FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Washington, DC

2021 National Awards for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Announced by IPEC and PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF)

One overall winner and five honorable mentions recognized for interprofessional education in the health sciences

This year marks the 5th anniversary of the Public Health Excellence in Interprofessional Education Collaboration Award, which was established to acknowledge and celebrate outstanding multidisciplinary efforts to impact community health. The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF) and the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) are delighted to congratulate the 2021 COF IPEC Award winners and five honorable mention finalists:

2021 IPEC COF Award: Overall Winner
Kean University, Union, NJ
The Effectiveness of Patient Navigation using Motivational Interviewing and m-Health Technology on Patient Activation & Engagement for Self-management Practices in Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease Risk: A Pilot Study
Ibtihal Al-Makhzoomy, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE, Kean University School of Nursing
Mahchid Namazi, MS, PhD, CCC-SLP, Kean University School of Communication Disorders and Deafness
Mariann Moran, OTD, Kean University Department of Occupational Therapy

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Health Communications and Health Technology
Yale University, New Haven, CT
Virtual Interprofessional Education (VIPE)
Mary Showstark, MPAS, PA-C, Yale School of Medicine Physician Assistant Online Program
Dawn Joosten-Hagye, PhD, LCSW, University of Southern California Suzanne School of Social Work
Andrew Wiss, PhD, EdM, The George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health
Cheryl Resnik, PT, DPT, FNAP, FAPTA, University of Southern California Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy
Erin Embry, MPA, MS, CCC-SLP, New York University School of Culture, Education and Human Development
Elke Zschaebitz, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, Georgetown University School of Nursing and Health Studies

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Behavioral Health
Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, WI
Safe Seniors In-home Visit Collaboration – Sheboygan County, Wisconsin
Michael Oldani, PhD, Concordia University Wisconsin School of Pharmacy
Sharon Chappy, PhD, RN, CNOR, Concordia University Wisconsin School of Nursing
Stacy Kukor, OTD, OTR/L, Concordia University Wisconsin School of Health Professions
Lois Harrison, PT, DPT, MS, CHAIS, Concordia University Wisconsin School of Health Professions
Nancy Stoehr, PharmD, FACA, FAPC, Concordia University Wisconsin School of Pharmacy

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2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Public Health Infrastructure
Winona State University, Winona, MN
Bridges Health: An Innovative and Replicable Interprofessional Community and Public Health Clinical Education Model Addressing Social Determinants of Health and Advancing Health Equity
Jennifer Timm, DNP, RN, PHN, Winona State University Department of Graduate Nursing
Anne Vande Berg, DSW, MSW, LISW, Winona State University Department of Social Work
Nora Kraemer, PhD, LAT, ATC, CSCS, Winona State University Department of Health, Exercise & Rehabilitative Sciences

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Community Empowerment and Education
New York University, New York, NY
Educating Students Early About Fostering Interprofessional Relationships Focused on Patient-Centered Care to Build Long Lasting Relationships for the Future
Mary Kang, DDS, FICD, New York University College of Dentistry
Wayne Kye, DDS, MS, FACD, FICD, New York University College of Dentistry
Chin Park, PhD, MBA, RN, New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: At Risk and Vulnerable Communities
University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL
Addressing Healthy Eating and Lifestyles in a Federally Qualified Health Center: An Interprofessional Quality Improvement Project
Marianne Durham, DNP, RN, CPPS, CPHQ, University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing
Jennifer Wescott, OTD, OTR/L, University of Illinois Chicago College of Applied Health Sciences
Vanessa Rodriguez, MHA (c), University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health

All honorees will be recognized at a virtual ceremony in conjunction with the Summer 2021 IPEC Member Meeting on June 1, 2021.

“On behalf of IPEC, I applaud the model collaboration formed at Kean University to test the effectiveness of interventions used to detect and mitigate the risks posed by hypertension and cardiac disease,” said Deborah E. Trautman, PhD, RN, FAAN, IPEC Board Chair and President and CEO of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. “Academic leaders representing Nursing, Communication Disorders, and Occupational Therapy are breaking new ground through this study, which examines the importance of community-based partnerships to meet the healthcare needs of underserved populations and address public health threats.”

The COF IPEC IPE in Excellence Award acknowledges many successful examples of interdisciplinary education in health professions education. Nominations were evaluated on the scope and impact of their contributions on community health.

“Our Foundation is very pleased to co-sponsor this award with IPEC in acknowledgement of our shared commitment to interprofessional education and collaborative practice. We know that a team-based approach, integrating the expertise of multiple health professions disciplines is vital to conquering public health problems, from pandemics to chronic diseases to health disparities,” said U.S. Public Health Service Rear Admiral (retired) Steve Solomon, MD, FACP, FIDSA.

“We congratulate the exceptional programs and individuals whose submissions are so deserving of recognition. Their work will help us act together to build healthier communities.”

The 2022 application cycle will open in October 2021. For additional details about the honorees and the submission process, visit IPEC’s website.

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About the Interprofessional Education Collaborative
IPEC’s mission is to ensure that new and current health professionals are proficient in the competencies essential for patient-centered, community- and population-oriented, interprofessional, collaborative practice. Eligible institutional members must be associations that represent and serve academic units at institutions of higher education that provide an educational program leading to the award of one or more academic degrees to students in one or more of the health professions that provide direct care to patients. For more information about IPEC, visit IPEC’s website.

About the PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF)
COF was founded and continues its work to build leadership in public health through advocacy, education, research, partnerships and direct support of prevention and public health programs. COF supports career development for officers in the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service and supports the growth of the Commissioned Corps as a force for a healthier nation and a healthier world. For more information about COF, visit the COF website.