWW clinical trial, which ended in summer 2014, studied a DWW healthy-lifestyle intervention with deaf people ages 40 to 70. The American Heart Association recognized RPRC’s work on DWW with its Award for Excellence in Research Addressing Cardiovascular Health Equity.



**Save  
the  
Date**

*The Department of Family Medicine presents*

**2015 Farley Lecture**

**May 21, 2015**

**Featuring Larry Green, MD, alumnus and Chair, Department of Family Medicine, University of Colorado**

**“Back to the Future: What We Have Learned from Gene Farley.”**

**Join Fellow Alumni for reunion to honor Dr. Gene Farley**

**Details to Follow**