



<http://www.upstate.edu/gch/academics/newsletter.php>

### Matchmaker Matchmaker

In case you missed it, we had nine of our current third year residents and one former intern from their class who matched in the fellowship match on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The exciting results were as follows:

Vaishali Adlakha: UT-Houston -Peds GI

Sophie Duron: St. Christopher's -Peds EM

Jean Meneses: Penn State Hershey-Cardio

Richard Johnson: Child's Hosp of MI-PICU

Aditi Shaily: Med U South Carolina -Rheum

Laura Mejia-Connolly: VA Commonwealth University - PICU

Maria Liverpool: Wash Univ-St. Louis-PEM

Ruby Sangha: Univ of Pittsburgh - Peds ID

Danielle Fayad (PL1 here in 2019): Cincinnati Peds ID.

And from last month, Evan Ho: Northwell-LIJ – Toxicology

The list is also now available on our website: <https://www.upstate.edu/gch/academics/residency/index.php>

Congratulations, future fellows! We are so proud of each of you!

### The First Hospitalist Fellow

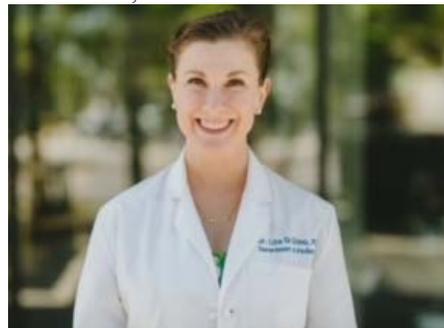
At the same time our third years were matching all over the country, our brand new Peds Hospitalist Fellowship Program matched their first fellow for next year. The fellowship director, Dr. Jen Myszewski shares the following: “We are very excited to have Alex Dang as our first PHM Fellow. He attended medical school at the University of Colorado and is currently a third year pediatric resident at Loma Linda Children’s Hospital. He is very active in medical education, especially in teaching medical students during their



pediatric clerkship rotations. Alex has multiple research interests including the use of technology to improve communication and safety as well as the application of informatics in pediatric hospital medicine. Outside of work, Alex enjoys hiking and outdoor activities.”

### The First Matched Child Abuse Fellow

The successes just keep rolling in. Child Abuse Fellowship Program Director, Alicia Pekarsky shares the following: “In other fellowship news, I am happy to report that the Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship Program participated in the Match for the first time this year and we filled our open spot. Dr. Lisa Di Enno will be joining us next summer. She attended Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine and completed her pediatric residency at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA.”



### Welcome, Aubrey!

We are super excited to welcome our new fellowship/associate residency coordinator, Aubrey Mariani. In an exclusive Crier interview she writes: “Hey, I’m Aubrey! I am the new Associate Program Coordinator for the Pediatric Residency Program as well as the new Program Coordinator for the new Pediatric Fellowship Program beginning in July 2022. It is a great pleasure to join the wonderful pediatrics team here at Upstate! This is my first foray into program coordination and I look forward to learning new things and taking on new challenges. I am a Syracusan born and raised. I graduated from Syracuse University with a Bachelor of



Arts as a double major in Political Science and Psychology and then went on to earn a Master of Arts in Child Advocacy & Policy. I have spent the past 9 years working in the nonprofit sector as a behavior specialist, care coordinator and care manager in the Syracuse City School District and with Hillside Children’s Center. I have loved working with high needs children and families and connecting them to necessary services and community resources to help them be successful. My passion is in helping people to thrive. I work every day with the philosophy of leaving people better off after having met me. In my spare time I enjoy travelling, being with family, hiking and activities with my pup Buddy (black lab/rottweiler). I look forward to meeting and working with all of you! If I can be of any assistance, please don’t hesitate to reach out! May 2022 be a year of growth, positivity and blessings for all!”

### Medical Director, Dr. Jaelyn Sisskind



Dr. Conners sent out an email earlier this month announcing that our very own Dr. Jaelyn Sisskind has taken over the position of Medical Director of Upstate Pediatrics, our primary care office in Baldwinsville, NY as of December 1, 2021. Dr. Sisskind is from our area, and is a graduate of Fayetteville-Manlius High School, Union College, and Upstate Medical University. She is currently a Pediatrics faculty member at Upstate Pediatrics. She will be replacing Dr. Ellen Schurman who is stepping down but will continue as a Pediatrics faculty member at Upstate Pediatrics.

### Vaishali and NASPGHAN

Congratulations to Vaishali Adlakha whose poster was accepted for the NASPGHAN’s national meeting on December 13th! We were planning on getting a picture of the exciting event but unfortunately, the conference was changed from in person to virtual format.

## Good Samaritans

From Dr. Thabet

I wanted to email and share the picture attached about the great news about our second annual Samaritan Center winter collection drive. My sons and I wanted to thank everyone who helped us again this year by donating winter items. Due to the generosity of many, we are happy to report that we exceeded our expected number this year! We were able to create over 160 winter packages. Each package contains a winter hat, gloves, socks and a nice holiday card. The Samaritan Center was grateful to receive the winter items. From my sons and I, thank you again and may the New Year bring us all warmth, wellness, and good tidings!

Kind regards,

Asalim, Malik(9), Hamza(7), and Musa (3)



## Welcome Levi!

Congratulations to Hadassah McCray on the long-awaited arrival of Baby Levi on 12/1 at "a whopping 8lbs 8oz and 21.5 inches." Hadassah tells the Crier, "We're both doing well and just adjusting to the newborn life...His full name is Levi Manasseh McCray. His middle name is in honor of my late brother." We are so happy for her and wish them all the best.



## Interview Season Updates

As we head into 2022 we have completed 3/4s of our interviews (which includes 120 applicants!). We keep hearing from the applicants how fun the interview dinners are. We finally got a small peek at one of the groups, hosted by Adil. This was before they broke into their breakout rooms. Thanks to ALL the residents who helped make these so

enjoyable. We have just two interview days to go (January 7 and 14).



One of the applicants told us that of all the programs she has been to, she has not seen a group of residents that seem to get along so well, enjoy each other's company and care about each other so much. We take that as a huge compliment!

## Lots of Messages of Support

Most of us heard the tragic story of the Waukesha Christmas Parade tragedy where over 60 people were injured and 6 people died, including an 8-year-old boy. Children's Wisconsin received 18 victims from the parade tragedy, including 3 sets of siblings and the child who ultimately succumbed to his injuries. Many of the children were critically injured. In response, the Upstate Pediatric Patient Experience Team set up an opportunity for each of us to write messages of support to our colleagues at Children's Wisconsin. Each message was fixed to a "Thinking of You card, and mailed to the hospital to be distributed among their staff. Jenny Dickenson reported that we had 93 Peds staff respond to our call for messages of support. She shared the sample card below and added that "The messages our staff wrote were very kind and heartfelt." Thank you to ALL of you who participated!



## In the News:

Dr. Domachowske was interviewed on WSYR to discuss COVID-19 vaccines among 5 to 11 year olds. You can see and hear the interview at:

<https://www.localsyr.com/interviews/interview-dr-joe-domachowske-from-suny-upstate-discusses-covid-19-vaccines-among-5-to-11-year-olds/>

## A CEO Shout Out to Child Life

Dr. Corona did a special shout out to Child Life for the great job they have been doing, in his weekly address on 12/23. But then, we all already knew that!



Thank you, Child Life for all you do!

## The Saxy Santa

Dr. Bach shared the following picture with us and wrote, "Look who stopped by UPAC Christmas Eve to give us socially distanced concert!!!" Who knew Santa moonlights as a musician! I guess you need some kind of hobby when you only work one full 24-hour shift per year.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/4 Bob Hingre  
1/10 Avnee Nulkar  
1/13 John Andrade  
1/15 Ruby Sangha  
1/24 Jessica Mayer  
1/25 Nienke Dosa