



HIPHOP Promise Clinic Summer Newsletter 2019

Highlight: 2018 Keeping The Promise Gala

The **2018 Keeping the Promise Gala: Planting Seeds for our Future** took place on Friday, November 16, at Gambino's Inn in New Brunswick, NJ. The event was organized by the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS) HIPHOP Promise Clinic, in partnership with the Rutgers University Foundation. The Keeping the Promise Gala celebrated the achievements of HIPHOP Promise Clinic and was attended by over 200 guests including students and faculty of RWJMS, the Rutgers Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, and many family and friends. Highlights of the evening included an award ceremony recognizing student-led initiatives, desserts catered by Promise Catering, and a keynote speech by a former patient of HIPHOP Promise Clinic. The proceeds from the Keeping the Promise Gala will benefit the **HIPHOP Promise Clinic Endowment** at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

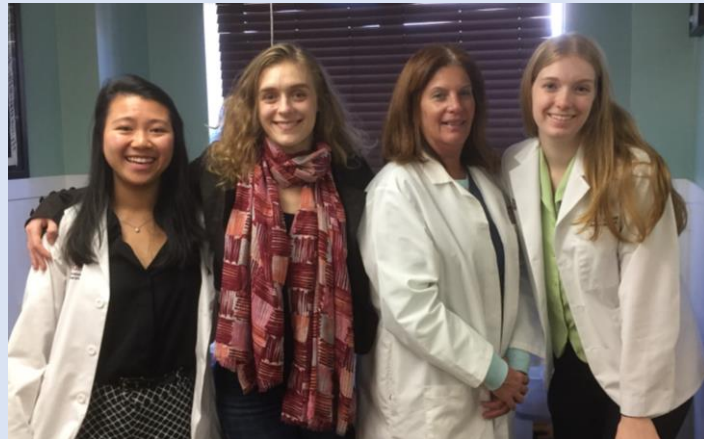


A behind-the-scenes look at gala preparations. Kudos to the Gala Planning Committee and a special shout-out to Promise Clinic Operations committee members, Ila Nimgaonkar PhD, Paul Lavadera '20, and Ruby Zucker '21 and student doctor, Leela Biswas PhD for all of their hard work towards putting together this event.

**OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO
MR. JOSEPH DISEPIO**
Your generous donations help to keep Promise Clinic running and support our patients!



Highlighting Our Student Initiatives



Promise Clinic Specialty Care and Communications Steering Committee members - (left to right), Julia Zheng '21, Olivia Dahl '21, Adrienne, and Eileen McAuley '22 at the Flu Clinic!

Flu Clinics this Fall!

This fall, the Promise Clinic Steering Committee sub-committee Specialty Care collaborated with Adrienne, a nurse from the Middlesex County Public Health Department to set up three flu clinics at Elijah's Promise (EP) during meal hours. Promise Clinic patients or any patrons at EP that day were encouraged to get their free flu shot -- this year, 28 shots were given! Some of our student interpreters, Alejandra Bolanos-Delgado '22, Olivia Dahl '21, and Fernando Ferrera '20, were essential in communicating the importance of receiving the vaccine to a large number of Spanish-speaking patrons.

A New Sub-Committee: Social Needs

Social Needs became an official sub-committee at the start of 2019! The need for such a committee was recognized in 2017, and since then the program has expanded and adapted to better meet the needs of our patients. Committee members serve as the bridge between masters of social work (MSW) student interns and Promise Clinic, providing continuity and case management transitions between annual rotations of MSW students. Additionally, we are so proud of the Social Needs Committee for having presented their work this year at both the Society of Student-Run Free Clinics Conferences in Kansas City, Missouri, and New York City. Finally, the Social Needs Committee facilitates the delivery and distribution of free dinners provided by Elijah's Promise Soup Kitchen to our patients so that they never need to choose between medical care and a meal.



Two members from the Social Needs Steering Committee (from left to right) - Rebecca Berger '21 and Denise Hernandez, MSW student, reviewing the Promise Clinic social needs assessment tool before meeting with patients

Our Blog:

www.promiseclinic.blogspot.com



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Highlighting Our Student Initiatives

Conference Presentations We are deeply grateful to **RWJMS Student Affairs** for financial support!

First NJ-wide Student-Run Free Clinic Conference



The first **New Jersey Student-Run Free Clinic Conference** was organized by HIPHOP Promise Clinic directors and took place on August 25, 2018. It was attended by students from RWJMS, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, and Cooper Medical School at Rowan University.

New York Student Run Free Conference



Kirk Benack '21, at Columbia University presenting results on medication cost reduction with the implementation of a prescription formulary at HIPHOP Promise Clinic.

Kansas City Society of Student Run Free Clinics Conference



(From top left): Jacob Jaslove PhD, Kathy Zhang '21, Rachel Voigt '20, Anna Levitt '21, Paul Lavadera '20, Don Langan '20, Rebecca Berger '21, Dr. Karen Wei-Ru Lin, Julia Zheng '21, and Aisha Van Pratt Levin '19.

Donations to Promise Clinic can be made by visiting:
support.rutgers.edu/PromiseClinic

VeggieRx: Fresh Veggies for Patients

This year, we implemented the successful pilot phase of **VeggieRx**, a program providing patients with “prescriptions” for fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as nutrition education sessions. VeggieRx is a collaboration with New Brunswick Community Farmers Market. Pictured: The VeggieRx team (from left to right): Julia Zheng '21, Kathy Zhang '21, Joshua Gilens '19, and Anna Levitt '21. Not pictured: Becky Adu '21, Dr. Karen Wei-Ru Lin.



A huge thank you to our amazing faculty advisors who support us and help to make Promise Clinic possible:
Susan Giordano, BA, Program Director, Homeless and Indigent Population Health Outreach Program (HIPHOP)
Eric Jahn, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Community Health
Karen Lin, MD, Assistant Dean for Global Health