

November 4th, 2022

Once they graduate, our trainees become ambassadors for the Children's. They take the professional identity they developed here out into the world, enhancing patient care and academic medicine wherever they go, and showing future trainees what is possible if they choose to train with us. When one of our former trainees is recognized with a national award it is good for all of us.

On Oct. 29, 2022, **Dr. David D'Arienzo** was awarded the **Kristin Sivertz Resident Leadership Award by the International Conference on Residency Education (ICRE)**. This award is given annually to a maximum of two residents across the country who have demonstrated leadership in Canadian specialty education and encouraged the development of future leaders in medicine.

David completed our General Pediatrics Residency training program in June 2022 and is currently pursuing a Master's in Health Outcomes and Evaluation at the University of Toronto and an Academic General Pediatrics Fellowship at SickKids. He is a natural leader who greatly contributed to resident life at the MCH. Many fellow residents benefited from his informal coaching as well as from formal programs he developed. For example, David created an innovative bootcamp to help second- and third-year residents transition into senior roles.

What really set David apart was his work in co-founding (together with Dr. Geoff Dougherty) the school-based Heart and Hands Pediatric Clinic in Verdun, a neighbourhood largely populated by families with limited resources. This clinic, now in its third year of operation, is the first resident-led school-based clinic in Canada. David took the lead on all aspects of the development of this clinic. To have managed the necessary coordination between school authorities, the residency program, and funding bodies while still in training is an impressive accomplishment. Not only do McGill residents work and train at Heart and Hands, but McGill students in social work, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, nutrition, and nursing now can also train there.

While in town to receive his award, David – in characteristic fashion – pitched in to help with yet another clinical coverage crisis. Simultaneous sick calls from two residents left a hole in the schedule. David's temporary privileges were already in process but were accelerated to allow him to help. We are extremely fortunate that he is willing and able to help us out with clinical coverage for the next few months; expect to see him around. And when you do, don't forget to remind him that we are all hoping to welcome him back when he completes his training in Toronto.

David is an outstanding role model for residents and faculty alike. Please join me in thanking him for his ongoing support of the MCH and in congratulating him on this well-deserved award.

Have a great weekend!

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