This year’s newsletter documents the remarkable efforts of our Center’s team. Acknowledgement of their success yields more opportunities, and gratifying recognition of their expertise locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Our teams in the Data, Analytics & Statistical Core (DASC) and the Office for Value & Innovation in Healthcare Delivery (OVIHD) continue to serve faculty and staff across the health system. We look forward to expansion of these efforts. With guidance from the Director of OVIHD, Jing Li, MD, MS; Audrey Yates, MS and OVIHD Team are helping lead efforts to train staff and faculty in the FOCUS-PDSA methodology and implement our TrueBlue process improvement training program. Again under Jing Li’s guidance as Associate Director of the Center, Dan Cleland, MS is leading DASC to provide data to research and quality improvement teams seeking to apply research to optimize care. These efforts will be integral to my new role as the Chief Quality & Transformation Officer for UK HealthCare.

Health care is changing rapidly as insurers shift from paying for volume (i.e., fee for service) to paying for value. The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services has an aggressive timeline to make this transition; and activities in the CHSR are focused on projects that move us in that direction. While Project ACHIEVE is finishing up the surveying of > 12,000 patients and family caregivers, the Kentucky Consortium for Accountable Health Communities (KC-AHC) is training staff in clinics across Eastern Kentucky to screen patients for social determinants of health and refer them to community resources. Center faculty are pursuing grants focused on community-engaged health disparities research, implementation science, improving care for patients with chronic illnesses and enhancing health insurance literacy. With these activities, I look forward to the Center’s first retreat this summer to identify next steps in continuing our progress and success.
Mark V. Williams, MD Named Chief Quality & Transformation Officer

In May 2018, UK HealthCare’s Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, Mark Newman, MD, appointed Mark V. Williams, MD, FACP, MHM, as UKHC’s Chief Quality & Transformation Officer (CQTO). In this new position, Mark will work with Dr. Newman and other members of the Executive Quality Committee to provide leadership in ensuring that quality is our chief goal as an institution. Dr. Newman considers this new role as a first and important step in our journey to becoming a premier “learning health system.” The CQTO will coordinate UKHC’s efforts to become one of the top academic medical centers in quality. Leveraging resources in the Center for Health Services Research including the Data, Analytics & Statistical Core (DASC) and Office for Value & Innovation in Healthcare Delivery (OVIHD), Mark will be working to provide resources to everyone at UKHC to be successful as champions for quality.

“To read the UK Healthcare announcement on the appointment, visit: https://uknow.uky.edu/uk-healthcare/williams-named-uk-healthcare-chief-transformation-and-learning-officer

Williams Honored as a University Research Professor

Dr. Williams was among 13 other UK faculty who were presented with the 2018-19 University Research Professorship Award. He was recruited to UK in 2014 and serves as the Vice Chair for the Department of Internal Medicine, Chief of the Division of Hospital Medicine and is the Director for the Center for Health Services Research. He has more than 150+ peer-reviewed publications, including many in top-tier journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, Annals of Internal Medicine, JAMA-IM, and BMJ Quality and Safety. He was the Founding Editor of the Journal of Hospital Medicine. During his academic career, Dr. Williams obtained > $34 million in extramural funding as PI or Co-PI, and >$20M since arrival at UK. His research focuses on quality of care delivery and implementation science such as the national Project ACHIEVE and the regional Kentucky Consortium for Accountable Health Communities.

This award was presented to faculty who have demonstrated excellence in research and creative work that address scientific, social, cultural, economic, and health challenges in Kentucky and around the world.

To read University of Kentucky’s announcement on the honors, visit: https://uknow.uky.edu/research/uk-honors-2018-2019-university-research-professors

“I eagerly look forward to collaborating with the wonderfully talented members of the UK HealthCare team. It’s a new era in health care, and we must rapidly change to provide a patient-centered approach that efficiently provides the highest value care in the optimal setting.”

- Dr. Mark V. Williams
Office for Value and Innovation in Healthcare Delivery (OVIHD)

TRUEBLUE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The TrueBlue Process Improvement program aims to provide interactive, state-of-the-art training to foster alignment with UK HealthCare’s 2020 Strategy with a focus on data-driven decision making and project selection. TrueBlue represents a role-based model prevalent in benchmark organizations and a hallmark of modern competency development models in general. This role-based model will enable UK HealthCare to incrementally build capacity for engagement in and leadership of performance improvement efforts. Competency levels range from exposure to basic concepts for every employee to expert-level skills for employees expected to lead complex system (re)design and coach or teach process improvement. Training in TrueBlue will give staff the skills to address improvement opportunities they identify.

The TrueBlue program was kicked off with the first Blue/White Belt training cohort including participants from Cardiology and Hospital Medicine. Training is comprised of 3 sessions over a 6-month time period. Participants will work on a project in their respective departments with mentoring from an OVIHD coach. Upon completion of the three sessions, the objective is “all UKHC Blue/White Belt participants will use the UKHC approach to problem solving to improve their daily work in pursuit of eliminating preventable harm to patients, achieving the best outcomes at the lowest cost, and spreading innovations at UKHC and affiliates.”

Implementation Science at UK CHSR

UK WORKGROUP FOR IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE (UK WINS)

The UK Workgroup for ImplementatioN Science (UK WINS) is a network of UK researchers with a common interest in dissemination and implementation science in health. UK WINS meets every other month to coordinate, exchange, and synthesize information to foster collaboration, funding, training, or professional development opportunities. Members represent many research areas of UK including health-related colleges (Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Education, Public Health), Arts & Sciences and the UK Markey Cancer Center. If you have questions or are interested in joining UK WINS, please email Amy Mitchell Cowley at amy.mitchell@uky.edu.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS:

UK WINS meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every other month from 10 - 11 am in Kentucky Clinic J524.

Future Meeting Dates:

July 19, 2018
September 20, 2018
November 15, 2018

WUKY Radio Interviews Hilary Surratt, PhD on Efficacy of Rural Needle Exchange Programs

Dr. Greg Davis talks with Hilary Surratt, PhD, associate professor in the Center for Health Services Research, and principal investigator of a study examining the implementation of syringe exchange programs in rural areas.

Rates of opioid use disorder and injection drug use have risen significantly in Kentucky, especially in rural communities. The serious health consequences of injection drug use include the spread of the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and HIV infection. Kentucky is home to eight of the 10 counties in the nation that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have identified as most vulnerable to an outbreak of HIV.
CHSR’s focus on community-engaged health disparities research in underserved communities aligned closely with an NIH funding opportunity to examine structural level interventions among people who inject drugs. In this interview, Dr. Surratt discusses a recently awarded two-year National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)-funded study designed to reach vulnerable injection drug users in Appalachia to understand the multi-level barriers to access syringe exchange programs and to identify priority intervention targets and strategies to increase uptake. This data will inform changes to policies and practices of syringe exchange programs and the development of multi-level prevention strategies to enhance access and utilization of rurally located syringe exchange programs. The study aims to enhance HIV and HCV prevention efforts and delivery of treatment addressing critical disparities in accessibility among rural communities.

To listen to the interview, visit: http://wuky.org/post/uk-researcher-studying-efficacy-rural-needle-exchange-programs

**News & Noteworthy**

**SMALLS PRESENTED AT U.S. - HONG KONG 2018 CONFERENCE**

Congratulations to Dr. Brittany Smalls for her abstract entitled “Phenotype of the Rural Caregiver: Implications for Aging America” for being selected for the U.S.-Hong Kong 2018 Conference with the theme “Aging across Time and Contexts”. Dr. Smalls’ abstract was selected amongst an impressive number of abstracts from countries such as China, Israel, Switzerland, and Brazil. Dr. Smalls presented her abstract at the conference held in Hong Kong in May.

**SMALLS’ ACCEPTED TO THE 2018 SUMMER INSTITUTE ON RANDOMIZED BEHAVIORAL CLINICAL TRIALS**

The NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) in collaboration with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), will hold the Eighteenth Annual Summer Institute on Randomized Behavioral Clinical Trials in July 2018. Dr. Smalls was accepted to this prestigious training program which will provide thorough grounding in the conduct of randomized clinical trials through developing competence in the planning, design, and execution of randomized clinical trials involving behavioral interventions.

**EDWARD SELECTED AS A UK CENTER FOR APPALACHIAN RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (UK-CARES) FELLOW IN SCIENCE COMMUNICATION**

Congratulations to Jean Edward, PhD on being selected into the first cohort of UK-CARES Fellows in Science Communication. This program is designed to provide early career faculty with skills training for communicating science to a broader audience, leading to an enhanced capability for outreach and success in research, teaching, and service. Dr. Edward will be provided with a year-long training program and follow-up, beginning with attendance at an on-campus workshop by the acclaimed Alda Center for Science Communication. Additional training will include three on-site workshops, and online training modules provided by Dr. Beverly Delidow, PhD, Marshall University. Participants will develop their own goals for the training and will be expected to attend all meetings and complete assignments for individual feedback. Dr. Edward was chosen from an elite group of faculty at UK who will comprise the first cohort of 10 fellows.

**WILLIAMS INVITED AS VISITING PROFESSOR TO JOHN HOPKINS BAYVIEW**

Center Director Mark Williams traveled to Baltimore on April 3rd and served as a visiting professor at Johns Hopkins Bayview Hospital. In addition to meeting with hospitalist faculty, he gave grand
rounds on “Building a Learning Health System – What is Your Role?”

WILLIAMS PRESENTS AT THE 2018 ACADEMYHEALTH NATIONAL POLICY CONFERENCE

In February 2018, Mark V. Williams, MD, FACP, MHM and Glen Mays, PhD, MPH from the Project ACHIEVE research team participated in a 90-minute policy roundtable at the 2018 AcademyHealth National Health Policy Conference in Washington, DC. Specifically, they reported on the prevalence of transitional care (TC) strategy adoption at 380 hospitals across the country as well as the associations of various combinations of TC strategies (i.e., clusters) with 30-day readmissions at those hospitals. The preliminary analysis presented by Drs. Williams and Mays suggests that hospitals tend to adopt TC strategies in five main clusters, and do so preferentially based on high baseline readmission rates. Further, hospitals adopting TC clusters experienced larger readmission reductions than non-adopters. Data analysis is ongoing and final results will be submitted for publication in Summer 2018.

LI PRESENTED IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AT CCTS CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Jing Li, MD, MS, presented at the March 22 CCTS /COM Career Development Series. The lecture provided basic knowledge on Dissemination & Implementation (D&I) research with a focus on the role of D&I research in the translational research spectrum, its applicability to clinical and community-based research, D&I conceptual models and frameworks, and the measurement of implementation.

SCHWARTZ AND WILLIAMS PRESENTED AT THE AACN ANNUAL DOCTORAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Colleen Swartz, DNP, MBA, RN (UK HealthCare’s Chief Nursing Executive and Chief Administrative Officer) and Mark V. Williams, MD, FACP, MHM (Professor & Director of the Center for Health Services Research) presented at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Annual Doctoral Education Conference on January 18-20. The conference welcomes nursing deans, associate deans, doctoral program directors, directors of research, and faculty to chart the future of doctoral nursing education. Janie Heath PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN, FNAP, FAANP, Dean and Warwick Professor of Nursing at UK’s College Nursing, coordinated the invitation of Swartz and Williams to give the closing plenary presentation – “Teamwork in Hospitals–An ITIM© of Necessity”. They highlighted UK’s success in implementing the Interprofessional Teamwork Innovation Model (ITIM©). Their presentation documented how the ITIM model reduced hospital readmissions and improved patient satisfaction at UK HealthCare.

CHSR Hosts Staff Professional Development Workshop

“USING TIME WISELY” IS THE FIRST WORKSHOP OF 2018

Each year the Center for Health Services Research is committed to provide professional development workshops to staff. Our first workshop of 2018 was “Using Time Wisely” provided by the University of Kentucky Training and Development department. This workshop was very beneficial to our staff as it reviewed how to become more productive and more satisfied with our efforts. The staff left the workshop with a better understanding of how to determine how their time was currently being used, become more aware of the time over which they have control, make the most effective use of time, and set priorities.
Proposal Submissions

PROMISE (PARTNERING WITH PATIENTS TO REDUCE OPIOID MISUSE AND SUPPORT ENGAGEMENT)

Project PROMISE (Partnering with Patients to Reduce Opioid Misuse and Support Engagement) will rigorously evaluate two evidence-based interventions for safer opioid prescribing at primary care practices in Eastern Kentucky's Appalachian region, with the overall aim of preventing unsafe prescribing and improving patient-centered outcomes. Kentucky is one of the highest opioid prescribing states, and recent data from Kentucky's prescription monitoring program show clear patterns of opioid prescribing clustered in Eastern Appalachian counties. This proposal targets opioid and physical therapy prescribing interventions to impact a high priority population of vulnerable pain patients. Project PROMISE will improve the quality of evidence available to help providers and patients make informed decisions about pain management and opioid therapy, and improve capacity to deliver appropriate and adequate pain care to underserved patients.

Surratt Collaborates on Proposal for the NIDA Diversity Scholars Network (NDSN)

Hilary Surratt, PhD, participated in a collaborative cross-institution proposal to NIH with Dr. Khary Rigg, Department of Mental Health Law and Policy, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, University of South Florida. Dr. Rigg is an Assistant Professor and was recently selected for the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Diversity Scholars Network Program, which is a program that provides individual mentoring for underrepresented early stage investigators who are developing NIDA grant proposals. This proposal is an R01 application to NIDA/NIA entitled "Reducing Opioid-Related Hospitalizations and Overdoses among Older Adults" with a submission in May 2018.

NIH Collaboration Award

SOCIAL MEDIA HIV PREVENTION INTERVENTION FOR RURAL WOMEN DRUG USERS

Dr. Michele Staton, Associate Professor in the Department of Behavioral Science, is leading a newly funded NIH study to adapt and feasibility test an evidence-based HIV and HCV prevention intervention for delivery via social media to increase the reach and scope of prevention education to high-risk, vulnerable rural women. The interdisciplinary research team includes faculty investigators from CHSR, Behavioral Science, and the College of Public Health. This study responds to a critical need for innovative prevention education in rural Appalachian locations with high injection drug use prevalence and rising rates of Hepatitis C infection.
PATHways Program Awarded $4.9 Million

Dr. Agatha Critchfield, Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Maternal Fetal Medicine, received a $4.9 million contract from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to expand and improve treatment for pregnant women with opioid use disorder (OUD) in rural areas of Kentucky. This new comparative effectiveness trial builds upon the UK Perinatal Assistance and Treatment Home (PATHways) program, and will evaluate the relative importance of group care and subspecialty physician interactions in the treatment of perinatal opioid use disorder in twelve rural regional hospital sites. The multidisciplinary research team includes faculty investigators from CHSR (Hilary Surratt, PhD), the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics - Neonatology, and Psychiatry in the College of Medicine, the College of Nursing, and the College of Arts & Sciences. This award has been approved and is pending issuance of a formal award contract.

Publications


CHSR Undergraduate Student Mentoring Program

Beginning in spring 2018, The Center for Health Services Research officially began a mentoring program for undergraduate students who are interested in learning more about Health Services Research. This opportunity is provided for highly motivated and talented undergraduate students to develop skills as young researchers and to further explore their interest in health services research. Each student is associated with one or two specific research projects, where they work closely with faculty and other researchers. In addition, the undergraduate students are given the opportunity to attend HSR seminars and Work-in-Progress (WIP) sessions that expose them to a broad range of health service research areas, techniques, and approaches.
For many Cambodians, becoming a physician is just a dream. For me, it is not only my dream, but something that is achievable. Growing up in Kentucky, there are currently no Cambodian-American physicians around the area and so that leads to a lack of representation from the Cambodian community in the medical field. If you wanted to be a doctor, there was no advice that close relatives or many Cambodian-Americans doctors could give because there weren’t many out there. I had to seek opportunities on my own in the medical field which meant volunteering every summer at UK and Cardinal Hill hoping to eventually find a mentor.

I met Dr. Winkler last summer when I was volunteering in the gift shop. He quickly became my mentor and has provided me with numerous opportunities that many high school students do not get to have. Junior Researchers has allowed me to grow as an individual and as a student. Being able to shadow someone who I can see myself becoming one day, not only inspires me, but makes me become even more motivated and determined to become a physician.

One of the opportunities that I have been given is an internship at CHSR. This would not have happened without Junior Researchers. Being an intern has challenged me and forced me out of my comfort zone. I now have plans to pursue a degree in computer science at UK in the fall because of my experience here at CHSR. Since this is my first job, it has helped me transition into adulthood and work life.

Dr. Winkler and the Junior Researcher’s program has jump started my future. I am extremely grateful and hope to pay it forward by continuing to help with the program in the future.”

“Being able to shadow someone who I can see myself becoming one day, not only inspires me, but makes me become even more motivated and determined to become a physician.”

-Eayly Ly
CHSR Convenes First KC-AHC Advisory Board Meeting for the Five-Year Project

UK’s Center for Health Services Research convened their first Kentucky Consortium for Accountable Health Communities (KC-AHC) Advisory Board at an in-person meeting on Monday, March 19th. In addition to the UK project team, 33 members from various stakeholders, including the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (Medicaid, Public Health, and Behavioral Health), regional/local health departments, Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), clinical delivery sites (CDSs), community services providers, other community-based organizations and patient and family caregiver representatives, attended the meeting at Hazard Community and Technical College. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Gil Liu, Medical Director of the Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services, and Sandi Curd, the Promise Zone Coordinator at Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation. After the CHSR KC-AHC team provided major project accomplishments and updates, the Advisory Board members separated into small groups to discuss community social service needs and gaps in regards to transportation, food, housing, utilities, safety, and family and community support, community priorities, assets and capacity building, and potential strategies. The rich discussion identified several overarching factors that have contributed to service gaps prevalent in the KC-AHC geographic target area and pinpointed specific opportunities in the community service landscape. Systems change, economic mobility, resource sharing, and community planning were among the many strategies identified to alleviate these gaps by the advisory board.

Center for Health Services Research Develops “CARE KY” Website

The Kentucky Consortium for Accountable Health Communities (KC-AHC) project team developed a free, crowd-sourced website called the Community Asset Registry for the Empowerment of Kentucky, or CARE KY. This site houses a database of nearly 1,000 community resources among 27 counties in Eastern Kentucky. Users can search for resources in the domains of food, housing, utility assistance, transportation, safety, and family and community support. There also is a mechanism for users to submit information for either additional programs/services or correction of program information. Although the site currently features resources in counties that are taking part in the project, the team plans to expand the site to encompass all 120 counties in the Commonwealth. The KC-AHC team hopes that CARE KY can ensure a lasting effect on the Commonwealth far beyond the duration of the Accountable Health Communities project. Visit CARE KY today at CARE-KY.org.
Progress Report: Project ACHIEVE

PROJECT ACHIEVE WRAPS UP PATIENT AND CAREGIVER RECRUITMENT AT MORE THAN 40 HOSPITAL SITES; PUBLISHES FINDINGS FROM FOCUS GROUPS

For the past year and a half, Project ACHIEVE researchers have been conducting site visits at >36 hospitals nationwide in order to identify the transitional care strategies employed at these sites as well as the contextual factors that may influence their implementation and success. The last site visit was completed in January 2018.

In addition, the research team conducted surveys with hospital, downstream, and community health care providers in order to identify the facilitators and barriers to implementing transitional care strategies. Data collection among providers began in October 2017 and was completed in April 2018. Over 1,000 providers at 42 hospital sites participated in these surveys.

Finally, in April 2018, patient and family caregiver recruitment was also completed for Project ACHIEVE. Forty-two hospitals participated, recruiting 17,769 patients and 5,150 family caregivers to be contacted regarding a survey about recent experiences in care transitions from the hospital to home or other care setting. Although data collection will continue through July 2018, as of early May 2018, >8,000 patients and >2,000 family caregivers completed the survey.

Findings from focus groups and key informant interviews conducted with 248 patients and family caregivers in the first phase of Project ACHIEVE were published in the May issue of Annals of Family Medicine (http://annals.org/aim/articleabstract/2680053/preventability-early-versus-late-hospital-readmissions-national-cohort-general-medicine). The article, “Experiencing Care Transitions from the Patient and Caregiver Perspective” reports that when undergoing a transition from hospital to home, patients and family caregivers desired three main components of care: 1) to feel prepared and capable of implementing care plans, 2) unambiguous accountability from the healthcare system, and 3) to feel cared for and cared about by medical providers. In addition, interviews revealed five provider behaviors that were linked to these desired components: 1) providing actionable information; 2) collaborative discharge planning; 3) using empathic language and gestures; 4) anticipating the patient’s needs to support self-care at home, and 5) providing uninterrupted care with minimal handoffs.
In April, Dan Cleland, MS, Manager for CHSR DASC, was invited to give a guest presentation to the class of CPH 782 – ‘Information Systems in Healthcare’. Most students in this course are seeking a Master of Health Administration degree. The topic was Big Data in Health Care and provided students with an overview of concepts they would expect to encounter as current and future leaders in health care organizations.

DASC WINS THE RESEARCH, INNOVATIONS, AND CLINICAL VIGNETTES (RIV) AWARD

In July 2016, a new protocol was implemented by UK’s Hospital Medicine teams to manage patients with asymptomatic hypertension to reduce overutilization and improve efficiency. DASC provided analytical support to assess the change in IV anti-hypertensive medication usage after the protocol was implemented, showing a decrease in inappropriate use in patients across all asymptomatic hypertension severity levels. These results were presented as a poster at the 2018 Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Conference, winning a Research, Innovations, and Clinical Vignettes (RIV) award.

DASC PROVIDES ANALYTIC SUPPORT TO AWARDED ASHP GRANT

DASC will be providing analytical support for a grant recently funded by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. The initiative, led by Medical ICU pharmacist Brittany Bissell, will study the implementation of a new diuresis protocol in the Medical ICU. Outcomes of interest include kidney disease classification, ICU and hospital length of stay, as well as mortality.

VI²P researches presented their multidisciplinary studies and overall progress at their meeting on March 27.

Coordinated by Jing Li, MD, MS (Associate Director of the CHSR and Director, OVIHD), the VI²P initiative reached its first important milestone of 6 months. On March 26th, VI²P researchers and colleagues presented their initial progress on their projects. Some highlights from the reports include:

Kristin Ashford, RN, PhD (Principal Investigator on “Tobacco Use in Pregnancy Intervention for Cessation; ToPIC”) informed colleagues that the ToPIC team has conducted the planned provider focus groups and practice assessment survey. She was excited to add another study site from Baptist Health Lexington, and the project has started enrolling patients for the intervention.

James Keck, MD, MPH (Principal Investigator on “Partnership for Identification and Primary-care Based Enrollment to a Prevention Intervention for Diabetes; PIPE to Prevent Diabetes”) presented findings from patient focus groups and a baseline survey of providers. The results indicated knowledge and awareness gaps and unmet needs among patients, while an evidence-practice gap was prevalent among providers.

Jill Kolesar, PharmD, MS (Principal Investigator on “Implementing Oncology Precision Medicine in Kentucky”) conveyed findings from focus group and informant interviews her team conducted. Interestingly, essentially all patients interviewed were unaware of precision medicine and its benefits.

Christina Studts, PhD, LCSW (Principal Investigator on “Adaptation and Pilot Implementation of the Family Check-up for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children”) reported great stakeholder engagement in her study. Community Advisory Board (CAB) members strongly voiced the preference of having trained parents of deaf and hard of hearing children serve as the interventionist rather than social workers. With this input, the study team established a new partnership with the Kentucky Hands & Voices and plans to train two parent coaches to deliver the intervention.

All VI²P researchers set impressive goals for the continuation of their studies, including R01 and R18 grant submissions, planned manuscripts, and conference presentations. To learn more about the VI²P program, visit https://chsr.med.uky.edu/vi2p.

DASC PROVIDES ANALYTICAL SUPPORT TO ED HCV SCREENING GRANT

The DASC team is providing analytic support to a new program funded by Gilead Sciences. Dr. J. Daniel Moore, an Emergency Medicine physician, is principle investigator on this initiative and will implement an emergency department based, universal Hepatitis C screening program with linkage to care based on a model developed at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Outcomes will be evaluated through the continuum of care following positive HCV Ab test.

PRESENTATION FOR MASTERS OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION COURSE

In April, Dan Cleland, MS, Manager for CHSR DASC, was invited to give a guest presentation to the class of CPH 782 – ‘Information Systems in Healthcare’. Most students in this course are seeking a Master of Health Administration degree. The topic was Big Data in Health Care and provided students with an overview of concepts they would expect to encounter as current and future leaders in health care organizations.
Employee Recognition Awards

CHSR leadership likes to recognize staff who have been nominated by their supervisors or peers for demonstrating excellence in teamwork, leadership, commitment, or performance that promotes a robust and rewarding professional environment. Andy Kelly received the Employee of the Quarter Award for 2018 Quarter I and Aiko Weverka received the Employee of the Quarter Award for 2018 Quarter II.

Far Left: Andy is presented with the Employee of the Quarter Award, Quarter I

Left: Aiko is presented with the Employee of the Quarter Award, Quarter II

Staff and Faculty Social Events

Social gathering at the Blue Stallion Company

Annual Holiday Party at the Boone Center