

Holiday Edition

Volume 3, Issue 1
November 2022

Happy Holiday Season from AdvancingPractice!

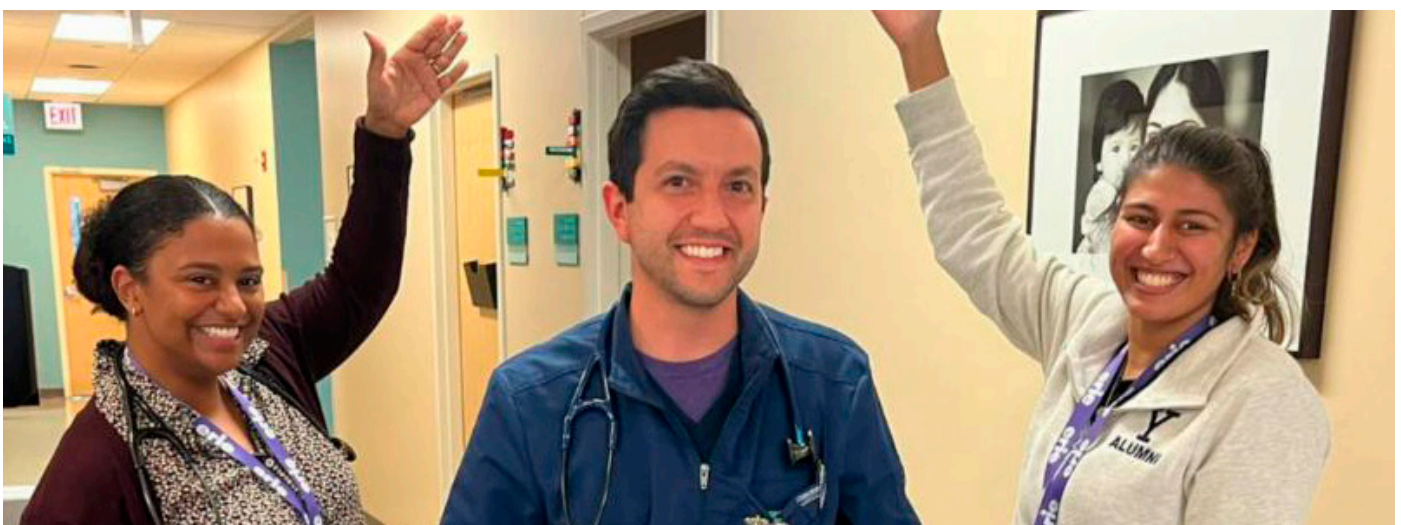
We are back with Volume 3 of the **AdvancingPractice Pages**, the official newsletter for Erie Family Health Centers' APRN Fellowship Program, in partnership with the College of Nursing at University of Illinois Chicago. We have been doing a lot of reflecting this season as we are currently in our last funding year from HRSA's Advanced Nursing Education-Nurse Practitioner Residency (ANE-NPR) Program. Erie was awarded the ANE-NPR grant to create and implement a postgraduate APRN Fellowship back in June 2019. The award contained four years of funding. We have been so fortunate to be



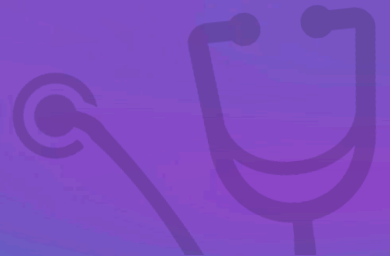
2022-2023 AdvancingPractice Cohort

an awardee with many others all around the country and be a part of the movement to grow APRN leaders! Although the grant is closing out, *AdvancingPractice* is continuing and will soon be

recruiting for the next cohort. We look forward to sharing our plans for the future in the coming months. But for now, we have so many great things to share about our current cohort!



Casey Scott, MSN, FNP-BC Fellow, Brandon Berkley Vigil, PA-C, Preceptor, Anisha Gill, MSN, FNP-C Fellow



Kawana Tharps, DNP, FNP-C at Nexplanon training

Make Your Mark

Our third cohort of APRN fellows are making a strong impression thus far in the program. This year, the cohort is made up of five Family Nurse Practitioners, two Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioners, one Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, and one Certified Nurse Midwife with dual certification as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner. This group came in ready to learn from the start. They are constantly seeking out information and opportunities to better themselves as providers. Even in these first few months of the fellowship where anxiety, burnout, and self-doubt are prevalent, the fellows are showing a certain level of maturity and self-awareness that almost hides that fact that they are new providers.

So far, the fellows have ramped up to see 16 patients per day. Each fellow has rotated through four specialty clinic rotations such as telehealth, reproductive health, pediatrics, and behavioral health. Strong relationships

are being built with their preceptors, and the fellows are really leaning on each other for support as well. We love seeing the camaraderie with this group. In Trimester 3, they will fully ramp up to 20 patients per day and will be diving deeper into their Quality Improvement Projects, something this group has also taken a lot of pride in. These nine individuals are easily on their way to becoming excellent providers and leaders.

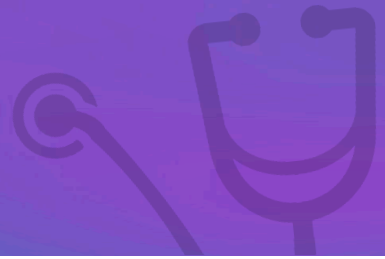
This cohort has been enjoying monthly psychiatric didactics presented by Dr. Edgar Woznica, a psychiatrist at Erie who is very passionate about teaching. These sessions with Dr. Woznica are a new addition to the fellowship and have been a huge hit within our didactic curriculum. With the ever-growing mental and behavioral health needs faced by our nation, we feel as though it is important that our fellows, even though not specialized in psychiatry, have a high level understanding of how to help and support patients with psychiatric needs.

"My time in the fellowship so far has been full of learning at an accelerated pace! Seeing patients in clinic, discussing them with experienced preceptors, and having that learning reinforced in didactic and in reading has been really helpful in solidifying my clinical practice."

– Kate Kozeniewski, MSN, AGPCNP-BC Fellow



Kate Kozeniewski, MSN, AGPCNP-BC Fellow, John Stryker, MSN, FNP, Preceptor, Maryan Saman, DNP, AGPCNP-BC Fellow



AdvancingPractice Advancements

We would like to officially welcome Jenifer Poell, MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC as our new Reproductive Health Lead! Jeni has been a midwife for 14 years and has been at Erie for two years. She has much experience with and passion for mentoring students and new midwives.

We also would like to officially welcome Afrodita Salievska, DNP, FNP-BC as one of our new academic partners from UIC-CON. Afrodita is a Clinical Assistant Professor at UIC-CON and has over 10 years of experience. She has been a strong addition to our team and has brought great insight from an academic perspective. We would also like to give

a shout out to faculty members Kiersten Solis, Natalie Raghu, and Emily Bettencourt, who presented at HRSA's 2nd Annual ANE-NPR Stakeholder Engagement Meeting in October. They presented on the importance of increasing diversity within the APRN workforce, and provided a detailed look at how we recruit and hire underrepresented minority candidates into the fellowship using the Holistic Review Method.

Lastly, we are getting closer to becoming an accredited program by the National Nurse Practitioner Residency and Fellowship Training Consortium. We are preparing for a two-day site visit in early 2023. Stay tuned for an update in our next newsletter!

The Last Word

As always, we would like to thank you for your interest and engagement in our program! Erie Family Health Centers, along with *AdvancingPractice*, is motivated by the belief that healthcare is a human right. To support this mission and provide increased access to healthcare, *AdvancingPractice* will be starting the recruitment and application process for our fourth cohort very soon! If you or someone you know is an FNP, PNP, AGNP or CNM student interested in a fellowship program who fit the Erie mission, please direct them to our web page, www.riefamilyhealth.org/AdvancingPractice, or share our contact info: advancingpractice@riefamilyhealth.org.

We can't wait to share more updates regarding our program's future in the next newsletter!

Are you Enjoying our Newsletters? What else do you want to know about the Fellowship? Let us know what you think by emailing us at advancingpractice@riefamilyhealth.org.

*Enjoying our Newsletters?
What else do you want to know
about the Fellowship?*

*Let us know what you think by
emailing us at advancingpractice@riefamilyhealth.org.*

THANKS FOR READING!

DONATE



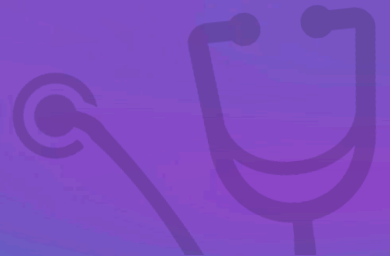
"I really look forward to starting in this new role at Erie as I have always loved mentoring and teaching new graduate midwives and APRNs."

— Jenifer Poell, MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC, ReproductiveHealthLead

"I have long supported and mentored students as a teacher at UIC-CON. I am a big believer in the importance of flexibility and open mindedness in supporting new NP's. I hope that I can help make the fellows transition to their new role as NP's both rich and exciting."

— Afrodita Salievska, DNP, FNP-BC, Curriculum Development Lead





Meet the Faculty



Kiersten Solis, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC,
Program Director, Erie Family Health
Centers



Sarah Fitz, MSN, APRN, ACNP,
Health Education Specialist, Clinical
Assistant Professor, UIC



Kathy Rugen, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP,
FAAN Clinical Associate Professor,
UIC



Emily Bettencourt, Program
Administrative Manger,
Erie Family Health Centers



Esther Sault, MSN, FNP-BC,
Fellow Development Lead,
Erie Family Health Centers



Jenifer Poell, MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC,
Reproductive Health Lead,
Erie Family Health Centers



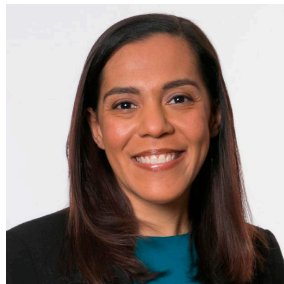
Natalie Raghu, DNP, APRN, FNP-C,
Fellowship Program Director &
Medical Director of Advanced
Practice Providers, Erie Family
Health Centers



Afrodita Salievksa, DNP, FNP-BC,
Curriculum Development Lead,
Clinical Assistant Professor, UIC



Miriam Rodriguez, FNP,
Erie HealthReach Waukegan
Health Center



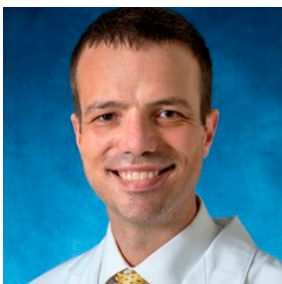
Santina Wheat, MD, MPH,
Program Director, Northwestern
Family Medicine Residency,
Erie Family Health Centers



Meredith Berlin, DNP, APRN, FNP
Erie School-Based Health



Ana Perez, MSN, FNP
Erie West Town Health Center



Edgar Woznica, MD, Psychiatrist,
Erie Family Health Centers



Lucy Amaro, DNP, FNP,
Medical Director,
Erie School-Based Health