



The Medical College of Wisconsin  
has been recognized by the  
Carnegie Foundation as a  
Community Engaged Institution  
since January 2015.



knowledge changing life

*President's  
Community Engagement  
Award Ceremony*

*Medical College of Wisconsin  
Health Research Center Auditorium*

*May 3, 2019*

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## *Agenda*

11:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

### **Lunch & Mentoring Network Recognition**

12:15—12:20 p.m.

### **Welcome**

Syed M. Ahmed, MD, MPH, DrPH  
Associate Provost and Senior Associate Dean for  
Community Engagement  
Medical College of Wisconsin

12:20—1:55 p.m.

### **Presentation of Awards**

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD  
President and CEO  
Medical College of Wisconsin

1:55—2:00 p.m.

### **Closing Remarks**

Syed M. Ahmed, MD, MPH, DrPH



## *The Office of the Associate Provost & Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement*

The Office of the Associate Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement provides a variety of resources to both MCW and community partners in support of MCW's Community Engagement Mission to advance the art and science of community engagement.

Community engagement is the collaboration between academic institutions and their larger communities for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity (Ahmed & Palermo, 2010). MCW's mission is to improve the health of Wisconsin's communities.

## *Community Engagement Core*

Housed under the Office of Community Engagement, the Community Engagement Core (CEC) seeks to grow the network of community-engaged research advocates at both the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and throughout the community. The Core facilitates relationships among community and academic partners, encouraging the growth of mutually beneficial partnerships that have the potential to impact health in Wisconsin.

The Community Engagement Core is a central resource that catalyzes, connects, and supports community engagement in research for the mutual benefit of Wisconsin's communities, community partners, and MCW. Our Core implements and supports the following initiatives: community engaged research (CEnR) seed grant program; immersion; training and outreach; and mentoring.

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## *Medical College of Wisconsin*

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) employs a diverse group of thought leaders in science, medicine, education, and community engagement working together to build a healthier world. Academic medicine is at the core of everything we do, bringing together scientists, physicians, students, and community members to solve challenges in health and society. Every study we conduct or patient we see leads to new learning and a continuous cycle of life-changing knowledge.



### *About the President's Community Engagement Award*

The President's Community Engagement Award recognizes the exemplary community-academic partnership, community engaged research, or community outreach activities of faculty, staff, students, and/or community partners of the Medical College of Wisconsin. The award was started in 2015, funded by the President's Office and administered by the Office of the Associate Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement. We are grateful for the generosity and support of President John R. Raymond, and his leadership and recognition of those who carry out the valuable work of the Community Engagement mission.

**For more information about the President's Award, visit:**

<http://www.mcw.edu/PresidentsCEaward>

## *2019 Awardees*

### *Community Partner*

**Al Castro, MS**

United Community Center

**Beth Thorson, LCSW, ACSW**

Free & Community Clinic Collaborative

### *MCW Faculty*

**Zeno Franco, PhD**

Family & Community Medicine

**Robert Gouthro, MD**

Psychiatry

### *MCW Student*

**Megan Cory**

Class of 2021

**Christian Hernandez**

Class of 2021

**Na'il Scoggins**

Class of 2021

### *MCW Staff*

**Toni Gray**

Diversity & Inclusion

**Broderick Pearson**

Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine

**Tiffany Frazer, MPH**

Global Health

## About the Awardees

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### *Al Castro, MS*

Al Castro is the Program Director of the Health Research Department at the United Community Center, Milwaukee. Mr. Castro serves as the primary UCC liaison with area research universities, developing and maintaining collaborations and partnerships for effective community engaged research, and responsible for grant application work, administering and managing research projects on behalf of UCC. He frequently assists MCW researchers in connecting to the community and leaders, planning, developing and implementing

community/academic participatory research projects. He often helps to mentor young MCW researchers in community engaged work in the Latino community. UCC has been collaborating with various health researchers from MCW since 2008, engaging the Latino community to participate in these research efforts, and helping the researchers to connect to the community. Mr. Castro holds a BS degree in Social Work from Carroll University in Waukesha WI, and a MS degree in Business Management from Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee.



### *Beth Thorson*

Beth Thorson, LCSW, ACSW completed graduate study in Clinical Social Work at The School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago. She holds a Master's Degree from the Center for Bioethics and the Medical Humanities, Medical College of Wisconsin. She has worked in acute and clinic settings with vulnerable populations including refugees, the chronically ill and the uninsured. Currently she is Director for Social Work Services for the Free & Community Clinic Collaborative (FC3), a collaborative of twenty five clinics in

southeastern Wisconsin. She leads the Community Health Resource Center at Bread of Healing Free Clinic in Milwaukee which is sponsored by the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership. Bread of Healing Clinic was recognized as the UWM field work agency of the year in 2018 for excellence in social work training. She has been a member of the Froedtert Hospital Ethics Committee since 2002.

## *Thank you to the President's Community Engagement Award 2019 Committee Members!*

**Melissa DeNomie**

**Lisa Dodson, MD**

**Mark Flower**

**Monique Graham**

**Moriah Iverson**

**Kathryn Kuhn**

**John Meurer, MD, MBA**

**Jessica Olson, PhD**

**Anoop Singh, MD**

**Christopher Zeman**



## About the Awardees



### Broderick Pearson

Broderick Pearson is a Research Associate with the Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR). He attended Grambling State University majoring in Accounting/Business Management, but it wasn't until he moved to Milwaukee when he realized his passion of HIV prevention. Broderick is known within the Wisconsin LGBTQ+ community by being one of the original leaders of the House of Infiniti, which pioneered community-driven HIV prevention work in Milwaukee. He graduated as a Wisconsin Health Leaders Fellow in the first cohort of the

fellowship sponsored by the Wisconsin HIV Program. Additionally, Broderick was recently elected as Community Co-Chair for the Statewide Action Planning Group, which is the prevention and care community planning body for Wisconsin. Broderick is a leader in the Milwaukee community who has shown steadfastness, care and resilience in his work and continues to engaging the community in HIV research.



### Zeno Franco, PhD

Dr. Franco has led the Dryhootch Partnership for Veterans Health with Dryhootch, a veteran serving, veteran-led non-profit founded in Milwaukee. He creates community strategies to engage veterans and works to generate financial support for the Veterans Treatment Initiative, an alternative sentencing program for veterans. He is involved in the Wisconsin Veterans Health Coalition and organization of Warrior Summit conferences, and recently edited a special issue on collaborative research strategies with veterans. His efforts have supported the MCW

Community Engagement mission through external partnerships such as: Latino Alzheimer's Coalition; Institute for Urban Agriculture and Nutrition; Walnut Way Community Research Council; Humboldt Park Friends. Dr. Franco was named site Co-PI for the National Institutes of Health *All of Us* Wisconsin research program, one of the largest, most diverse precision medicine efforts ever undertaken. He is a native Californian, still learning to appreciate German beer, Wisconsin winters (like his kids), and becoming a Brewers fan!



### Tiffany Frazer

Tiffany is MCW's Office of Global Health Manager and with the Associate Dean for Global Health, develops sustainable platforms of local and international collaborations that advance the global health community engagement, education, patient care, and research efforts of MCW's faculty and trainees. In her in-kind role as Vice Chair of MCW's IRB expedited research committee, her area of review expertise are community-based studies. A 14-year MCW staff member, she also served as manager for its Center for the Advancement of Underserved

Children. Her community service includes serving as Chair of the Milwaukee Area Health Education Center's (AHEC) Board of Directors and the Wisconsin AHEC Advisory Board. Tiffany's past positions were with the U.S. Peace Corps and United Nations in El Salvador, Peru, and Thailand respectively. Tiffany received a Master of Public Health from Tulane University and a Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.



### Robert Gouthro, MD

Robert Gouthro, MD, is Regional Clerkship Director of Psychiatry for the MCW-Green Bay medical school campus, and Training Director of MCW's Northeastern Wisconsin (NEW) Psychiatry Residency Program in Green Bay. His medical school and specialty training were both completed at MCW-Milwaukee. Since completing residency in 2011, he has placed a focus on medical education, his community, and supporting medical learners to give back in their own respective ways. Dr. Gouthro is a member of the Brown County Connections for Mental

Wellness Steering Committee; regularly works with community organizations on activities aimed at decreasing the stigma of mental health; and is cofounder of the N.E.W. Psychiatric Care Clinic, a nonprofit, free mental health clinic which will begin serving the Brown County area this May.

## About the Awardees

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### Megan Cory

Megan Cory was born and raised in West Texas and graduated from UCLA. She founded the 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization, BeatDiabetes, and serves as the Executive Director, overseeing multiple branches located in California, Texas, and Wisconsin. As a member of the Doctors as Teachers team, Meg is working to develop parental engagement for a nutrition education program for 3rd graders called Food Doctors. She also served as the 2018 Director of Clinic Operations for the Saturday Clinic for the Uninsured (SCU) and currently serves on the SCU

Advisory board. Meg continues to see patients at SCU regularly and has established a new partnership with the Milwaukee Health Department to provide free on-site flu shots to SCU patients. Last year, Meg established the Creating Health Education for Constructive Knowledge in Underserved Populations (CHECK UP) program to address the need for improved patient and healthcare provider education for disease prevention and management.



### Na'il Scoggins

Na'il Scoggins is a second-year medical student at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He is from Milwaukee and began his career at MCW as a participant in the diversity summer pipeline programs from 2012-2017. After graduating from Denison University in 2017, he returned to Milwaukee for medical school to begin making an impact in his hometown. Na'il conducts quality improvement research for Project Ujima, a local youth violence intervention program, through MCW's Urban and Community Health pathway. He also is a student leader in MCW's

Student National Medical Association chapter and the Pediatric Student Association, and is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. It is through these involvements and others that he is able to unite his passions for celebrating the cultural richness of Milwaukee, narrowing health disparities, serving marginalized populations, and diversifying the field of medicine.



### Christian Hernandez

Christian Hernandez is a rising third-year medical student at MCW. He is a proud MPS graduate born and raised in the South-side of Milwaukee. He has over seven years of experience in the gender-based violence field providing culturally-specific services and educating other service providers. Organizations he has worked with include End Domestic Abuse WI, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, United Migrant Opportunity Services (UMOS) and UNIDOS WI, supporting youth and adult victims whom experienced some form of sexual

violence, domestic violence or human trafficking. Upon starting medical school, Christian chose to continue his community engagement by pioneering a violence-prevention curriculum for Latino men in collaboration with the United Health Foundation and UMOS. He is dedicated to strengthening community-led collaborations that address health disparities through social justice, advocacy, and empowerment. He credits his resiliency to his family and national organizations such as LMSA and SNMA which champion diversity in medicine.



### Toni Gray

Toni Gray serves as the Community Program Coordinator in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She helps facilitate leadership development workshops and collaborates with various departments to development learning initiatives for students, faculty and staff. Her commitment to community endeavors has broadened her journey in forming collaborative partnerships with Brookfield East High School and Underwood Elementary School; bringing enriching dialogue around race, bias, and how we can effectively

work together to create a healthy environment that embraces, understands and celebrates the variety of cultures and identities so our children may thrive and be prepared to embody human excellence now and in the future.