

The *AdvancingPractice* Pages

Volume 2, Issue 2



Kimario Murray, MSN, FNP-BC Fellow with his Continuity Clinic Preceptor Brandon Berkley- Vigil, PA-C

Hello! Welcome back to the AdvancingPractices Pages, a newsletter to fill you in on all things new and exciting with AdvancingPractice, Erie Family Health Centers' APRN Fellowship Program, in partnership with University of Chicago in Illinois. Since our last newsletter, so much growth and transition has been seen, not only on an individual level, but on a program level. As our Fellows, Faculty and Program evolve, our mission remains our constant: **to cultivate quality care and nursing leadership to improve the health of communities through development and mentorship of advanced practice registered nurses.**

**“Stronger
Than
Yesterday”**



End of year celebration with the 2021-2022 Cohort

After a rigorous 12 months, our second cohort of APRN Fellows completed the Fellowship year on June 30. The Fellows served a total of **8,892** patients

**"I am appreciative for my
time during the
AdvancingPractice**

spanning over 13 Erie sites. More than 50 preceptors supported and mentored the Fellows during our three clinic rotations throughout the year. All Fellows participated in a Quality Improvement Project, ranging from improving breastfeeding rates to campaigning for Erie employees to get their flu shot. Additionally, the entire organization, including the Fellows, went through an EMR transition in early spring, which naturally brought on obstacles in routine processes. COVID-19 challenges, case studies, Spanish classes... to say that our Fellows had a lot on their plate this year is an understatement. Yet, they handled every task thrown at them with grace.

We have seen tremendous growth, professionally and personally, with each Fellow and are so proud of their accomplishments this year. We are pleased to announce that all nine Fellows have accepted positions within organizations that serve Chicago's most vulnerable communities, including five who accepted full time positions at Erie Family Health Centers. We hosted a year-end celebration on June 29 to commemorate all their accomplishments and wish them luck! We look forward to watching these individuals continue to flourish in their careers and become nursing leaders outside of the Fellowship.

THANK YOU, 2021-2022 COHORT

Fellowship, and my mentors who helped build my confidence as I began my career as a Nurse Practitioner. I'm grateful to have gone through this experience feeling so supported by my mentors and to see my growth throughout the year! I am excited to continue my practice in underserved communities to help people live their healthiest lives."

**Yesenia Ceja, MSN,
CPNP-PC, Former Fellow**



Yesenia Ceja with her Continuity Clinic Preceptor, Nicole Markovich, MSN, FNP-BC

"On My Way"



From left to right and top to bottom: Anisha Gill, MSN, FNP-C, Bailey Hanselman, DNP, FNP-C, Casey Scott, MSN, FNP-BC, Jessica Alferez, MSN, FNP-BC, Kawana Tharps, DNP, FNP-C, Sarah Cate Fisher, MSN, CPNP-PC, Maryan Saman, DNP, AGPCNP-BC, Kate Kozeniewski, MSN, AGPCNP-BC and Kierra Stuvland, MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC.

We are so fortunate to be able to welcome a new cohort of newly graduated APRNs. Our third cohort started their program year on July 5. During the application and selection process, these ten individuals proved that they were committed to community health and reducing health disparities in under resourced communities. They all possess leadership qualities and obtain a self-awareness that will foster a growth mindset. With their educational and personal backgrounds, as well as the support from the Fellowship, we are confident that our third cohort will have the tools they need to take the best care of their patients and reach their full potential as APRN professionals. They are currently going through an intensive five-week orientation and will start in clinic on August 8.

AdvancingPractice Advancements

Besides the transition from second to third cohort, we have some big news! Effective July 1, Kiersten Solis, MSN, FNP-BC, has succeeded Natalie Raghu as the Program Director. Kiersten has been involved in the Fellowship from its earliest beginnings and has contributed immensely to the development of preceptor and Fellow operations. Congratulations, Kiersten! Natalie Raghu, DNP, FNP-C, Former Program Director, will remain a part



“AdvancingPractice has developed into a wonderful program and I am so grateful

of the faculty as the Faculty and Academic Practice Partnership Lead as well as continue to lead all APPs at Erie Family Health Centers.

We also said farewell to Allison Clark Young, MSN, CPNP-NP. Allison has also been a part of the faculty since the beginning and has shown so much passion for our Fellows and their experience in the program. Allison steps back to further her professional growth and plans to obtain her DNP. She will remain a core preceptor and resource for our Fellows. Replacing Allison as the Fellow Development Lead is Esther Sault, MSN, FNP-BC. Esther has been at Erie for 8 years and has been a Mentored Clinic Preceptor for the past two years. She brings years of experience and fresh ideas to the program. Welcome, Esther!

to our team for creating such a strong and impactful fellowship. I look forward to my new role as Program Director and continuing to shape our future APRN leaders."

Kiersten Solis, MSN, FNP-BC, Program Director of AdvancingPractice



"After being involved as a mentor in the fellowship I am excited to have a chance to work as the fellow development lead this year. I am excited to get to know this new cohort for 2022-2023 and honored to be able to help them grow through their fellowship year."

Esther Sault, MSN, FNP-BC, Fellow Development Lead



Kathy Rugen, Mary McNamara, Natalie Raghu and Kiersten Solis.

More Updates!

On July 23, faculty member and Medical Director of Advanced Practice Providers, Natalie Raghu, represented AdvancingPractice at the AANP Conference in Orlando Florida and presented on how to build a Fellowship in an urban area. Also at the conference was Kiersten Solis and our UIC Partners Mary McNamara, DNP, FNP-BC, Health Education Specialist, and Kathy Rugen, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, our Fellowship Consultant.

This last trimester of the Fellowship, we were able to develop a Behavioral Health Specialty Clinic, in which all our Fellows were able to pilot. Behavioral Health rotations have been high in

demand, and we thank Erie's Behavioral Health Consultants for supporting this rotation and for being terrific preceptors.

We are currently seeking accreditation from the National Nurse Practitioner Residency and Fellowship Training Consortium (NNPRFTC). We anticipate our program being accredited within the year.

We have received a generous donation from the Miller Family Foundation. This gift will go toward further developing and training our incredible team of preceptors. We thank the Miller Family for believing in our mission and helping us build a stronger program. If you wish to donate to help further our mission of cultivating quality care, click the button here!

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The Last Page

At this point in the season, as our second cohort departs and our third cohort is welcomed, we at AdvancingPractice remind ourselves of the privilege it is to be a part of these young professionals' career journey. We continue to be grateful to all who have contributed to our program, in ways big and small, and especially to our past and future Fellows for trusting us to play a major role in their lives.

One last thank you to **YOU** for your engagement. Feel free to share this newsletter with your network and follow us on social media (LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram).

Enjoying our Newsletters? What else do you want to know about the Fellowship? Let us know what you think by emailing us at AdvancingPractice@eriefamilyhealth.org

THANKS FOR READING!



Advancing Practice

Cultivating Quality Care and Nursing Leadership
to Improve the Health of Communities



Meet the Faculty



Kiersten Solis, MSN, FNP-BC, Program
Director, Erie



Mary McNamara, DNP, FNP-BC,
Health Educational Specialist for
AdvancingPractice &
Clinical Assistant Professor, UIC



Kathy Rugen, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP,
FAAN
Clinical Associate Professor, UIC



Emily Bettencourt,
Program Administrative Manger, Erie



Esther Sault, MSN, FNP-BC
Fellow Development Lead, Erie



Sarah Quirk, MSN, APRN, CNM, FNP-C
Women's Reproductive Health
Development Lead, Erie



Natalie Raghu, DNP, APRN, FNP-C
Fellowship Program Director & Medical
Director of Advanced Practice Providers,
Erie



Sarah Fitz, MSN, APRN, ACNP
Clinical Assistant Professor, UIC



Miriam Rodriguez, FNP
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Karelle Webb, MPH, RN
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