

# COLLABORATIVE HEALTHCARE

INTERPROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, EDUCATION, AND EVALUATION

## FROM THE EDITORS

We are excited to share with you the summer 2023 edition of our newsletter! As the weather warms, and we celebrate commencements, we reflect upon our accomplishments in the face of many challenges. JCIPE is thankful for our 140 faculty, staff, resident, and student volunteer facilitators who made our student programming possible over the past year. We could not advance team-based care without their support. Additionally, after three years of largely virtual programming, we are thrilled to have brought all of our in-person simulations back to campus during the 2022-2023 academic year. JCIPE said goodbye to some longtime faculty and staff and welcomed several wonderful new team members who have brought with them fresh ideas and perspectives. After interviewing internal and external stakeholders, we are in the process of writing a new strategic plan that will carry us forward towards JCIPE's 20th anniversary in 2027! Finally, we are thrilled to congratulate the faculty, staff, and student recipients of the 2023 James B. Erdmann Awards. These healthcare leaders are working to advance collaborative practice, with the goal of improving health equity and patient outcomes through team-based care. We look forward to seeing where their journeys take them next!

While we have much to celebrate, reading the news about inflation, gun violence, health disparities, and inadequate mental healthcare can feel disheartening. This issue highlights the efforts of individuals and teams who are working towards a safer, more equitable healthcare system. Dr. Ciera Osborne, a May 2023 graduate of Thomas Jefferson University's Occupational Therapy Doctoral program, interviews Dr. John E. Lewis, Jr., MD, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Emory University

School of Medicine. Dr. Lewis describes his journey to becoming a physician, and how he was shaped by his faith, his parents, the teachings of the Civil Rights Movement, and eventually, by his patients. He speaks about his lifelong fight against racism, sharing how he uses Black and African music as a method for change. Dr. Lewis stays motivated to continue fighting against the incurable scourge of racism "because the benefits that I have had, that you have had, is because others did not quit." By educating people about the root causes of structural racism, Dr. Lewis believes we can move towards decreasing disparities and increasing health equity.

Health inequities are linked to worse patient outcomes, as are medical errors, which have been estimated to be the third leading cause of death in the U.S. (Makary & Daniel, 2016) Dr. David Nash, MD, MBA, Founding Dean Emeritus and Dr. Raymond C. & Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy at Jefferson College of Population Health, reflects on his 30-year career as a healthcare system disrupter whose goal is to improve healthcare quality and safety. Dr. Nash believes that "collaboration, coupled with effective leadership training will save lives." Our alumna champion, Kyra Shreeve, a 2022 graduate of Jefferson College of Nursing, agrees. She reflects that "interprofessional teams are integral to providing quality and accessible care to all patient populations." As a nurse at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Shreeve believes that her experiences with JCIPE as a student provided her "with the confidence to offer meaningful contributions to patient care as an interprofessional team member." One program that Shreeve participated in was the Jefferson Student Interprofessional Complex Care Collaborative (J-SICCC). Our

staff champion, Eileen Winter, MSW, LSW, was involved with J-SICCC from 2016 until her retirement this spring. She states that "JCIPE strives to teach students the value of interdisciplinary collaboration and how to work with other members of their team, both to help their patients reach their goals and to contribute to their own professional growth." Before retiring, Winter was a member of the Intensive Care Nursery (ICN) team. We interviewed her and her colleagues about teamwork and collaboration, and what they've learned from each other over the years. They also discussed the case of "Baby C," providing insight into the roles and responsibilities of various team members.

Another clinical team from Jefferson Health describes how they have incorporated twenty-five behavioral health consultants (BHCs), who are licensed clinical social workers or clinical psychologists, across Jefferson's Primary Care system over the last four and a half years, to address the mental healthcare crisis in the U.S. BHCs provide mental health services to people in the primary care setting, with the goal of increasing access to mental healthcare. Despite implementation challenges, there have been 43,605 clinical consults with BHCs over the last two years. Patients report improved anxiety and depression symptoms, and providers are satisfied with their contributions.

Finally, three faculty members from TJU describe how JCIPE uses simulation to prepare learners for their future collaborative practice, such as that described by the ICN and primary care teams. JCIPE's simulations frequently focus on non-technical skills such as teamwork and communication and include in-person programs that use standardized patients or mannequins,

low-fidelity simulations delivered via video conferencing, and computer-based simulations that take place in virtual worlds.

We hope that you enjoy this look at the interprofessional education programming and collaborative practice examples that are taking place at Jefferson and beyond. We

thank our contributors and JCIPE faculty and staff for their dedication to JCIPE's mission. We hope that the summer provides the opportunity to relax and reflect upon your own accomplishments over the past year and we look forward to catching up with many of you back in-person at our biennial conference this November 3-4!

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## REFERENCES

Makaray, M.A. and Daniel, M. (2016). Medical error- the third leading cause of death in the US. *BMJ*; 353. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.i2139>