



PRESS Release!

A big congratulations to second year resident Laabiah Ejaz who was selected to participate in the Promoting Resident Experiences in the Subspecialties at Stanford (PRESS) Program with the Stanford School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics. She will participate in a PRESS visiting 4-week rotation from March 14, to April 10, 2022. This will also guarantee her a fellowship interview in the division she rotates with (which will be Peds Critical Care).

How big a deal is this award, you ask? Dr. Nelsen explains it this way: It is a "HUGE. Big honking deal. Like Billy Fuccillo huge. This ranks in this category of huge: <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/18-great-big-things-that-are-both-big-and-great> (please see Dr. Nelsen for clarification if there are any questions). The Crier also asked Laabiah to comment on her acceptance. "I'm so excited for this incredible opportunity! I've always been a huge fan of Stanford since I was little. I'm grateful to the program for turning this dream into a reality. I'd like to especially thank Dr. Nelsen, Dr. Ajagbe, Dr. Clarke and Dr. Wratney for their invaluable support and help with my application. Looking forward to learning new skills, connecting with amazing mentors and getting to see some sun in California!" We are all so proud of Laabiah!

Heading to the Big Apple!

Congratulations to third year resident Evan Ho who matched in LIJ/Northwell for Toxicology in November! He is super excited, and we are super excited for him. The rest of the fellowship matches will be coming up in a few weeks so stay tuned for more congratulations next month.

Interview Season Updates

As we head into December, we have completed three interview days and three interview dinners with the residents. After the interviews on Friday (12/3) we will be halfway done. We made an interesting observation after the first interview day.



Applicants are leaving their Syracuse interview looking much happier than they looked at the beginning of the day.



We will let the readers reach their own conclusion as to cause and effect. The virtual dinners have also once again been a huge success so far with the applicants letting us know a. how much fun they are and b. how great our residents are. Residents, it is not too late if you are feeling left out and would like to jump in to one of the remaining five events.

Vaccines are In

Upstate Online shared the following in the 11/12 issue: "7-year-old Jaelynn of Fayetteville was among the first patients to get a COVID 19 vaccine at the Upstate Pediatric and Adolescent Center. With her is Dr Steven Blatt."



But there is a little more to the story. Every school district in Onondaga County is working with Kinneys or Wegmans to provide covid vaccines for young kids. Dr. Blatt offered to have pediatricians help at the clinic. The superintendents like having them

on site. It is reassuring for them to have a pediatrician around, just in case. Dr. Blatt noted, "While there, I have answered parent questions and helped with anxious kids. There are a fair number of kids with anxiety. I've also helped with check in...I have found this to be a good use of my time. I think the schools really like it, we do help. It's a good community effort." Indeed it is!

In the News: The Refugee Clinic

Upstate Online did a great article featuring the Upstate Refugee Clinic and their response to the latest arrivals to CNY. Thanks to Dr. Andi Shaw and her team for the amazing work they do! <https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2021/2021-11-18-refugeeclinic.php>



Tango and Scarlet

The program director has been on a mission to arrange some quality time for the residents with a few pet therapy pooches. Sadly, we were recently informed that PAWS of CNY is only able to come to the GCH to spend time with patients (not staff). Undaunted, we looked into other options and were delighted to discover that Amy Slutzky from the Upstate Library was involved with an alternative pet therapy program called Pet Partners of CNY (<http://www.petpartnersny.org/>) and they have monthly pet therapy in the Weiskotten library. Though the Pet Partners pups are not allowed in the hospital, Amy was able to meet us at the treehouse lobby with her therapy dog Tango, and his friend Scarlet, for our own pediatric pet therapy session.

On November 4th, Tango, Scarlet, and the residents took a break from their Thursday conferences to spend a little quality time together! Thanks to Amy

and Karen Lockwood (Scarlet's mom) for taking a paw in their busy schedule to come and bring us some wags, licks, and doggie kisses.

Rubys and Diamonds

Congratulations to Ruby Sangha who got engaged in September.



Arsh (who is an internal medicine resident at Staten Island) popped the question on a rose-covered blanket at the beach in Waikiki, Hawaii. They were surprised by family and friends including our very own Maria Liverpool. Ruby tells the Crier she was very surprised! Oh, and in case you are interested, she said yes!

The Emerald Islands

Former residents Valerie Ho (2020) and Joshua Griesman (2020) were recently spotted together in Ireland!



When they are not traveling, Josh is finishing his peds cardio fellowship and Val just accepted a spot as a hospitalist, both in Toronto.

Here Came the Bride!

Congratulations to Dr. Alicia Pekarsky who let the Crier know that she and Scott Dawson got married on October 1st in Watkins Glen! All the best to this beautiful couple!



Welcome Baby Soliman

Congratulations to Aly Soliman on the birth of #3. Hosny Aly Hosny Soliman arrived on 11/1. Aly's wife Aisha is doing well, as are their other two kids, Khadija (6) and Khalid (4). Aly tells the Crier that Hosny is "the 3rd kiddo in the family who's named after my dad (who passed away in 2018), as an expression of love, respect and the hope of following in his venerable footsteps!"



Wellness Workshop

Thank you to Dr. Caitlyn Deluca for doing one of her popular wellness workshops for the residents in November. And thanks to Sarah and Kaitlyn for sharing their punctured lobes with us.



Where Are They Now?

Congratulations to former resident, Nellie (Sadaghiani) Farmington (Class of 2014) on the birth of their second son, Oliver Navid on 10/24. When she is not home with the boys Nellie works at the Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix AZ in Pediatric Critical Care.



Youth Shelter Open House

Thanks to all of the support of Team Upstate and the Department of Pediatrics, the new Homeless & Runaway Youth Shelter will be opening in a few months. In the meantime, we have been invited to an open house on Thursday, December 9th from 11am-1pm and 4pm- 7pm. If you haven't already done so, they are requesting RSVPs by December 2nd. to Mackenzie Naum at 315-701-3853 or Mackenzie.Naum@rmsyr.org.

You are invited to an Open House!

Come tour the new Rescue Mission Runaway & Homeless Youth Shelter. This shelter will be a safe haven for homeless 12-17 year-olds and will be affirming to and supportive of LGBTQ youth.

Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021
11am-1pm and 4pm- 7pm

1226 Lancaster Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210

RSVP by December 2 to Mackenzie Naum at 315-701-3853 or Mackenzie.Naum@rmsyr.org.

Refreshments and light fare provided.
Parking will be available across the street at All Saints Church, 1342 Lancaster Ave.



RESCUE MISSION
RUNAWAY & HOMELESS
YOUTH SHELTER

This shelter will serve 10 young individuals at any given time who are at risk of or are experiencing homelessness. As a supportive residence, case managers will help the youth achieve stability in a safe and caring environment.

Beware! Secret Santas at work through 12/16.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1 Gloria Kennedy
12/12 Ahmed Eltayeb
12/15 Jan Bach
12/16 Joshua Bonville
12/18 Sophie Duron
12/23 Robert Lebel
12/24 Linda McAleer
12/25 LaShaun Jones
12/28 Jennifer Nead, Dongmei Huang