



**Weekly Newsletter March 4-8, 2024**

**PQHS NEWS**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Wednesday, March 6 – 10:00 – 11:00 AM**

**Research Meeting – Title:** Using Health Services Research to Advance Equity

**Presenters:** Debbie Peikes, PhD, MPA - Vice President, Measurement & Evaluation.

Mark Friedberg, MD, MPP - SVP, Performance Measurement & Improvement.

Deanna Fulp, Sr. Director, Health Equity Programs

**Description:** Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts health services researchers will discuss BCBSMA’s evidence-based work to promote equity— (1) collecting race and ethnicity data, (2) convening providers to work on equity, and (3) building pay for equity into provider contracts. They will also speak about the type of work they do as health service researchers at a payer, and prior collaborations with academics.

Click [here](#) to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 937 1668 5400 password: 492717

**PQHS HOT TOPICS**



**Bahamas National Implementation Study**—The Outstanding Educators’ Awards Ceremony was held in memory of Dr. Bonita Stanton on February 16, 2024, at the Ministry of Education’s Learning Resources Section. Dr. Bo Wang attended the ceremony with the Director of the Bahamas National AIDS program (Dr. Nikkiah Forbes), the Minister of Health (the Hon. Dr. Michael Darville), and the local research team. A total of 100 educators were honored for their dedication to the Focus on Youth (FOY) research initiative of the National HIV/AIDS Programme aimed at eradicating HIV-AIDS by the year 2030. The FOY program equips young people with the knowledge to make better choices to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.

Click [here](#) for full story.



## The Equity in Caregiving Project. Second Community Convening

Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 10:00-12:00 PM at UMass Chan Medical School, Faculty conference Room, S1-342.



Please join us for a panel discussion with:

- **Family Caregivers**
- **Nancy McCool**, LICSW, ACHP-W, APHSW-C, Palliative care social worker, UMass Memorial Health.
- **Jeevarathna Subramanian**, MD, Internal Medicine, UMass Memorial Health.
- **Valerie Zolezzi-Wyndham**, JD, Promoting Good
- **Brian Gibbs**, PhD, Vice President & Chief of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. UMass Memorial Health.

Come listen to the experience of family caregivers. Bring your voice - we want to hear about your caregiving experience!

For more information to register click [here](#) or scan the QR code

[www.equityincaregiving.org](http://www.equityincaregiving.org)

### PQHS HAPPENINGS



**Sign up to have lunch with the Chair & Vice Chair!** There are still slots available to pick from. Lunch with the Chair and Vice Chair sign ups are first come first serve for 3 Faculty Members and 3 Staff Members each month to have to have a nice catered meal and to talk about anything, but *NO WORK TALK*. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up for the date that works for you. Thank you! Click [here](#) to sign up!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### UMass Boston Department of Gerontology & Gerontology Institute Present Proseminar Speaker Series Spring 2024

Monday, April 1, 2024  
2:30 – 3:45 p.m. (new time)  
via [Zoom](#)

**Manu Thakral, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing, University of Massachusetts Boston Chronic Geriatric Pain and Its Impacts on Health and Quality of Life

Thursday, April 25, 2024  
11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.  
via [Zoom](#)

**Sarah Forrester, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, UMass Chan Medical School  
Stress, Depression, and Age Acceleration: Why Time Matters in Black Health

Monday, May 2, 2024  
11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.  
via [Zoom](#)

**Chantel Pheiffer, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Urban Public Health, University of Massachusetts Boston  
Migration and Population Health: Insights from South Africa

via Zoom: <https://umassboston.zoom.us/j/94175483404> Password: Boston  
For more information contact Jaqueline Contrera Avila: [Jaqueline.Avila@umb.edu](mailto:Jaqueline.Avila@umb.edu)



**Tuesday, March 19, 2024, 12:00-1:00PM**

***“Making Reproducibility Research More Systematic”***

Presented by: Abel Brodeur, PhD, Assistant Professor at University of Ottawa & Institute for Replication

Click [here](#) to join. Password: 602937



**Thursday, April 11, 2024, 12:00PM** – Albert Sherman Center Auditorium

***“Black Material Health Week (April 11-17)”*** part of the *Health Equity Distinguished Lecture Series* hosted by *UMass Chan Collaborative in Health Equity*

**Guest:** Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha, PhD, MPH, the Julia A. Okoro Professor of Black Maternal Health in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine

### UMASS CHAN REMINDER

#### Holiday Calendar for UMass Chan Medical School

Remaining Holiday Schedule for 2024:

- Patriots’ Day – Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Memorial Day – Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>
- Juneteenth National Independence Day – Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>
- Independence Day – Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>
- Labor Day – Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Indigenous Peoples’ Day – Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>
- Veterans Day – Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>
- Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>



UMass Chan Medical School’s [Office of Communications](#) is initiating regularly scheduled opportunities where faculty, staff, and students can have a professional headshot taken. Photos are taken every other Wednesday from 9 AM to 3 PM on the fifth floor of the Sherman Center by the elevators. Each session caps at 50 people. Anyone at UMass Chan can sign up using this document found on the SharePoint site. See updated link for new options: [Photo Sign-Ups \(office365.com\)](#)

*PQHS Weekly will be sent to all members of PQHS on Monday mornings. The intent is to provide a snapshot of what is going on that week in PQHS and to share our faculty and staff activities with the department. We depend on you to provide the items we need to share. Please send suggestions of events, faculty invited seminars & talks, honors, student thesis presentations, and news – new babies born! – to Kellie ([kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu](mailto:kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu)) & Sarah ([sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu](mailto:sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu)) by Friday each week.*