I am so happy to share some really good news with you. On August 9, 2023 Gov. Maura Healey signed a $55.98 billion state budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), making historic investments in healthcare. Included in the budget is language allowing physicians to use Physician Health Services (PHS), a 501 (c) 3 subsidiary of the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), for mental health issues as a Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine approved diversionary program. Specifically, amending M.G.L. c.112, § 5 (f) by striking out, in line 23, the word “drug” and inserting in place thereof the following words - mental health, drug. Since its inception decades ago, the law stated that any physician or health care provider must report to the Board of Registration in Medicine, “any physician who is habitually drunk, addicted to drugs or alcohol, or has their ability to practice medicine impaired by ‘mental instability.’” The law went on to say that if there is no evidence of harm to patients, instead of reporting a physician who is addicted to drugs or alcohol to the Board, the mandated reporter could report them directly to PHS. However, this “diversion” from the Board was only for physicians using drugs and alcohol and not for other mental health issues. What the leadership of your Massachusetts Psychiatric Society (MPS) has been relentlessly advocating for is the expansion of PHS’s role as a diversionary program from the Board not only for substance use disorders (SUDs), i.e., drugs and alcohol, but also for psychiatric and behavioral issues. In other words, instead of having to report physicians with mental health problems who pose no risk to patients or have caused no patient harm to the Board of Registration in Medicine, mandated reporters will now be able to report them to PHS so they can receive rigorous monitoring and be referred for treatment, akin to what PHS now does so successfully with SUDs.

Since its founding, PHS has helped identify, refer to treatment, and guide the recovery of over 3,500 Massachusetts physicians. Amending the law to include mental health issues is a definite win-win for physicians and patients, i.e., encouraging physicians to come forward to get help with mental health issues, thereby assuring that they practice medicine with requisite skill and safety and thereby protect the public. I am pleased and proud to report that MPS elected leadership, Executive Committee Advisors, Council members, and staff were unanimously in support of this paradigm changing amendment.

The potential for PHS to help more Massachusetts physicians with mental health issues, especially in the context of rampant burnout, and make PHS a national model for mental health support is now a reality that is sustainable and budgetarily neutral for PHS and the Commonwealth.

Other important healthcare items included in the budget that will go into effect 90 days from the signing on August 9 include:

- $173 million for Chapter 257 rate increases for human service providers;
- $192 million from the Behavioral Health Trust Fund for one time programming aimed at recruiting and supporting a diverse behavioral workforce, including a $100 million enhancement to the Loan Repayment Program for mental and behavioral health professionals;
- An increase of $44.6 million for behavioral health initiatives at the Department of Mental Health to expand inpatient and community capacity;
- The addition of $6.1 million for immigrant and refugee services, including $1.8 million for health assessments and $1.5 million for employment programs;
- $2.75 million for Technology Forward to provide assistive technology and remote supports/monitoring;
- Support for a pilot to expand subsidized ConnectorCare coverage to individuals at or below 500 percent of the federal poverty limit; and

(continued on page 4)
RESIDENT FELLOW MEMBER CORNER

Lily Millen, D.O.

Is it Fall Debt?

For some, the crisp autumnal air, enveloping warm cinnamon sugar smells of apple cider don-uts, and whispering reds, yellows, and oranges of the changing foliage are just some of the many welcome signs that Fall has arrived.

For others, September will mark the last month before student loan repayments resume.

On June 30, 2023, the US Supreme Court (USCC) overturned the Biden Administration’s student-loan debt-forgiveness plan. This ruling affects nearly 45 million Americans set to be forfeited from an almost half-trillion-dollar program.

The Biden administration responded hastily pursuing an alternative plan for student debt cancellation, relying on a different legal route than the one recently upended by the USCC.

The process could take a year or longer, and there is no timeline or guarantee for relief.

To my colleagues and resident-fellow peers earning less than $75,000 per year and likely pursuing an alternative plan for student debt cancellation, relying on a different legal route than the one recently upended by the USCC.

The USSC determined that any injury they suffer from not having their loans forgiven is fairly traceable to the “debt cancellation plan.

In the second case, Biden v. Nebraska, a 6-3 majority of justices ruled that the debt relief plan enacted under the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students (HEROES) Act of 2003 was unconstitutional. Nebraska and five other states – Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and South Carolina – alleged that the student debt forgiveness plan would harm state tax revenue and certain state-based loan agencies.

Missouri was the only state that established “standing”, a decision hinging on the nuances of the student loan servicer, the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA). The USSC’s decision asserts that the Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, exceeded statutory authority by establishing that the HEROES Act granted him the power to cancel over 400 billion dollars of student loan debt.

How did we arrive here, and what looms ahead for borrowers?

The COVID-19 pandemic wreaked financial havoc on many, and its ripple effects permeated the global economy. Invoked several times during the pandemic, the HEROES Act allowed the government to pause student loan payments.

The first iteration of the law was enacted following the September 11, 2001 attacks and gave the Secretary of Education the power to relieve borrowers affected by terrorist attacks. In 2003, Congress expanded the law to include borrowers who encountered economic hardship due to war, military operation, a national emergency, or being called to active duty.

In March 2020, a $2.2 trillion economic stimulus bill, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, was passed by Congress and signed into law in response to the economic fallout of the pandemic. Under the authority of the HEROES Act, then-Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos paused repayment obligations for roughly $1.6 trillion of federal student loans for more than 45 million American students as part of a relief measure during the national emergency declared due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This pause extended through the remainder of the Trump and Biden administrations until December 31, 2022.

Before this, in August 2022, the Biden administration developed a plan under the authority of the HEROES Act to help those individuals at increased risk of default or default on federal student loans in the wake of the pandemic.

The plan included directing the Department of Education to issue up to $10,000 in student loan relief to borrowers with an adjusted gross income under $125,000 (or $250,000 for borrowers filing jointly) and up to $20,000 in student loan relief for Pell Grant borrowers (who have fewer risks and are at greater risk of default).

In a White House statement, more than 40 million borrowers qualified for the plan, with nearly 90% of the relief benefits from borrowers earning less than $75,000 per year. The White House

www.psychiatry-mps.org

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AMBULATORY PSYCHIATRY POSITION
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a 650+ bed tertiary care teaching affiliated with Harvard Medical School, is recruiting for a part time ambulatory psychiatrist to provide general psychiatry and psycho-pharmacology services at our flagship community health center in Dorchester. The successful candidate for this position may be considered for a Harvard Medical School appointment at the rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor, commensurate with experience, achievements and teaching contributions.

The Bowdoin Street Health Center is a multi-specialty practice serving the Bowdoin-Geneva community. We provide comprehensive primary care and behavioral health services, and are staffed by 12 medical providers as well as five clinical social workers and two part-time psychiatrists. Our behavioral health department is highly collaborative and is very committed to meeting patient need. In addition, the behavioral health department is fully integrated within the health center as a whole and there is ample opportunity for close collaboration with the primary care providers.

Founded in Boston’s Dorchester neighborhood in 1972 by community residents, Bowdoin Street Health Center remains focused on providing outstanding medical care while maintaining a tradition of working with residents to identify and meet their unique health needs. The mission of the center is to provide excellent, compassionate care to our patients and support the health of the entire community.

Recognizing how social and economic factors in the community can also influence an individual’s health status, Bowdoin Street actively engages with community and public entities to prevent violence improve access to healthy, affordable foods and promote wellness through exercise and stress reduction.

For more information on the health center please visit our Web Site: http://www.bshd.org/CentersAndDepartments/Departments/CommunityHealthCenters/BowdoinStreetHealthCenter.aspx

Applications are made online at www.bwhphysicians.org/careers. Please respond to requisition 8201385. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions or any other characteristic protected by law.

Child Psychiatrist Opportunity, Near Boston, MA
Mass General Brigham - Salem Hospital has an exciting opportunity for a child psychiatrist to join a thriving and growing psychiatric service. in Salem, MA about 15 miles north of Boston. Salem Hospital is part of the prestigious Mass General Brigham health care system, and the Department of Psychiatry is closely aligned with Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH).

Applications are open for this opportunity and contain information about the position and the Salem call schedule. The Department of Psychiatry is interested in applicants with a broad range of interests and experiences in child psychiatry.

Compensation is competitive. The call schedule is reasonably defined and requires no in-house coverage.

Interested candidates should forward their CV to Louis Caliguiri, Executive Director of Physician Recruiting at lcaliguiri@partners.org. Salem Hospital, a member of Mass General Brigham, is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply.

REFERENCES

House opened debt relief applications in October 2022. Approximately 26 million borrowers applied or were deemed automatically eligible for relief, and the Department of Education approved over 16 million.

One month later, as opposing lawsuits erupted, the government halted applications, and loan servicers were prevented from canceling the debt. On May 11, 2023, the national COVID-19 emergency ended. In June, borrowers had their answer: payments start in October.

Will there be any loan forgiveness for Massachusetts mental health providers? The COVID-19 pandemic critically strained our state’s health and human service systems. We saw burnout, early retirement, and many leaving healthcare entirely. The resultant clinic and patient support staff shortage was met with a global mental health crisis and increased need for mental health and substance use professionals.

Massachusetts (MA) Loan Repayment Program (MRP) sought to address the national disruption and strain of repaying over $13 million in student loan debt by aiming to support key staff in community health centers, community mental health centers, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, psychiatric units of acute care hospitals, and substance use providers. Applications for MRP opened in December 2022 and closed at the end of January 2023.

As of August 2023, any loan repayment awards through this program have yet to be received.

What to know this Fall

Student debt is a polarizing political topic and probably not one you want to use to kick off Thanksgiving dinner with your family this year.

Nevertheless, many residents, fellows, and current psychiatrists carry this financial weight with them incessantly. And, it is a substantial weight. That is, the average medical graduate’s debt rate outpaces the inflation of academic costs, which outpaces economic inflation. So, in 1978, the average medical school debt in the US was $13,500, which would now be $60,580 if adjusted for inflation. Then in 2022, this figure climbed to $250,999 in total student loan debt. In the context of the MRP, the average medical student debt will exceed $300,000 by 2024.

Student loan interest will resume on September 1, 2023, and borrowers must repay payments in October 2023. General things to consider when preparing to resume federal loan payments:

Get organized, which includes thinking about career, family, life plans, and budget, among other things, while preparing for loan payments.

Log in to your Federal Student Aid (FSA) account to verify loan details and update your contact information. (Please note: All borrowers have an FSA account set up at the time of disbursement)

Know your loan servicer. If unsure, call the FSA Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-637-9222, or call the FSA Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-637-9222, or call the FSAIC at 1-800-637-9222.

Check your mail and e-mail for communication from the Department of Education, your servicer, or FSA regarding your loans.

Speak with your servicer or a financial advisor now and ask about the MRP as suggested topics to discuss include:

- Federal loan consolidation and if your institution qualifies for Private Student Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)
- Income-driven repayment (IDR) plans that set your monthly bill at a percentage of your income and family size. IDR plans include the new Saving on Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan that replaces the Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) Plan.
- Eligibility to have your federal student loans forgiven, canceled, or discharged, meaning you will not have to pay back some or all of your loans (ex. Public Service Loan Forgiveness or PSLF).
- Any potential concerns for late payments.

The FSA website has been updated significantly over the past year and is a helpful resource for learning more about your loans.

The Disparities of Debt

The menace of medical school debt is significant and disproportionately distributed across socioeconomic and racial-ethnic demographics. Low-income students are attending medical school at decreasing rates in the face of mounting debt. Among US citizens, Black and African American medical students owe more, on average, than their peers of any other race or ethnicity.

The threatening debt and volatile economic landscape likely mean fewer people can afford medical school. Debt and financial insecurity also potentially perpetuate further socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic disparities in medical school enrollment and healthcare overall.

As we approach the upcoming election cycle, reflect on the student debt crisis and urge policymakers to develop comprehensive solutions prioritizing equity and access to education and opportunity for all.
Expansion of access to contraceptives by allowing phar- 

References 

1. https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-hagev-and- 

Disclosure 

Dr. Fromson was the founding director and president of PHS.

John A. Fromson, MD, DLFAPA 

President, Massachusetts Psychiatric Society

Call for nominations/self-nominations for MPS representative on the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) House of Delegates (HOD)

MPS member is expected to attend MMS HOD meetings held two times a year and give a brief report to the MPS Council meeting immediately after the MMS HOD meeting. This is a terrific opportunity to participate in organized medicine at the state level and engage in the promotion of MPS policy planning synergy with MMS. Please submit your name or that of a colleague with contact information to Debbie Brennan (dbrennan@mms.org)

Psychiatrist Opportunities in Massachusetts

Universal Health Services (UHS), one of the nation’s leading hospital management companies is seeking psychiatrists at behavioral health hospitals in Massachusetts. The new associates will enjoy a Monday – Friday schedule, and there is no call requirement; opportunity for per diem work is available for additional stipend.

The region offers a plethora of recreational activities allowing for a professional career and a fulfilling personal lifestyle while in close proximity to Boston and Cape Cod.

Psychiatrist opportunities are available at the following locations:

• Fuller Hospital in Attleboro
• Pembroke Hospital in Pembroke

We are proud to offer:

• $375k Base Compensation
• Commencement bonus
• Residency/Fellowship Stipend
• 30 Days Paid Time Off
• Health Insurance
• Malpractice

Scan to view job descriptions and to apply directly

For consideration, please contact Stephanie Figueroa, In-house Physician Recruiter, Universal Health Services, at stephanie.figueroa@uhsinc.com or (404) 695-9913.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY – SALEM HOSPITAL

Job opening for Consultation-Liaison Psychiatrist

The Department of Psychiatry at Mass General Brigham Salem Hospital has an outstanding opportunity for a Consultation-Liaison (CL) psychiatrist. While completion of a CL, psychosomatics program is preferred, this position is also open to other candidates who have demonstrated interest and experience in consultation-liaison psychiatry. There is a potential leadership opportunity for the appropriate candidate.

Salem Hospital is unique in its breadth of psychiatric services a general hospital setting. The Epstein Center for Behavioral Health is a 120-bed inpatient facility that includes two adult units, one child and adolescent unit, and one geriatric unit, all fully part of the Medical Center and available to take patients from the emergency department and medical floors. There are also 3 outpatient sites, a separate partial hospital program for adults and for adolescents, and a team of psychiatric crisis clinicians in the emergency department 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Qualified candidates will receive a clinical appointment at Mass General and Harvard Medical School for the appropriate interested candidate.

Salaries are extremely competitive. Evening and weekend call are very reasonable, and provide significant additional compensation. Salem is located on the North Shore of Massachusetts, only 15 miles north of Boston. This region features all the advantages of proximity to a wonderful metropolitan area.

Interested individuals should send their CV and letter of interest to Louis Caligiuri, Executive Director of Physician Recruiting at lcaligiuri@partners.org.

Salem Hospital is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply. Pre-employment drug screening is required. The position is eligible to participate in the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.
Call for Nominations
2024 MPS Outstanding Psychiatrist Awards

MPS Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the 2024 MPS Outstanding Psychiatrist Awards. Please consider nominating a colleague who you believe is deserving of this honor. Self-nominations are also welcome.

1. **Nominee should be a Member of the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society.**
2. **Please send the following:**
   a. Nomination letter
   b. Curriculum Vitae of nominee
   c. A letter of support (if nominee has an academic appointment, a letter from the department head would be helpful).

The award categories are as follows:

**Lifetime Achievement:** This award is given to a senior psychiatrist who has made significant contributions over the course of his/her career which is now winding down.

**Advancement of the Profession:** This award is given to a psychiatrist who has advanced an area of the profession by highlighting and/or clarifying an area which has been in the background, bringing it forward, and developing it; e.g., women's issues, disaster psychiatry, refugee issues, etc.

**Clinical Psychiatry:** This award is given to a psychiatrist who is an outstanding clinician; someone who is known for having worked to clarify a particular area of interest or type of therapy and practiced it successfully.

**Education:** This award is given to a psychiatrist who has made a significant contribution to psychiatric education, e.g., establishing a residency, creating a nationally attended course, developing educational materials which can be used nationally for medical student or resident teaching. Being training director per se is not enough.

**Research:** This award is given to a psychiatrist who has made significant contributions to the development of an area of psychiatric research.

**Public Sector:** This award is given to a psychiatrist who has worked in the public sector and has been influential in reorganization or in leadership in that area or who has significantly influenced the political system in lobbying for patient's welfare.

**Early Career Psychiatry:** A psychiatrist who is in the first 10 years after completing residency (not fellowship training) who has done something outstanding in any of the above categories.

Please send your nominee’s name, the award you are nominating for and a brief reason for the nomination to Mayuri Patel - mpate1@mms.org or call 781-237-8100 x1 by January 26, 2024.

Thank you!
Fe Edlin D. Festin, MD, DLFAPA
Chairperson of MPS Awards Committee

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MPS Bulletin - September 2023

UMass Memorial Health and the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School currently have openings within the Department of Psychiatry.

The Department of Psychiatry is a national leader in addiction, biological, child and adolescent, and public sector, psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, psychosocial rehabilitation, and women’s mental health. We integrate our clinical, research, teaching and community partnership activities to help individuals and families transform their lives through recovery from mental illness and addiction. We are the largest provider of psychiatric services in central Massachusetts, with over 400 faculty members and 12 hospitals and community mental health centers in varied settings across the state.

Our residency program trains 7 residents per year, including general psychiatry and specialty tracks for combined adult and child psychiatry and combined psychiatry and neurology. We offer fellowships in Addiction, Adult Developmental Disabilities, Child and Adolescent, Forensic Psychiatry, and Neuropsychiatry.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are integral to the commitment of the Department and University. Accordingly, the Department seeks qualified candidates who can contribute to racial equity, diversity and inclusion through service, mentorship, teaching and scholarship. Candidates from historically underrepresented group(s) in higher education and medicine are encouraged to apply. Candidates who possess personal characteristics that might be considered as diversifying elements among the clinical team and the larger psychiatry faculty at UMass Chan are invited to identify themselves during the application process.

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UMass Chan Medical School

**Area Medical Director:** DMH Southeast Area - Support the delivery of clinically effective and high-quality behavioral healthcare to the diverse persons served by DMH.

**Facility Medical Director (Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, Pocasset, MA):** Provides administrative and clinical oversight for the DMH-operated and contracted state hospital and community support programs. Clinical Care in our Partial Hospital program.

**Full-Time Psychiatrist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital (WRCH)** - 2 inpatient positions.

**Director of Therapeutic Services, Child and Adolescent Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital (WRCH)**

**Part-Time Researcher, Implementation Science and Practice Advances Research Center (iSPARC), UMass Chan Medical School**

**Geriatric Researcher, Psychologist/Psychiatrist, UMass Chan Medical School**

For additional information on the above, please contact Brian Duly, MD, Vice Chair, Public Sector Psychiatry bdaly@communityhealthlink.org

Interested applicants should apply directly at https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/UMASSMED/Psych (J-I and II-IB candidates are welcome to apply).

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UMass Memorial Health

**Medical Director, Psychiatric Treatment and Recovery Center (PTRC) -** oversee all program functions for this 26-bed locked, acute psychiatric unit as well as coordinate and deliver clinical care.

**Attending, Psychiatric Treatment and Recovery Center (PTRC) -** provide direct clinical services and work with medical students & residents on this teaching unit.

**Attending, Psychiatrist (Rotating/Cross Coverage) -** provide clinical rotating cross-coverage within the Department of Psychiatry for vacations and extended medical leaves.

**Associate Medical Director, Community Healthlink (CHL) -** the ideal candidate will have a demonstrated commitment and passion for community psychiatry and an interest in a leadership role advocating for and promoting the wellbeing of traditionally underserved populations.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae addressed to Kimberly A. Yonkers, MD e/o Caroline Mallica carolina.mallica@umassmemorial.org

http://jobs.jobvite.com/umassmemorialmedicalgroupphysicians/search?q=&d=Psychiatry

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As the leading employer in the Worcester area, we seek talent and ideas from individuals of varied backgrounds and viewpoints.

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Psychiatrist, Outpatient – Atrius Health – Metro Boston

Atrius Health, a physician-led primary and specialty care group in the Boston Metro area treating one in ten Massachusetts residents, and a nationally recognized leader in value-based population health care, has an excellent opportunity to join the Division of Psychiatry in the Behavioral Health Department for outpatient position for both Child & Adolescent and Adult Psychiatrists. Both part-time and full-time positions are available, with telehealth and/or hybrid telehealth/office-based options in any of our Quincy, and Beverly locations.

In this capacity, the psychiatrist is an active member of a collaborative multidisciplinary team inclusive of other MDs, PhDs, PMHNPs, LICSWs, and Care Facilitators among others, providing psychiatric expertise and support. In addition to traditional psychiatric services, the psychiatrist may provide consultation services to any of the pediatric, primary and specialty care services as part of the Integrated Behavioral Health services. Teaching, research opportunities and faculty appointments are available through our Academic Institute and our affiliations with Harvard Medical School and Tufts University School of Medicine.

Who are we?
Atrius Health, a pioneer and leader of value-based care in the country, is nationally recognized for transforming healthcare through clinical innovations and quality improvement. Academically affiliated, Atrius Health and its 700 and more physicians deliver an effective system of connected care for more than 705,800 adult and pediatric patients at over 30 medical practice locations in eastern and central Massachusetts. Atrius Health is committed to transforming the behavioral health care delivery system.

Why work with us?
You have the desire to transform psychiatric care in our communities and are committed to providing high quality, evidence based care to a diverse and growing patient population, in addition to having an exceptional compensation and benefits package including:
- Very competitive productivity-based salary with a two-year base salary guarantee.
- Generous 401(k) matching with additional 457(b) option and health savings account.
- Up to $3,000 CME reimbursement, in addition to medical and specialty boards’ licensures and other professional fees reimbursement.
- Exceptional benefits package including health, dental, life, disability, & long-term care insurance.
- Six weeks of PTO per year and ten paid holidays.

As well as a unique and supportive clinical practice with the following highlights:
- Traditional outpatient psychiatric clinic with great administrative support including scheduling, prior authorizations, refill, etc.
- Integrated care with Primary Care Providers, Pediatricians and Developmental & Behavioral Pediatricians
- Telehealth and Hybrid (Tele/Office) modalities of care delivery with great schedule flexibility enabling greater work-life balance.
- Standard clinical encounter time with one-hour for initial psychiatric evaluations and 20-30 minutes for follow-up appointments
- After hours telephonic clinical triage services
- Advanced EHR with all that EPIC can offer

Qualifications:
- BC/BE adult inpatient psychiatrist.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team environment
- Fellowship in Addiction, in Community and Public Psychiatry, and Buprenorphine-waiver are highly desirable
- Fluency in other languages such as Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese and other is a plus.

If this speaks to you and your career aspirations, please reach out.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae addressed to the Chair of Behavioral Health, Manjola Van Alphen, MD, PhD, MBA.

Interested individuals should send their CV and letter of interest to Louis Caligiuri, Executive Director of Physician Recruiting at lcaligiuri@atriushealth.org.

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Massachusetts Psychiatric Society’s 34th Annual Psychopharmacology Update

Program Overview

Each year the psychopharmacology update course chair and cochair review feedback from the previous year including suggestions for topics of interest. Also, the chair has extensive experience consulting with psychiatrists who have psychopharmacology questions and become aware of prescribing issues that are not well understood by practitioners. From these sources a set of presentations was developed. The program begins with a discussion on the differential diagnosis and treatment of mania with psychosis, schizoaffective disorder, and schizophrenia. A second speaker will focus on cannabis use in adults. After a break, a speaker will discuss hallucinogen persisting perception disorder. This will be followed by a speaker providing updates on ADHD treatments in adults. Following a lunch break, the program continues with a discussion on the treatment of agitation in patients with mania or schizophrenia. The final lecture will be on the topic of the treatment of substance use disorder during pregnancy and postpartum period. The program will end with questions and answers on any topic in psychopharmacology with a panel of the day’s speakers.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Prescribe medications without being subject to undue influence by drug company marketing
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with cannabis use
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with hallucinogen persisting perception disorder
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with ADHD
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with agitation in context of mania or schizophrenia
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with substance use disorder during pregnancy and postpartum period
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with schizoaffective disorder

AMA Credit Designation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society designates this live activity for a maximum of 6.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Accreditation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society is accredited by the Massachusetts Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Program Schedule

Saturday NOVEMBER 4, 2023
8:15 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Virtual Program

8:15-8:30 a.m. Welcome and Introduction
Anderson Chen, MD, Activity Chair
David N. Osser, MD, Activity Co-Chair

8:30-9:30 a.m. Differential Diagnosis and Psychopharmacology Treatment of Mania with Psychosis, Schizoaffective Disorder, and Schizophrenia
David N. Osser, MD

9:30-10:30 a.m. Cannabis Use in Adults
Kevin P. Hill, MD, MHS

10:30-10:45 a.m. BREAK

10:45-11:45 a.m. Hallucinogen Persisting Perception Disorder (HPPD): The Trip That Never Ends
Steven Locke, MD, DLFAPA

11:45-12:45 p.m. ADHD Treatments in Adults
Bushra Awidi, MD

12:45-1:30 p.m. LUNCH

1:30-2:30 p.m. Treatment of Agitation in Patients with Mania or Schizophrenia
Sean Stetson, MD

2:30-3:30 p.m. Treatment of Substance Use Disorder During Pregnancy and Postpartum Period
Edwin Raffi, MD, MPH

3:30-4:00 p.m. More Questions and Answers
Panel of the Speakers

Faculty

Bushra Awidi, MD
Psychiatrist, Partial Hospital Program Cape Cod & Islands CMHC

Andreson Chen, MD
Psychiatrist Massachusetts General Hospital Instructor in Psychiatry Harvard Medical School

Kevin P. Hill, MD, MHS
Director, Division of Addiction Psychiatry Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Associate Professor of Psychology Harvard Medical School

David N. Osser, MD, DLFAPA
Former Associate Professor of Psychiatry Harvard Medical School
Affiliate Psychiatrist Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Principal Behavioral Health Integration Solutions, LLC

David N. Osser, MD
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School

Edwin Raffi, MD, MPH
Perinatal and Reproductive Psychiatrist Massachusetts General Hospital’s Ammen-Pinszcco Center for Women’s Mental Health
Director of Behavioral Health, MGH HPDE clinic for Pregnant & Postpartum Women with Substance Use Disorder
Instructor in Psychiatry Harvard Medical School

Sean Stetson, MD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, BUSM; secondary with HMS
Staff Psychiatrist / Director of Mental Health Emergency Services, Boston VA

CLICK TO REGISTER ONLINE
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Learning Objectives
At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

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- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with cannabis use
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with hallucinogen persisting perception disorder
- Select the most evidence-supported medications for efficacy and safety for patients with ADHD

Faculty

Bushra Awidi, MD
Psychiatrist, Partial Hospital Program
Cape Cod & Islands CMHC
Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
Massachusetts General Hospital

Andersen Chen, MD
Psychiatrist
Massachusetts General Hospital
Instructor in Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School

Kevin P. Hill, MD, MHS
Director, Division of Addiction Psychiatry
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School

Steven E. Locke, MD, DLFAPA
Former Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School
Affiliate Psychiatrist
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Principal Behavioral Health Integration Solutions, LLC

David N. Osser, MD
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School
at VA Boston Healthcare System

Edwin Raffi, MD, MPH
Perinatal and Reproductive Psychiatrist
Massachusetts General Hospital’s Ammon-Pinszat-Center for Women’s Mental Health
Director of Behavioral Health, MGH HDPE clinic for Pregnant & Postpartum Women with Substance Use Disorder
Instructor in Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School

Sean Stetson, MD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, BUSM
secondary with HMS
Staff Psychiatrist / Director of Mental Health Emergency Services, Boston VA

Virtual Program

Saturday
NOVEMBER 4, 2023
8:15 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction
Anderson Chen, MD, Activity Chair
David N. Osser, MD, Activity Co-Chair

8:30-9.30 a.m.
Differential Diagnosis and Psychopharmacology Treatment of Mania with Psychosis, Schizoaffective Disorder, and Schizophrenia
David N. Osser, MD

9:30-10:30 a.m.
Cannabis Use in Adults
Kevin P. Hill, MD, MHS

10:30-10.45 a.m.
BREAK

10:45-11:45 a.m.
Hallucinogen Persisting Perception Disorder (HPPD): The Trip That Never Ends
Steven Locke, MD, DLFAPA

11:45-12:45 p.m.
ADHD Treatments in Adults
Bushra Awidi, MD

12:45-1:30 p.m.
LUNCH

1:30-2.30 p.m.
Treatment of Agitation in Patients with Mania or Schizophrenia
Sean Stetson, MD

2:30-3:30 p.m.
Treatment of Substance Use Disorder During Pregnancy and Postpartum Period
Edwin Raffi, MD, MPH

3:30-4:00 p.m.
More Questions and Answers
Panel of the Speakers
ADULT INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIST POSITION

A MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL BRIGHAM FACILITY

The Department of Psychiatry at Salem Hospital has an outstanding opportunity for a full-time or part-time BC/BE adult inpatient psychiatrist.

The Epstein Center for Behavioral Health is a 120-bed inpatient facility established in affiliation with Massachusetts General Hospital (Mass General) that includes two adult units, one child and adolescent unit, and one geriatric unit, embedded in a full-service medical center. Each unit includes a team of social workers and a psychiatric Nurse Practitioner to support physicians, optimize workflow, and improve patient care.

Other clinical opportunities involve possibility of participating on the Consultation-Liaison service or the Adult Outpatient Department.

There are multiple opportunities for teaching on-site, and a Tufts Medical School faculty appointment is available for physicians who participate in medical student training. There are also educational and research opportunities at Mass General and Harvard Medical School for the appropriate interested candidate.

Salaries are extremely competitive. Evening and weekend call are very reasonable and provide significant additional compensation.

Salem is located on the North Shore of Massachusetts, only 15 miles north of Boston. This region features all the advantages of proximity to a wonderful metropolitan area.

Interested individuals should send their CV and letter of interest to Louis Caligiuri, Executive Director of Physician Recruiting at lcaligiuri@partners.org.

Salem Hospital is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply. Pre-employment drug screening is required. The position is eligible to participate in the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.
The Department of Psychiatry is a national leader in addiction, biological, child and adolescent, and public sector, psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, psychosocial rehabilitation, and women’s mental health. We integrate our clinical, research, teaching and community partnership activities to help individuals and families transform their lives through recovery from mental illness and addiction. We are the largest provider of psychiatric services in central Massachusetts, with over 400 faculty members and 12 hospitals and community mental health centers in varied settings across the state.

Our residency program trains 7 residents per year, including general psychiatry and specialty tracks for combined adult and child psychiatry and combined psychiatry and neurology. We offer fellowships in Addiction, Adult Developmental Disabilities, Child and Adolescent, Forensic Psychiatry, and Neuropsychiatry.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are integral to the commitment of the Department and University. Accordingly, the Department seeks qualified candidates who can contribute to racial equity, diversity and inclusion through service, mentorship, teaching and scholarship. Candidates from historically underrepresented group(s) in higher education and medicine are encouraged to apply. Candidates who possess personal characteristics that might be considered as diversifying elements among the clinical team and the larger psychiatry faculty at UMass Chan are invited to identify themselves during the application process.

Call for Nominations
2024 MPS Outstanding Psychiatrist Awards

MPS Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the 2024 MPS Outstanding Psychiatrist Awards

Please consider nominating a colleague who you believe is deserving of this honor. Self-nominations are also welcome.

1. Nominee should be a Member of the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society.
2. Please send the following:
   a. Nomination letter
   b. Curriculum Vitae of nominee
   c. A letter of support (if nominee has an academic appointment, a letter from the department head would be helpful).

The award categories are as follows:

Lifetime Achievement: This award is given to a senior psychiatrist who has made significant contributions over the course of his/her career which is now winding down.

Advancement of the Profession: This award is given to a psychiatrist who has advanced an area of the profession by highlighting and/or clarifying an area which has been in the background, bringing it forward, and developing it; e.g., women's issues, disaster psychiatry, refugee issues, etc.

Clinical Psychiatry: This award is given to a psychiatrist who is an outstanding clinician; someone who is known for having worked to clarify a particular area of interest or type of therapy and practiced it successfully.

Education: This award is given to a psychiatrist who has made a significant contribution to psychiatric education, e.g., establishing a residency, creating a nationally attended course, developing educational materials which can be used nationally for medical student or resident teaching. Being training director per se is not enough.

Research: This award is given to a psychiatrist who has made significant contributions to the development of an area of psychiatric research.

Public Sector: This award is given to a psychiatrist who has worked in the public sector and has been influential in reorganization or in leadership in that area or who has significantly influenced the political system in lobbying for patient’s welfare.

Early Career Psychiatry: A psychiatrist who is in the first 10 years after completing residency (not fellowship training) who has done something outstanding in any of the above categories.

Please send your nominee’s name, the award you are nominating for and a brief reason for the nomination to Mayuri Patel - mpatel@mms.org or call 781-237-8100 x1 by January 26, 2024.

Thank you!
Fe Edlin D. Festin, MD, DLFAPA
Chairperson of MPS Awards Committee

FOR ADDITIONAL ADVERTISING INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE MPS OFFICE AT (781) 237-8100 x1 OR MPS@MMS.ORG

UMass Memorial Health and the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School currently have openings within the Department of Psychiatry.

UMass Chan Medical School

Area Medical Director: DMH Southeast Area - Support the delivery of clinically effective and high-quality behavioral healthcare to the diverse persons served by DMH.

Facility Medical Director (Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, Pocasset, MA) - Provides administrative and clinical oversight for the DMH-operated and contracted state hospital and community support programs. Clinical Care in our Partial Hospital program.

Full-Time Psychiatrist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital (WRCH) - 2 inpatient positions.

Director of Therapeutic Services, Child and Adolescent Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital (WRCH)

Part-Time Researcher, Implementation Science and Practice Advances Research Center (iSPARC), UMass Chan Medical School

Geriatric Researcher, Psychologist/Psychiatrist, UMass Chan Medical School

For additional information on the above, please contact Brian Daly, MD, Vice Chair, Public Sector Psychiatry bdaly@communityhealthlink.org

Interested applicants should apply directly at https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/UMASSMED/Psych (J-1 and H-1B candidates are welcome to apply)

UMass Memorial Health

Medical Director, Psychiatric Treatment and Recovery Center (PTRC) - oversee all program functions for this 26-bed locked, acute psychiatric unit as well as coordinate and deliver clinical care

Attending, Psychiatric Treatment and Recovery Center (PTRC) - provide direct clinical services and work with medical students & residents on this teaching unit

Attending, Psychiatrist (Rotating/Cross Coverage) - provide clinical rotating cross-coverage within the Department of Psychiatry for vacations and extended medical leaves.

Associate Medical Director, Community Healthlink (CHL) - the ideal candidate will have a demonstrated commitment and passion for community psychiatry and an interest in a leadership role advocating for and promoting the wellbeing of traditionally underserved populations.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae addressed to Kimberly A. Yokner, MD cyokner@mamhs.org

http://jobs.jobvite.com/umassmemorialmedicalgroupphysicians/search?q=&d=Psychiatry

As the leading employer in the Worcester area, we seek talent and ideas from individuals of varied backgrounds and viewpoints.
OFFICE SPACE

Back Bay, Boston - Prestigious professional building on Marlborough Street near Public Gardens, a former 19th century mansion retaining its period detailing. Beautiful office with large windows, fireplace, high ceilings, and internet. Also, several offices with hours to sublet. Shared waiting areas, friendly, collegial atmosphere, elevator. Call Elizabeth: 617-267-0766 or email: emr82@aol.com.

Cambridge Harvard Square 1105 Massachusetts Ave. 11th floor. Quiet, well maintained renovated 3 office suite; 2 offices: prior master bedroom $1280/month; prior 2nd bedroom $1080/month. Waiting room. 1½ baths. Utilities, weekly cleaning included. Photos available. donaldmeyer@earthlink.net 617-491-6868

OFFICE SUITE 1180 BEACON STREET BROOKLINE

3 offices available. Central air, kitchen, large waiting room, parking. Price range: $1100 - $1475 per month. Derek Polonsky MD derekpolonsky@gmail.com

Atkinson for Collaborative Multi-Disciplinary Team within Primary Care - Auburndale, Massachusetts

Psychiatrist for Collaborative Multi-Disciplinary Team within Primary Care - Auburndale, Massachusetts.

Atkinson Family Practice, locally renowned for State-of-the-Art Collaborative Medical Behavioral care in the Pioneer Valley is seeking a Full-time or Part-time Psychiatrist.

Work in a Primary Care Certified Medical Home with all the support structures in place for Family Practice.

Our program offers patients care in a setting that is patient centered, trauma-informed, evidence-based psychiatry, including: Full time Health Clinic with walk-in/urgent care, Monday through Saturday with a 7 am to 8 pm schedule; Mental Health Crisis Drop-in Center; Community Health Center, including classes on ACEs, Heart Math, SSP, Polyvagal, Support groups for elders living alone, those with SUD and people with chronic illnesses.

We offer our patients a unique opportunity to heal the mental health barriers that include well being and access to care, and are dedicated to offering the highest standard of care.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Call for Nominations for MPS Leadership

Each year the MPS elects members to leadership positions for the next term beginning on May 1, 2024. The Nominating Committee would like to solicit nominations from the membership and encourage broad participation in the election process and to fully represent the diverse membership of our organization.

Positions for Nomination:

- President-elect (3 years total – President-elect, President and Immediate Past President)
- Secretary (3 positions - 2 years)
- APA Representatives (1 position - 3-year term)
- MPS Councilor (2 positions - 3-year term)
- Resident Fellow Member (1 position - 2-year term)
- Nominating Committee (2 positions - 2-year term)

Information about Positions:

The MPS Council meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month with some variation due to holidays. In addition, the Executive Committee (Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and Senior APA Representative) meets on the 4th Tuesday of most months, also with some variation. Council members must participate in a minimum of 80% of the Council meetings each year. APA Representatives are expected to attend two Area 1 meetings in the New England Area and two APA Assembly meetings per year.

The Nominating Process

The Nominating Committee will hold conference calls between October and November to set the slate of candidates for approval by Council on December 12, 2023.

To submit the name of a colleague or your own for a leadership position, please send a brief bio which includes your current practice setting, subspecialty (if appropriate), specific areas of interest, and past or current roles in MPS to our Administrative Director, Debbie Brennan (dbrennan@mms.org). The deadline for nominations is Monday, October 23, 2023. All Nominating Committee correspondence is strictly confidential. If you submit someone else’s name, please let us know if you have communicated your nomination to the person. The Nominating Committee will consider all nominations and will select a slate of candidates to be presented to the membership in the spring prior to the election which will take place via electronic ballots. The new leadership will be announced at the annual meeting on April 30, 2024.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Grace Chang, MD, MPH, Nominating Committee Chair
John A. Fromson, MD, MPS President
Nassir Ghaemi, MD, MPH, President-Elect

Mentoring Kick Off Event, Thursday September 28, 2023 at 6:30pm

Mentoring is crucial for growth, development, support and networking. While especially true in early careers, it can be vital at any stage to seek a mentor to change or to expand our horizons and can help us successfully manage the many challenges we navigate in psychiatric practice.

The Antiracism Committee, in collaboration with the Early Career and Retirement Committees, is inviting you to be part of the MPS Mentoring Project and to join us for a kickoff event for current and potential mentors and mentees!

This event will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 6:30pm. This will be an informal gathering to meet and greet at the Boston home of Sally Reyering, MD, which is accessible by public transportation. Drinks and a light buffet will be provided. Please RSVP to Debbie Brennan (dbrennan@mms.org).

We are pleased to have linked a substantial number of mentor/mentee pairs and remain poised to continue this process as more members join the program. If you are interested in participating, please complete the following form clicks.members@clucks.mail.net (Please note that BORIM requires that a mentor have an active license.)

We envision mentor/mentee and peer mentor relationships that support almost any aspect of our practice or identity – including types of practice, populations we serve, specialty services, research, education, administration, leadership, and advocacy. Mentorship of those from historically marginalized groups has the potential to combat systemic barriers, everyday injustices, and their impact.

Those with more experience have a vital role to play in supporting the next generation of psychiatrists across the state.

Please join us!

For any questions regarding the mentoring program, please reach out to Marie Hobart, MD, mariehobart@me.com.

MPS Bulletin - September 2023

Cambridge Health Alliance

The Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry at Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) is seeking Full-time and Part-time Psychiatrists, APNs, and PAs for our Adult Outpatient Psychiatry service and our new Community Behavioral Health Center. This first-of-its kind model removes barriers to accessing care for our underserved communities, providing walk-in/urgent care and evidence-based treatment for mental health and substance use disorders.

CHA’s Department of Psychiatry is one of the primary departments of the Harvard Medical School (HMS) Department of Psychiatry. Faculty are eligible for HMS appointment at the Instructor, Assistant or Associate Professor level, commensurate with HMS appointment criteria, candidate qualifications and commitment to teaching responsibilities for HMS students, residents, and fellows.

The department also has an active program of research. Successful candidates will work with a multidisciplinary team serving the local community and providing high quality care to our underserved and diverse patient population. Candidates will also have the opportunity to contribute to teaching and supervision of residents and other trainees.

Candidates must be BE or BC in Psychiatry and possess strong clinical skills and a commitment to public health populations.

CHA offers competitive compensation and a comprehensive benefits package including health and dental insurance, 403(b) retirement accounts with matching, generous PTO, CME allotment (time and dollars) and much more.

Qualified candidates may submit their CV through our website at www.CHAproviders.org, or by email to Melissa Kelley at ProviderRecruitment@chaffleague.net. The Department of Provider Recruitment may be reached by phone at (617) 665-3555.

In keeping with federal, state and local laws, Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) policy forbids employers and associates to discriminate against anyone based on race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, national origin, social orientation, sexual orientation, gender identity or relationship structure, gender identity or expression, veteran status, disability or any other characteristic protected by law. We are committed to establishing and maintaining a workplace free of discrimination. We are fully committed to equal employment opportunity.
Expansion of access to contraceptives by allowing phar- 
•macists to prescribe and dispense hormonal contracep-
tives to individuals without previous prescriptions.

Thank you MPS, for supporting this important language change 
that gives doctors with drug, alcohol, and now mental health is-
sues the chance to obtain much needed professional assistance so 
that they can experience a sustained recovery and care for their 
patients with requisite skill and safety.

John A. Fromson, MD, DLFAPA
President, Massachusetts Psychiatric Society

1. https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-haley-and- 
 lieutenant-governor-driscoll-sign-56-billion-fiscal-year-
2024-budget

Disclosure
Dr. Fromson was the founding director and president of PHS.

Call for nominations/self-nominations for MPS representative on the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) House of Delegates (HOD)

MPS member is expected to attend MMS HOD meetings held two times a year and give a brief report to the MPS Council meeting immediately after the MMS HOD meeting. This is a terrific opportunity to partici-
pate in organized medicine at the state level and engage in the promotion of MPS policy planning synergy with MMS. Please submit your name or that of a colleague with contact information to Debbie Brennan @ dbrennan@mms.org

Job opening for Consultation-Liaison Psychiatrist

In affiliation with MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

American Psychiatric Association

The Mental Health Services Conference brings together the whole team caring for those with mental illness, including psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, primary care physicians, so-
cial workers, and more, to collaborate on practical advice to influence systems-level change for their patients.

Massachusetts Psychiatric Society • 860 Winter Street • Waltham, MA 02451-1411
781-237-8100 • Fax: 781-464-4896 • Email: mps@mms.org • www.psychiatry-mps.org

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References

1. https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-haley-and- 
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2024-budget

Disclosure
Dr. Fromson was the founding director and president of PHS.
AMBULATORY PSYCHIATRY POSITION
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

A 650+ bed tertiary care teaching affiliated with Harvard Medical School, is recruiting for a part-time ambulatory psychiatrist to provide general psychiatry and psychopharmacology services at our flagship community health center in Dorchester. The successful candidate for this position may be considered for a Harvard Medical School appointment at the rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor, commensurate with experience, and any pending or achieved certifications. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the inpatient behavioral health services and provide consultation to primary care providers.

The Bowdoin Street Health Center is a multi-specialty practice serving the Bowdoin-Geneva community. We provide comprehensive primary care and behavioral health services, and are staffed by 12 medical providers as well as five clinical social workers and two part-time psychiatrists. Our behavioral health department is highly collaborative and is very committed to meeting patient need. In addition, the behavioral health facility is fully integrated within the health center as a whole and there is ample opportunity for close collaboration with the primary care providers.

Founded in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood in 1972 by community residents, Bowdoin Street Health Center remains focused on providing outstanding medical care while maintaining a tradition of working with residents to identify and meet their unique health needs. The mission of the health center is to provide excellent, compassionate care to our patients and support the health of the entire community.

Recognizing how social and economic factors in the community can also influence an individual's health status, Bowdoin Street actively engages with community partners to prevent violence improvement access to healthy, affordable foods and promote wellness through exercise and stress reduction.

For more information on the health center please visit our Web Site:
http://www.bidmc.org/CentersandDepartments/Departments/CommunityHealthCenters/BowdoinStreetHealthCenter.aspx

Applications are made online at www.bidmc.org/careers. Please respond to requisition 020135. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions or any other characteristic protected by law.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Salem Hospital

Child Psychiatrist Opportunity, Near Boston, MA
Mass General Brigham - Salem Hospital has an exciting opportunity for a child psychiatrist to join a thriving and growing psychiatric service in Salem, MA about 15 miles north of Boston. Salem Hospital is part of the prestigious Mass General Brigham health care system, and the Department of Psychiatry is closely aligned with Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH).

There are opportunities for this to be an inpatient, outpatient or combined position, depending on the candidate’s interest and experience and matching this with Department needs.

Salem Hospital provides a full spectrum of psychiatric care, including adult inpatient psychiatry, an older adult inpatient unit, a child and adolescent inpatient unit, separate partial hospital programs for adults and for adolescents, and several outpatient clinics with community organizations and public entities to prevent violence improvement access to healthy, affordable foods and promote wellness through exercise and stress reduction.

Compensation is very competitive. The call schedule is very reasonable and requires no in-house coverage.

Interested candidates should forward their CV to Louis Caligiuri, Executive Director of Physician Recruiting at lcaligiuri@partners.org. Salem Hospital, a member of Mass General Brigham, is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply.

RESIDENT FELLOW MEMBER

House opened debt relief applications in October 2022. Approximately 26 million borrowers applied or were deemed automatically eligible for relief, and the Department of Education approved over 16 million.

One month later, as opposing lawsuits erupted, the government halted applications, and loan servicers were prevented from canceling the debt. On May 11, 2023, the national COVID-19 emergency ended. In June, borrowers had their answer: payments start in October.

Will there be any loan forgiveness for Massachusetts mental health providers?

The COVID-19 pandemic critically strained our state’s health and human service systems. We saw burnout, early retirement, and leaving healthcare entirely. The resultant clinician and patient support staff shortage was met with a global mental health crisis and increased need for mental health and substance use professionals.

Massachusetts (MA) Loan Repayment Program (MRP) sought to address the national disruption and strain of repaying over $130 million in student loan debt through providing experience and support key staff in community health centers, community mental health centers, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, psychiatric units of acute care hospitals, and substance use providers. Applications for MRP opened in December 2022 and closed at the end of January 2023.

As of August 2023, any loan repayment awards through this program have yet to be received.

What to know this Fall

Student debt is a polarizing political topic and probably not one you want to use to kick off Thanksgiving dinner with your family this year.

Nevertheless, many residents, fellows, and current psychiatrists carry this financial weight with them incessantly. And, it is a substantial weight. That is, the average medical graduate’s debt rate outpaces the inflation of academic costs, which outpaces economic inflation.

So, in 1978, the average medical school debt in the US was $13,500, which would now be $60,500 if adjusted for inflation. Then in 2022, this figure climbed to $250,999 in total student loans.

Of course, in December 2022, the government approved the average medical student debt will exceed $300,000 by 2024.

Student loan interest will resume on September 1, 2023, and borrowers must resume payments in October 2023. General things to consider when preparing to resume federal loan payments:

- Get organized, which includes thinking about career, family, life plans, and budget, among other things, while preserving loan payment.
- Log in to your Federal Student Aid (FSA) account to verify your loan details and update your contact information.
- Know your loan servicer. If unsure, visit the Federal Student Aid website.
- Call the FSA Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-433-3243.
- Check your mail and e-mail for communication from the Department of Education, your servicer, or FSA regarding your loans.
- Speak with your servicer or a financial advisor now and ask them to discuss the student loan relief options that might be available.
- Federal loan consolidation and if your institution qualifies for Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

Applications are made online at https://studentaid.gov. Please respond to requisition 020135. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions or any other characteristic protected by law.

References


**RESIDENT FELLOW MEMBER CORNER**

Lily Millen, D.O.

Is it Fall Debt?

For some, the crisp autumnal air, enveloping warm cinnamon sugar smell of apple cider donuts, and whispering reds, yellows, and oranges of the changing foliage are just some of the many welcome signs that Fall has arrived.

For others, September will mark the last month before student loan repayments resume.

On June 30, 2023, the US Supreme Court (USSC) overturned the Biden administration's student-loan debt-forgiveness plan. This ruling affects nearly 45 million Americans set to be eliminated from an almost half-trillion-dollar program. The Biden administration responded by hastily pursuing an alternative plan for student debt cancellation, relying on a different legal route than the one recently upended by the USSC.

The process could take a year or longer, and there is no timeline or guarantee for relief. To my colleagues and resident-fellow peers with student loan debts: prepare for repayment now.

What did the USSC decide?

The USSC ruled in two cases on the same day.

In a unanimous decision, all nine justices determined that the first case, *Department of Education v. Brown*, lacked standing. The plaintiffs were two individuals not covered by the full extent of the debt forgiveness plan. They claimed to be harmed by the inability to participate in a "notice-and-comment" period, where they could advocate for more expansive debt relief. The USSC determined the plaintiffs failed to establish that any injury they suffered from not having their loans forgiven is fairly traceable to the "debt cancellation plan."

In the second case, *Biden v. Nebraska*, a 6-3 majority of justices ruled that the debt relief plan enacted under the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students (HEROES) Act of 2003 was unconstitutional. Nebraska and five other states -- Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and South Carolina -- alleged that the student debt forgiveness plan would harm state tax revenue and certain state-based loan agencies.

Missouri was the only state that established "standing": a decision unhinged on the nuances of the student loan servicer, the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA). The USSC’s decision asserts that the Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, exceeded statutory authority by establishing that the HEROES Act granted him the power to cancel over 400 billion dollars of student loan debt.

How did we arrive here, and what looms ahead for borrowers?

The COVID-19 pandemic wreaked financial havoc on many, and its ripples permeated the global economy. Invoked several times during the pandemic, the HEROES Act allowed the government to pause student loan payments.

The first iteration of the plan was enacted following the September 11, 2001 attacks and gave the Secretary of Education the power to relieve borrowers affected by terrorist attacks. In 2003, Congress expanded the law to include borrowers who encountered economic hardship due to war, military operation, a national emergency, or being called to active duty.

In March 2020, a $2.2 trillion economic stimulus bill, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, was passed by Congress and signed into law in response to the economic fallout of the pandemic. Under the authority of the HEROES Act, then-Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos paused repayment obligations for roughly $1.6 trillion of federal student loans for more than 45 million American students as part of a relief measure during the national emergency declared due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This pause extended through the remainder of the Trump and Biden administrations until December 31, 2022. Before this, in August 2022, the Biden administration developed a plan under the authority of the HEROES Act to help those individuals at increased risk of default due to war, military operation, a national emergency, or being called to active duty.

The plan included directing the Department of Education to issue up to $10,000 in student loan relief to borrowers with an adjusted gross income under $125,000 (or $250,000 for borrowers filing jointly) and up to $20,000 in student loan relief for qualifying Pell Grant borrowers (who have fewer risks and are at greater risk of default).

In a White House statement, more than 40 million borrowers qualified for the plan, with nearly 90% of the relief benefits from borrowers earning less than $75,000 per year. The White Paper.
I am so happy to share some really good news with you. On August 9, 2023 Gov. Maura Healey signed a $55.98 billion state budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), making historic investments in healthcare. Included in the budget is language allowing physicians to use Physician Health Services (PHS), a 501(c)(3) subsidiary of the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), for mental health issues as a Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine approved diversionary program. Specifically, amending M.G.L. c.112, § 5 (f) by striking out, in line 23, the word “drug” and inserting in place thereof the following words - mental health, drug. Since its inception decades ago, the law stated that any physician or health care provider must report to the Board of Registration in Medicine, “any physician who is habitually drunk, addicted to drugs or alcohol, or has their ability to practice medicine impaired by ‘mental instability,’” The law went on to say that if there is no evidence of harm to patients, instead of reporting a physician who is addicted to drugs or alcohol to the Board, instead, the mandated reporter could report them directly to PHS. However, this “diversion” from the Board was only for physicians using drugs and alcohol and not for other mental health issues. What the leadership of your Massachusetts Psychiatric Society (MPS) has been relentlessly advocating for is the expansion of PHS’s role as a diversionary program from the Board not only for substance use disorders (SUDs), i.e., drugs and alcohol, but also for psychiatric and behavioral issues. In other words, instead of having to report physicians with mental health problems who pose no risk to patients or have caused no patient harm to the Board of Registration in Medicine, mandated reporters will now be able to report them to PHS so they can receive rigorous monitoring and be referred for treatment, akin to what PHS now does so successfully with SUDs. Since its founding, PHS has helped identify, refer to treatment, and guide the recovery of over 3,500 Massachusetts physicians. Amending the law to include mental health issues is a definitive win-win for physicians and patients, i.e., encouraging physicians to come forward to get help with mental health issues, thereby assuring that they practice medicine with requisite skill and safety and thereby protect the public. I am pleased and proud to report that MPS elected leadership, Executive Committee Advisors, Council members, and staff were unanimously in support of this paradigm changing amendment. A special acknowledgment and thank you must also go to MPS government affairs consultant, Lisa Simonetti. Her in-depth knowledge of current statutes, State House protocol, and direct access to legislative champions of the work of MPS made this happen.

The potential for PHS to help more Massachusetts physicians with mental health issues, especially in the context of rampant burnout, and make PHS a national model for mental health support is now a reality that is sustainable and budgetarily neutral for PHS and the Commonwealth.

Other important healthcare items included in the budget that will go into effect 90 days from the signing on August 9 include:

- $173 million for Chapter 257 rate increases for human service providers.
- $192 million from the Behavioral Health Trust Fund for one time programming aimed at recruiting and supporting a diverse behavioral workforce, including a $100 million enhancement to the Loan Repayment Program for mental and behavioral health professionals;
- An increase of $44.6 million for employment programs; services, including $1.8 million for health assessments and $1.5 million for employment programs;
- The addition of $6.1 million for immigrant and refugee services, including $1.8 million for health assessments and $1.5 million for employment programs;
- $2.75 million for Technology Forward to provide assistive technology and remote supports/monitoring;
- Support for a pilot to expand subsidized ConnectorCare coverage to individuals at or below 500 percent of the federal poverty limit; and

(continued on page 4)