February 26, 2021

Featured Fellows - Celebrating Black History Month

This month on social media, to celebrate Black History Month, the Academy has been featuring the work of selected Fellows who have been making an impact to reduce COVID infections and increase vaccinations in their communities. Learn more about each individual's work by clicking the photos below.

Quote from Comments to the Wisconsin Department of Health During a Vaccine Subcommittee Meeting:

"That is just a disparity on top of a disparity. We cannot ignore [the incarcerated] population. I am willing to be an advocate."

MARY MUSE
MS, RN, CCHP-RN, CCHP-A, FAAN
Director of Nursing, Wisconsin Dept of Corrections

(HTTPS://LIVESTREAM.COM/DHSWEBCAST/EVENTS/9265943/VIDEOS/215742817)

Quote from Representative Underwood’s Press Release on the Black Maternal Health Omnibus Act of 2021

"As maternal mortality rates continue to drop around the world, they are rising in the U.S., leaving behind devastated families and children who will grow up never knowing their moms. This crisis demands urgent attention and serious action to save the lives of Black mothers and all women of color and birthing people across the county...Together, we can – and must – take the bold actions that will be required to save our moms, end disparities, and achieve true maternal health justice."

REPRESENTATIVE LAUREN UNDERWOOD, MSN, MPH, RN, FAAN
ILLINOIS DISTRICT 14
ANA President Ernest Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN, was quoted in an article titled “MIL-OSI USA: Courtney Re-Introduces Bill to Curb Rising Rates of Violence Against Health Care and Social Service Workers Amid COVID-19” in Foreign Affairs.

Ukamaka Oruche, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN, will be featured in a webinar titled “Managing Children’s Mental Health: A Pediatric Hospital Imperative” hosted by U.S. News & World Report on March 3rd at 1pm ET.

Fellow Vaccine Efforts

Kristen M. Swanson, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean and Professor, Seattle University College of Nursing, serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees for Swedish Health Services in Seattle, WA. She was able to connect the CEO of Swedish with the President, Provost, and Chief Legal Counsel at Seattle University to launch a clinic “Swedish@SeattleU” in less than 8 days. In four hours on Day 1, close to 1,100 vaccines were administered. In the first month – working 3 to 4 days per week – approximately 31,000 doses have been administered. Swedish has also launched a mobile clinic which selects communities based on concentration of COVID cases, providing approximately 200 doses per day. A particularly newsworthy event was a call Dr. Swanson received at 9:45 PM saying they needed to staff a ‘pop-up’ clinic on campus at 11:00 PM, after a local hospital had a freezer breakdown that would have resulted in expired doses if not used that night. Dr. Swanson sent out an
Annette Wysocki, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean and Professor, and Kathy Gambino, EdD, RN at Stony Brook University (pictured left) are working with undergraduate nursing students at the COVID-19 vaccine point of distribution at Stony Brook University. Students have also volunteered on non-COVID units at Stony Brook University Hospital and helped with pooled saliva testing for faculty and employees.

Academy Fellows Marie Marino, EdD, RN, FAAN, Professor and Dean, Jefferson College of Nursing, Jeffrey Doucette, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer, Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, and Kate FitzPatrick, DNP, RN, ACNP, FAAN, NEA-BC, Chief Nurse Executive Officer, Jefferson Health are working to provide vaccines to their communities (pictured below). Learn more.

If you have also been active with the vaccination rollout, the Academy wants to hear from you! Share your experiences to be featured in upcoming editions of COVID Digest.

News & Updates from National Organizations

The Center for Black Health & Equity released a toolkit titled “COVID-19 Vaccine Information Resource.”

International Council of Nurses (ICN) published a press release titled “ICN supports WHO’s Vaccine Equity Declaration.”
Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing released a free, online course on administering the COVID-19 vaccination.

Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) released a policy brief titled “Is the End of the Long-Term Care Crisis Within Sight? New COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in Long-Term Care Facilities Are Dropping.” KFF released a policy brief titled “Growing Gaps in COVID-19 Vaccinations among Hispanic People.”

Kaiser Health News (KHN) published an article titled “I Wanted to Go in There and Help’: Nursing Schools See Enrollment Bump Amid Pandemic.”


National Governors Association (NGA) released guidance titled “Supporting A Trained Direct Care Workforce In Facility Settings During And After The Covid-19 Pandemic.”

The National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation published an infographic titled “Aging & COVID-19: Vaccination, Mental and Physical Health, and Isolation.”

NBC News published an article titled “Covid-19 cuts U.S. life expectancy by a year in first half of 2020, biggest drop since WWII.”

National Geographic published an article titled “Visualizing 500,000 Deaths from COVID-19 in the U.S.”

The New York Times (NYT) published an opinion piece titled “Death, Through a Nurse’s Eyes.”
The World Health Organization (WHO) published an article titled “Country readiness for COVID-19 vaccines.” WHO published a press release titled “WHO and donors continue to provide critical support to countries fighting COVID-19.”

Federal Government Response

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC updated guidance titled “Selected Adverse Events Reported after COVID-19 Vaccination.”
- MMWR released a report titled “Trends in Use of Telehealth Among Health Centers During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, June 26–November 6, 2020.”
- CDC updated guidance titled “Interim Guidance on Unsheltered Homelessness and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Homeless Service Providers and Local Officials.”
- CDC updated guidance titled “Contact Tracing Resources for Health Departments.”
- CDC updated guidance titled “For Parents: Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19.”
- CDC updated guidance titled “VaccineFinder Public Display Checklist for Pharmacies using the COVID Locating Health Provider Portal.”
- CDC updated guidance titled “Guidance for Vaccinating Older Adults and People with...”
Disability: Ensuring Equitable COVID-19 Vaccine Access.

- CDC released a toolkit titled “Community-Based Organizations COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit.”
- CDC updated communication resources on the COVID-19 vaccines.
- CDC released a toolkit titled “Essential Workers COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit.”
- CDC continues to update data on the number of COVID-19 vaccinations distributed in the United States.
- CDC continues to update data on the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the United States.

Department for Health and Human Services (HHS)

- HHS published a press release titled “Biden Administration Announces Actions to Expand COVID-19 Testing.”
- HHS published a press release titled “U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Announces Biden-Harris Administration Staff Appointments.”

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- FDA is hosting an Advisory Committee Meeting titled “Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee February 26, 2021 Meeting Announcement” on today, February 26, 2021 starting at 9am ET.
- FDA published a press release titled “Pulse Oximeter Accuracy and Limitations: FDA Safety Communication.”

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- Dr. Francis Collins, NIH Director, published a blog titled “Is One Vaccine Dose Enough After COVID-19 Infection?”
- Dr. Francis Collins published a blog titled “South Africa Study Shows Power of Genomic Surveillance Amid COVID-19 Pandemic.”
- Dr. Francis Collins published a blog titled “ACTIV Update: Making Major Strides in COVID-19 Therapeutic Development.”
- NIH published a press release titled “NIH study finds that people with SARS-CoV-2 antibodies may have a low risk of future infection.”
- NIH published a press release titled “NIH funds study to evaluate remdesivir for COVID-19 in pregnancy.”
- NIH published a press release titled “Researchers propose that humidity from masks...”
• NIH published a press release titled “Study Identifies Risk Factors for Elevated Anxiety in Young Adults During COVID-19 Pandemic.”
• NIH published an editorial titled “NIH experts discuss SARS-CoV-2 viral variants.”
• NIH published a press release titled “Four potential COVID-19 therapeutics enter Phase 2/3 testing in NIH ACTIV-2 trial.”

The White House

• The White House announced members of the Biden-Harris Administration COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.

As Galveston County froze over, nurses delivered COVID vaccines to homebound patients

From the Article:
“We gave vaccine by flashlights inside people’s homes, because they have no power,” said Jennifer Young, a nurse practitioner who works in the medical branch’s program for homebound elderly residents.

During the freeze, the nurses weren’t just delivering shots. Amid the blackouts and weather-damaged pipes bursting, nurses delivered water, blankets, coffee and breakfast tacos, Young said. In one case, Young even helped arrange for someone to go to a patient’s house to turn off the water.

Source: The Daily News, Galveston County

COVID-19 Resources  Policy News