

# Pediatric Dentistry News 2018



*Gerald Ferretti,  
DDS, MS, MPH*

## From the Chairman

I am delighted to update you on the most recent advancements within the pediatric dentistry department at the School of Dental Medicine. As you may be aware, the designs are set for a new facility site at Rainbow Women and Children's Center,

located at 57th and Euclid, scheduled to open later this year. The new facility will offer preventative dental services for at-risk children and pregnant young women. The new clinic will also offer interdisciplinary education and training opportunities for the other health disciplines located in the center. The coming Health Education Campus opening in 2019 will take on more complex cases.

Our residency program is growing in demand. This year we have seven incoming residents. We are grateful to have about 13,000 outpatient cases per year, which has grown immensely since 2005. Patient care is still ongoing five days a week in the Dental Clinic, Ronald McDonald Care Mobile Unit (RMCM) and inpatient homes care (special cases). We provide care for families in all 17 Northeast Ohio (NEO) counties.

The lack of access to oral healthcare in NEO has been a major concern. The RMCM helps bridge the gap for patients we see through the Head Start program. It allows us to gain access to those who do not see a regular dentist. The home-based Head Start program is intended for children with disabilities or language barriers that prevent them from enrolling in Head Start's traditional program. The team is composed of Cheriese Quigley, Beth Anne DeValve, and a rotation of some pediatric first- and second-year residents. The team provides exams, cleanings, and fluoride to over 500 families throughout Cuyahoga, Lorain, Medina, Stark, and Wayne counties. The program continues to grow and develop within many neighborhoods each year.

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## From the Dean Kenneth Chance, DDS '79

I extend greetings to the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. First, I would like to report on the progress of our move to the Health Education Campus (HEC). We are still preparing the logistics, financial support and fine-tuning of the overall operation. Presently, we are on schedule for the opening of the dental clinic and ahead of schedule for the HEC. Both facilities will be completed by May of 2019. I am excited to report the project is under budget as well. We have a great team behind us and we look forward to an exceptional result.

The CWRU School of Dental Medicine recognizes the Department of Pediatric Dentistry for your outstanding dedication and service in the activities at our school including Professionals Day, where you provide significant research presentations by your residents and the Give Kids a Smile Day program, where you serve the children of our community. Please continue these efforts because they encourage all of our departments to follow suit. Thank you.

*dean-sodm@case.edu*



# Meet the Incoming Residents



## **Lyanna Barnechet, DMD**

Dr. Lyanna Barnechet comes from a beautiful island in the Caribbean, Puerto Rico. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus in Biology. Afterwards, she attended the University of Puerto Rico Medical Science Campus for her DMD degree. After Hurricane Maria hit her island, she volunteered in various communities where there was no electricity to help them get food and water. Dr. Barnechet decided to pursue the CWRU School of Dental Medicine pediatric dentistry residency program because she believes this program will allow her to expand her knowledge of pediatric dentistry in a hospital-based program and work with special needs patients.



## **Courtney Marie Goler, DDS**

Dr. Courtney Goler graduated from the University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2017. After graduating, she started the AEGD residency through NYU Langone Medical Center, at the Shingle Springs Health and Wellness Location in Placerville, CA. She loves treating the large population of children in the clinic, which led her to apply for a pediatric residency. Dr. Goler grew up in Arizona and is looking forward to experiencing the four seasons of Ohio with her husband and dog, Starbuck. She is super excited for the next two years of incredible learning experiences at CWRU School of Dental Medicine. She felt very welcome at her interview and knew she had found her future home in the program.



## **Jeniffer Pereda, DMD**

Dr. Jennifer Pereda is originally from Miami, FL. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Florida and pursued her dental degree at Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry. While in dental school she served as treasurer for the Hispanic Student Dental Association. After working in a pediatric practice, Dr. Pereda decided to pursue a specialty in pediatric dentistry at CWRU School of Dental Medicine. She believes she will gain more knowledge and experience to assist her in working well with compromised children so she can help give them the healthy smiles they deserve.



## **James Rosen, DMD**

Dr. James Rosen is originally from Pittsburgh, PA. He will be the third pediatric dentist in his family (his father and sister are already pediatric dentists). He earned his undergraduate and dental degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. He will be completing a pediatric dentistry internship at The Ohio State University, where he provided dental care to children and taught dental students in under-served areas around Columbus. He chose CWRU School of Dental Medicine pediatric dentistry residency program due to the program's great reputation and for how strong it is both clinically and didactically. In his free time, Dr. Rosen likes to go skiing, play tennis, and watch the Pittsburgh Penguins and Steelers.



## **Kritika Thomas, DDS**

Dr. Kritika Thomas grew up in Vero Beach, FL. She obtained her Associate of Arts Degree in 2009 from Indian River State College, Bachelors of Science in 2011 from University of Florida, and Doctor of Dental Surgery in 2015 from University of Missouri-Kansas City. She chose CWRU School of Dental Medicine pediatric dentistry residency program because it is the doorway to her dream of becoming a pediatric dentist. She loves working with children and parents to help restore and maintain beautiful teeth from adolescence up until adulthood. She believes CWRU provides a fun-loving environment with a great team that all have the same focus of providing top notch care to the most vulnerable of society, the children.



**Maya Thompson, DMD, MPH**

Dr. Maya Thompson, a native of Trenton, NJ, received her BS in Chemical Engineering from Villanova University. After graduation, she embarked on her first career opportunity with an oil company and worked in the industry for six years. It was her desire to work in a profession that had an impact on people that led her to dentistry and she will be earning her DMD and MPH from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2018. "When deciding to pursue pediatric dentistry, I knew that I wanted to join a program that had a strong history of producing confident pediatric dentists as well as having a high commitment to public health. CWRU has demonstrated this commitment," she says. Maya enjoys spending time with family, traveling, trying new foods, and cheering on Philadelphia and Villanova sports teams.



**Ayanna Williams, DDS, MHS**

Dr. Williams is a recent graduate from The Ohio State University (OSU) College of Dentistry. She is a native of Chicago, IL, with a degree in Cell and Structural Biology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Williams is excited that CWRU School of Dental Medicine pediatric dentistry residency program will expose her to a large, diverse urban patient population so that she can provide preventative and therapeutic care to medically complex, underserved and special needs patients.

*From the Chairman continued*

We are excited for the forthcoming expansion in our department programs and community outreach. Our faculty, staff, and residents have been essential in ensuring our success. We are grateful for their contribution and participation in treatment and programs that give greater access to the community.

Please consider making a donation to support the pediatric dentistry department. Alumni donations have a direct impact on our residents and the community we serve.

*gerald.ferretti@case.edu*

**UPCOMING EVENT**

**Saturday May 26, 2018**

**Department Reception during the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Annual Session**

Hilton Hawaiian Village

Kahlil 2 Room

2005 Kalia Road

Honolulu, HI

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Come mingle with alumni, friends and faculty.

## Alumni Profile

# Kari A. Cunningham, '12



The lack of dental intervention sparked Dr. Kari Cunningham's initial interest in dentistry. With a thumb sucking habit and a sizeable gap between her front teeth, she made an effort to quit sucking her thumb in the 5th grade and saw the positive effects in her 6th grade class

photo. Her new smile and enhanced self-esteem made her want to explore dentistry and help others achieve a higher level of confidence through their smile.

Dr. Cunningham shared her interest with her father and learned that he was an on-the-job-trained dental assistant in the US Air Force in the 1970s. As he shared his experiences with her, she was encouraged to pursue dentistry and become a doctor. Through the years, her family and friends have encouraged her to strive for excellence and make a difference in her personal and professional life. Her trust and faith in God reaffirms that she is heading down the path He has intended for her.

She remembers her father advising her to put herself in a position to make change. As a dental student, Dr. Cunningham wasted no time getting involved. From assisting in the recruitment of underrepresented minority students to helping train faculty in the problem-based learning style of the R.E.A.L. Curriculum that started with the class of 2010, she had a chance to meet wonderful candidates and work alongside faculty on a new way to teach and learn. With the Healthy Smiles Sealant Program and student leadership in the American Student Dental Association, she was able to give back to the community and profession through advocacy, policy changes, and education.

During her training she enjoyed organizing, attending, and/or presenting at numerous local, state, and national meetings with the full support of the dental school's administration. Through

highlighting the School of Dental Medicine's curriculum, presenting her research projects, leadership training, and serving a 2-year term on the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, she served as an ambassador of this fine institution. These experiences instilled a level of appreciation, humility, confidence, and trust that she will never forget. For Dr. Cunningham, maintaining those relationships with colleagues from across the nation has been a hallmark of her journey thus far.

She is so honored to have mentored a host of high school, pre-dental students, dental students, and residents over the years. To help guide them, encourage them, and celebrate with them as they work to make their dreams come true is such an amazing feeling. She knows that her purpose in life includes sharing her gifts with others as a family member, clinician, educator, mentor, and friend. When her mentees receive scholarships, admissions to their schools/programs of choice, and when they graduate, that is when she feels most accomplished—when their dreams become reality.

At present, Dr. Cunningham is completing her National Health Service Corps service commitment in a community health center and is treating children in a corporate dental clinic on Cleveland's west side. This summer, she will be adding oral rehabilitation under general anesthesia to the services offered to help meet the needs of the children in the area. She is exploring increasing her time as a faculty member and providing some clinic oversight and instruction to residents within the new University Hospitals Women & Children's Clinic.

Dr. Cunningham has dreams of owning a practice. After nearly six years of dedicated service in a community health center, she longs to use the experiences she has had to help shape the foundation of a private practice she can call her own. Outside of dentistry, Dr. Cunningham enjoys being an aunt to her one-year-old niece. They have the best time going on adventures together and she looks forward to being a good role model for her. Additionally, Dr. Cunningham has a goal to travel to all 50 states by her 40th birthday. She has

26 states to go and is looking into a bus tour that will take her to South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, and Utah this summer.

Dr. Cunningham mentions her experience at CWRU School of Dental Medicine gave her the confidence to succeed as a clinician. Maintaining a faculty appointment and being active on the Alumni Association Board of Directors keeps her updated on the goings-on at the school and allows her to impact the future of dental education while preparing future colleagues for what lies ahead in the profession. Her past experiences in student leadership have encouraged her to return to organized dentistry as a leader and advocate. She was recently installed as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Greater Cleveland Dental Society. Being native to the Greater Cleveland area and having trained here, she had an understanding of the needs of the community and has avenues and resources available to pursue ways to address these issues and seek positive outcomes. She looks forward to what lies ahead for her, CWRU School of Dental Medicine, and the community—this is a great time to be involved.

## Newsletter Highlight

# Erin Glending, MHA

*Pediatric Dental Manager*

*University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital*



Erin Glending is a Cleveland native, but left the area years ago to move to Columbus to complete her undergraduate studies at The Ohio State University. She completed her graduate studies at Ohio University, focusing on strategic management and continuous quality improvement in healthcare. She recently relocated back to the Cleveland area after living in San Diego, CA since 2008.

Erin has worked in the dental field for 18 years, in both clinical and administrative management roles. Prior to joining the dental team at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, she consulted nationally for private practice dentists, specializing in strategic management and workflow process improvement.

Ms. Glending is the current Pediatric Dental Department Manager. She works closely with Dr. Ferretti on the day-to-day management of the Tapper Dental Center and its team. They are strongly focused on the overall strategic improvement of the Tapper Dental Center and the design of the upcoming dental department at the UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children.

One of the most exciting projects she and her team are working on now is the plan for the opening of the UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children! The Center is an access-based model that will help to better integrate preventive dental care, pediatric primary care, obstetrics, and social support services. The plan is to improve access and use of these important healthcare services within the community, with an overarching goal to improve the holistic health of Cleveland's families.

Ms. Glending has spent the last number of years coaching private-practice dentists on how to operate using a broader healthcare business model to increase efficiency and practice effectiveness. Now she has the opportunity to bring dental practice management theory and proven practices to hospital-based, academic dentistry. The services offered to patients are so important for their community and for the individual families she does work with every day. For her to be a part of an organization and team that truly does what cannot be done well anywhere else, for what may be the most fragile members of society, is such a personal reward!

# Congratulations to Our Graduating Residents



## **Ying An, DDS, PhD**

It has been an adventure for the past two years in the CWRU School of Dental Medicine pediatric dental residency program. Throughout the two-year training, she learned the true meaning of team work and time management. Dr. An was a new graduate from dental school and felt there was a steep learning curve at the beginning. Fortunately, she received a lot of help from faculty, staff, the beloved second year residents and her co-residents. She can't imagine a single day that she can survive without the strong support from them. When she became a second-year resident, she was placed in charge of organizing the department's inaugural pediatric symposium. This role gave her the opportunity to get to know a lot of well-known pediatric dentists nationwide. Her plan after graduation is to become a faculty member and also practicing in private practice. She may start her faculty career at CWRU School of Dental Medicine. So you might see her often around the school. Don't forget to say hi!



## **Todd Bernard, DMD**

Dr. Bernard is very grateful for the education and experience he received during his pediatric dental residency at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. It was difficult to leave Colorado and the comforts of private practice to return for more schooling, but certainly worth it. The best part of the experience was definitely the relationships forged in the fires of residency with his co-residents. These relationships will last a lifetime. After graduation, he will be joining a private practice on the west side of Cleveland.



## **Rachel Bresler, DMD**

Talk about going by fast! Two years ago, when Dr. Bresler found out she matched at CWRU School of Dental Medicine, she had no idea what she was in store for. As someone who had never really lived outside of the Philadelphia area, she was anxious about leaving her family and friends behind to begin this journey. Her love of Cleveland came quickly and her family started to get nervous that she might never return to the Philadelphia area. Her time at CWRU has been incredible—but as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. In July, she will return to Philadelphia and join her two older brothers (also pediatric dentists) in their family practice—Doc Bresler's Cavity Busters. She is looking forward to bringing the knowledge and experiences from CWRU back home. She is fortunate that she has gained lifelong friends in her co-residents, and forever mentors in her attendings. She is looking forward to continual phone calls to Dr. Ferretti for advice.



## **Cory A. Grathwol, DMD, MA**

After completing dental school in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Grathwol was ecstatic to come home to Ohio for his pediatric specialty training. Having grown up in Sandusky, Ohio and being so close to Cleveland, he knew how great of a hospital Rainbow Babies and Children's was. The last two years have flown by and he has thoroughly enjoyed his time in Cleveland. He has been able to spend time with his family and friends and has made lifelong friendships with his co-residents. He will miss Cleveland but he is excited for the future. His next step will be working in private practice in the Chicago suburbs.



## **Bambi Mpiana, DMD**

Cleveland has been home for Dr. Mpiana for the last six years and the thought of leaving soon saddens her. She had the opportunity to meet people from around the globe and made great friendships and professional relationships. She will miss all the wonderful people she has met and worked with. Dr. Mpiana is more than grateful for the rigorous training she received during these last two years at CWRU School of Dental Medicine and Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. It has been a privilege to learn from very knowledgeable instructors and professionals. This experience has prepared her for the next step of her career. After graduation, she will return to Southern California, where she plans to work as a pediatric dentist. She is excited to finally reunite with her husband and daughter. She is looking forward to the new adventure!

# Ronald McDonald Care Mobile: Our Mobile Clinic Brings Care to Kids Who May Not Regularly Visit a Dentist



Tooth decay is the most common chronic childhood disease in America. One in every five children aged 5 to 11 has at least one untreated decayed tooth. It's a problem that overwhelmingly affects kids from low income families, who are less likely to receive regular dental care. Tooth decay is painful and has far-reaching consequences for children's health and development. Children with tooth decay can have difficulty eating and be more susceptible to ear and sinus infections. They may be reluctant to speak or smile and suffer from low self-esteem. Tooth decay can also cause poor speech articulation, poor school performance, and attention difficulties. In fact, more than 51 million school hours are lost each year to dental-related illness in the U.S.

That's why University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital's Ronald McDonald Care Mobile travels to schools and Head Starts to provide dental care for nearly 4,000 children each year who don't have a regular dentist and are not getting routine checkups and cleanings. The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a 43-foot-long full dental clinic on wheels that provides on-site dental care to underserved children ages 3 to 12 throughout Northeast Ohio. With child-sized chairs and state-of-the-art equipment, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is staffed by pediatric dentists from the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine—along with dental assistants—who are experts in the unique needs of children.

Launched in 2010 with the generous support of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeastern Ohio and McDonald's Restaurants of Northeastern Ohio, Rainbow's

Care Mobile provides routine dental screenings and cleanings. In addition to preventive care, treatment options include filling cavities, extractions, pulp therapy and placing crowns. Children treated on the Care Mobile are sent home with a report that lets caregivers know what happened during the visit and explains any special follow-up care that might be needed.

Our Ronald McDonald Care Mobile travels to Ashland, Ashtabula, Carroll, Coshocton, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Harrison, Holmes, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties.

Because the Care Mobile's mission is to provide needed dental care for children without a regular dentist who would not otherwise receive this care, our focus is on providing care for kids from low income families. To qualify for a visit from Rainbow's Care Mobile, you must be:

- A day care center or preschool with a Head Start designation
- A school serving children aged 12 or younger in which 50 percent or more of students qualify for free or reduced cost lunch
- A social service agency that can demonstrate service to a socioeconomically disadvantaged population of children aged 4 to 12 at risk of health issues

UH Rainbow's Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a partnership with the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine.



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The Department of Pediatric Dentistry of  
Case Western Reserve University Presents:

## Pediatric Dental Alumni Symposium

an inaugural event

Friday, June 15 - Saturday, June 16, 2018

Cost: \$550 Per Person  
(\$275 for 1-day only)

InterContinental Hotel Cleveland  
Bank of America Amphitheater  
9801 Carnegie Avenue  
Cleveland, OH

Breakfast, Lunch and Social Reception  
12 Hours of Continuing Education Credit Available



Friday, June 15th  
11:30am-12:30pm

Theodore Croll, DDS

"A New 172 Year-  
Old Method for  
Attenuating Dental  
Caries Infections:  
Silver Diammine  
Fluoride"



Friday, June 15th  
2-4pm

Jed Best, DDS, MS

"Fact and Fiction, Clinical  
Decisions - Modern  
Technology & Methods  
Pediatric Dentists Should  
Know More About!"



Saturday, June 16th  
8am-12:30pm

David Rothman, DDS

"It Can't Happen Here!  
Medical and Sedation  
Emergencies in  
Children"



Saturday, June 16th  
2-4pm

Scott Goodman, DDS, MS

"Smart Business, Smart  
Decisions - Types of  
Private Practice and  
Managing Business"

### Keynote Speaker:

Martha Ann Keels, DDS, PhD

Friday, June 15th  
8-11am

"Owning the Eruption Table;  
Hot Burps, Sour Candies and Dental Hot Mess"



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