

# MAINE-DARTMOUTH NEWS

A newsletter brought to you by Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency

May 2025

# **Congratulations/Recognition**



To Drew Freedman DO who was nominated by MDFMR for AOA Foundation's Outstanding Resident of the Year award for leadership in osteopathy. One resident will be chosen from each

specialty. To Andrea Abrell DO for obtaining board certification in obesity medicine. To Greg Feero PhD, MD who was invited to join the External Scientific Panel for the Network of Genomics-Enabled Learning Health Systems, a consortium to improve clinical integration of genomic info into health care. To Julia McDonald DO for publication of her poem "Fireflies" in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

# **Announcing the Family Medicine Chiefs!**

We would like to recognize Maine-Dartmouth's newest



chief residents: Hope Huntley MD, Jamie Langdon MD, and Greg Okenabirhie MD. Please offer your support as they navigate their new roles. We would

also like to extend a huge thank-you to our outgoing chiefs for a job well done!

### **MOA Annual Convention in Rockport**

The Maine Osteopathic Association will hold its 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention June 13-15 at the Samoset in Rockport, in a hybrid virtual/in-person format. The Maine chapter of ACOG is meeting at the same time and will be open to MOA members/ attendees. DO residents can register for free. MOA has robust MDFMR representation with faculty John Diefenderfer DO (nominated as treasurer) and Josie Conte DO (nominated as president-elect) as board members; resident Drew Freedman DO recently completed his term as resident representative to the board.

# **Spotlight on the ACT Team**

The ACT (Assertive Community Treatment) team is a MaineGeneral program providing individual, intensive, integrated services for people living with persistent mental illness. A number of years ago clinicians at FMI started seeing patients at the ACT offices to reduce barriers to care after noticing that mutual ACT/FMI patients weren't comfortable in the clinic environment. The tradition was continued by former MDFMR faculty Nancy Zurbach MD, Nicole Simon FNP, and John Barnes MD, and more recently, by Ken Sawyer PA and Andrea Abrell DO, who have been taking turns maintaining a presence at the ACT offices most Thursday mornings. FMI clinicians field questions, triage, and make home visits. The onsite medical presence has been beneficial to the inter-professional team as well by enhancing communication and supporting patient care.

# **Critical Thinking Skills in Action**

In Jan 2023 MDFMR alum Max Schaefer DO (MDFMR Class of 2021) reached out to Dr. Feero with a problem: the county he worked in had limited addiction medicine outpatient services, with no resources available to hospital teams trying to connect patients with long-term SUD care. He wanted to advocate for funding to address this gap in care by providing evidence of the financial return on investment and asked Dr. Feero for help. Dr. Feero responded with a pitch of his own: the Class of 2025 could study the evidence supporting economic advantages of SUD treatment programs during their Critical Thinking in Medicine block and provide a slide deck and references. In May this



collaboration came full circle when Dr. Schaefer cut the ribbon for the opening of Corewell Health's new

substance use treatment and education center.

#### **Recruitment News**

Please welcome MDFMR's family medicine residency Class of 2028!









Alicia Kane
Toure University Newsda

Maine Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency Class of 2028











The ONMM Residency is pleased to announce that Shannon Gallagher DO will join the program 6/23/25 as a Class of 2026 ONMM resident.

#### **Graduation Festivities & Post-Graduation Plans**

Best wishes to MDFMR graduates – we will miss you all! FAMILY MEDICINE: Graduation ceremony 4 PM June 27 at the ACH, with reception at 6 PM at Maple Hill Farm Lucy Algeo DO, hospitalist, MDFMR; Ivy Cass DO, outpatient FM, Ochsner Health, New Orleans LA; Ben Davison MD, hospitalist, Mercy Hospital; Drew Freedman DO, full spectrum FM, Hometown Health Centers, Schenectady NY; Chioma Ibeneme MD, TBD; Sean Lombard DO, fellow, MGMC ER fellowship; Ace Madjlesi MD, MGMC OB; Heather Metcalf MD, fellow, MMC addiction medicine fellowship; Ben Moore MD, hospitalist, Pen Bay; Lauren Struck MD, outpatient FM, Elmwood FP

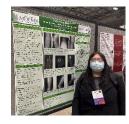
SPORTS MEDICINE: Graduation dinner June 12 at 18 below in Waterville. Christoffer Amdahl MD, teaching fellow, U of Oregon; Travis Kinane DO, sports med, Snoqualmie Valley Health, Snoqualmie WA ONMM: Graduation gathering July 19 in Belgrade. Gage Bollinger DO, outpatient OMM, Maine Medical Center; Travis Frazier DO, FM/OMM, Indian Health Services, Blanding UT; Connie Earl DO, TBD; Jenny Ho DO, TBD GERIATRIC MEDICINE: Plans under development. Miriam Uduebor MD, TBD

#### **Alumni Network on the Web**

In anticipation of the inaugural alumni reception on June 3 at Colby College, MDFMR's Alumni Network now has a web presence. Explore the new Alumni Network pages using the menu in the purple navigation bar!

#### **MDFMR at State & National Conferences**

Chris Amdahl MD, Travis Kinane DO, & Sam Leung DO presented at the AMSSM annual meeting in Kansas City MO: Tackled with a knee clunk (Amdahl); When a sore throat becomes life threatening (Kinane); Pain on a hill (Leung).



Miriam Uduebor MD & Rebecca Spear DO presented at the American Geriatrics Society 2025 Annual Meeting in Chicago: A tool to dig deeper in diagnosing Lewy body dementia (Uduebor); Rural geriatrics consult access: A quality improvement project (Spear).

Armand Auger MD, Tristan Reynolds DO, & Rebecca Spear DO presented at the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Maine AFP Family Medicine Update in Portland ME: *Health counseling and preventative care KSA* (Auger); *Updates in atrial fibrillation* (Reynolds); *Equity in healthcare* (Spear).

Kate Anderson MD presented at STFM's 2025 Annual Spring Conference in Salt Lake City UT: *Introducing the STFM diversity, inclusion, equity, anti-racism and accessibility curriculum toolkit.* 

#### Save the Date!

May 31 – June 1, 2025: FDM spine & pelvis module, ACH B1102-3, *Augusta ME* 

June 3, 2025: Scholarly Activity Symposium, 1:15–5,
Page Commons, Colby College, Waterville ME
June 3, 2025: Inaugural Alumni Network Reception,
5:30-7:00, Page Commons, Colby College, Waterville ME
June 27, 2025: FM graduation, 4 PM at ACH, 6 PM
reception at Maple Hill Farm, Hallowell ME

Oct 14, 2025: NNE Faculty & Chief Development Conference, *Lewiston ME* 

Nov 14, 2025: MERGE conference, ACH, Augusta ME

## **Sports Med News Bulletin**

Bull-ieve it or not, in March 2005 sports fellow Chris



Amdahl MD took the bull by the horns, petitioning to participate in medical coverage for PBR at the Bangor Civic Center.
Permission granted, he jumped on the professional bull riding circuit, taking FM resident Greg

Okenabirhie MD along for the ride. Bully for them!