



# January 2012 Newsletter



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## CARE Track Alumna Spotlight - Charity Karpac, MD



Upon my graduation from the Med-Peds Residency at URMC, I started a job with Health Reach Health Care for the Homeless through Unity Health System in Rochester. I work with a team of other physicians, a nurse practitioner, nurses, case managers, a mental health provider, and a registered dietician/diabetes educator (among others) to provide primary medical care to men, women and children in Rochester who are homeless. We now also have a dental team that provides dental services. We see patients for routine health visits, well child care, and routine gynecologic care. Some of the other services we provide include HIV screening, tuberculosis screening, STD screening and immunizations. I see patients at our Health Reach Clinic on West Main Street, in various homeless shelters throughout Rochester, and on our mobile medical unit which travels throughout Rochester to provide medical and dental care to those in our community who are homeless. I have had the opportunity to introduce our program to some of the PLC participants and CARE track residents as well.

The statistics surrounding homelessness in children are sad and staggering. A recent report by the National Center on Family Homelessness, entitled "America's Youngest Outcasts 2010", reported 1.6 million children, or 1 in 45 kids, were homeless at some point in the year 2010. This is a 38% increase from 2007, which undoubtedly reflects the economic down-turn Americans experienced during these years. The National Center for Family Homelessness also ranks states from best (1) to worst (50) in four domains, including extent of child homelessness, child well-being, risk for child homelessness, and state policy and planning efforts. New York State ranks 35 overall based on a composite score in these four domains.



## Announcements:

Our **12th Annual Anne E. Dyson Memorial Grand Rounds and Child Advocacy Forum** will be held on March 7, 2012, 8:00 am-11:00 am in the Class of '62 Auditorium in the School of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Following the Grand Rounds will be a reception in the Sarah Flaum Atrium where residents will be available for questions and discussion of their community projects. This year's presentation will be a CARE Track resident Focus on Community Health and Advocacy Symposium.

## In the News:

Coping Power is an evidence-based violence prevention program brought to the Rochester schools several years ago as part of a CARE resident project. It is now overseen by the Children's Institute. It made the news recently when children at the local Unitarian Church selected it for the congregation's annual large project donation. Link to story here: <http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201112181100/NEWS01/112180366>

Jeff Kaczorowski, MD, Co-Director of PLC/CARE and Executive Director of the Children's Agenda, was featured on YNN News following release of the report A Decade of Decline, on the worsening of local child health statistics. Link to story here: [http://rochester.ynn.com/content/top\\_stories/562635/-a-decade-of-decline/](http://rochester.ynn.com/content/top_stories/562635/-a-decade-of-decline/)



PLC interns, **Drs. Sophia Purekal and Sahar Aminipour**, PNP student **Chana Schlagman**, and visiting medical student **Normaliz Rodriguez**, served turkey dinner at Rosa Wims 24th annual Pre-Thanksgiving Day free turkey dinner at the Montgomery Neighborhood Center on Cady Street on November 11, 2011. Link to news story here: <http://rochester.ynn.com/content/563561/-mama-rosa--serves-up-traditional-thanksgiving-meals/>



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