

WVPBRN

Community Newsletter

West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network



SPRING 2023 EDITION

-WVPBRN CORE Survey
2023 Recipients

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Kimberly Becher, MD

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WVPBRN ANNUAL CORE SURVEY SELECTION

The Annual WVPBRN 2023 Collective Outreach and Research Engagement (CORE) Survey has officially been released for participation!

We are pleased to announce that the selections include Dannell Boatman, MS, EdD, West Virginia University (WVU) Cancer Institute, Courtney Pilkerton, MD, PhD, WVU Department of Family Medicine, and Lyn Yuen Choo, PharmD, WVU, Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry. Selected topics include evidence-based obesity treatment, reproductive healthcare, and chronic pain/substance use disorder management.



Participate Today!

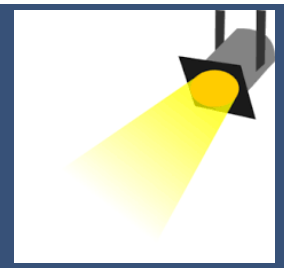
https://redcap.link/wvpbrn_core2023



We need your participation! The deadline to participate in this opportunity is Friday, April 21, 2023. Results will be shared with the Network after survey completion.

If you have any questions about the survey, contact Jen Lukas, jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

Member Spotlight



KIMBERLY BECHER, MD, FAAFP

Chief Medical Officer, Community Care of West Virginia, Inc.

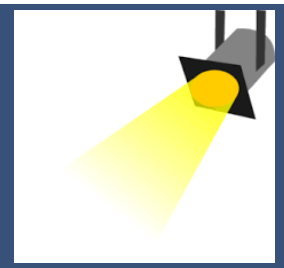
Dr. Kimberly Becher, serves as the Chief Medical Officer for Community Care of West Virginia (CCWV), Inc., which has offices in Braxton, Clay, Upshur, Lewis, Harrison, Randolph, and Pocahontas Counties.

Dr. Becher was raised in West Virginia, and graduated from Denison University with a bachelor's degree in Biology in Granville, Ohio. Before attending medical school, she spent time at the University of Cincinnati, conducting research efforts focused on the role of the APC tumor suppressor gene in breast and colon cancer. Kimberly went on to the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine (JCESOM), where she attained her medical degree. During her time at Marshall, she completed her residency in family medicine, and was also named a chief resident for the department. She is also a graduate of the Paul Wesley Ambrose Health Policy Fellowship at the JCESOM.

Becher has been instrumental in the development of health equity projects to address social determinants of health while affiliated with CCWV. She volunteers in various ways to reduce food insecurity in West Virginia, serves on the Clay Community and Senior Services board, and can often be found at Mountaineer Foodbank mobile pantries in Clay County.

Dr. Becher's initial involvement with the WVPBRN was via the COVID-19 Outpatient Thrombosis Prevention Trial with ACTIV-4. She is currently overseeing CCWV's involvement in heart failure project efforts, in conjunction with the Million Hearts® Initiative, the WVU School of Pharmacy, and WVU Medicine's Heart & Vascular Institute. She is a valuable member of the WVPBRN's Protocol Review Committee.

Member Spotlight



KIMBERLY BECHER, MD, FAAFP

Chief Medical Officer, Community Care of West Virginia, Inc.

cont.

Becher's devoted efforts have been formally recognized. She served on the American Academy of Family Physician's (AAFP) Governmental Advocacy Commission as a medical student. In 2013, she was elected to the AAFP's Board of Directors as a resident physician. Most notably in 2016, she received the Outstanding Rural Health Provider award, followed by the 2022 Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion award from the WV Rural Health Association. Also in 2022, she was recognized as the West Virginia Academy of Family Physicians Family Doctor of the Year. She is currently the Chief Medical Officer at CCWV and also serves as the health officer for the Braxton County Health Department.

Outside of work, Dr. Becher is a hockey fan who enjoys traveling with her husband and son.

Network Highlights

CORE Survey reflected in WV Senate Bill

In 2021, Dr. Bernard Schreurs and the West Virginia Alzheimer's Disease Registry team had questions accepted into the WVPBRN CORE Survey. They presented the information from responses during the WVPBRN Retreat in 2022, as well as facilitated a discussion of this information with the leadership of the West Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. CORE Survey respondents indicated that more information about training in cognitive assessment, social services, and long-term care was needed to improve overall cognitive care. Following these and other discussions with multiple stakeholders, the Alzheimer's Association sponsored WV Senate Bill 526 which was subsequently passed this year.

This bill states:

"The Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health, in partnership with the Bureau for Medical Services and the Alzheimer's Association, shall, in its existing public health programs and services, educate health care professionals on the importance of early detection and timely diagnosis of cognitive impairment and dementia, use of validated cognitive assessment tools in the delivery of the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit, provision of effective care planning and care management at all stages of dementia, and delivery of counseling and referral."

Network Highlights

Menstrual Cycle Education for Middle School Age Girls Project

A new project by students of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine is addressing reproductive health literacy among middle school-aged girls.

According to the 2018 West Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) report, West Virginia ranks highest in the nation in poor physical and mental health and limitations in activity due to poor physical and mental health. In 2016, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) released a committee statement that, because women are at the greatest risk for poor health literacy, more needed to be done to ensure women had an understanding of basic reproductive health topics to maximize good health outcomes. There is a lack of research on where the education gap begins for women on reproductive health.

The project decided to target 5th-7th grade females due to this being when menstruation begins and questions arise about their reproductive health. This endeavor planned to identify areas of low reproductive health literacy in young females and design an educational presentation on areas of reproductive health found to be at lower literacy levels.

The project's main activity was presented to 5th-7th grade aged females to increase reproductive health literacy beginning with Greenbrier County and potentially expanding through the state of WV.

Open Project Opportunities

The State Opioid Response: Project Opportunity

The WVU Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry has state opioid-response grants to help clinical sites to start, implement, or enhance their medication-assisted treatment (MAT) programs around WV. Each site receives funding for the first year to support the MAT program needs (which typically differs somewhat per site). At the completion of the first year, the project team still continues regular connection and communication to help troubleshoot program needs moving forward. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jen Lukas jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

Dental project on Medicaid changes

An interdisciplinary team of WVU investigators was awarded funding from the CareQuest Foundation for Year 1 of a proposed 5-year research study to conduct a comprehensive review of the Adult Dental Medicaid program's implementation and impact in West Virginia. This multi-year project will assess the true need and unmet demand for services. It will characterize individuals and providers utilizing the benefit and evaluate the program's impact on emergency room visits by Medicaid recipients. For information, contact Jen Lukas jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

Last Call to Register

Registration for the 10th Annual WVPBRN Retreat will be closing soon! The final day to register is Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

For questions on the retreat registration and event, contact the WVPBRN Operations Manager, Jen Lukas, at jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

May 11-12, 2023

Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV

10TH ANNUAL WVPBRN RETREAT

Register Here:

<https://redcap.link/wvpbrnretreat2023>

Deadline extended: April 4, 2023.

For any questions or concerns,
please contact Jen Lukas at
jg0138@hsc.wvu.edu.

West Virginia Practice-Based
Research Network

Announcements

Upcoming Design Studio Sessions:

April 14, 2023

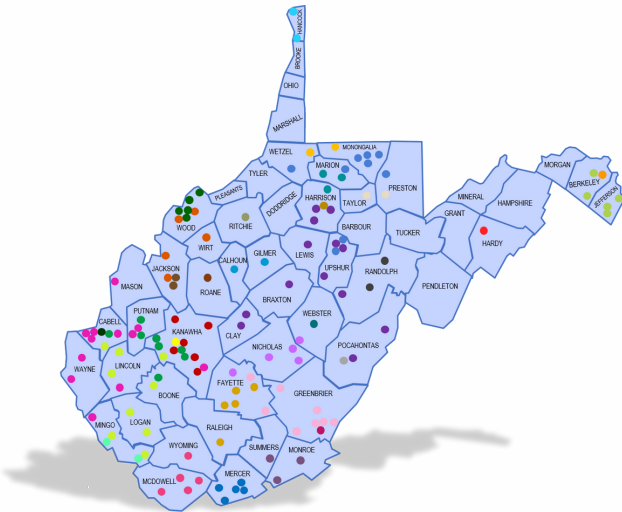
June 9, 2023

These sessions are from 12-1p.m. via Zoom.

WVPBRN Annual Retreat: May 11-12, 2023 at
Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV

WVCTSI Annual Meeting: May 24-25, 2023 at the
Morgantown Marriott.

<https://www.wvctsi.org/about-us/2023-wvctsi-annual-meeting/>



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