

HEALTH LIVES HERE

IN WISCONSIN

FY25 Annual Report



Department of Family Medicine
and Community Health
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH



Welcome



We are transforming health care for all in partnership with patients, families, and communities.

Our department brings joy and compassion to our collective work. We honor the histories of those around us while co-creating new ways of thriving for all.



Chair David Rakel, MD (left), and Chief Administrative Officer, DFMCH, Jerome Garrett, MBA, FACHE (right).

The Department of Family Medicine and Community Health (DFMCH) was created in 1970 as one of the original 15 family medicine residency programs in the nation and is consistently ranked in the top ten family medicine programs. We educate medical students, residents, fellows; provide outstanding primary care; conduct innovative research; and promote healthy communities. This annual report highlights our activities from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Sara Arscott, MS, PhD
Co-Chair of Employee Advocacy Committee



Bruce Barrett, MD
Vice Chair for Research



Donna Cole
Chair of DFMCH Supervisors Committee



Thomas Hahn, MD
Residency Program Director



Stacey Lansing, JBA
Communications and Events Director



Russell Lemmon, DO
Vice Chair for Clinical Care



Ildi Martonffy, MD
Vice Chair for Education



Ronald Ravel, CPA
Financial Services Director



Sarina Schragger, MD, MS*
Vice Chair for Faculty Development and Promotions



Shelly Shaw, MPH
Representative of the Vice Chair of Community Health



Shirwin Yeung, MBA, PMP, CSM
Director of Strategic Initiatives



*joined committee in FY25



Dear Friends,

I am proud of DFMCH as we reflect on another year of meaningful progress. The dedication and talent of our faculty and staff continue to be the driving force behind all that we accomplish.

In FY25, we supported 376,783 patient visits across our 18 clinics statewide. Placing patients at the center of our work remains fundamental to our mission, and we are committed to continually strengthening the care we deliver.

Education also remains a cornerstone of our department's identity, including:

Developing Primary Care Providers: Among the 52 residents who completed training in our sponsored and academic partner programs in 2025, 60% chose to remain in Wisconsin to practice or pursue fellowship training.

Preparing Future Physicians: We were honored to teach 324 students from the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, helping shape the next generation of clinicians who will serve communities across our state.

Investing in Faculty: This year we established a Vice Chair for Faculty Development and Promotions to enhance support for faculty at every stage of their careers.

Our research enterprise continues to expand through strong collaboration between our administrative and research teams. Faculty secured more than \$8.8 million in grant funding to advance critical work in antibiotic stewardship, rural primary care, alcohol use treatment, and respiratory disease surveillance. These initiatives reflect our commitment to salutogenic science, examining how complex systems foster health and resilience.

To our dedicated faculty and staff: Your skill, commitment, and perseverance make our achievements possible. We are profoundly grateful for all you contribute.

As we look ahead, DFMCH remains steadfast in its mission. We will continue to strengthen educational partnerships, enhance patient care, expand our research portfolio, and serve communities across Wisconsin. Because health lives here.

David Rakel, MD

Chair, UW Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

Year in Review



JULY

- Family Medicine Interest Group named 2024 Program of Excellence.
- **Yohualli B. Anaya, MD, MPH**, named the 2024 National Academy of Medicine Fellow to Advance State Health Policy.

AUGUST

- **Ejura Salihu, PhD**, receives the Institute on Aging's 2024 New Investigator Award.

DECEMBER

- **Earlise Ward, PhD, MS**, receives UW School of Medicine and Public Health Group on Women in Medicine and Science Excellence in Mentorship Award.

JANUARY

- **Jonathan L. Temte, MD, PhD, Shari Barlow, and Marlon Mundt, PhD**, receive the 2025 Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Research Paper of the Year Award.

FEBRUARY

- **Marc Hansen, MD**, considered the founder of DFMCH, passes away on February 5, 2025, at the age of 94.

MARCH

- **James Biggam, MD, MPH**, named Family Physician of the Year by the Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians.
- **Patricia Tellez-Girón Salazar, MD**, receives Family Medicine Educator of the Year Award from the Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians.
- **Bruce Barrett, MD, PhD, Cindy A. Burzinski, MS, CSAC, LPC, and Mary F. Henningfield, PhD**, awarded a 2024 North American Primary Care Research Group Clinical Pearl for their mindfulness-based research study.

JUNE

- **Mark Beamsley, MD**, receives the UW School of Medicine and Public Health 2025 Dean's Teaching Award.

FY25 KEY FACTS

OUR PEOPLE:

160 staff, **201** faculty, **218** clinical adjunct faculty, **18** new faculty, **15** faculty retirements/departures, **8** faculty promotions.

LEARNERS:

324 UW School of Medicine and Public Health students taught, **163** residents in training (at sponsored and academic partner sites), **52** residents graduated; **31 (60%)** entered practice or fellowships in Wisconsin.

PATIENT CARE:

376,483 patient visits at 18 clinics; **170,616** total patient panel.

RESEARCH:

\$8.8 M in grant awards.

FINANCIALS:

\$115.9 M in revenue.





MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION

From coursework to special programs to hands-on mentoring, DFMCH's Office of Medical Student Education teaches students through all four years of their education at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

We are grateful for the efforts of our dedicated family medicine faculty and staff, and especially our statewide network of community-based clinical adjunct faculty.

LEADERSHIP

Mark Beamsley, MD

Director of Medical Student Education



Dobie Giles, MD, MS, MBA

Director of Phase 1 Preceptor Program



Lauren Mixtacki, MD

Director of Internship Preparation Course



Jake Bryan, MD

Faculty Director for the Family Medicine Interest Group



ADJUNCT FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

This year's adjunct faculty spotlight honors Dr. Robert Macnack, who teaches in the Monroe Clinic system with SSM Health. He precepts medical students in their final stage of training through the Ambulatory Acting Internship, a course comparable to a sub-internship.



He recently received the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Max Fox Award for Excellence in Teaching. Comments show students value his clear expectations, effective feedback, and emphasis on patient-centered thinking. They describe him as supportive, inspiring, and committed to fostering independence. Several noted his guidance in developing clinical reasoning, navigating difficult patient encounters, and practicing procedural skills. One student summarized the sentiment: "Dr. Macnack is the best clinical educator I have worked with."

FY25 KEY FACTS

Office of Medical Student Education taught:

- **131** Phase 1 students
- **101** Phase 2 students
- **92** Phase 3 students

Education



RESIDENCY EDUCATION

Nationally recognized for its educational excellence, DFMCH prepares residents to practice full spectrum family medicine, with particular attention to health promotion within their communities. Each residency program has full accreditation status, and six sites have received osteopathic recognition through the statewide osteopathic collaborative, an educational designation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

FY25 KEY FACTS

- **163** residents
- **52** graduate in 2025
- **31 (60%)** enter practice or fellowship in Wisconsin

LEADERSHIP

Vice Chair for Education: **Ildi Martonffy, MD**



MADISON RESIDENCY

Director: **Thomas Hahn, MD**



Associate Director: **William Michael, MD**



Associate Director: **Lashika Yogendran, MD**



BARABOO RURAL TRAINING TRACK

Director: **Stuart G. Hannah, MD**



Associate Director: **Elizabeth Lownik, MD**



MONROE RESIDENCY

Director: **Eli Burks, MD, MBA**



| PROGRAM | NUMBER OF RESIDENTS |
|--|------------------------------|
| DFMCH-SPONSORED RESIDENCY PROGRAMS | |
| Baraboo Rural Training Track* | 6 |
| Madison* | 48 (at 4 continuity clinics) |
| Monroe | 10 |
| ACADEMIC PARTNER RESIDENCY PROGRAMS | |
| La Crosse* | 18 |
| Aurora Lakeland RTT | 12 |
| Milwaukee* | 35 |
| Waukesha | 18 |
| Wausau | 16 |
| Total | 163 |

*Site has received osteopathic recognition



Madison Residency Class of 2025 celebrates graduation.

Education



FELLOWSHIP EDUCATION

DFMCH sponsors several fellowship programs to help family physicians and PhD scientists further meet their career goals. In addition to individual mentoring, the fellowship program sponsors weekly seminars, biannual symposia, and additional educational opportunities.

FY25 KEY FACTS

• 15 fellows receive specialty education

LEADERSHIP



ADDICTION MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Director (left): **Randall Brown, MD, PhD, FASAM**
Associate Director (right): **Kellene Eagan, MD**



ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIP

Director: **Jessica Dalby, MD**



INTEGRATIVE HEALTH FELLOWSHIP

Co-Director (left): **Vincent Minichiello, MD**
Co-Director (right): **Ravi Hirekatur, MD**



SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Director (left): **David Bernhardt, MD (pediatrics)**
Associate Director (right): **Kathleen Carr, MD**



LGBTQ+ HEALTH FELLOWSHIP

Director (left): **Elizabeth Petty, MD (pediatrics)**
Co-Director (right): **Ronni Hayon, MD**



RURAL FAMILY MEDICINE OBSTETRICS FELLOWSHIP

Co-Director (left): **Ryan Luellwitz, DO (OB/GYN)**
Associate Director (right): **Lee Dresang, MD**



Associate Director (left): **Jillian Landeck, MD**
Core Faculty (right): **Bonnie Brown, MD**



PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Co-Directors: **Bruce Barrett, MD, PhD (left)** and **Earlise Ward, PhD (center)**
Associate Director (right): **David Feldstein, MD (internal medicine)**

Patient Care



DFMCH cares for patients at 18 clinics throughout Wisconsin. All clinics offer a full range of family medicine services:

- Comprehensive health care for patients of all ages
- Acute and chronic illness
- Obstetrics
- Preventive health services, including family planning
- Minor surgery
- Special services, such as geriatrics, substance misuse, mental health, sports medicine, osteopathic manipulation, and integrative medicine

FY25 KEY FACTS

- **18** statewide clinics: 4 residency, 10 community, 4 regional
- **376,783** total patient visits; 170,616 total patient panel

LEADERSHIP



Vice Chair for Clinical Care
Russell Lemmon, DO

HIGHLIGHTS

DFMCH Expands Reach to South-Central Wisconsin

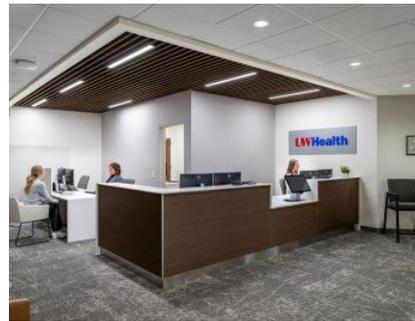


Photo credit: UW Health

DFMCH expanded its reach with the opening of the UW Health Janesville Clinic at 500 Midland Court on February 25. The clinic increases access to primary care in south-central

Wisconsin and serves as a new site for medical student rotations. It includes three DFMCH primary care providers—one physician and two advanced practice providers—supported by nursing and laboratory staff, becoming the network's 18th family medicine clinic.

"The UW Health Janesville Clinic is an exciting development for the community, DFMCH, and UW Health. Janesville will now have expanded access to excellent primary care, which is vital in this growing community of more than 65,000 people," said DFMCH Vice Chair for Clinical Care Russell Lemmon, DO.

The 9,900-square-foot facility offers adult and pediatric primary care, including preventive, acute, and chronic disease management; immunizations; care coordination; annual and sports physicals; and wellness services. Laboratory services and medical imaging are available on-site. The clinic may also serve as a primary care hub for southern Wisconsin patients who receive specialty care at UW Health locations in northern Illinois, Lemmon noted.



Firearm Injury Prevention: Dr. James Bigham Leads Program for Health Care Providers

Dr. James Bigham commemorated the two-year milestone of his firearm injury prevention course at Max Creek Outdoors in Oregon, Wisconsin, in January 2025. This course, launched to mitigate firearm injuries, is part of a visionary initiative he started in 2023 to foster cultural competency and empower health care professionals in firearm injury prevention discussions.



Dr. James Bigham (foreground) works with experts at Bear Arms in Mequon to teach a firearm injury prevention course to health care professionals.

The monthly sessions, designed for medical students, residents, and faculty, include two hours of instruction on different types of guns, ammunition, and securing devices like cable locks, trigger locks, and gun safes. After the session, participants are invited to operate a firearm at Max Creek's indoor range. For many, it's their first encounter with a firearm. This experience often leads to a new appreciation of how partnerships with gun shops can help prevent firearm injuries. "Our course demystifies firearms without glorifying them. We create a safe space for questions, helping those who care for patients with firearms but lack personal experience," says Bigham. "Before the session, 60 percent of participants felt uncomfortable screening and counseling on firearm injury

prevention. After our two-hour program, 95 percent feel confident or very confident."

Bigham practices universal screening by incorporating questions about firearm access into his social history inquiries using a curious and non-judgmental approach. In his practice, Bigham starts with less intimate topics, such as tobacco use, and gradually moves to more personal subjects, ending with firearm access. He asks open-ended questions like, "I wanted to check in to see if you have access to firearms?"

If patients confirm they have access to firearms, Bigham follows up with questions about secure storage and preventing unauthorized access, such as, "How are you making sure the kids don't have access?" He listens closely, applauds their efforts to reduce risk, and gently offers suggestions for enhancing risk reduction. He often refers patients to local gun shops for gun safes or lock boxes and encourages range training. If needed, he provides trigger or cable locks during their visit.

After learning that over 70 percent of firearm deaths in Wisconsin are suicides, Bigham started checking in to see if patients have a plan in place in the event of a mental health crisis.

"Many haven't considered a plan for a mental health crisis, so I suggest a voluntary transfer to a friend, loved one, or one of the 40-plus gun shops in Wisconsin that hold firearms for free until it's safe to have them back," shares Bigham. "This has led to fruitful conversations, with many patients appreciating the chance to have a collaborative discussion about how to reduce their risk of self-harm."

Community Health



The Office of Community Health works to build and support transdisciplinary teams in order to advance community health and health equity.

Mission: The Office of Community Health nurtures partnerships and programs that bridge communities, academic medicine, and policy to achieve meaningful improvements in population health.

Vision: The Office of Community Health is a trusted incubator for sustained, community-engaged initiatives that improve health outcomes.

FY25 Key Facts

- Community outreach focus areas: LGBTQ+ health, rural health, community health worker capacity building, and nutrition security
- Internal capacity building efforts: supporting the community health rotation, community advisory boards, patient family advisory councils, and a collaborative learning community.



Office of Community Health team (from left): Sarah Hohl, Shelly Shaw, Joscelin Eberle, Dejun Su, Erika Anna, Hazel Behling, and Mo Overby.

HIGHLIGHTS

A Decade of Progress: DFMCH's Commitment to Community Health

The Office of Community Health (OCH) marked its 10th anniversary in FY25. Established in 2015, the office was created following the transition of the Department of Family Medicine to the UW Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. In 2022, OCH expanded with the addition of a vice chair for community health, a role held by Dr. Jennifer Edgoose through 2024.

With the support of DFMCH Chair Dr. David Rakel, OCH has broadened its mission beyond resident education. As Dr. Rakel notes, "The expansion to include community health was an important progression that recognizes the interconnectedness of individuals, families, communities, and the planet. Salutogenic science requires this visionary breadth."

Since 2018, OCH Director Shelly Shaw has strengthened DFMCH's capacity to build trusting partnerships and deepen community engagement. Under her leadership, the office has grown from a single part-time position to a team of six, including a lead research scientist, three community health coordinators, and an administrative specialist.

As FY25 concluded, DFMCH hired a new vice chair for community health, Dr. Dejun Su. His work will focus on developing and implementing evidence-based strategies to more effectively integrate social care into primary care, with particular attention to improving outcomes for high-need patients.

Community Health



Department Support & Collaboration

Community Health Rotation

- Trains future family physicians in community & population health
- Includes seminars, community based learning, and site visits

Embeds Community Voice in Research and Clinical Practice

- Partnerships with the UW School of Nursing: Wisconsin Network for Research Support & Community Advisors on Research Design and Strategy to increase access to community perspectives earlier in research
- Patient and Family Advisory Councils in four residency clinics

CHHEWS

- Builds a collaborative community health learning community
- Advances health equity scholarship across DFMCH

Community Initiatives

Four focus areas advancing community health statewide:

LGBTQIA2S+ Health

- Statewide environmental & data scan
- Support for LGBTQ+ health fellowship
- Co-created WI LGBTQIA2S+ Health Coalition
- Piloted LGBTQIA2S+ Project ECHO

Rural Health

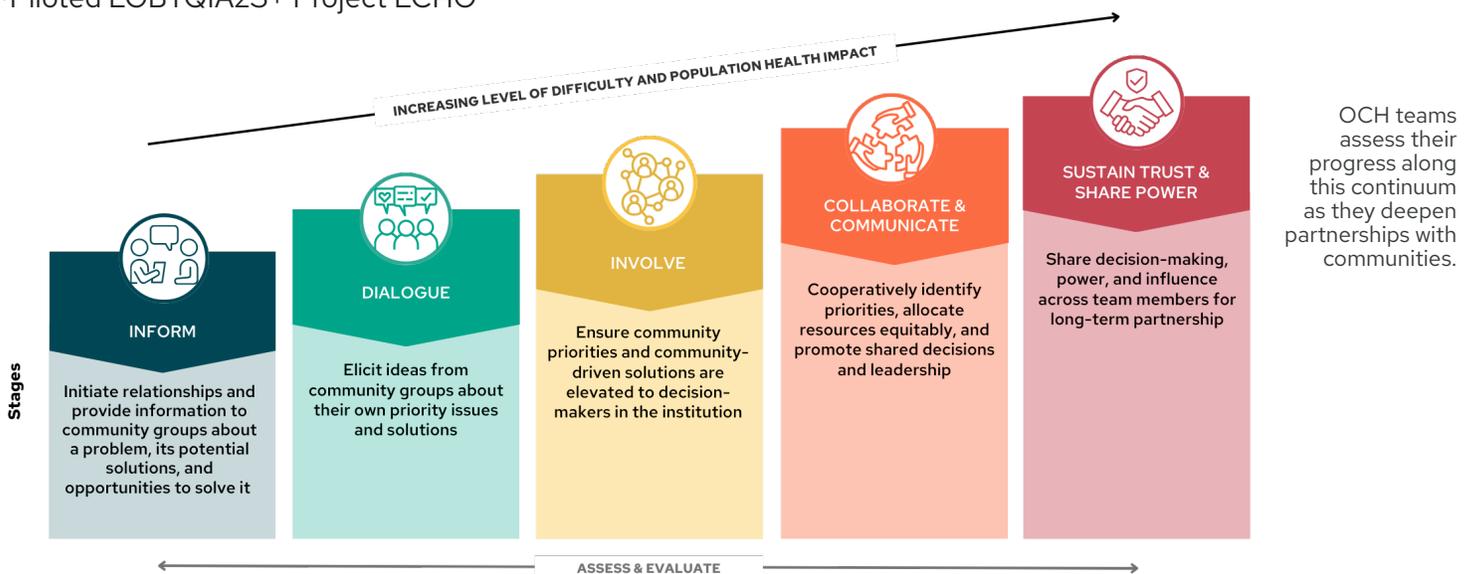
- Conducted and disseminated rural needs assessment
- Established and/or strengthened local partnerships
- Coordinating a regional team working to establish a free clinic in rural Wisconsin

Food & Nutrition Security

- Feasibility study of medically tailored meals and groceries, produce prescriptions, nutrition education and counseling
- Scoping review defining community engaged food is medicine in the context of primary care
- Expanded campus and community partnerships through grant development

Community Health Workers (CHWs)

- Convenes the Dane County CHW Collective to foster peer connection and advance community priorities
- Facilitates bi-directional partnerships and learning between CHWs and DFMCH faculty and staff
- Partners with CHWs to adapt the evidence-based Whole Health curriculum to reflect community values, cultural contexts, and lived experience
- Builds CHW capacity to support chronic disease prevention and management through group facilitation and culturally and linguistically responsive education





Partnerships that Strengthen Communities



Community health workers from the Allied, Belmar, and Dunn's Marsh neighborhoods with Erika Anna, Shelly Shaw, and Greta Kuphal, medical director of the Osher Center for Integrative Health, at the Allied Wellness Center in Madison. Top row, from left: Anna, Shaw, Auston-James Brown-Cox, Jennifer Gomez Flores, and Kuphal. Bottom row, from left: Victoria Cisneros and LaToya McMurray.

One example of community health in action is a project called Advancing Whole Health with the Wisdom of Communities. Whole Health is about helping people live well by connecting care to what matters most to them. It recognizes health is shaped not only by medical care but also by people's surroundings, relationships, and daily habits.

In this project, OCH, the Osher Center for Integrative Health at University of Wisconsin–Madison, and the Allied Wellness Center—an organization of community health workers (CHWs) that supports mental, physical, and spiritual well-being of residents in Madison's Allied, Belman, and Dunn's

Marsh neighborhoods—work together to adapt a Whole Health curriculum. CHWs adjust the program so it reflects the real-life experiences and cultures of their communities.

“Working with DFMCH and sharing experiences has been enriching for me and has helped me gain a broader perspective on the work we do with the community,” says Victoria Cisneros,

a community health worker with the Allied Wellness Center. “I believe that through our collaboration, we have complemented one another through our experiences, which have helped us see from different perspectives what it's like to live in a community, to be part of vulnerable communities, and to share the realities of life that perhaps others cannot see. That's what makes this partnership so important to me, and it fills me with hope that this project will help us bring strategies, knowledge, and tools that will help people have a better quality of life.”

The project builds healthier communities by learning directly from those who know them best and is working to simultaneously support CHWs to strengthen their own self-care and group leadership skills. Careful evaluation of partnership quality, trust-building, and CHW growth shows how this approach can support community health leadership while staying responsive to local needs.

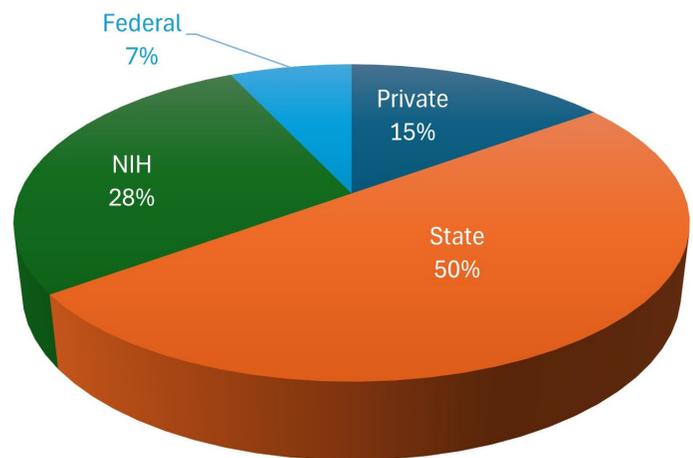
Research



DFMCH has a robust family medicine research program. Our investigators aim to transform family medicine through inquiry, discovery, and implementation.

FY25 KEY FACTS

- **\$8.8 million** in grant awards
- **40** grants submitted
- **34** funded external grants
- **25** funded internal and collaborative grants
- **146** publications



LEADERSHIP

Vice Chair for Research:
Bruce Barrett, MD, PhD

TOP FUNDED EXTRAMURAL GRANTS

| PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR | GRANT TITLE | FUNDING SOURCE | TOTAL AMOUNT |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Bruce Barrett, MD, PhD | An Antibiotic Stewardship Trial: Nasal Steroids, Nasal irrigation, oral antibiotics and subgroup targeting for effective management of sinusitis (NOSES C-TRIAL) | PCORI/Georgetown University | \$2,720,354 |
| Sarina Schrage, MD, MS | The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN): Expanding Research Capacity in Rural Primary Care Clinics | NIH | \$2,291,607 |
| Jon Temte, MD, MS | Oregon Child Absenteeism due to Respiratory Disease Study (ORCHARDS-3) | CDC | \$2,949,925 |
| Andrew Quanbeck, PhD | Testing an mHealth System for Integrating Alcohol Use Treatment with Hepatology Care for Patients with Alcohol- associated Liver Disease | NIH/NIAAA | \$3,087,401 |
| Jon Temte, MD, MS, PhD | Oregon Child Absenteeism due to Respiratory Disease Study (ORCHARDS-3) | CDC | \$2,949,925 |



The Wisconsin Research and Education Network Designated as an Inaugural NIH Network Research Hub

The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN) at DFMCH has been selected as one of three national hubs in the NIH's new Communities Advancing Research Equity (CARE) for Health™ initiative. The program integrates clinical research into primary care and community settings, with an early focus on rural populations. Principal investigators include Sarina Schragar, MD, MS; Mary Henningfield, PhD; Earlise Ward, PhD; and Yao Liu, MD, MS. Building on decades of rural research partnerships, WREN will expand opportunities for community-engaged studies that improve health outcomes and broaden participation in clinical research. CARE for Health is part of the NIH Common Fund under Other Transactions Agreement number OT2OD038373. The NIH Common Fund supports cross-cutting programs expected to have exceptionally high impact. This is the first round of CARE for Health funding issued by NIH.



Study Shows Promising Strategies to Reduce Opioid Prescribing in Primary Care Settings

A new study in JAMA Network Open, "Strategies to Deimplement Opioid Prescribing in Primary Care," offers promising evidence for reducing opioid prescribing in primary care settings. Led by Andrew Quanbeck, PhD, the research team included Xiang Li, MS; Jillian Landeck, MD; Alice Pulvermacher, MS; Randall Brown, MD, PhD; and Nora Jacobson, PhD, from the UW DFMCH and campus partners.



The trial compared strategies to lower patients' daily opioid doses, measured in morphine milligram equivalents (MME). The most intensive approach—combining education, monitoring, feedback, practice facilitation, and patient-centered care—produced a modest but meaningful reduction of 2.4 mg per day, about a 6 percent decrease from baseline.

Quanbeck notes that clinicians increasingly prioritize patient-centered assessments over older guideline-driven requirements such as treatment agreements and urine drug testing. His team is now studying evidence-based integrative medicine approaches for chronic pain management in partnership with the Osher Center for Integrative Health.



THE WISCONSIN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORK

The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN) is a practice-based research network (PBRN) of primary care clinicians and academic researchers. The vision of WREN is to improve health outcomes for the people of Wisconsin and beyond as a model PBRN. The mission of WREN is to promote and conduct primary care research and education in partnership with primary care clinicians and the communities they serve. WREN is designated as a Network Research Hub under the NIH CARE for Health™ initiative to expand research to rural primary care. CARE for Health activities include community engagement working with rural clinics and communities to define research priorities and community needs. WREN actively partners with the UW-Madison CTSA. A list of current and past projects is available at <https://www.fammed.wisc.edu/wren/>.

FY25 KEY FACTS

- 14 active research, education, and QI projects, including multicenter clinical studies
- Secured \$1.56 million in CARE for Health funding
- Ongoing enrollment and assessment for a CARE for Health study on collaborative care for polysubstance use disorders
- Multiyear Rennebohm Foundation grant to develop interventions for loneliness and social isolation in older adults in Dane County
- Targeted community engagement efforts, including a rural advisory board for the NIH CARE for Health grant

HIGHLIGHTS

Statewide and National Research. During FY25, WREN was engaged in multiple clinical trials and quality improvement research projects. Topics included substance use disorder, cancer screenings, screening for diabetic retinopathy, person-centered care, loneliness and social isolation in older adults, eczema in newborns, civic engagement, decision-making for antibiotic use, and shared decision making.

Sustainability. WREN has been in continuous operation since 1987, making it one of the oldest PBRNs in the country.

Engagement. WREN disseminates practical and research information to more than 1,200 persons, including clinicians, researchers, and staff across the state of Wisconsin and beyond.

Funding. WREN has continued to attract high-quality, high-caliber projects supported by federal and local funding, including private foundations.

National Presentations. WREN presented at the AHRQ Person-Centered Care Planning for Persons with Multiple Chronic Conditions (PCCP4P) Summit held March 3, 2025, in Rockville, Maryland. Posters and workshops were presented by WREN at the 2025 NAPCRG PBRN Conference. Team members participated in NIH CARE for Health committees throughout FY25.



WREN team from left: Denise Grossman, Lisa Sampson, Alyssa Turnquist, Nathaniel Javid, Alice Yuroff, Sarina Schragger, Keelin McHugh, Mary Henningfield, and Meagan Sulikowski

Faculty Development & Promotions



Empowering Faculty at Every Stage: DFMCH Launches Development and Promotions Office



DFMCH strengthened its commitment to faculty success by launching the Office of Faculty Development and Promotions, led by inaugural Vice Chair Dr. Sarina Schrager. A longtime champion of faculty development, Schrager has guided colleagues through both the clinical health sciences and clinician teacher tracks since 2014.

The new office brings together a wide range of support under one structure, offering programming that helps junior faculty explore academic and clinical interests through continuing medical education, grand rounds, and faculty development days. Training spans curriculum design, feedback, research, writing, and presentation skills, complemented by a focus on time management, well-being, and career purpose. Mentorship development remains a central priority.

This work reflects broader trends in academic medicine emphasizing coaching, psychological safety, and community as essential to faculty vitality. Schrager credits Department Chair Dr. David Rakel for championing the role, noting that it underscores DFMCH's commitment to faculty well-being.

As she transitioned from primary care into this new leadership position, Schrager embraced the opportunity for reinvention. "We have great people working for us, and anything I can do to help them move their work forward is a gift," she shared.

The creation of the Office of Faculty Development and Promotions affirms DFMCH's dedication to supporting faculty as clinicians, educators, and leaders.



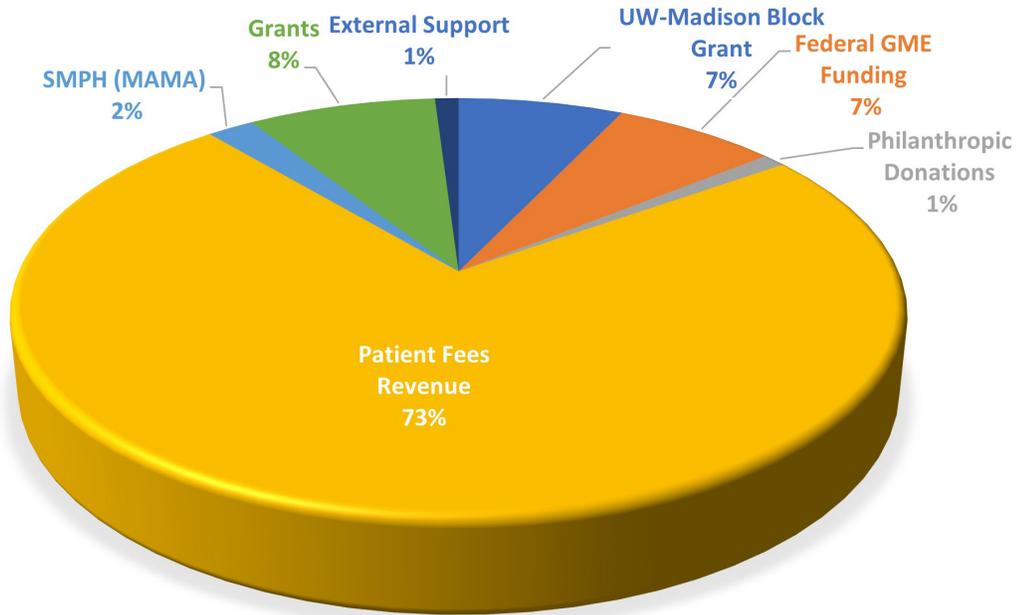
Faculty Development Day 2025

Financials

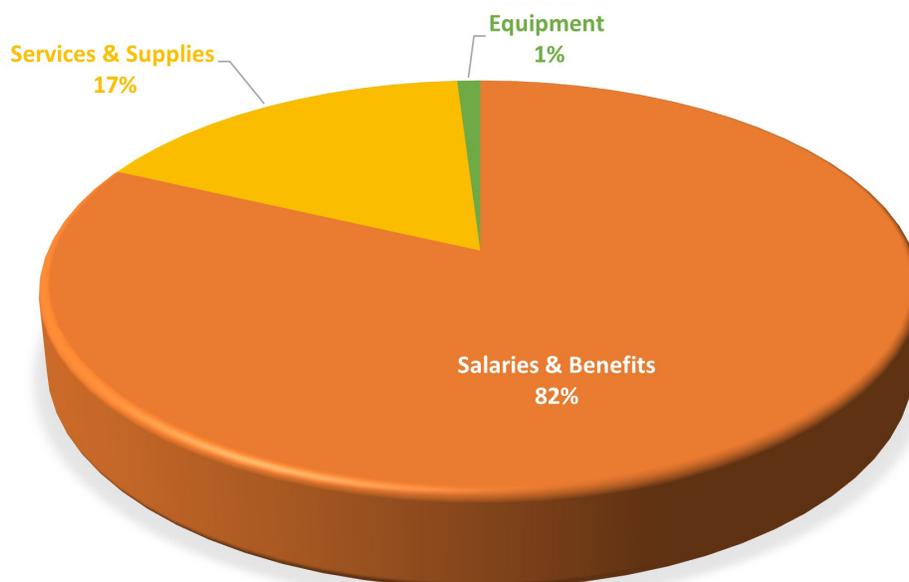


FY25 Revenue: \$115,979,723

(\$114,729,897 without philanthropic donations)



FY25 Expenses: \$126,583,818



Special Events



Each year, our special events bring together faculty, staff, learners, friends, and guests.

FY25 KEY FACTS

- September 2024: Farley-Frey Dinner and Celebration
- November 2024: Renner-Hansen Awards
- April 2025: McGovern-Tracy and Student Scholars Reception

FARLEY VISITING PROFESSOR & JOHN FREY WRITING AWARDS

Honors Eugene and Linda Farley and their contributions to DFMCH and the discipline of family medicine. Its purpose is to stimulate ideas and discussion through visits by family physicians whose area of interest is in the humanistic aspects of medicine, medical ethics, social consciousness, philosophy of family medicine, healthcare reform, generalist education or cross-cultural concerns.

This year's speaker, Dr. Zorba Paster, has deep roots in Wisconsin and added a significant highlight to the evening's events with the introduction of the Paster Family Foundation Salutogenic Science Award.

This new award recognizes individuals, companies, or organizations that have significantly impacted wellness and health through education, community service, research, or clinical care.

Named for John Frey, III, MD, past chair of DFMCH, these awards recognize individuals in the department for creative writing contributions and encourage creation and enjoyment of such writing.

Winners:

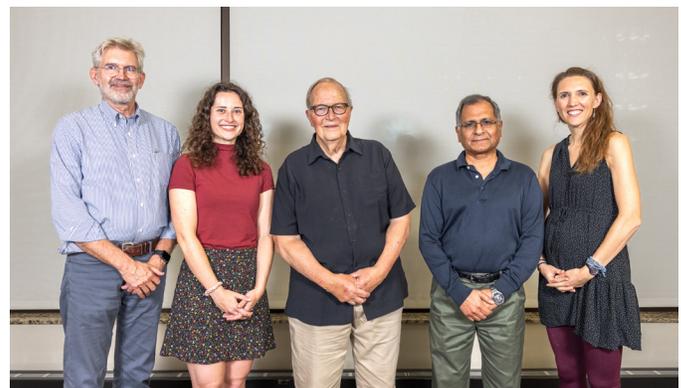
- Night Shift (Samantha Barbour)
- Sip (Briana Krewson, DO, MPH)

Honorable Mentions:

- Pass the Buck Please (Ravi Hirekatur, MD, MS)
- Morning Coffee (Natasha Ignatowski, BS)
- Heart Broken (Caitlin Regner, MD)
- and still the sparrows (Jonathan Temte, MD, PhD)



Dr. Zorba Paster.



Dr. John Frey, center, congratulates the Frey Writing Award recipients. From left: Jonathan Temte, MD, PhD, Briana Krewson, DO, MPH, Frey, Ravi Hirekatur, MD, MS, and Caitlin Regner, MD.



RENNER-HANSEN AWARDS

The Renner-Hansen Awards dinner was held at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in November 2024 to celebrate the vital work of family medicine and the importance of community trust. This annual event provided an opportunity for colleagues to honor each other and recognize significant contributions to the field.

Marc Hansen Lectureship Award

Honors a DFMCH junior faculty member who has contributed to the education of students and residents or made a scholarly contribution to the academic discipline of family medicine.

Recipient: Bethany Howlett, MD, MHS

Bethany Howlett, director of OB and newborn care for DFMCH, delivered an inspiring lecture at the event. Howlett believes that observations and lessons from the natural world can be applied to all areas of life, including patient care. She urged attendees to stay curious, use all their senses, and connect deeply with their surroundings and the people they serve.

John H. Renner Wisconsin Idea Award

The John H. Renner Wisconsin Idea Award, created in 2001 to honor the first DFMCH chair, Dr. John Renner, recognizes a Wisconsin citizen or organization annually for their commitment to family medicine and the health needs of Wisconsin.

Recipient: James DeLine, MD

Dr. James DeLine, La Farge's longtime village doctor, received the John H. Renner Wisconsin Idea Award. In his absence, DFMCH Chair David Rakel shared career highlights and a video of his rural community practice, including work with Amish and Mennonite patients.



Bethany Howlett, MD, MHS



James DeLine, MD



MCGOVERN-TRACY AND STUDENT SCHOLARS RECEPTION

The UW Department of Family Medicine Community Health's annual McGovern-Tracy and Student Scholars reception is more than a celebration of achievements. It honors the legacies of Michele Tracy, Isabel McGovern Kerr, and others whose lives have profoundly impacted the people of Wisconsin and beyond. The April 23, 2025, event at the Monona Terrace Convention Center captured this spirit with a keynote address, good food, laughter, and a few tears.

With these legacies in mind, the night's keynote speaker, Dr. Jonas Lee, a physician at Wingra Family Medicine Center in Madison, shared his experiences and invited attendees to find the threads that bind us together. "My deepest wish for all of you is that you also find a place or develop a practice or find a path that also feels like home," Lee shared.

As he concluded his address, Lee left attendees with questions and a challenge at this stage in their medical careers. "Look around you and think about who will be your mentors, who will be your colleagues? You have to have that community. What are those critical relationships that you need to continue to do this wonderful work? And what will be your thread? How are you going to weave together a career and a life that speaks to your own values and to why you chose to go into medicine in the first place?"



Keynote speaker, Dr. Jonas Lee.



Michele Tracy's family. From left: Brandon Tracy, Dera Johnsen-Tracy, Layla Tracy, Dan Tracy, and Candi Tracy.



McGovern-Tracy medical student and resident scholars. From left: Sofía Herrera, MPH; Caitlin Liddiard; Margarita Castellanos Llorca; Rutvi Shah, MD; Micah Larson, MD; Betta Tyrriver, MD; Christian Pelayo; and Alex Nelson.



Dr. James Bigham, right, receives the Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians (WAFP) Physician of the Year Award from a member of the WAFP Foundation Board of Directors, Jean Riquelme, MD, FAAFP.

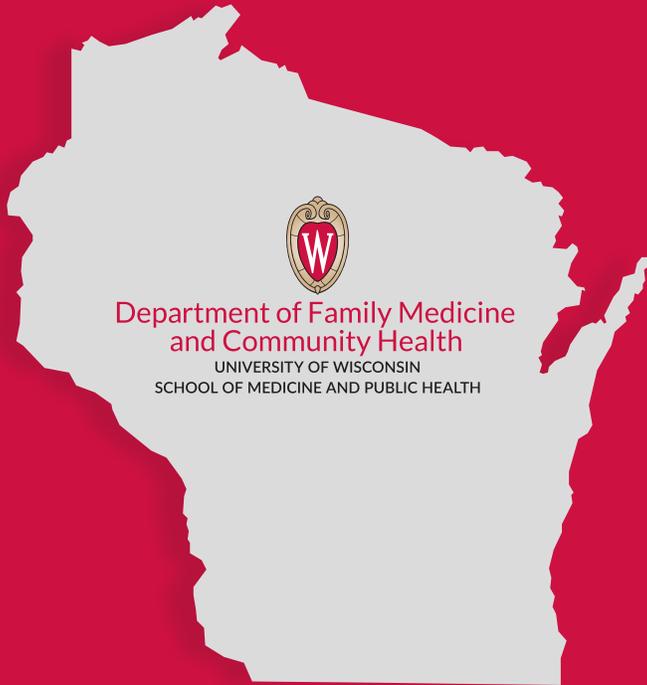


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