FROM THE EDITORS

Thank you reading the spring issue of Collaborative Healthcare! Spring is always an exciting time of year for us at JCIPE as we wrap up many of our IPE and collaborative practice (CP) programs on campus. This year, we graduated our tenth cohort of Jefferson Health Mentors Program students and celebrated the accomplishments of our first expanded cohort of interprofessional student hotspotters, consisting of 20 teams of students from 15 professions who worked with patients with complex health and social needs. Our Team SAFE (Safety and Fearlessness Education) program trained a record number of students and now includes both introductory and advanced simulation workshops. Additionally, our virtual IPE platform, Enhancing Services to Homeless Populations (ESHP), has been filled to capacity throughout the academic year and continues to improve the knowledge, skills and self-efficacy of interprofessional student participants. We are now more confident than ever that virtual platforms are an important way to build on core IPE programming at Jefferson and have already developed a new virtual program that will enable students to work with a patient with Alzheimer’s Disease and her caregiver. Assessment of collaborative practice behaviors remains a priority on campus, and we have now integrated our Jefferson Teamwork Observation Guide™ (JTOG) into nearly every IPE and CP program on campus, with over 15,000 JTOGs completed to date. Once disseminated to other institutions, we believe the app, which incorporates the voice of the patient and family member (or support person) as well as students and providers as part of teamwork assessment will enable national benchmarking of collaborative practice behaviors. A number of JTOG studies are currently at press, and we look forward to sharing some of this exciting data with you soon.

This year, our Center continues to expand to meet the needs of our rapid programmatic expansion and new research initiatives. We now have a total of nine faculty and staff from various professions leading our new IPE and CP initiatives on campus as well as two new PhD researchers, Dr. Angela Gerolamo and Dr. Richard Hass, assisting us with assessment and research in the Center. Our JCIPE family has grown in other ways, too, as our Administrative Director, Shoshana Sicks, celebrated the arrival of a healthy new baby boy!

In addition to all of the updates at JCIPE, we could not be more thrilled with this edition of Collaborative Healthcare. We have another exciting collection of articles. One study describes the impact of a new IPE elective at the University of Alabama designed to increase awareness about healthy work environments. In addition, three powerful student and alumni reflection pieces are featured. Finally, a thought provoking paper by Dr. Mark Goldszmidt challenges us to adopt a sociomaterial perspective to strengthen current assessment of CP. We are excited to announce that Dr. Goldszmidt will also be joining us at our upcoming JCIPE conference, where he will further elaborate on this fascinating assessment approach. We hope you enjoy the enclosed articles, and, if you have not already marked your calendar, please save the date for the upcoming 6th biannual JCIPE conference, Interprofessional Care for the 21st Century, on October 26th – 27th. We anticipate a record turnout of attendees, an opening Keynote by Dr. George Thibault, President of The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, an outstanding panel of plenary speakers including Dr. Mark Goldszmidt, Centre for Education Research & Innovation, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Western Ontario; Dr. Patty Coker-Bolt, Division of Occupational Therapy, Medical University of South Carolina; and Dr. Peter H. Vlasses, Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as well as a host of phenomenal pre-conference workshops led by IPE leaders from around the country. Looking forward to seeing you then!