



**President's
Community Engagement
Award Luncheon**

Medical College of Wisconsin
Bolger Auditorium

May 5, 2023

Agenda

11:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Lunch

2023 President's Community Engagement Awardees

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First Presbyterian Church Wausau Free Clinic

“The Wausau Free Clinic (WFC) embodies the idea of community engagement through their work providing free care for the uninsured and underinsured populations of the greater Wausau area.”

— Katherine Ernste, Medical Student,
Class of 2024, MCW-Central Wisconsin



The Wausau Free Clinic, a mission of First Presbyterian Church, was established in 2018 by the founding organizers: Jeffrey Oswald, MD, Jeffrey Todd, MS, CMPE, Paula Vogt, RN, Jan Stobilski, and a small team of volunteers. The driving impetus was addressing the unmet primary care needs of low-income, uninsured people, many of whom are immigrants and people of color. Initially, it was planned to remodel space in the church, but an invitation to join a proposed community social service "hub" took the team in a different direction. While waiting for the Community Partners Campus to be built, the medical mission team operated in several temporary facilities over the years including in a warming center and a church basement. Finally, their 2,500-square-foot state-of-the-art medical facility opened in December 2022. All services are provided free of charge by local volunteer doctors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, support staff, and Medical College of Wisconsin medical students. The clinic expects to provide 2,500 patient visits this year.

laong Vang

Medical Student, Class of 2024

“Ms. Vang is an incredibly community-focused, self-motivated, and integrative thinker. Her initiative and intellectual curiosity are matched wonderfully by a passionate focus on population health and community engagement.”

—Samantha Wilson, PhD,
Associate Professor, MCW-Milwaukee



laong Vang is a 2nd generation Hmong American. Her parents are refugees from Laos and resettled in Montana where laong and her six other siblings were born and raised. As a mediator between her family and physicians, she has acquired experiences that continue to strengthen her passions and motivate her as a future physician. She is passionate about community engagement and service and has pursued a career in medicine to continue being the bridge to medicine for underserved communities. In addition to her work with refugees and the refugee health curriculum, she is creating a program that introduces medicine and STEM-related professions to young Milwaukee Hmong students and co-founded a curriculum that highlights the diversity of Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander populations and their health disparities. She plans to continue community engagement projects in the future to better strengthen relationships with her future patient populations and improve health outcomes.

Terri deRoon-Cassini, PhD, MS

Professor, Department of Surgery

“I have witnessed first-hand, the unwavering commitment of both Dr. deRoon-Cassini and Dr. Milia to ensure the success and expansion of the 414LIFE program as a standard of care for violently injured patients.”

—Reggie Moore, Director,
Violence Prevention, MCW-Milwaukee



Terri deRoon-Cassini, PhD, MS is a Professor in the Division of Trauma & Acute Care Surgery, Department of Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She is the Executive Director of the Comprehensive Injury Center, which focuses on violence, suicide, and non-intentional injury prevention locally and statewide. She co-directs the gun violence prevention program, 414LIFE, at Froedtert Hospital and holds appointments in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, the Institute for Health and Equity, and the Neuroscience Research Center. She is a co-founder of the Milwaukee Trauma Outcomes Project, a research collaborative to investigate outcomes after trauma, particularly for underserved individuals and under-resourced communities. Dr. deRoon-Cassini is a Licensed Psychologist and started the Trauma & Health Psychology Service for the Level 1 Trauma Center at Froedtert Hospital. She has research funding from the National Institute of Mental Health to understand the impact that socioenvironmental stress, including neighborhood violence and discrimination, has on outcomes following trauma.



MCW Community Engagement

2023 President's Community Engagement Award Committee Members

Kirsten Beyer, PhD, MPH, MS
Associate Professor, MCW-Milwaukee

Sabina Diehr, MD
Professor, MCW-Milwaukee

Lisa Dodson, MD
Sentry Dean and Founding Dean, MCW-Central Wisconsin

Tiffany Frazer, MPH
Director, MCW-Milwaukee

Toni Gray
Program Manager, MCW-Milwaukee

Spencer Marting
Medical Student, MCW-Milwaukee

John Meurer, MD, MBA
Professor, MCW-Milwaukee

Joy Tapper, MPA
Executive Director, Milwaukee Health Care Partnership

Madeline Winn, PA-C, MPAS
Physician Assistant, Children's Wisconsin

Thank you for your continued service!

MCW Community Engagement

SELECTED PROGRAMMING

Spotlight Series

This monthly virtual series features community partners and the important work they are doing for and with the community; highlights their goals, motivations, and accomplishments, and the ways they have partnered with people and programs at MCW. Hear stories of resilience and inspiration from those who work on the ground – often silently – to make a positive impact on the health and lives of people in our community.

Join us virtually on the 3rd or 4th Wednesday of the month at 4 pm.

Poster Session

The MCW Office of Community Engagement hosts an annual poster session to showcase projects, research, and lessons learned from the field of community-engaged research by MCW students, staff, faculty, and academic and community collaborators.

Join us this November!

Immersion Program

This 3.5-day program focuses on the foundational elements necessary for creating successful, sustainable, and authentic community-academic partnerships. Participants will learn the principles and processes of community engagement and community-engaged research (CEnR), learn from community partners' experiences with community-academic partnerships, engage in discussion with researchers who've developed and maintained partnerships, and explore approaches to relationship development.

2023 applications have closed — join our email list for future announcements!

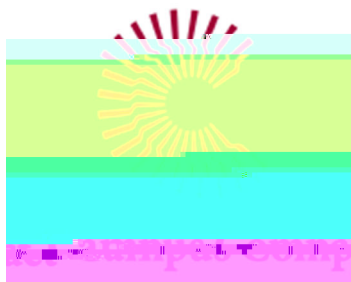
Scan the code to join our email list & learn more about our programming:

MCW Community Engagement RECOGNITION

Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

In 2015, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which works to develop networks of ideas and institutions to advance teaching and learning, awarded the Community Engagement Classification to the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) in recognition of MCW's community engagement practices. The Carnegie Community Engagement Classification designation for MCW is an honor and a monumental achievement, as it recognizes the innumerable exemplary campus-wide programs and initiatives that are focused on excellence in community engagement and on serving the needs of our communities. MCW is now one of four medical schools nationwide that have received this honor.

Richard Guarasci Award for Institutional Transformation



The Richard Guarasci Award for Institutional Transformation recognizes institutions that have successfully implemented institution-wide efforts to address issues of public concern by aligning teaching, research, practice, and values in service of the common good. As a national leader in community engagement, the Medical College of Wisconsin was recognized for this award in 2020 for integrating engagement into research, education, and clinical care with the goal of advancing health policy and advocacy and addressing the social determinants of health. "Through initiatives like [Advancing Healthier Wisconsin endowment] and its extended community-engaged research, the Medical College of Wisconsin demonstrates a deep strategic commitment to community, embracing its responsibility as a place-based institution to address diverse health needs throughout Wisconsin."

Please scan the QR code below to learn more about common community engagement terms, principles of community engagement, and to explore other valuable resources.

