



Fall 2015, Issue 2

2014 – 2015 KCFAC Members

Kanisha Dolsingh
Annie Nugent
Jen Small
April Hardwick
Brian LaRose
Christine Astondoa
Colleen Alderson
Courtney Nataraj
Elizabeth Scheel
Geidy Perez-Storch
Jessica Fernald
Judy Welage
Karen McAnanama
Kathleen Cain
Kevin Ryan Young
Kimberly LaRose
Kristina Herman
Leigh Schwartzreich
Leslie Heaney
Lydia Schinasi
Maanavi Chendanda
Mandana Vetto
Margot McGinness
Melinda Wasserman
Melissa Gurfein
Oliver Storch
Patricia Lenkov
Peilin Chou
Rebecca Lawton-
Flatters
Ronni Miller
Samareen Shami
Scott Chesky
Shilpa Kanani
Stephen Wright
Walt Gramley

2014 - 2015 Executive Committee

Kanisha Dolsingh
Annie Nugent
Jen Small
Courtney Nataraj
Dr. Nena Osorio
Joan Halpern

How it all started

In 2006, the New York-Presbyterian Hospital Phyllis and David Komansky Center for Children's Health began to integrate a family-centered approach to healthcare within the Department of Pediatrics.

Family-centered care

Family-centered care acknowledges that the family is a child's primary source of strength and support. It recognizes and respects that the perspectives and information provided by the families of pediatric patients are of paramount importance in clinical decision making.

Who we are

The Komansky Center Family Advisory Council (KCFAC) was established in 2007 as a means of facilitating collaboration between families of patients and hospital staff. The KCFAC provides a forum whereby the two work together in equal partnership to explore and implement new and innovative ways of promoting patient and family-centered care.

Where we stand

We are proud to report that in our eight years, the KCFAC has grown from its initial five founding members to a vibrant and thriving group of 35 committed and dedicated individuals. We have made significant progress and have realized exponential growth in many areas throughout the hospital. Our vision remains unwavering:

The KCFAC seeks to achieve and maintain a level of care in which patient and family involvement is expected and welcomed by all.

Since its inception, the KCFAC has evolved in structure. Today, we focus on two principal areas:

Support Group –

During the often difficult and stressful time of a child's stay, our members help guide and offer emotional support to families. We provide much welcomed teas, lunches and dinners as well as host special holiday events to bring some cheer to patients and loved ones. The support group is vital in keeping us abreast of the needs of our patients and families and in identifying areas in which the hospital may further improve and develop.

Advisors –

Our role is to ensure that the communication and feedback received from families directly impacts and influences positive change in the hospital's policies, programs and practices. We have made huge strides in our Family Faculty group – most notably in the curriculum development and training of our onsite Cornell medical students. The feedback we have received from medical students, nurses and residents alike is that the perspective of the KCFAC is invaluable in helping them to truly understand the impact of patient and family-centered care.

The Annual Report provides an overview of the achievements of which we are most proud. We would like to thank all of our wonderful members, our dedicated hospital staff and our supportive leadership for working together to realize and sustain our vision.

With much gratitude,

Kanisha Dolsingh & Annie Nugent

**Chairs - Komansky Center Family Advisory Council
New York-Presbyterian Hospital / Weill Cornell Medical Center**

Staff Members

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Nena Osorio

Medical Students Education

Dr. Thanakorn Jirasevijinda

Residents Education

Dr. Jen DiPace

Nursing Education

Monique Zayas

Director of Nursing

Joan Halpern

Neonatal Intensive Care (NICU)

Rae-Jean Hemway, Patient Care Director

Pediatric Intensive Care (PICU)

Larissa Elgin, Patient Care Director

General Pediatrics (6N)

Felicia Alleyne, Patient Care Director

Burn Unit (8S)

Nicole Leahy, Trauma Program Manager

Patient Centered Care Department

Emily Marcelli,
Andrew Deraney

Social Work

Heather Bencivenga, Manager
Talia Grossman

Child-Life Services

Sharon Granville, Manager
Sophia Hornick

Nursing

Brittany Sobin, Clinical Manager (PICU)
Claudette Theuriere, Clinical Manager (NICU)
Vivian Lopez, Nurse

Volunteer Department

Laura White, Manager
Elaine Ohlson

A look back at the achievements of the KCFAC in 2014 – 2015

- Welcomed 11 new members to the KCFAC team.
- Hosted over 60 events throughout the year to provide support to the families of our patients. These included:
 - 24 Teas
 - 24 Lunches
 - 10 Dinners
 - 12 Wacky Wednesdays (new initiative introduced in January 2015)
 - Halloween
 - Thanksgiving
 - Winter Holidays
 - Valentine's Day
 - Mother's Day
 - Father's Day
- Assisted in the "Light Up A Life" annual Halloween event and the Komansky Prom.
- Further developed and expanded our training of residents, medical students and nurses in the principles of family-centered care as follows:
 - Designed case studies and commenced with the training of nurses in the Burn Unit.
 - Enhanced the curriculum utilized to train medical students.
 - Augmented the case studies employed in the instruction of residents.
 - Engaged and trained additional KCFAC members to join the Family Faculty team.
- Attended the Institute for Patient and Family Centered Care conference in Boston, MA.
- Presented at Pediatric Grand Rounds at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center.
- Built strong relationships with both corporate as well as hospital committees which provide sponsorship to the KCFAC.
- Received recognition for the 2nd consecutive year at the "Celebrating Excellence" event.
- Increased our visibility by participating in a number of committees and engaging with various units within Pediatrics.

The collaboration of input by hospital staff, the KCFAC and our patients culminated in this wonderful work of art commissioned for the newly renovated Hematology / Oncology Center.

"It helped keep stress away, helped keep your mind off things. We appreciate the help and everything this hospital has done for our families and kids!"

Testimonial from a family member

KCFAC Committee Representation

Quality Council
HCAHPS
Bereavement
Burn Unit
ER PCC
PCC Steering Council
OB Experience
Patient and Family Experience
PCC Leadership Forum
PCC Care Champions
PCC Leadership Cabinet
Impact/ Discharge Bundle
Ambulatory Care Building
6 Central Planning

Wacky Wednesdays!



The KCFAC, Pediatric Support Committee (PSC), and Children's Advisory Council (CAC) launched Wacky Wednesdays.

Performers come to the hospital to entertain our patients and help put smiles on their faces.



ALL NICU PARENTS ARE INVITED TO A
PARENT LUNCH
Come join us for Food and Conversation

When: Thursday, June 18, 2015
Time: 12:30pm - 1:30pm
Location: 6W Conference Room

FORMER NICU PARENTS WILL JOIN US AS SPECIAL GUESTS

Our KCFAC members provide support to the families of our patients during lunches, dinners and teas!

ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED TO A
Tea Hour
COME JOIN US TO CONVERSE AND FOR SOME COFFEE AND TEA

When: Friday, June 5, 2015
Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Location: 6N Family Lounge

THE KCFAC SUPPORTING FAMILIES



March of Dimes Event!



The KCFAC assisted March of Dimes in providing support and pampering NICU moms with gifts and manicures.

Holiday Celebrations!



Thank you to all of our sponsors for the many wonderful donations throughout the year.

Our NICU babies celebrating Halloween!!

The KCFAC enjoyed the Child-Life Halloween event "Reverse Trick-Or-Treating" which is held annually for our Pediatric patients.



Mother's Day Celebration!



Our Facebook fan base is growing!



Thanksgiving!

The KCFAC is proud to participate in the annual Thanksgiving tradition with Child-Life Services. The delicious feast is kindly donated by James Strong & Mitchell Silverman.

Valentine's Day Celebration!



Father's Day Celebration!





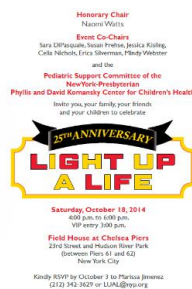
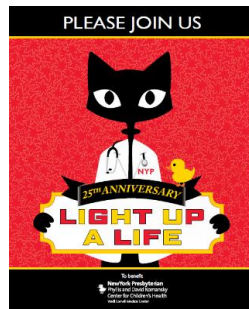
Celebrating 8 years of Excellence!



End of the Year Celebration Event

Dr. Gerald Laughlin (Pediatrician-in-Chief), Dr. Nena Osorio (Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics), Courtney Nataraj (Support Group Leader), Annie Nugent (Chair), Kanisha Dolsingh (Chair), Jen Small (Honorary Chair), Mariela Guerra (Family Advisor)

Thank you to the Pediatric Support Committee (PSC) and Children's Advisory Council (CAC) for continuing to make all of this possible!



The goal of the Komansky Center Family Faculty Program is to promote a family-centered care approach to healthcare. This is achieved by fostering the collaboration of hospital staff, patients and families. KCFAC members participate in the following:

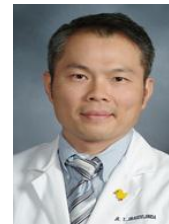
Residents Training

Dr. Jen DiPace (Director - Pediatric Graduate Medical Education)



Medical Students Training

Dr. Thanakorn Jirasevijinda (Associate Professor of Pediatrics)



Nursing Orientations

Monique Zayas (Pediatric Nurse Educator)



Goals for 2015-2016

- Advance the Family Faculty Training Program to maximize our utility and impact
- Establish a Parent-to-Parent Support Network
- Expand the KCFAC presence to include additional units within the Department of Pediatrics
- Increase our visibility on committees and hospital management forums
- Focus on leveraging the insight and expertise of our new members to facilitate invaluable and innovative KCFAC initiatives

To apply or for more information, please visit

http://www.nyp.org/komansky/families_visitors/family_advisory_council.html