

# D-CHIPP Affiliate Newsletter

## DUSON Community Health Improvement Partnership Program

*Partnering with the community to advance health.*



### D-CHIPP Director's Note

Donna J. Biederman, DrPH,  
MN, RN, FAAN, CPH

We have entered a very busy and exciting time with the D-CHIP Program, a time of "firsts." Next month, we will highlight our first-ever Community Partner Recognition Event (held last week) that celebrated the collaborative work with Durham organizations whom we call partners and friends. And coming up on Monday, November 11th, we welcome Dr. Susan Swider from Rush University, as the keynote speaker at our first annual Community Health Lecture. If you missed the recognition event, you do not want to miss the lecture on the 11th!

Also, we are working on exciting new opportunities that will further engage D-CHIPP student affiliates in the community health experience. More information will be coming in the months ahead.

In this month's newsletter, we highlight TROSA, a local residential substance abuse treatment center that provides their services at no cost. They daily rebuild lives through recovery, education, and employment services.

Our D-CHIPP faculty affiliate spotlight this month is Irene Felsman, DNP, who shares that despite her zest for global traveling and health, she found her passion for community health very close to home.



We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter!

### Community Partner Spotlight:

**TROSA** Pictured below, L-R: Dr. Paul Nagy, Duke Health Chancellor Eugene Washington, TROSA CEO Kevin McDonald



Triangle Residential Options for Substance Abusers, Inc. (TROSA) was founded in 1994 by TROSA President and CEO Kevin McDonald. In recovery himself, he started TROSA with \$18,000 and a passionate drive to help others break their addictions. In TROSA's early days, the campus was located in the Old North Durham Elementary School, secured with a rental contract from the city of Durham for \$1 per year. In addition to funding from the Durham Chamber of Commerce, an early source of revenue generation included a potato peeling social enterprise. Today, TROSA still uses the renovated school as a building for housing residents, but its main hub of activity is a 13-acre campus on a residential street near downtown Durham.

TROSA is a modified therapeutic community using evidence-based recovery tactics and counseling to help residents facing substance use disorders. The TROSA community is unique in that staff members include both those with and without a history of substance use disorder – individuals without prior personal substance use disorders work side-by-side with those who are still in recovery. There are nearly 500 individuals on campus currently in recovery. Many residents are on *(cont'd on page 2)*

Pictured: TROSA CEO, Kevin McDonald with a program graduate.



*Community partner spotlight cont'd...*

probation and face physical and mental health issues, as well as limited education and job experience. Addressing individuals' basic needs helps them transi-

tion back into society. While in the program, residents can gain much-needed job experience within one of the organization's many departments, including its award-winning social enterprises: TROSA Moving & Storage, TROSA Thrift & Frame Shop, TROSA Lawn Care, or TROSA Tree Lots. Along with philanthropic donations, grants, and in-kind product donations and services, these social enterprises allow the residents to receive TROSA services at no charge. Since 1994, over 2,000 individuals have graduated from TROSA's program, and over 90% of these graduates report staying sober and employed one year post-program.

The residents are also responsible for internal operations, including initial intake of new residents. Taking this critical first step in recovery with the help of someone who has "been there" helps new residents know they aren't alone in their addiction recovery.

TROSA contracts with Duke University School of Nursing to provide a Nurse Practitioner on site. The NP provides residents with onsite medical care, which is critical to reducing the need for transportation to and from appointments. This past month, Clinical Instructor Jean Hanson took a group of ABSN students to TROSA to help administer flu shots. Of the 500 TROSA residents, 70% received their flu shot this year, the highest percentage of residents ever to do so.

For more information about TROSA, including how to get treatment, volunteer or donate, go to [www.trosainc.org](http://www.trosainc.org). Rebecca Graves, Director of Clinical Services, says medical provider volunteers are always welcome. "This is a great place to work," says Graves, "in an environment where people are trying to better their lives. We all need that."

**D-CHIPP affiliates are scholars, leaders, researchers, & educators. See the publications, grant submissions, and much more by D-CHIPP affiliates during September.**

Publications: 8 **Stevenson**, Bailey and Colleagues Publish Article in Health Psychology Open; **McConnell** Publishes Article in Journal of General Internal Medicine; **Padilla**, Kreider and Colleague Publish Article in Journal of Nursing Education; **McConnell** and Colleagues Publish Article in Worldviews on Evidence-based Nursing; **Walton** Featured in ONS Voice Article and Presents at GLAONS Summit; **Hendrix** and Colleagues Publish Article in Journal of General Internal Medicine; PhD Student Yang, Rushton, **Hendrix** and Colleague Publish Article in BMJ Open; **McConnell** Publishes Article in Health and Social Care in the Community

Grant submissions: 3 Pan and **Granger** Submit PCORI Application; **Randolph** Submits Proposal to Gilead Sciences, Inc.; **Relf** and Colleagues Submit NIH R01 Application

Grant awards: 4 **Noonan** Receives NIH R01 Award; **Padilla** and Colleague Receive Award from New York CDTR; **Tanabe** Receives UH3 National Institutes of Health Award; **Tanabe** and School of Medicine Colleague Shah Receive NIH/NHLBI Award

Conference presentations: 4 **Biederman** and **Mountz** Present Alongside Partners at Black Communities Conference; **Walton** Featured in ONS Voice Article and Presents at GLAONS Summit; **Padilla** Presents at Health Disparities Session; **Walton** Presents at NCNA Convention

Professional awards: 1 Clinical Associate **Gamble** Honored as NCNA Practice Nurse of the Year

Events: 1 **Biederman** Hosts Durham Mayor Schewel at Health & Housing Meeting

**News from the Center for Nursing Research**

Earlier this month, the Fall 2019 Pilot Program Request for Applications was released by the DUSON Center for Nursing Research (CNR). While the intent to submit is due today, October 28th, proposals are due on December 6th. Proposals that either create new partnerships across Duke and /or community partners, or leverage existing teams of researchers are encouraged. Please contact Christin Daniels, Director of Research Development, at [christin.daniels@duke.edu](mailto:christin.daniels@duke.edu) with any questions.

The first of three networking events between DUSON and the Nicholas School of the Environment (NSOE) was held on Tuesday, September 24th. Nearly 25 DUSON and NSOE faculty, staff, and community partners attended. The lunch & learn featured Pam Maxson, PhD, Director of Operations for the Duke Center for Community and Population Health Improvement in the Duke Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), who provided information and a demo of the Durham Neighborhood Compass tool. The topic of the next event, which will take place in November at NSOE, is maximizing the use of GIS information in research projects. The final DUSON-NSOE networking meeting, scheduled for early December, will provide an opportunity for faculty from both schools to meet and explore research synergies during a mixer event. Watch your email for more information!

**Upcoming Events**

**November 2-6:** [American Public Health Association Conference](#) in Philadelphia, PA (Irene Felsman & Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda presenting break out session on SER study; Schenita Randolph presenting, "Strategies for Development and Sustainability of Stakeholder Engagement in a Multi-Site Study")

**November 11th:** Community Health Lecture with Dr. Susan Swider, Rush University

**December 16th:** Critical Conversations Series: School to Prison Pipeline Documentary

Submit an upcoming event for inclusion in the newsletter by the 15th of each month to [dchipp-coord@duke.edu](mailto:dchipp-coord@duke.edu)

***D-CHIPP Affiliate Spotlight: Irene Felsman, DNP, MPH, RN, C-GH***

**Who:** Irene Crabtree-Felsman

**Hometown:** I'm not sure at this point! Born in New York State, but I have lived in many places both in the US and in other countries. Zimbabwe and southern Africa are close to my heart, as I spent the most time there living and working before coming back to the US in 2011.



**Favorite food:** Oh, that is hard! I like food with a lot of flavor Thai, Ethiopian, and Middle Eastern food are my current favorites I love to cook!

**Favorite thing:** My favorite thing is to spend time with my three children, their partners, and my new grandbaby girl, Halia Irene.

**Favorite vacation spot:** or vacations, I love to be near the water. I love a quiet day at our family cabin on the lake in NH, or a walk on a North Carolina (or Caribbean) beach.

**Current research or other projects:** I am a Co-Investigator on the SER Hispano Study, which focuses on health, stress and resiliency in the Latinx/Hispanic population. Other research/projects focus on refugee women and families. I created the Global Women's Group in collaboration with CWS Immigrant and Refugee Program six years ago, which continues to meet every Friday, and now serves as a clinical site for ABSN students.

**Courses teaching this or next semester / our taught recently:** Wellness and Health Promotion Across the Lifespan, Community and Public Health Nursing, Chair for four Global DNP Student Projects in Bolivia and Tanzania

**Community partners:** I work with many community organizations, to develop, coordinate and maintain working relationships. My closest current relationships are with Church World Service Immigrant and Refugee Program; El Centro Hispano; Mexican Consulate Ventanilla de Salud program; Families Moving Forward.

**What she likes best about working in community health:** The opportunity to work with people toward improving health in their own families and communities is a great privilege, whether it be in the US or globally. From the first home visit I ever did as a Duke undergrad nursing student, I knew this was my strength and my passion.

**An Additional Note...:** In the spirit of work-life balance and wellness, I make sure to find time to practice yoga, sing (in a trio, with the Nightingales, in the shower... and in my UU fellowship choir) and even get creative with my hands on occasion doing fiber arts.