SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Let's start the conversation.

"I believe you"

April 2022
Congratulations to **Dean Paula Watkins** who received the 2022 SNMA Community Service Award.

The **SNMA Community Service Award** recognizes a faculty member or personnel at RowanSOM who provides mentorship to students, uplifts the community, and embodies care and compassion for those around them.

"Dean Paula Watkins has made a profound impact with each student she has interacted with, as well as inspiring students to reach their full potential."

-RowanSOM SNMA

**Dr. Meagan Vermeulen**, Medical Director for Rowan Family Medicine at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine in New Jersey has a longstanding commitment to helping her patients while training the next generation of Family Physicians.

**Listen in** on the Future Family Medicine Leaders Podcast to hear more about Resident Medical Education and Leadership.

**Rowan Clinic, Highlights, & More**

In this ISSUE
April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

According to the NASEM report, the prevalence of sexual harassment in academic medicine is almost double that of other science and engineering specialties, with almost half of all trainees at surveyed institutions reporting harassment from faculty or staff. For victims, the result is job dissatisfaction, burnout, increased stress, and poor performance. In fact, sexual harassment poisons the water around an entire medical team. According to NASEM, “the cumulative effect of sexual harassment is a significant and costly loss of talent in academic science, engineering, and medicine, which has consequences for advancing the nation’s economic and social well-being and its overall public health.”

“Doctors in training work in high-stress, life-or-death situations, often late into the evening when hallways are empty,” says Timothy Johnson, MD, professor of obstetrics and gynecology and women’s studies at the University of Michigan and a co-author of the NASEM report. “It’s a perfect storm for aggressive sexual behavior and harassment.”

In the wake of the report, institutions from Mayo Clinic to the University of Michigan are upping their game, launching initiatives aimed at preventing sexual harassment, and creating a culture of safety, respect, and equity.

–Amy Paturel, MS, MPH, special to AAMC News

Did you know?

1 OUT OF 6 WOMEN HAS BEEN A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN HER LIFETIME.
The Healing Starts Here
The Child Abuse Research Education and Service (CARES) Institute, a center of excellence at RowanSOM, provides medical and mental health services for children who have experienced trauma, including abuse, neglect, and sexual assault. Under the leadership of its co-directors, Dr. Esther Deblinger, PhD, and Dr. Martin Finkel, DO, CARES has been at the forefront of the field, utilizing an interdisciplinary approach, state of the art medical services, and evidence based mental health practices to support our patients and their families.

Joining Dr. Deblinger, Dr. Rachel Silliman Cohen, MD, has stepped into Dr. Finkel's large shoes as Acting Co-Director. Dr. Silliman Cohen has over 10 years of experience as a pediatrician and is an expert in child abuse and neglect. She has a special interest in foster care, human trafficking, LGBTQIA+ health, and adolescent health.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and National Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Month. Look out for opportunities to honor this month with CARES!

-Dr. Silliman Cohen and Team

The RowanSOM Student National Medical Association (SNMA) in conjunction with the Office of the Dean invites you to attend our next Community Grand Rounds Lecture:
Wednesday, April 6
5:30 pm
Via Webex

LGBTQIA+ Youth: Vulnerable and Resilient
Rachel Silliman Cohen, MD, FAAP
Acting Institute Co-Director and Acting Medical Director, CARES Institute
VACCINE CLINIC

RowanSOM continues to serve the community by vaccinating vulnerable patient populations. We have helped vaccinate people at Bethel Baptist Church and served the Atlantic City Bangladesh community. A vaccination program has also been set up for local Cambodian residents.

"Everywhere we have been, we have been met with the most gracious and generous people. A constant reminder to me that those who have the least tend to be the most generous."
- Dr. Richard Jermyn

RowanSOM vaccination program for the Pakistani population
CHILDHOOD SAFETY AND CHILD ABUSE:

NJCA (NJ Children’s Alliance), Prevent Child Abuse (PCA)—both state and national chapters. Polaris project as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

https://www.missingkids.org/thesues/traffickingregardinghumantrafficking.

ARTICLE OF INTEREST: