

## Residency Corner: CHLA Pediatric Residents Build an Anti-Racism Culture

By Alyssa Morse, MD and Alexa Manriquez, MD

Over the past two months, the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) residents have been very active in building a stronger culture of anti-racism, both within our program and the hospital as a whole. The residency Diversity & Inclusion committee took the lead on hosting the hospital’s first listening session in early June, in response to the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, among many others. It was well attended by both trainees and faculty. From this session, a new institution-wide entity called the Racial Equity Task Force was formed. This multi-disciplinary task force includes nurses, social workers, physicians, and others and has already become one of the groups central to informing and advising our hospital leadership. The task force has implemented changes to hospital policy including the anonymous reporting of microaggressions and other incidences of racism and sexism and a review of security protocols. In addition, resident Dr. Alexa Manriquez, in partnership with Dr. Bruke Tedla and Dr. Brigitte Huertas-Arias, has spearheaded a new pipeline mentorship program at CHLA called the Diversity and Inclusion Mentoring Program (DIMP). This program will pair residents and attendings with students under-represented in medicine (URM) pursuing careers in medicine. Resident Dr. Alyssa Morse has also been active in resident education and helped spearhead a Gun Violence Awareness Week that took place in early June. This effort was in line with the American Academy of Pediatrics, Section on Pediatric Trainees’ 2019-2020 Advocacy Campaign. The residents hosted a noon conference on gun safety with the help of former AAP President, Dr. Colleen Kraft, and led a case-based discussion about racism and gun violence. Drs. Manriquez and Morse look forward to continuing to push for changes in pursuit of racial equity in their residency program and beyond.



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