



**MEDICAL
COLLEGE
OF WISCONSIN**



President's

Community Engagement

Awards

May 8, 2026

Alumni Center
MCW-Milwaukee

AGENDA

2026 President's Community Engagement Award

Lunch

11:15 - 11:45 a.m.

Brim Catering

Recognition of John R. Raymond, Sr., MD

11:45 - 11:50 a.m.

Staci Young, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement
Professor, Family and Community Medicine
Medical College of Wisconsin

Opening Remarks

11:50 - 11:55 a.m.

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD

*President and Chief Executive Officer
Medical College of Wisconsin*

Presentation of Awards

11:55 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Staci Young, PhD

Closing Remarks

1:00 - 1:05 p.m.

Staci Young, PhD

OUR MISSION & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

MISSION

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Office of Community Engagement (OCE) is dedicated to improving the health of communities in Wisconsin and beyond by advancing the art and science of community engagement and making MCW a national leader in improving the health of the public. The OCE provides a broad range of programs, services, and tools to further develop MCW's capacity to partner with communities. As a primary resource and catalyst for community engagement projects for MCW and community partners, the OCE effectively impacts how MCW addresses health equity and social disparities across Wisconsin.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Develop reciprocal and mutually beneficial partnerships with communities of Wisconsin
- Use bi-directional dialogue to define and understand community and community engagement and identify program scope based on relevant community issues
- Recognize the importance of relationships in developing strong community-academic partnerships with equitable power and agreed-upon responsibilities that acknowledge the historical imbalance of power
- Build capacity within MCW and the community
- Effectively disseminate outcomes via diverse methods

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD

The President's Community Engagement Award recognizes the exemplary community-academic partnership, community-engaged research, and community outreach activities of faculty, staff, students, and community partners or programs of MCW. Since 2015, the award has been sponsored by the President's Office and administered by the OCE. We are grateful for the generosity and support of MCW President and CEO John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, and his leadership and recognition of those who carry out the valuable work of the community engagement mission.

RECOGNITION

CARNEGIE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION

MCW is proud to announce it has received the 2026 Carnegie Community Engagement (CE) Classification, a designation awarded by the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to acknowledge an institution's commitment to community engagement. MCW originally received the Carnegie CE Classification in 2015 and is currently one of only seven institutions nationwide to receive this prestigious honor specifically as an academic medical institution.



RICHARD GUARASCI AWARD FOR INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATION

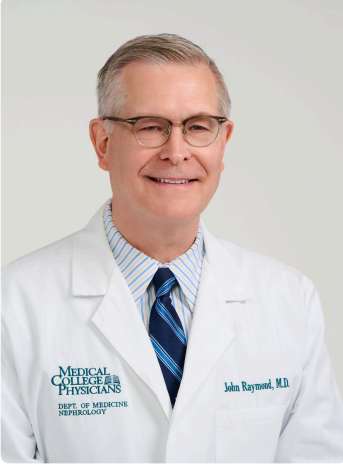
The Richard Guarasci Award for Institutional Transformation recognizes institutions that have successfully implemented institution-wide efforts to address issues of public concern by aligning teaching, research, practice, and values in service of the common



Campus Compact

good. As a national leader in community engagement, the Medical College of Wisconsin was recognized for this award in 2021 for integrating engagement into research, education, and clinical care with the goal of advancing health policy and advocacy and addressing the social determinants of health. "Through initiatives like [Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin endowment] and its extended community-engaged research, the Medical College of Wisconsin demonstrates a deep strategic commitment to community, embracing its responsibility as a place-based institution to address diverse health needs throughout Wisconsin."

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD



John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, the Medical College of Wisconsin's President and CEO, assumed the position as MCW's sixth President on July 1, 2010. As MCW's President and CEO, Dr. Raymond leads Wisconsin's only private medical school with an operating budget of more than \$1.8 billion. A practicing nephrologist who plays active roles in clinical care, teaching and faculty mentorship, Dr. Raymond also is a medical researcher studying the basic mechanisms of kidney cell function. He has published more than 140 full-length manuscripts and earned nearly \$40 million of grant funding over the course of his career.

Staci Young, PhD



Staci Young, PhD, is the Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement and Director of the Office of Community Engagement at MCW. She is also a Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, the Inaugural Faculty Director for the ThriveOn Collaboration, the Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement for the MCW Cancer Center, and the Director Emerita of the Center for Healthy Communities and Research. She actively teaches and mentors students and serves as a research faculty advisor for the Saturday Clinic for the Uninsured. As a medical sociologist, her work and scholarship demonstrate a deep commitment to examining structural conditions that contribute to health outcomes.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

2026 President's Community Engagement Award

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Darryl Davidson, MS, CPM

Director, Community Engagement &
Achievement Collaboratives
City of Milwaukee

Joshua Liston-Zawadi, CHW, Doula

Co-Founder & Executive Director
Life Redefined MKE
Founder, Dad Doula University

MCW STUDENT

Adileen Sii

Medical Student, Class of 2027
MCW-Milwaukee

MCW STAFF TEAM

Ricardo Aguilar, MEd

Program Coordinator II
Office of Academic Pathways

Crystal Jushka, MEd

Program Manager I
Office of Academic Pathways

Zandra Clevert

Academic Outreach Coordinator
Office of Academic Pathways

Jean Mallett, DrPH, MBA

Program Director I
Office of Academic Pathways

MCW FACULTY

Chi Ayaabe Brian Jackson, EdD, MEd

Assistant Professor
Institute for Health & Humanity

Darryl Davidson, MS, CPM

Director, Community Engagement and Achievement Collaboratives, City of Milwaukee

“*The work Mr. Davidson does is relational, trust-based engagement that changes lives in ways that cannot always be captured in metrics, but are unmistakable in impact.*”

– **Zeno Franco, PhD, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine & Melinda Stolley, PhD, Ann E Heil Professor of Cancer Research, Medicine, MCW**



Darryl Davidson leads multiple City of Milwaukee initiatives, including the Mayor's Milwaukee Fatherhood Coalition, Youth Vaping Prevention and Cessation Project, Overdose Prevention Education and Interventions, and various community engagement projects under the "My Brother's Keeper" banner. Aside from his present work, he successfully established and collaboratively worked with community and academic efforts, including Men's Health, Healthy Child Development, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Advancing Health and Financial Literacy, Chronic and Communicable Disease Interventions, and MCW's Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin to reach and change the lives of thousands of residents. He is particularly grateful to his supportive family members, tireless coalition partners, and former clients and patients who inspire him to establish creative ways to address entry point access for physical and mental health maintenance. Darryl values research and client-centered systems approaches when developing community health solutions and believes: Be it large or small, you can always do something to improve one's health.

Joshua Liston-Zawadi, CHW, Doula

Co-Founder & Executive Director, Life Redefined MKE; Founder, Dad Doula University

“Joshua’s approach directly addresses disparities by strengthening family systems, fostering trust within healthcare spaces, and promoting compassionate, personalized care during some of the most vulnerable moments in family life. His approach helps elevate the voices of fathers in spaces that were often muted.

– Toni Whitaker, Program Manager, Radiology, MCW



Joshua "Zawadi" Liston is a proud Milwaukee native committed to strengthening community, fatherhood, and mental health. Through his work, he models what it looks like to be an intentional and present figure in the lives of children and families. He is the creator of the social media platform Melanated Daddy and founder of the Dad Doula program, which equips non-birthing parents with the tools to support, advocate, and show up with purpose during pregnancy, birth, and beyond. Joshua is also the co-founder and executive director of Life reDefined, a nonprofit focused on building deeper family and community connections through collaborative, culturally rooted experiences. An Army Veteran, husband, and father of four, Joshua's passion is grounded in faith and the belief that "iron sharpens iron." His work continues to uplift families and redefine how communities care for one another.

Adileen Sii

Medical Student, Class of 2027,
MCW-Milwaukee

“In all dimensions of her work, Adileen brings humility, professionalism, cultural awareness, and a rare ability to unite diverse groups towards a shared vision of equitable healthcare.”

**– Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS,
DF-APA, Adjunct Associate
Professor, Psychiatry and
Behavioral Medicine, MCW**



Adileen Sii is a first-generation college graduate and medical student from Wisconsin Rapids. Much of her childhood was spent helping at her parents' restaurant, fostering her passion for community engagement. As the eldest daughter, her responsibilities also included serving as her grandmother's translator during doctor's visits, navigating language and cultural barriers to ensure her voice was heard. This inspired her to pursue medicine and advocate for underserved communities. Through the Health Advancement for Asian Pacific Islanders through Education (HAAPIE) initiative, Adileen helped implement a hybrid curriculum to educate medical students about cultural humility and health disparities affecting Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) populations. She is working with her peers in collaboration with the Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health to expand health screenings and improve long-term follow-up care. She is committed to advancing patient-centered care through advocacy and sustained community engagement.

Ricardo Aguilar, MSEd

Program Coordinator II, Office of Academic Pathways, MCW

“*The Office of Academic Pathways team translates their strategy into action by building durable pipelines, cultivating community trust, and ensuring that students can see themselves as future contributors to the health sciences.*”

**– Michael Levas, MD, MS,
Professor of Pediatrics,
Emergency Medicine, MCW**



Ricardo Aguilar is a first-generation Guatemalan-American from Los Angeles, CA, with a strong background in academic advising, college access, and pathway program coordination. He is deeply committed to serving students and communities from various backgrounds, working intentionally to expand access and support comprehensive pathways into higher education and the health professions. Ricardo takes a developmental, relationship-centered approach to his work, meeting students where they are, fostering trust, and building meaningful, long-lasting connections that support both personal and professional growth. Through mentorship, collaboration, and community engagement, he strives to create impactful educational opportunities while cultivating a strong sense of belonging that empowers students to achieve their academic and career goals. He is especially passionate about supporting students, ensuring they feel seen, supported, and empowered as they navigate complex educational systems.

Zandra Clevert

Academic Outreach Coordinator, Office of Academic Pathways, MCW

“The work of the Office of Academic Pathways team is not episodic or transactional; it is sustained, relational, and deeply rooted in trust.

– **Michael Levas, MD, MS,**
Professor of Pediatrics,
Emergency Medicine, MCW



Zandra Clevert serves as Academic Outreach Coordinator in the Office of Academic Pathways at MCW, where she leads outreach efforts that support learners across the educational pipeline. In this role, she manages the STEP-UP middle and high school pathway programs and serves as team lead for the Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Ignite community outreach program. With more than 20 years of experience in higher education, Zandra has held a variety of student support roles dedicated to fostering access, growth, and achievement. She joined MCW in 2016 as a Senior Administrative Assistant within the Office of Academic Affairs, where she supported the Senior Associate Dean. Her career reflects a longstanding commitment to empowering learners of all ages to pursue and realize their goals. Zandra's work is grounded in the institution's core values of respect, integrity, curiosity, and a commitment to advancing inclusive practices.

Crystal Jushka, MEd

Program Manager I, Office of Academic Pathways, MCW

“What sets the Office of Academic Pathways team apart is the depth of care they bring to students during the most demanding moments of training.”

– **Michael Levas, MD, MS,**
Professor of Pediatrics,
Emergency Medicine, MCW



Crystal Jushka is the Program Manager for the Office of Academic Pathways, where she leads the design, delivery, and centralization of pathway programs serving learners from middle school through the undergraduate level. She oversees College STEP-UP, a longitudinal program that supports local undergraduates, helping dozens matriculate into medical and graduate programs. Crystal also co-advises the Student Health Initiative for Pathway Programs (SHIPP), a student organization that provides mentoring, MCAT preparation, and hands-on learning experiences for the STEP-UP and Ignite programs. She enjoys building community among SHIPP and STEP-UP participants since it fosters belonging at MCW. Prior to MCW, Crystal directed a college success initiative for students from underserved backgrounds and managed a pre-college program supporting MPS high school and college learners through advising and leadership training. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Urban Education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where her research centers on belonging among premedical students.

Jean Mallett, DrPH, MBA

Program Director I, Office of Academic Pathways, MCW

“The Office of Academic Pathways team provides consistent encouragement and presence during highstakes examinations, academic setbacks, and personal challenges, serving as trusted listeners and advocates for students.

– Michael Levas, MD, MS,
Professor of Pediatrics,
Emergency Medicine, MCW



Jean Mallett, DrPH, MBA, serves as program director of the Office of Academic Pathways (OAP), where she provides strategic leadership to expand access to health science education and strengthen pathways into the biomedical workforce. She oversees pathway programs, fosters community engagement, and supports students in achieving their health science career goals while ensuring they feel heard throughout their academic journeys. Her leadership has been widely recognized. She received MCW's President's Diversity and Inclusion Award in 2016 and was named to the Milwaukee Business Journal's 40 Under 40 list in 2011. Dr. Mallett holds a Doctorate in Public Health from MCW, an MBA from Alverno College, and a bachelor's degree from Clark Atlanta University, along with certifications in Nonprofit Management and Bilingual Entrepreneurship from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her academic experiences include study in Puerto Rico, Cuba, and China. Outside of work, she enjoys family time, music, and travel.

Brian Jackson, EdD, MEd

Assistant Professor, Institute for Health & Humanity, MCW

“*Dr. Jackson's work is rooted in community-based participatory leadership and cultural responsibility, reflecting lifelong dedication to uplifting Native voices in education, health, and policy.*

**- Laura Cassidy, PhD, MS,
Professor, Institute for
Health & Humanity, MCW**



Dr. Brian Jackson, an Assistant Professor at the MCW, has dedicated his career to advancing culturally grounded community engagement across Tribal Nations. His work centers on strengthening relationships between Indigenous communities, public health systems, and educational institutions through the integration of Indigenous knowledge systems and evidence-based practices. As a Master Trainer of the Lac Du Flambeau Family Circles model and Tribal Legacy Theory, Dr. Jackson advances a holistic approach to prevention, leadership, and wellness rooted in culture, identity, and belonging. He has led impactful collaborations with tribal communities to improve health outcomes, build local capacity, and elevate Indigenous evaluation frameworks aligned with sovereignty and data governance. His leadership reflects a deep commitment to community-driven solutions, honoring Indigenous ways of knowing while bridging academic and community systems to create sustainable, intergenerational impact.

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

2015-2025 Listed by Award category and Award Year

Community Partners & Programs

414 LIFE (2025)

Lea S. Denny, MS, LPC, NCC, NMT, Dr. h.c., HIR Wellness (2025)

Yvonne D. Greer, DrPH, RD, CD, Y-Eat Right Nutritional Consultant for Healthy Living (2024)

Darlene C. Russell, MSM, Greater Milwaukee Foundation (2024)

Vera Roddy, BA, Veteran Advocate (2023)

First Presbyterian Church Wausau Free Clinic (2023)

Joy Tapper, MPA, Milwaukee Healthcare Partnership (2022)

Community Mobilization Project Team: Lorraine Lathen, Aziz Abdullah, Nick Tomaro & Marcus Austin (2022)

2020 & 2021 Boards of Directors, Saturday Clinic for the Uninsured (2022)

Azure'De (DeDe) Williams, formerly Milwaukee Area Health Education Center (2021)

Creative Health Collective Team: Otis Winstead, Jr., Wade Fernandez,

Cecilia Garcia, MAE & Tou Fong Lee (2021)

Brett Fuller, MAE, formerly Milwaukee Public Schools (2020)

Al Castro, formerly United Community Center (2019)

Beth Thorson, Free & Community Clinic Collaborative (2019)

Mark Flower, formerly Dryhootch (2018)

Sanjib Bhattacharyya, PhD, formerly City of Milwaukee Health Department (2017)

Project ADAM Team: Anoop Singh, MB, BCH & Allison Thompson, BS, CHES (2017)

Paula Lucey, RN, MSN, formerly University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2016)

Brenda Gray, PhD, MPH, formerly Milwaukee Area Health Education Center (2015)

MCW Students

Alenna Beroza, MS, Medical Student (2025)

Ana Maria Viteri, Medical Student (2024)

laong Vang, Medical Student (2023)

Raquel Valdes, Medical Student (2022)

Team: Justin Laridaen & Suma Samudrala (2021)

Bisola-Sarah Omoba, MD, Medical Student (2020)

Megan Cory, Medical Student (2019)

Christian Hernandez, Medical Student (2019)

Na'il Scoggins, Medical Student (2019)

Christopher Zeman, Medical Student (2018)

Team: Christine Brichta and Caitlin Quinn, Medical Students (2017)

Jack Keegan, Medical Student (2016)

Daniel Payton Sterba, Medical Student (2016)

Team: Ahmad El-Arabi, Bryan Johnston & Krista Tuomela, Medical Students (2015)

2014-2015 Board of Directors, Saturday Clinic for the Uninsured (2015)

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

A growing network of passionate individuals and programs dedicated to achieving excellence in community engagement

MCW Staff

Courtney Jankowski, MPH, MCW (2025)
 AnaKaren Manriquez Prado, BA, MCW (2025)
 Tricia Monroe, MEd, MA, CHES, MCW (2024)
 Karen Dotson, MHSA, formerly MCW (2023)
 Kelsey Potratz, MCW (2022)
 Madeline Winn, PA-C, MPAS, MCW (2022)
 Christina Hoppe, MS, MCW (2021)
 Shayvon McCullum, MCW (2021)
 Jermaine Murry, formerly MCW (2020)
 Jennifer Ovide, RN, BSN, Ascension All Saints Family Health Center (2020)
 Tifany Frazer, MCW (2019)
 Broderick Pearson, MCW (2019)
 Toni Whitaker, MCW (2019)
 Moriah Iverson, formerly MCW (2018)
 Team: Jessica Olson, PhD, MCW & Tim Sobotka, formerly MCW (2017)
 Hilary Chavez, MS, MA, formerly MCW (2016)
 Melissa DeNomie, MS, formerly MCW (2016)
 Vicki Conte, formerly MCW (2015)

MCW Faculty

Sara A. Kohlbeck, PhD, MPH, MCW (2025)
 Jessica Olson, PhD, MPH, MCW (2025)
 Melinda Stolley, PhD, MCW (2024)
 Terri deRoon-Cassini, PhD, MS, MCW (2023)
 David Milia, MD, MCW (2023)
 Piero Antuono, MD, MCW (2022)
 Kirsten Beyer, PhD, MPH, MS, MCW (2022)
 Kajua Lor, PharmD, BCACP, MCW (2021)
 Team: Corina Norrbom, MD, MCW and Amy Prunuske, PhD, formerly MCW (2021)
 Alonzo Walker, MD, formerly MCW (2021)
 Michael Levas, MD, MS, MCW (2020)
 Staci Young, PhD, MCW (2020)
 Zeno Franco, PhD, MCW (2019)
 Robert Gouthro, MD, MCW (2019)
 David Nelson, PhD, MS, MCW (2018)
 Lisa Dodson, MD, formerly MCW-Central Wisconsin (2017)
 John Meurer, MD, MBA, formerly MCW (2017)
 Earnestine Willis, MD, MPH, formerly MCW (2016)
 Marlene Melzer-Lange, MD, formerly MCW (2015)

Special Recognition

MCW Faculty & Staff Team: Kristin Busse, PharmD, BCPS; Karen MacKinnon, BPharm, RPh; Lisa Henk, MHR; Pam Jung (2021)

THANK YOU!

Aziz Abdullah

Co-Founder, INPOWER

Alenna Beroza, MS

Medical Student, MCW-Milwaukee

Lea S. Denny, MS, LPC, NCC, NMT, Dr. h.c.

CEO, Clinical Director & Founder, HIR Wellness Institute

Allison DeVan, PhD, MA

Scientific Administrator, MCW

Courtney Jankowski, MPH

Program Manager, MCW

Sara Kohlbeck, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor, MCW

AnaKaren Manriquez Prado, BA

IRB Coordinator II, MCW

Tricia Monroe, MEd, CHES

Program Manager, MCW

Darlene Russell, MSM

Director, Greater Milwaukee Foundation

Melinda Stolley, PhD

Professor, MCW

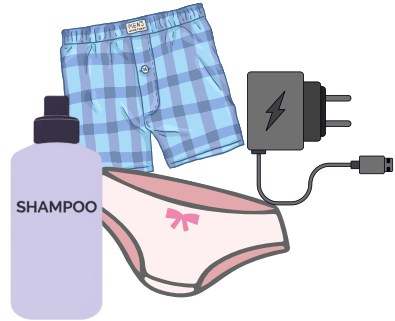
DONATION DRIVE

May 2026 MCW Office of Community Engagement

Donations are being collected for Pathfinders, a nonprofit organization serving youth in crisis in the Greater Milwaukee Area.

Needed Items:

- New underwear (all sizes and styles)
- New bras (all sizes and styles)
- Shampoo and conditioner for textured hair
- Phone chargers (USB Type C/iPhone)



How to Donate:

- **May 4– May 29**, drop off your donations to one of the boxes located around the MCW-Milwaukee campus and ThriveOn King.
- **May 7 & May 8**, bring your donations when you attend the Community Engagement Conference and/or President's Community Engagement Award Luncheon. *Please note, registration is required for both events.*
- **Anytime:** Purchase needed items directly from the [Amazon Wishlist](#).



Scan QR Code to donate
via Amazon Wishlist



mcw.edu/communityengagement

Questions? Contact Jai Lor

MCW Office of Community Engagement
jl@mcw.edu | 414-955-4434

Stay Connected



Scan the QR code to stay up-to-date
on upcoming events & programs!



Visit

<https://www.mcw.edu/departments/community-engagement>



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MCWCommunityEngagement>



Email

communityengagement@mcw.edu