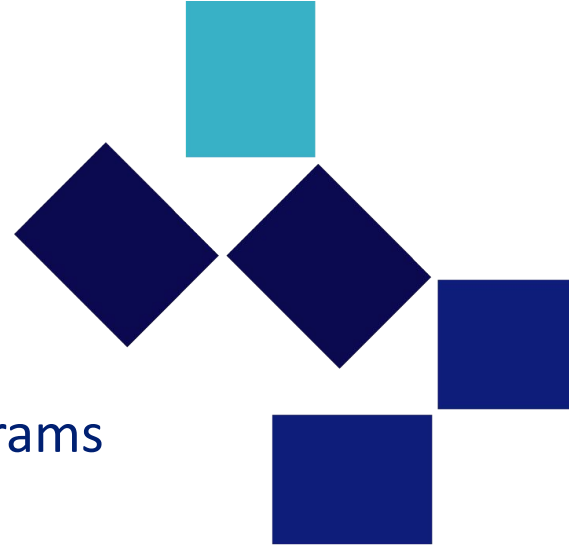
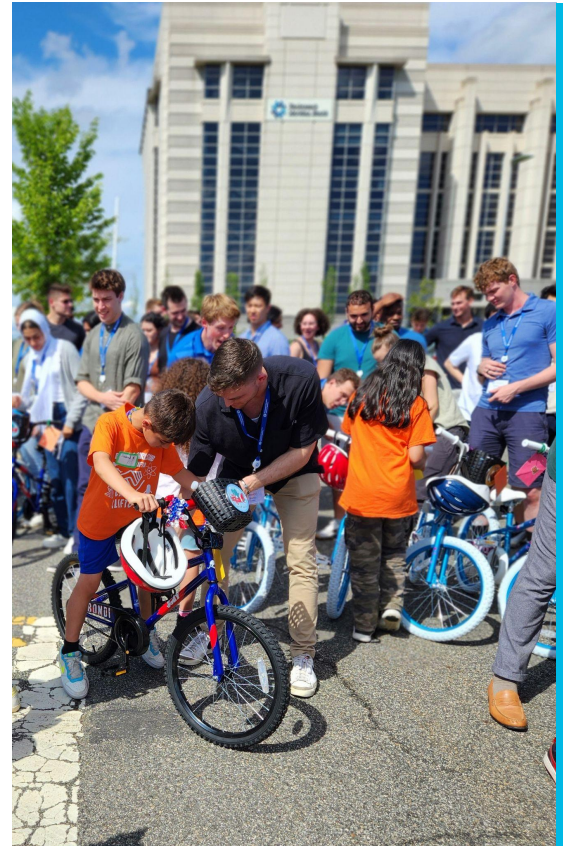




Hackensack Meridian
School of Medicine



Human Dimension & Community Programs Annual Report 2023



A Message from Human Dimension

The Human Dimension's guiding belief is "Patients are our teachers, the community is our classroom." As we reflect on 2023, we want to thank you for making this possible. The experiential curriculum that teaches our students the invaluable lessons and skills needed to become physicians who will fulfill our vision to transform healthcare would not be possible without your partnership and collaboration.

Within this report, you will learn about the different components of our community-based student programming such as our Human Dimension Voices Program (HDVP) and Community Health Project (CHP) during the pre-clerkship years, the Capstone Scholarly Project during clinical clerkships, and the Community Immersion Electives during our optional, individualized third year. It is through these experiences that all the determinants of health truly come to life in a way that cannot be achieved solely through classroom sessions, affording our students opportunities to develop and practice humanistic skills essential to providing the highest quality of health care.

In 2024 we are excited to continue co-creating opportunities to simultaneously support your communities while developing our students' capacity to work collaboratively and interprofessionally toward achieving the highest level of wellness for all individuals.

Carmela Rocchetti, MD,
Assistant Dean of Community Engaged
Medical Education

Michal Divney, LCSW,
Human Dimension & Community Programs Manager

Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine's Mission

To develop our students, residents, fellows, faculty, and healthcare environment to deliver the highest quality care for all.

- Embrace and model our professional reverence for the human condition, empathy towards suffering, excellence in medical care, research and discovery, and humility in service;
- Continue to serve and learn from the engagement of underrepresented minority populations among students, faculty, staff, and community;
- Integrate lifelong learning and inquiry into our students' practice;
- Work in communion with scholars and practitioners of other disciplines to integrate their perspectives, experiences, and tools; and
- Understand that context, community, and behavior drive wellbeing

Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine's Vision

Each person in New Jersey, and in the United States, regardless of race or socioeconomic status, will enjoy the highest levels of wellness in an economically and behaviorally sustainable fashion.

Meet the HD & Community Programs Team



Assist Dean Community Engaged Medical Education & HD Course Director

Carmela Rocchetti, M.D.
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HD Special Projects Coordinator

Maria (Mariuxi) Mansfield, MAS
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HD Assistant Course Director

Caryn Katz-Loffman, LSW;
Director of PIF
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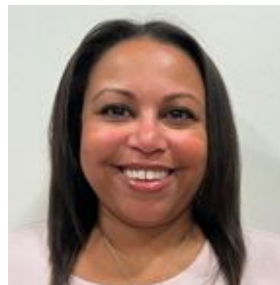
Community Liaison

Martha Amarante Pleasant
martha.amarantepleasant@hmhn.org



HD Assistant Course Director

Lawrence Rosen, M.D.
lawrence.rosen@hmhn.org



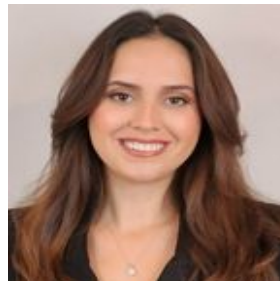
Community Liaison

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HD & Community Programs Manager

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Community Liaison

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HD Course Coordinator & Support

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Community Liaison

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Community Engagement Specialist

Freddy Perez, BS
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Marni Kriegel, M.D.

Phase 3 Community Immersion
Faculty Lead
Marni.Kriegel@hmhn.org

Meet the HD Community Engaged Master Educators



Jennifer Knight, M.D.
Jennifer.Knight@hmhn.org



Melissa Figueroa, M.D.
Melissa.Figueroa@hmhn.org



Laure Veet, M.D.
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Bridget Tracy, M.D.
Bridget.Tracy@hmhn.org

The Community-Engaged Master Educator (CEME) Program

The goal of the HD Community Engaged Master Educator cohort is to develop faculty members who are deeply engaged in the Human Dimension Curriculum. Faculty in the program develop the skills needed to design, improve, and deliver a community-engaged curriculum and serve as mentors and leaders for building community-engaged medical education programs within the SOM and HMM communities.



Human Dimension Overview

The Human Dimension is a three-year longitudinal course at the heart of the School of Medicine curriculum. Through service-learning experiences and an integrated curriculum, students come to understand the many Determinants of Health; this includes the social determinants of health as well as the personal, economic, and environmental determinants. Within the Human Dimension, students engage with communities through four main programs:

1. **The Human Dimension Voices Program (HDVP)**
2. **Community Health Project (CHP)**
3. **HD Scholarly Capstone Project**
4. **Phase 3 Community Immersion Projects**



The Human Dimension Voices Program (HDVP)

The **Human Dimension Voices Program (HDVP)** is a unique opportunity for individuals and families to connect with medical students who will be the next generation of physicians. A pair of students is matched with an individual or family and visit them in their home about once every other month. Through this longitudinal relations students become involved in all aspects of the family's life to understand drivers of health outcomes, provide education, and navigate community resources.



Through HDVP, students may:

- Provide basic health education and connect families to resources
- Help families plan for and review information related to medical visits
- Attend medical visits with the families

NOVA Award from the American Hospital Association

In July of 2020, the School of Medicine won the prestigious *NOVA Award* from the American Hospital Association – distinguishing it as just one of a handful of institutions across the country. The *AHA Dick Davidson NOVA Award* honors hospital-led collaborative efforts to improve community health. The School of Medicine was honored for its contributions through the Human Dimension program, a true recognition of the value, results, and impact this program has for our students, faculty, and the community.

Community Health Project (CHP)

Twenty-one small groups are assigned a community of focus and matched with schools or community-based organizations in that community. Through a series of structured activities, students work together to analyze the community's assets and areas of opportunity, paying particular attention to the Social Determinants of Health. Students work together with their assigned community partner to understand the needs of that partner and then develop health interventions to meet those needs.

Through CHP students may:

- Utilize quantitative and qualitative data to formulate a deep understanding of the assigned community
- Research a community's geography,
- Attend local, county, and state meetings
- Interview key local stakeholders



2023-2024 CHP Partners

- Bergen Arts & Science Charter School
- Bloomfield School District
- Boys & Girls Club of Clifton
- Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services
- Buddies of New Jersey Inc.
- Clifton Health Department
- Clifton School District
- CUMAC Inc.
- Garfield School District
- Hackensack School District
- Health Coalition of Passaic County
- North Jersey Friendship House
- Nutley School District
- Oasis: A Haven for Women & Children
- Passaic Academy of Science & Engineering
- Passaic Arts & Science Charter
- Paterson School District
- Paterson STEAM High School
- Union City School District

2023 HD

Communities of Focus

Bloomfield	Nutley
Clifton	Paterson
Garfield	Passaic
Hackensack	Union City

HD Scholarly Capstone Project

The required senior Capstone project enables each student to reflect upon and integrate major themes experienced throughout the 3-year Human Dimension longitudinal curriculum. Students begin by identifying a challenge or gap related to health equity outcomes and then partner with a faculty or community mentor to discover possible solutions. After analyzing related research, public policies, and local processes, students are charged to propose and present a systems level solution to address the challenge or determinant of health focus.

Phase 3 Community Immersion Projects

Phase 3 is a customized period that starts after the three-year core curriculum. During this phase, students select a personalized pathway possibly including a dual degree or certificate program, clinical immersion, research-intensive activities, a community-based project, or entry into residency.

Highlighted Student Capstone Projects:

Promoting Reading During Infancy Through Family Education and a Structured NICU Reading Program

Nneka Ajah and Ally Watson

Promoting Breastfeeding and Supporting Mothers: a Breast Pump Donation Pilot Program

Carli Macrina

Addressing Transportation in Plainfield

Alex Yu

Examples of HD Community Immersion Phase 3 projects include:



Addressing Food Insecurity with State Assistance Programs

Amy Bortey

Working with the 7th Street Bistro Community Kitchen (Newark) to conduct health educational programming and increase awareness for screening programs, Amy collaborates with local health systems to host health screens and screening for eligibility for state assistance programs.



Breast Pump Donation Pilot Program

Carli Macrina

Through five pediatrician offices and the Jane H. Booker Family Health Center, this pilot program provides free breast pumps and training for mothers around The Jersey Shore Medical Center catchment area.



BVMI Student Clinic

Tejaswi Makkapati

Tejaswi is leading a team that is implementing organizational structure and creating a clinic elective for students and faculty to provide free health care for those with limited access to care.

New Community Initiatives and Program Highlights



The Human Dimension in Graduate Medical Education (GME) Pilot Program

This pilot brings an adapted Human Dimension program to $\frac{1}{3}$ of residency programs throughout the HMH system. Residents training in specialties such as pediatrics, internal medicine, obgyn, surgery, and emergency medicine fields participate in community-engaged activities and workshops focused on social determinants of health, cultural humility, humanism, advocacy, and physician resilience.



Support our Schools (SOS) Mental Health Collaboratory Program

The Support Our Schools (SOS) K-12 Mental Health Collaboratory brings together K-12 school leaders, HMSOM faculty, and HMH clinical experts to discuss, analyze, and develop collaborative strategies and initiatives focused on supporting mental health and wellness in youth. This new SOS initiative represents an extension of the COVID SOS program, which was established in 2020 as a direct response to the pandemic.



HMSOM Student Organizations & Community Partnerships

Throughout the year, HMSOM student organizations partner with local community organizations to support their specific goals. This year, the HMSOM Community Council Club organized a school drive in collaboration with *New Destiny Family Success Center* and a food drive with *Oasis Haven for Women & Children*. In addition, students have been involved in volunteering their time at local food pantries, Boys & Girls Clubs, schools, and many other organizations.



Community Health Project (Community Baby Shower) in collaboration with Clifton Health Department

New Community Initiatives and Program Highlights (continued)



HMSOM & Student National Medical Association (SNMA) Health & Wellness Fair @ Eva's Village

On December 3, 2023, HMSOM and SNMA, in collaboration with Eva's Village, hosted a free Health & Wellness Fair for community members. This event brought together 13 community partners who provided free services to the community, including COVID-19 vaccines, flu vaccines, blood pressure screenings, and health education on a variety of chronic diseases.

Continuous Community Engagement

Annual Deans' Community Roundtable Discussion

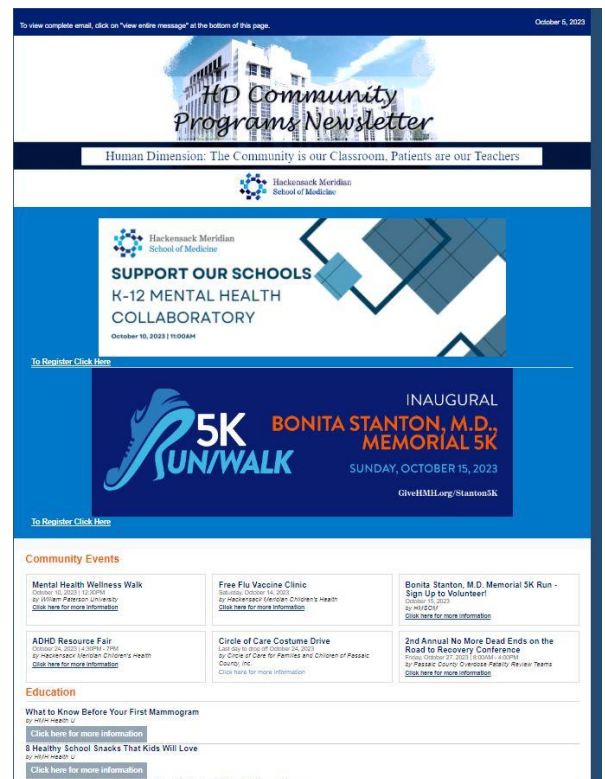
An annual gathering of community stakeholders and HMSOM leaders. This roundtable is one of a few platforms for community partners to engage with HMSOM leadership and share updates, as well as identify new avenues of collaboration.

Community Coalitions & Board Positions

The Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine is involved with numerous coalitions and task forces to ensure that HMSOM resources and HMH content experts are available to community partners. If you would like someone from our team to participate in your task force meeting or join a board please contact us.

Community Participation at Local Events

One of the most organic ways the Community Programs team engages the community is by attending numerous events and activities throughout the year across northern Jersey. Meeting folks face-to-face and hearing their stories, allows our team to connect them with HMSOM medical students for support in meeting their health and wellness goals. You can find our team tabling at health and wellness fairs, faith-based events, school functions, and other community gatherings.



The Human Dimension Community Programs Newsletter

This weekly newsletter is a way to connect our community partners with information, resources, and services happening within the HMH network, as well as events & activities within the service area of our local partners. With over 2,000+ subscribers, the aim of this newsletter is to foster connection, engagement and collaboration.

Community Outreach By The Numbers



2000+

HD Community Programs
Newsletter Subscribers



200+
Community
Partners



84

Community Outreach
Events



21

Community Health
Project Partners



Community
Outreach
By the Numbers



140

HDVP Referrals
from Outreach Events



31

Community Student
Volunteer Opportunities



40 HDVP
Referral
Sources



8 Communities
Across **4** Counties

59

Community
Stakeholder
Interviews by
Students



Awards & Grants



Carin & Roger Ehrenberg Growing and Sustaining the Human Dimension Program Grant

\$1,000,000 grant to increase support for community-engaged faculty and curriculum development, and to create a pilot program to expand HD into graduate medical education.



Bank of America Health Equity Grant

\$100,000 to support the Human Dimension programs in Paterson, NJ. Additionally, this grant supports the entire HD Digital and Health literacy education program providing families in need with tablets, internet access, and training.



Sandra and Arnold Gold Humanism Research Fund

\$50,000 to support research design and development for the Human Dimension program's Graduate Medical Education project.



Boys & Girls Club of Clifton Community Partner Award, 2023



NIH National Library of Medicine's All of Us Program Center Community Award 2022-2023

\$29,911 to fund iPads and internet hotspots for Human Dimension Voices Program (HDVP) participants of our 2022 Cohort of students.



Community Engaged Medical Education Scholarship 2022-2023

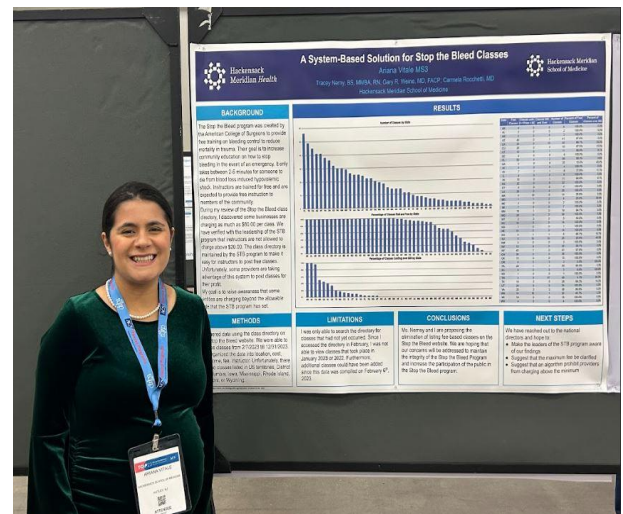
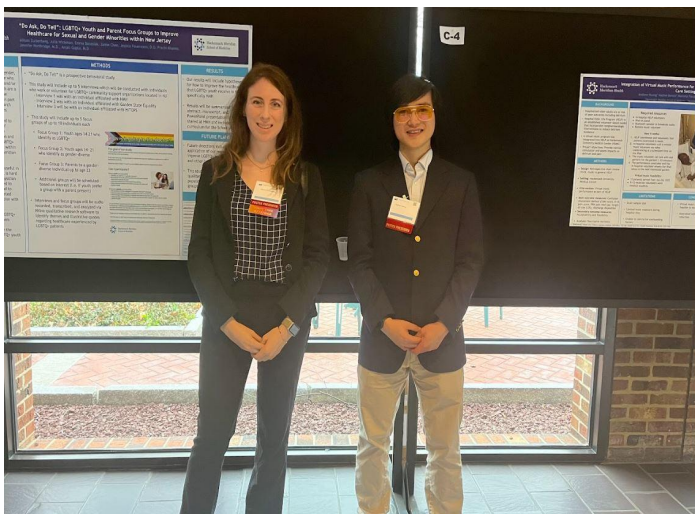
Publications

Rocchetti C, Naganathan S, Divney M, Josephs J, Pall H. Community–Academic Partnerships: A Report on the COVID Support Our Schools (SOS) Initiative. *Children*. 2022; 9(12):1868.

<https://doi.org/10.3390/children9121868>

Student Attendance at Conferences Presenting HD Projects

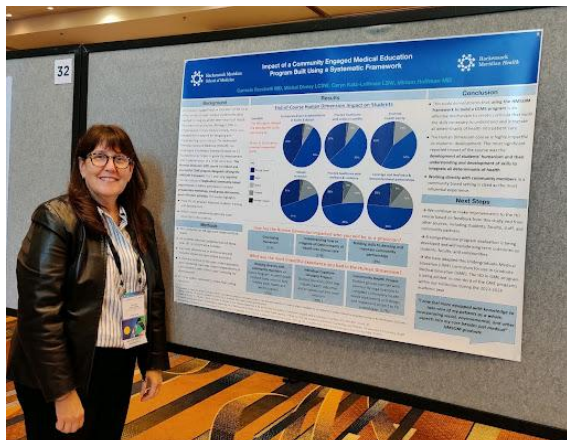
- **American College of Physicians, Allison Zuckerberg - Do Ask, Do Tell: LGBTQ+ Youth and Parents Focus Groups to Improve Healthcare for Sexual and Gender Minorities within New Jersey.** 2023
- **American College of Physicians and American Geriatrics Society, Andrew Huang - Integration of Virtual Music Performance for Delirium Prevention in the Acute Care Setting.** 2023
- **American College for Surgeons - TQIP Annual Conference, Ariana Vitale - A System-Based Solution for Stop the Bleed Classes.** 2023
- **USC Innovations in Medical Education Conference Melika Behrooz, Laura Veet, MD, Lawrence Rosen, MD - Enhancing Medical Education through Longitudinal Community Engagement: The Voices Program.** (accepted 2023)



Community Engaged Medical Education Scholarship

Highlights of Faculty Attendance at Conferences Presenting HD Research and Innovation - Poster Presentations

- Anjali Gupta, MD, Carmela Rocchetti, MD - Proposing System Solutions to Improve Population Health through Capstone - An Innovative Medical Student Project/Curriculum Reflecting Synthesis of Longitudinal Teaching on Social Determinants of Health. **Northeast Group on Educational Affairs (NEGEA). Burlington, VT 2023 *Top Poster Finalist Award**
- Carmela Rocchetti MD, Jennifer Knight MD, Bridget Tracy MD - The Human Dimension Voices Program: Teaching Determinants of Health via an Innovative Community-Engaged Curriculum. **Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting. NY, NY 2023**
- Caryn Katz-Loffman, LSW - Developing your Professional Identity Brand: A Value Based Workshop to Build Competencies. **Academy for Professionalism in Health Care. 2023**
- Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Michal Divney, LSW, Caryn Katz-Loffman, LSW, Miriam Hoffman, MD - Qualitative Analysis of the Impact of a Community-Engaged Medical Education Program Built Using a Systematic Framework. **American Medical Association Change MedEd Conference. Chicago, IL Sept 2023**
- Christopher Duffy, MLIS, Allison Piazza, MHA, Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Michal Divney, LSW, Lawrence Rosen, MD - Combating Low Health Information Literacy & the “Digital Divide”: A “Train the Trainer” Pilot Program. **American Medical Association Change MedEd Conference. Chicago, IL Sept 2023**
- Christopher Duffy, MLIS, Allison Piazza, MHA, Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Lawrence Rosen, MD - Combating Low Health Information Literacy and the Digital Divide; A Train the Trainer Pilot Program. **HMSOM Med Education Conference. Nutley, NJ April 2023**
- Anjali Gupta, MD, Carmela Rocchetti, MD - Proposing System Solutions to Improve Population Health through Capstone - An Innovative Medical Student Project/Curriculum Reflecting Synthesis of Longitudinal Teaching on Social Determinants of Health. **HMSOM Medical Education Conference. Nutley, NJ April 2023**
- Jennifer Knight, MD, Carmela Rocchetti, MD - Community Engagement as an Approach to Teaching Social Determinants of Health in GME. **HMSOM Medical Education Conference. Nutley, NJ April 2023**



Community Engaged Medical Education Scholarship 2022-2023

Highlights of Faculty Attendance at Conferences Presenting HD Research and Innovation - Workshop/Oral Abstract/Panel Presentations

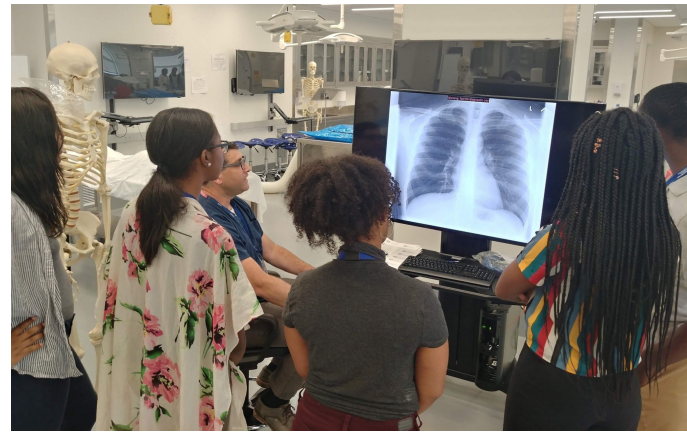
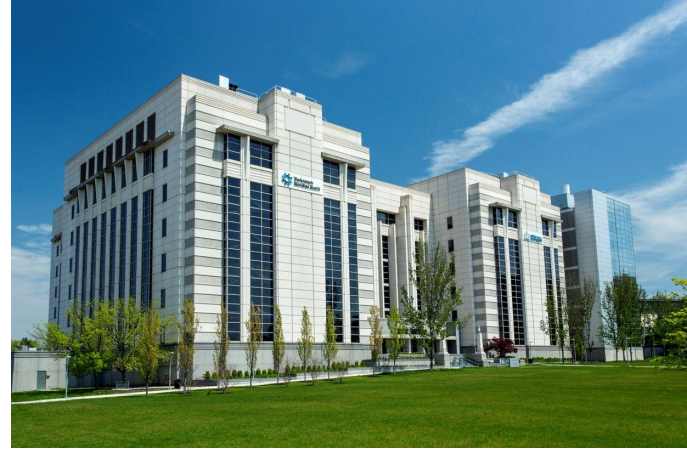
- **National Collaborative for Education to Address the Social Determinants of Health Annual Conference (NCEAS, Northwestern)**, Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Lawrence Rosen, MD - The Voices Program: Teaching Social Determinants of Health via a Community Engaged Curriculum
- **ACP-NJ Scientific Meeting**, Jennifer Knight MD - Social Determinants of Health Panel Discussion
- **Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting**, Carmela Rocchetti MD, Jennifer Knight MD, Caryn Katz-Loffman, LSW, - Mindfulness for Physicians: Reconnecting with Purpose to cultivate joy in your profession workshop
- **American Medical Association Change MedEd 2023**, Carmela Rocchetti, Miriam Hoffman, Michal Divney, Caryn Katz-Loffman - The Human Dimension: A transferable framework for building a community-engaged medical education program Rocchetti, Hoffman, Divney, Katz-Loffman
- **Health System Science Summit 2022**, Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Miriam Hoffman, MD, Joshua Josephs, MD - Putting Health System Science into Practice: The Human Dimension Course at the HMSOM
- **Northeast Group on Educational Affairs (NEGEA) 2023**, Lawrence Rosen, MD, Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Laure Veet, MD - Use of a Whole Health Personal Health Inventory by First Year Medical Students to Assist Community-Based Patients to Achieve Health and Wellbeing Goals
- **Northeast Group on Educational Affairs (NEGEA) 2023**, Lawrence Rosen, MD, Tade Ayeni, Carmela Rocchetti, MD - Mindfulness and Racial Justice: Tools to Facilitate Challenging Conversations
- **HMSOM Med Ed Week 2023** Lawrence Rosen, MD, Tade Ayeni, EdD, Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Michal Diveny, LCSW - Integrating Cultural Humility Into Your Learning Environment
- **HMSOM Med Ed Week 2023**, Melissa Figueroa, MD, Jennifer Knight, MD Carmela Rocchetti, MD, Laure Veet, MD, Caryn Katz-Loffman, LSW - Community Engagement as an Approach to Teaching Social Determinants of Health in GME

About Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine

The Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine, the first private medical school in New Jersey in more than 50 years, opened its doors in June 2018 and Hackensack Meridian *Health* assumed financial responsibility for the School in July 2018 with the School establishing its independence as a freestanding Institution of Higher Education in July 2020. The School welcomed its first class of students in 2018 to its campus in Nutley and Clifton, and graduated its first cohort of doctors in 2021. The medical school received full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education in February 2023 capping a robust seven-year review process that affirms the highest standards in the training of future physicians.

The School has been comprehensively designed and driven by its vision: that each person in New Jersey, and in the United States, regardless of race or socioeconomic status, will enjoy the highest levels of wellness in an economically and behaviorally sustainable fashion. This informs what is taught, the teaching methods used, and the structure of the school.

The School's unique curriculum uses a team-oriented, collaborative approach and focuses on integrating the basic, clinical, and health system sciences into its teaching, which is framed by the concept of the *Determinants of Health* - the many factors that drive health and wellbeing, from the biologic to the social, behavioral, and environmental. The School prides itself on teaching students how to be humanistic doctors able to integrate all the determinants into their practice to achieve health equity. Central to the School's mission are community engagement and partnerships through programs like the Human Dimension (HD), which is active in communities across New Jersey.





Hackensack Meridian
School of Medicine

Human Dimension & Community Programs

