

Inaugural two-day conference focused on improving cultural humility and access to resources for those who work with recent arrivals

...because by coming together and sharing our experiences with each other, we can do better as individual providers, agencies, and as a community

# Thank You to our Conference Sponsors















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Office of the Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement



AND REHABILITATION

Our City of Nations:
Supporting Refugee
and Recent Immigrant
Health and Wellness
Conference



## Welcome



Dear Participant,

Over 70,000 refugees have come to Wisconsin from all over the world. Over the years Wisconsin has welcomed many peoples from Southeast Asia, the former Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia. The newest come from Somalia, former Burma (Karen and Chin), Iraq, and Bhutan. Ninety-five percent (66,500) of all the refugees who have settled in Wisconsin have achieved economic self-sufficiency and are working and contributing to our communities.

Yet this success has not come without the help of many individuals and agencies who provide culturally sensitive and empathetic services to refugees and new immigrants. The task of helping refugees adjust to Wisconsin can be daunting: acquiring housing, coordinating health services, English language education, assisting with school enrollment, job placement, and much more. All the while noting that certain refugee groups disproportionately include underserved children and adults with mental health needs, chronic co-morbid conditions, psychosocial stressors, relocation, and resettlement needs.

Regional health systems have also had to adapt to these new cultures as they assist the refugees and new immigrants with their primary health needs and, at times, more challenging health needs such as complex post-traumatic stress disorders, poorly controlled chronic medical problems, psychological adjustment needs, work and life stressors, etc.

> By coming together and sharing our experiences with each other we can do better as individual providers, agencies, and as a community.

We find ourselves compelled to gather together; to discuss how we can better serve our clients, patients, and neighbors; and act with clarity and cohesion as we continue to welcome tomorrow's arrival.

James D. Sanders, M.D.

Conference Executive Committee Associate Professor Family and Community Medicine

Medical College of Wisconsin

Sebastian Ssempijja, Ph.D.

Conference Executive Committee

Executive Director.

Sebastian Family Psychology Practice, LLC.

#### Vision

Provide a platform for improved skills attainment, sharing, and captivation of advanced research and practices within the prism of Human Wellness, being interchangeably influenced by local and global factors.

#### Goal

Mobilize and harness the diverse knowledge, capacities, and services of various stakeholders, interested to learn from and with those who interface with refugee and immigrant communities in the USA.

### **Objectives**

- Describe how to adapt my practice to better serve refugee and/or new immigrant populations
- 2. List the important considerations for addressing the top health concerns of Milwaukee's refugee and/or new immigrant populations
- List which local services medical, behavioral health, social workers, etc. provide refugee and/or new immigrant populations



## Continuing Education



#### **Continuing Education Credit Information:**

#### For counselors:

Mount Mary University and The Medical College of Wisconsin are cosponsors of this program. This co-sponsorship has been approved by NBCC. Mount Mary University is an NBCC Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 4529. The ACEP is solely responsible for this program, including the awarding of NBCC credit. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. Participants receive 13.5 clock hours for completion of the training.

An "\*" indicates when a session is not available for NBCC clock hours.

#### For social work & case managers:

Case managers and social workers will receive a certificate of attendance with 13.50 clock hours identified commensurate with their attendance.

#### For physicians, pharmacists, nurses, psychiatrists:

**ACCME Accreditation Statement:** The Medical College of Wisconsin is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**AMA Credit Designation Statement:** The Medical College of Wisconsin designates this Live Activity for a maximum of 16 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)* ™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Hours of Participation for Allied Health Care Professionals:** The Medical College of Wisconsin designates this activity for up to 16 hours of participation for continuing education for allied health professionals.

#### For psychologists:

The Medical College of Wisconsin is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Medical College of Wisconsin maintains responsibility for this program and its content. This activity contains content or processes that may be potentially stressful.



Wi-Fi Access: Username: wifiguest Password: community

#### Conference Tracks:

I.	Social Service	II. Medical, Nursing	III. Mental Health	IV. Education
	Providers [SS]	Professionals [Med]	Professionals [MH]	Professionals [Edu]

#### **Conference Planning Representation:**

- Concordia University [Physician Assistant Program]
- Children's Hospital of Wisconsin [International Adoption Clinic]
- Froedtert Hospital [Global Health Nursing Committee]
- Kingdom Workers Lutheran Health Alliance
- Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan
- Medical College of Wisconsin [Office of Global Health, Global Health Pathway, Department of Family and Community Medicine]
- Mount Mary University [Counseling Department]
- Sebastian Family Psychology Practice, LLC
- State of Wisconsin, Department of Health Services, Refugee Health Services
- Ugandan Behavioral Health Consortium



## Keynote Speakers





### Barbara J. Day

Barbara Day is the Domestic Resettlement Section Chief in the Office of Admissions, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration at the U.S. Department of State. She plans and manages the Bureau's program for initial reception and placement of refugees admitted to the United States and oversees the Cultural Orientation Technical Assistance program. Before joining PRM, Barbara was Vice-President for Resettlement at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service for five years. Prior to that, she served 13 years as Director of Refugee and Immigration Programs at Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota, five years in various other refugee resettlement positions, and five years teaching in Hong Kong and the Republic of Palau. Barbara has been an English-as-a-Second Language teacher and program manager, Matching Grant Program coordinator, job developer, sponsorship developer, volunteer program coordinator, accredited immigration legal services counselor, and consultant to local, state, and national refugee programs. She created and implemented the first immigration legal services program and fee-for-service interpreter service in her home state of South Dakota, and was a founding member of her local and state volunteer literacy programs. She has served as advisor to several refugee mutual assistance associations.



### Commissioner Edward Ehlinger, MD, MSPH

Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton appointed Dr. Ehlinger, to serve as Minnesota Commissioner of Health in January 2011. On October 1, 2015 he was appointed as President of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. He is responsible for directing the work of the Minnesota Department of Health. The Minnesota Department of Health is the state's lead public health agency, responsible for protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans. The department has approximately 1,400 employees in the Twin Cities area and seven offices in Greater Minnesota. Prior to being appointed commissioner, he served as director and chief health officer for Boynton Health Service at the University of Minnesota. He has also served as an adjunct professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the U of M School of Public Health. From 1980 to 1995, Ehlinger served as director of Personal Health Services for the Minneapolis Health Department. He completed his bachelors of arts at UW-Madison, a masters of public health at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and a medical degree from the University of Wisconsin.



#### **Kevin Moore**

Kevin Moore was appointed by Governor Scott Walker to serve as Wisconsin's Medicaid Director and Administrator of the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability in the Department of Health Services on February 9, 2015. The Division administers Wisconsin's Medicaid program and provides health care assistance to more than 1.2 million medically needy and low-income individuals and families. In addition, the Division administers Wisconsin's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, FoodShare, conducts disability determinations for the federal Social Security Administration; operates Milwaukee Enrollment Services, the agency that determines eligibility and provides ongoing case management for Medicaid, BadgerCare Plusfor Milwaukee County. Moore previously served as DHS's Deputy Secretary for nearly two years where he was the chief operating officer and managed the day-to-day activities of the Department and assisted in development of overall policy objectives for the Department. Prior to his tenure as Deputy Secretary, he was appointed to Executive Assistant at DHS on January 3, 2011. Kevin has also held positions as Policy Director at the Office of the Governor Elect Scott Walker, Research Assistant and Budget Advisor for State Representative Kitty Rhoades in the Wisconsin Legislature, and Policy Director for Assembly Speaker Mike Huebsch. He served on several boards and committees throughout his career such as the Wisconsin Information Technology Executive Steering Committee, First Lady Walker's Fostering Futures Initiative, the Waste, Fraud and Abuse Elimination Taskforce, the State Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and the Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Board. Moore holds dual Bachelor of Science degrees in History and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Time	Discussants	Content	Program Description	Learning Objectives		
8:00- 8:30a	Registration - Alumni Center					
8:30- 8:45a	Dr. James D. Sanders Associate Professor Family and Community Medicine Medical College of Wisconsin  Dr. Sebastian Ssempijja Executive Director Sebastian Family Psychology Practice, LLC.	Opening remarks*	Welcome participants and provide a rationale for the conference	Provide the impetus and value of actively participating in the conference  Present the conference goal and objectives		
8:45- 9:30a	Ms. Barbara Day Domestic Resettlement Section Chief, Bureau of Populations, Refugees, and Migration, U.S. State Department	Keynote Address	Refugee Resettlement: From Principle to Practice	Describe the associated risk factors that are the (geo-political) underpinning for the causes of immigration  List the most prominent features of refugee and resettlement policy within the US		
9:30- 10:15a	Ms. Mary Flynn Program Manager Refugee Resettlement Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan, Inc.	Plenary	Refugee 101	Define what contributes to successful outcomes for individuals and their families in refugee communities in the US		
10:15- 11:30a	Dr. Fred Coleman Psychiatrist, Kajsiab House  Ms. Mette Brogden, State Refugee Coordinator Wisconsin Department of Children and Families	Panel	Partnering Across Sectors to Provide Refugee Resettlement	Conceptualize the essential mandate for government and private sector (local and regional) to support the resettlement process		
11:45a- 12:45p	Visit the Marketplace - Alumni Center Balcony  View photography Exhibition "Here, There, and Elsewhere: Refugee Families in Milwaukee" - MCW Library  The traveling exhibit is currently located in the MCW Library to provide a glimpse into the lives of refugee families in Milwaukee through a collection of 30 photographs shot by John Ruebartsch. Through his documentary photos and the words of the refugees themselves he and visual artist and ESL instructor Sally Kuzma have created intimate family portraits that provide a window into the daily lives of some of the newest - and least familiar - Americans. After fleeing civil war, political persecution, and ethnic strife in countries such as Burma, Somalia, and Laos, these newcomers are rebuilding their lives and cultures here as generations of immigrants did before. Their stories are becoming our stories.					

12:45-2:00p	Breakout Sessions					
	Track	Discussants	Program Description	Learning Objectives		
(Nerrigan	Med/ SS	Dr. James Sanders Ms. Mary Flynn	Interpreters, relationships  Patients, doctors, and interpreters bring	Identify cultural influences on communication between professionals and refugees		
Auditorium		Ms. Irmine Reitl Nurse, City of Milwaukee Health Department	personal norms, culture, and expectations to every contact that can influence quality and outcomes. Introduction to barriers, boundaries, and informed professional, case manager, and interpreter roles that support trusting relationships.	Develop an understanding of what is necessary for refugees to achieve healthy outcomes  Define cultural humility when working with refugees		
2 H1250	Edu/ MH	Mr. Alejandro Nuñez, Wisconsin Tech College System  Dr. Kalyani Rai, Associate Professor UWM School of Education	Classroom culture  Refugees come with a wide variety of educational experiences and are excited for the opportunity of an American education. Learn cultural differences in the expectations of teachers and parent involvement and how Refugee youth experiences affect classroom interaction.	Define US classroom culture for refugee students  Consider the importance of pre-immigration exposure to education for the refugee  Consider the refugee students' motivation and behavioral influences and the impact on positive education outcomes		
2:15-3:30p						
3 H1250	MH/ Med	Dr. Fred Coleman  Ms. MaiZong Vue, InterCultural Program Coordinator Wisconsin Department of Health Services	Understanding the expression of symptoms is critical to accurate diagnosis and assessment. Drawing from models developed during the Hmong refugee era, learn how identifying and understanding cultural expressions of pain, discomfort, depression, and illness can promote supportive treatment and interventions.	Define the cultural variants and symptom descriptions from the refugees perspective  Identify cultural variants and idioms of distress from the refugees experience  Recognize the place for cultural humility when deciphering proper diagnosis and symptom management for refugees		
4 Kerrigan Auditorium	Edu/ SS	Dr. Kalyani Rai, Associate Professor UWM School of Education Dr. Ben Rader, Psychologist Sebastian Family Services	Culture/attendance policies  Refugee students attend mainstream schools. Discussion of the cultural values, discipline, and expectations for both teachers and students that influence, impact, and challenge classrooms and schools.	Accommodate for the refugee students' experiences of US education expectations  Appreciate the impact of culture, race, and SES background of the refugee and immigrant population  Understanding of the concept of economic and social self-reliance as dependent on successful pathways through education		
3:30-4:00p Kerrigan Auditorium	Full group	Ms. Mette Brogden	Assembling the day's lessons Getting towards a shared standard of care. Wrap up the day to further inform our individual and collaborative work with refugee and immigrant populations	Review and conceptualize the content and discussions of the conference's first day		

Time	Discussants	Content	Program Description	Learning Objectives		
8:00- 8:30a	Registration - Alumni Center					
8:30- 8:45a	Dr. Syed M. Ahmed Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement Medical College of Wisconsin Dr. Jim Sanders	Opening remarks	Welcome participants from host institution leadership*	Provide the rationale for Medical College of Wisconsin hosting the conference		
8:45- 9:30a	Dr. Edward Ehlinger Minnesota Commissioner of Health	Keynote Address	Advancing Health Equity and Optimal Health for All	Describe a framework for advancing health equity and assuring optimal health for all  Outline a set of recommendations that are part of a "toolkit" for advancing health equity education		
9:30- 10:15a	Mr. Kevin Moore Wisconsin Medicaid Director Wisconsin Department of Health Services	Plenary	Wisconsin Medicaid/ Medicare, local implications of refugee health care services	Identify the local implications for refugee health care services from a Medicaid and Medicare perspective  Define the best outcomes in serving vulnerable and underserved populations		
10:15- 11:30a	Dr. Edward Ehlinger  Mr. Kevin Moore  Dr. Stephen Hargarten Professor and Chair Emergency Medicine	Panel	Building Healthy Communities of Refugees and Immigrants	Provide systems perspectives on needs for health refugee and immigrant communities  Forecast future needs to maintain health neighborhoods		
11:45a- 12:45p	Visit the Marketplace - Alumni Center Balcony  View photography Exhibition "Here, There, and Elsewhere: Refugee Families in Milwaukee" - MCW Library  The traveling exhibit is currently located in the MCW Library to provide a glimpse into the lives of refugee families in Milwaukee through a collection of 30 photographs shot by John Ruebartsch. Through his documentary photos and the words of the refugees themselves he and visual artist and ESL instructor Sally Kuzma have created intimate family portraits that provide a window into the daily lives of some of the newest - and least familiar - Americans. After fleeing civil war, political persecution, and ethnic strife in countries such as Burma, Somalia, and Laos, these newcomers are rebuilding their lives and cultures here as generations of immigrants did before. Their stories are becoming our stories.					

12:45-2:00p	Breakout Sessions						
	Track	Discussants	Prog	ram Description	Lea	rning Objectives	
, O	Med/ Ms. Marianne Joyce, Social Services Manager			Depression and chronic complaints of refugees Ide		entify factors that influence pre/post migration health and wellness for refugees	
Kerrigan Auditorium		Marjorie Kovler Center, Chicago	traun refug	gth-based and na-informed discussion of ees navigating multiple ms. Discuss methods to	OCC	cribe the wide range of trauma that urs when exposed to war, intentional ry, and conflict.	
		Dr. Tarif Bakdash Associate Professor Pediatrics Medical College of Wisconsin	deve refug relati	lop understanding with ees that build trust and onship. Learn what urces are in your	pos	cribe how this trauma informs t-resettlement physical and psychological ptoms	
	College of Wisconsin	community's on-going support, follow-up, follow-through, and successful outcomes for both lo		stre	ntify strategies that reduce risk factors and ngthen protective factors to increase y-term supportive systems to sustain -being		
2	Edu/ MH	Mr. James Sayavong Principal Milwaukee	Educational Role Models  On-going collaboration, development and success of			Discover ways to inform students, caregivers and community leaders' about US	
HRC Auditorium		Academy of Chinese Language			exp	expectations and meaning of student success	
	Ms. Zeynab Ali Refugee High School Student		refugee students and th		that	Develop an appreciation of the challenges hat refugees with professional credentials will ace as they enter the US workforce.	
		Mr. Omar Mohamed Refugee College Student		lassroom experience and ations for the future.	Und well polid	lerstand the role of psychological ness as refugees adapt to US workforce cies	
2:15-3:30p	2:15-3:30p						
HRC Auditorium	MH/ Med	Ms. Cingsuan Neam Community Health Worker, International Institute of Wisconsin  Ms. Ann Gallo Refugee Coordinator, Aurora Family Service  Ms. Irmine Reitl City of Milwaukee Health Department  Dr. Alyaa Bartti Community Health Worker, LSS		Interactive discussion between refugee Community Health Workers regarding symptoms and diagnoses in refugee populations. Learn tools for practice from the history of Milwaukee Public Health professionals while discussing the challenges a development of a new heal screening procedure in 201	s or and lth	Describe the meaning of adaptive functioning in a new culture  Explore the definition of and implications of medical /mental health disabilities and risk factors that affect self-sufficiency  Describe the significance of public health and safety expectations associated with the resettlement process	
4 Kerrigan Auditorium	Edu/ SS	Officer Felix and Office Klein, Milwaukee Police Department District 6  Ms. Katie Voge, Community Prosecution Advocate, Sojourner Family Peace Center		Bridging Culture and Services Promising stories of applied practice using models and methods developed in the community and schools by Social Workers, School Liaisons, and law enforcement. Learn tools to support integration of refugee students while		Explore collaborative partnerships promoting individual and public safety in the refugee community  Understand the necessity of networking collaborations from within the refugee's ethnic community  Learn about examples of successful partnerships and collaborations for refugees	
3:30-4:00p Kerrigan Auditorium	Full group	Dr. Jim Sanders Dr. Sebastian Ssempijja Ms. Mette Brogden	<b>a</b>	stabilizing home and community life.  Assembling the day's lessons. Getting towards a shared standard of care. Conference close, lessons learned, shared optimism to the future		Review and conceptualize the content and discussions of the conference's second day and our collective efforts going forward	

## "HERE, THERE, AND ELSEWHERE: REFUGEE FAMILIES IN MILWAUKEE"

After fleeing civil war, political persecution, and ethnic strife in countries such as Burma, Somalia, and Laos, these newcomers are rebuilding their lives and cultures here as generations of immigrants did before.

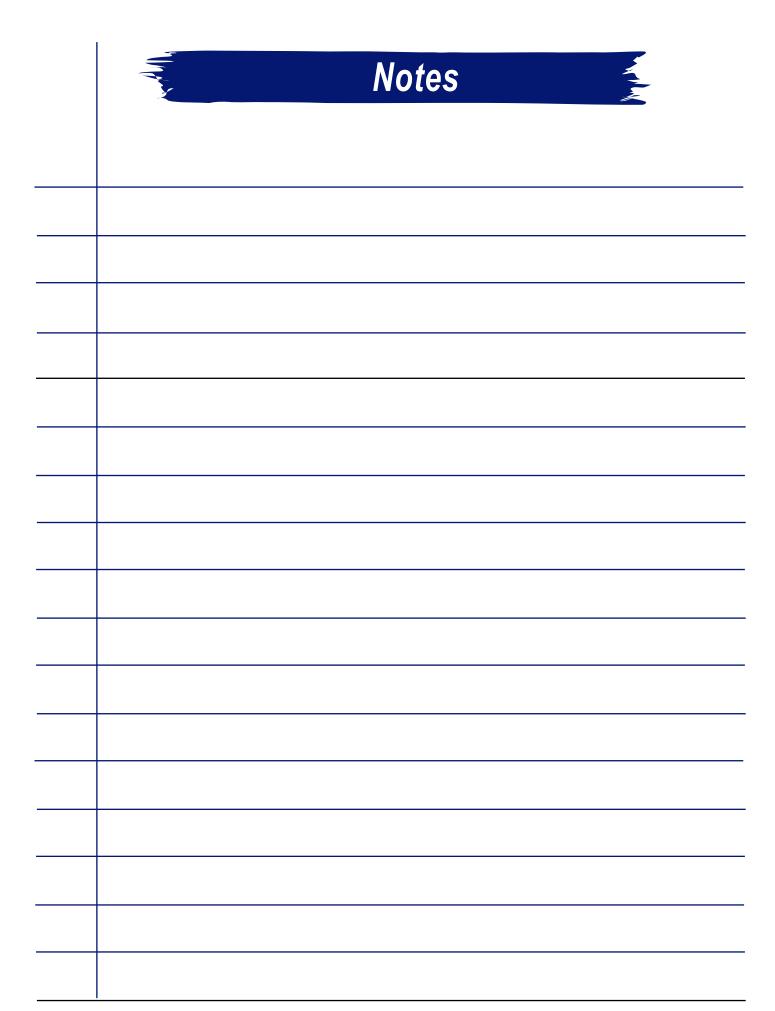


Their stories are becoming our stories.



A collection of 30 photographs shot by Milwaukee photographer John Ruebartsch in collaboration with visual artist and ESL instructor Sally Kuzma.

November 28 – December 16, 2015 MCW Todd Wehr Library



# Map of Conference Rooms



