



Our New Assistant Program Director, Dr. Holly Chebaya

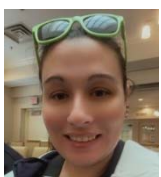


We are very excited to introduce the newest member of the Pediatric Residency Leadership Team, and to formally welcome Dr. Holly (Stacey) Chebaya as our new Assistant Residency

Program Director. She will be officially joining the team on July 1st. Dr. Chebaya's name is already familiar to all of us after chairing our recruitment committee last year, which helped to ensure a successful match in a year when 25% of the pediatric programs nationally did not fill. But Holly has been involved in resident education since before her chief year even started in 2022. She implemented numerous changes including a complete overhaul of the peds clerkship, and creating a SIM Curriculum. She was also the recipient of the hospital-wide GME Excellence in Teaching Award. She is currently a faculty member at UPAC, a resident adviser, and on both of the residency committees (PEC, CCC). It would take much more space than a Crier article could allow to highlight all of Holly's accomplishments but suffice it to say we are all delighted to have her on the team! Holly tells the Crier:

"I am honored, thrilled and excited to join the Pediatric Residency Leadership Team! I am eager to join such an amazing team of leaders, dedicated to enhancing our residency program. Just like the team, my focus lies in fostering positive change, streamlining processes, and optimizing resident well-being. In my new role, I intend to continue to enhance resident recruitment and serve as an advocate for all residents. I look forward to all the new challenges and opportunities this new role will bring!"
Holly Chebaya"

Our New Resident Assistant



The GCH and residency program would like to welcome our new inpatient resident assistant, Chelsie Newell. Chelsie tells the Crier, "Hello, my name is

Chelsie. I have been a member of the Upstate Community since 2016. Prior to joining the pediatric team, I was focusing on the finance side of patient care, working closely with insurance companies. When I am not at work, I am a mom of four amazing kids, three boys and one girl. If I am not cheering them on at the football, lacrosse, or soccer fields then I am spending my spare time hiking. I am so excited to be a part of the team." Chelsie's main location is 11E-2. If she is not there or is rounding with one of the teams, she can be reached via vocera or her cell. We are delighted to have her on the team!

President's Award in Research

Breaking news: Congratulations to Dr. Joe Domachowske who was notified that he has been named as the 2024 recipient of the President's Award for Excellence and Leadership in Research/Scholarship. It was noted on his acceptance letter that this is a well-deserved recognition of his longstanding and meaningful research contributions. He will be honored at the Fall Faculty Convention on September 11th. We are very proud but not too surprised that Dr. D. would be given this award!

Peds Residents at the AFMR

We had reported last month that three of our residents were accepted for posters or oral presentations at the Southeastern Regional Conference of the American Federation of Medical Research (AFMR) which was held in Birmingham, Alabama in May. Mubasshira Khan was accepted for an oral presentation, and Clara El Nakib and Mohammed Doklaisha presented their posters. Congratulations to all three!



The CARE Team in Savannah

Drs. Pekarsky, Ross and Simmerman attended the Ray E Hefner Society Annual Meeting which was held in Savannah this year. They enjoyed the city while attending state of the art presentations, workshops and a visual diagnosis session on child abuse pediatrics. Dr. Pekarsky gave a presentation titled "A National Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship Flipped Classroom Curriculum".



AAP Child Abuse Executive Council

Congratulations to our very own Dr.



Alicia Pekarsky who was elected to serve on the AAP Council on Child Abuse and Neglect Executive Committee. Six candidates were nominated

and 3 won spots. Alicia will begin her 3-year term on July 1, 2024. Her focus will be on revising and creating AAP policy statements that pertain to the medical care of suspected victims of child maltreatment. She will also be supporting the EC's educational initiatives.

Accepted AAP Speakers

Two of our pediatric residents, Ahmed Souid and Clara El Nakib each received an Acceptance of Scientific Abstract letter from Dr. Rishi Gupta and Dr. Jana Shaw, Co-chairs of the NYS Chapter 1 Education Committee announcing that they were both selected as one of their Resident Speakers at the NYS Chapter 1 AAP 2024 Annual Meeting on June 15, 2024 at the DoubleTree Hotel. Congratulations to them both.

Familiar Faces at PAS

The OPD team represented the department at the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) meetings in Toronto in May. They ran into a couple other

familiar faces (it seems like Andrew Brooks has been getting around these days).



All's Well that Ends Well

Professor Emerita Sue Stred ran into several past Upstate pediatric residents at this year's Pediatric Endocrine Society meeting in Chicago, including Rola Saad (1999), Ishita Kharode (2016), and bioindustry mogul George Jeha (2002). Pictured here with Dr. Stred is Roopa Kanakatti Shankar (2009), of Children's National Medical Center, who has risen to be quite the mover-and-shaker within the Society, and will chair the Program Committee for next year's meeting."



Medical School Graduation 2024

Dr. Botash shared the following picture from this year's graduation ceremony and let us know, "We all went to the Upstate graduation on May 5th at the SRC Arena. Faculty are invited to go. Dr. Lebel hooded several of his students. Dr. Hannan hooded Bob Kanter's daughter." Note that Dr. Hannan will also be presenting the Kanter award at our resident graduation this month.



AO-kAy!

Last month we announced our three Peds winners of the AOA awards. This month we have the evidence. The photos were taken at the Annual Banquet and Induction Ceremony on May 3rd.

Dr. Sarah Sloan was nominated and selected to receive the AOA Gamma Chapter Resident Teaching Award.



Dr. Elena Wolner was nominated and selected to become an AOA resident member.



Dr. Zafer Sultant was nominated and selected to become a new AOA faculty inductee.



June Events:

- Graduation – 6/11 (last few days to RSVP but the event will be livestreamed and the link will be shared with everyone.
- Orientation – 6/24-30
- Scavenger Hunt & intern picnic – 6/26

The RM Youth Shelter is Opening!

It has been several years now since Team Upstate adopted the Rescue Mission's new Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter. The official ribbon cutting to the Dr. Alejandro Garcia Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter was held on May 21st.

I Love a Parade!

Several members of the PICU participated in the Fulton Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 25th, with a Peds Stroke Awareness float to raise awareness for Pediatric Stroke.



Jenn Murphy shared the following:

I wanted to share a picture of the group from Saturday's parade. A huge shout out to Josh and his team for organizing everything for the parade. It was incredible to watch Dilyn walk in the parade just 2.5 months after suffering her stroke. It reminded me how proud I am of our team at Upstate who worked incredibly hard to not only save her life but preserve her brain function. We also had another young stroke survivor there who suffered a hemorrhagic stroke at birth. It takes a team to work together to deliver the highest quality care to our patients. I am incredibly proud to be a part of that team who worked hard to create a system to help identify and treat pediatric strokes.

Baby Kate

We already announced Miss Katherine (Kate) Lodge's arrival last month but thought people might enjoy her two-week photo. We did!



In Memory

Condolences, thoughts, and prayers to the family of former resident David Terasaka (1991) who passed away in May. After completing his residency Dr. Terasaka had his own local practice, "Wee Care Pediatrics" for many years.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/syracuse/name/david-terasaka-obituary?id=55061047>

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 6/3 Jamal Obeid
- 6/4 Andrea Shaw
- 6/10 Zafer Sultant
- 6/11 Joan Pellegrino
- 6/16 Pranjali Muppidi
- 6/19 Asmita Sharma
- 6/20 Ayat Siddiqui
- 6/21 Scott Schurman
- 6/23 Neal Seidberg
- 6/24 Prateek Wali
- 6/29 Tracy Gilgallon
- 6/30 Bill Hannan



Superhero of the Month

June 2024

We appreciate all he does for our patients and families.

Matt is amazing. He goes room to room, delivering toys and books to each child. He also spends hours holding infants whose parents can't be at bedside or distracting toddlers so they don't pull out their IVs and nasal cannulas.



One patient in particular stands out. He sat with a hyperactive 2 yo with stranger anxiety whose single mom had to leave to tend to her other children. He literally spent 4 hours with her and made her so comfortable she fell asleep in his arms.

Matt Burns
Volunteer Services