

COLLABORATIVE HEALTHCARE

INTERPROFESSIONAL PRACTICE,
EDUCATION, AND EVALUATION

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Jefferson Center for Interprofessional
Practice and Education

FROM THE EDITORS

When last we wrote, we were just beginning to reflect on the global upheaval encapsulated in the COVID-19 pandemic and the new urgency to confront systemic racism. Some areas of the world have emerged from COVID-19 lockdowns while others are battling new variants with catastrophic consequences. The disparities in vaccine distribution continue to be an urgent problem, along with vaccine hesitancy, building trust between patients and the healthcare system, and establishing access to healthcare for underserved populations. So, while we may be nearing the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is much work to be done to tackle the complexities of racial and social justice issues that remain.

On a more positive note, we were thrilled to have three keynote speakers join us at our biennial conference who addressed different parts of the issues of systemic racism and health inequity; we are fortunate that these speakers agreed to elaborate on their talks and continue the conversation here in the newsletter. Dr. Peter Cahn's *How Structural Competency Can Help Dismantle Structural Racism* piece in this issue relays key points of his talk on racial constructs in medical practice. He focuses on how interprofessional education can rise to the challenge and educate the next generation of health professionals to combat the structural issues that give rise to medical error and systems neglect.

Tiffany Ledesma, Jessica Brooks, and Elizabeth Svekla illustrated how teamwork and collaboration can have a positive impact

on community health via lessons learned from the 10th anniversary of the Philadelphia Water Department's *Green City, Clean Waters* initiative. Their piece provides practical guidance for other community organizations hoping to have similar impacts.

Finally, Dr. Ivy Oandasan spoke about how to advance change in complex systems, specifically, in education and healthcare. She spoke with Co-Director, Dr. Brooke Salzman, about how IPE can move beyond simple competencies and focus on readying students for collaborative practice in a more holistic way.

As in past issues, we are thrilled to feature a piece by student champions Jordan Mak and Cat-Trinh Phan (both PharmD candidates at Jefferson) illustrating how incorporating information on social determinants of health can positively impact natural disaster relief leading to a healthier community. Jordan, Cat, Mary Lloyd and Francesca Girone (both Nursing students) all represented Jefferson at this year's annual Clarion Case Competition, a virtual interprofessional student team event hosted by the University of Minnesota, and reflect on the experience in this edition.

So, while we are slightly more optimistic about the future than when we last wrote, we recognize that seismic changes are necessary to move interprofessional education and practice, and indeed, the world in a positive direction. We at JCIPE are ready for that challenge and we hope you will continue to join us!

JCIPE CONFERENCE 2021



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21 DISCIPLINES



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