It seems like a lot of focus in the media as of late is on the future of healthcare. While we’re not sure what we will see in the next several years and beyond, it seems increasingly apparent that when we graduate, we will be working in interdisciplinary teams made up of individuals from many different fields of study. Although MEDiC was started by a physician and involves a large number of medical student volunteers, today our organization is fortunate enough to involve students from many different fields of study. Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, and Physical Therapy students currently all help to treat patients at our clinics.

One of the great things about involving students from so many disciplines is that all of the programs have different curricula, which means that at any point in time, volunteers are at different points in their clinical training. Each student brings his or her own unique strengths to clinic, allowing us to complement one another. In this issue, we have chosen to feature some of our council members who are not medical students: representatives from Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, and Nursing programs. We hope that through our time together on MEDiC Council and in MEDiC clinics, we will learn to improve communication and working relationships that will allow us to successfully collaborate in our futures health professional careers.

**Turkey Bowl**
BY: ALLISON AUL, PR COORDINATOR

This fall, our fundraising committee continued a winning tradition with the third annual MEDiC Turkey Bowl. On Monday, November 5th, 2012, MEDiC and Allies for United Health (AUH) hosted this event at the University Bay Field. A record 112 students and eight flag football teams participated in the event. Donations from local sponsors, including Bagels Forever, Meriter, UW Health, Madison Sports and Social Club, Movin’ Shoes, Ian’s Pizza, and Copps both to offset the costs of field reservations and to encourage student attendance through gift certificates and small prizes.

Almost all teams featured students from multiple different schools within UW, with this year’s winner, “Too Much Fillingame” (named after a well-beloved first-year medical school professor) including representation from both medical and physical therapy students.

For more pictures from the event, please see page 5.
Brian Buss is the current Drug and Supply coordinator for South Side and Safe Haven Clinics. He and other D&S coordinators keep the medication cabinet stocked while balancing costs of keeping medications on site with their efficacy and likelihood of use. “sort of like working with an extremely small pharmacy and therapeutics committee that has a very limited medication formulary.” He has a degree in Philosophy with minors in English and Chemistry.

Brian’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary teams:

In pharmacy school we spend an extraordinary amount of time discussing medications and disease states, but so far in our curriculum opportunities to use this knowledge with other providers has been lacking. Medic provides an opportunity to use some of this information when working with clinic coordinators to determine what medications should be stocked in a cabinet based upon the likely diseases that patients may have when presenting to a clinic, and what medications are effective in treating or managing these conditions.

It’s been fun working with coordinators who care not only about the efficiency of their clinics but the well-being of the patients as well. My ambition as a pharmacist is not to sit in the basement counting pills, but hopefully interact with other professionals to improve the quality of care for patients while helping to control costs so that some day quality healthcare can be provided for everyone who needs it.

Karrie Radovich is the current Pharmacy Student Scheduler, so she recruits pharmacy students to join MEDiC, schedules students for clinic, helps organize and execute Trick-or-Treat for OTCs, and serves as the MEDiC Liaison for WSPS. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Biology from UW-Madison before starting her PharmD.

Karrie’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary teams:

I love sharing my passion for MEDiC with others! It is a great chance to apply what we are learning in the classroom to outside experiences.

With the lack of coordination of care in our current healthcare system, it is important for us to become comfortable and to thrive in interdisciplinary settings in order to improve patient care.

Holly Schmidt is a PA MEDiC Chair, providing a link of communication between MEDiC and other Physician Assistant Students.

Holly’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary teams:

I like being a part of a system that helps those less fortunate and work to improve that system.

I also like the ability to see what each profession brings to our health care system through MEDiCs’ free clinics. Especially with being on MEDiCs’ communication committee, I really get to see how we are able to use our resources to get problems solved.

Jon LaCore is another of the two PA MEDiC Chairs on MEDiC Council. Before coming to UW, he completed a Bachelor’s degree at the University of Minnesota.

Jon’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary team:

I like connecting with other people who are passionate about providing healthcare to people without access. Besides actually working in clinic, my favorite time spent with the MEDiC counsel was when we met at one of the physician’s houses and discussed how mental health and homelessness are intertwined. These opportunities are priceless, and involve different perspectives from different schools.

What I find most valuable is learning about how other disciplines interact with patients and what their range of expertise is. I’ve gained good insight into what a pharmacist and a physical therapy student see when approaching a patient. This, in turn, helps me widen my approach.

Dr. Ted Goodfriend, who originally founded the first MEDiC Clinic at Grace Episcopal church, received an award this spring and is featured in a very well-done video which speaks briefly to the history of MEDiC. When you have a few minutes to spare, check it out on YouTube:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CwJdiXejJl
Laura Zimmerman is the Nursing Patient Education Lead, which means she schedules and facilitates the Health Talks, which are monthly, discussion-style informational sessions hosted by three ARC House locations and the Salvation Army in Madison. She is in the UW BSN to MPH program.

Laura’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary teams:

MEDiC gives me great perspective. Although different commitments pull at my mind and time, I always enjoy the time I spend with MEDiC. Be it at a Health Talk, Clinic, council meeting, or just chatting with students from other disciplines, MEDiC helps me see what's really important in my education and life. I have no doubt I will be a better nurse because of my involvement with MEDiC.

I'm privileged to work with students of other disciplines in MEDiC. I have a profound respect for MEDiC Council member's ability to handle rigorous programs, copious volunteer hours, and do it all with a smile! I'm happy to work with other students, staff, and volunteers who are also passionate about the underserved here in Madison.

Stephanie Nakano is the Nursing Student Scheduler, meaning she organizes and schedules all nursing students for each semester, and coordinates flu shot clinics. She is the email contact for nursing students to answer questions or refer to other council members. She also posts MEDiC information to the nursing student net.

Stephanie’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary teams:

What I like most about being involved with MEDiC is being able to recruit/promote and answer questions about MEDiC. I also love working and learning with people from other schools.

Everyone has a different knowledge base, so we all bring something different to the table and we help each other open our minds and think. I think it is also very valuable because we're getting this exposure and knowledge about other health care disciplines when we're students so when we're practicing, we'll be better able to communicate and work together as an interdisciplinary team.

As PTs, I find it very beneficial to continue to educate other health care disciplines on our role in the treatment and care musculoskeletal issues and that we are really able to help a great deal of patients dealing with musculoskeletal and/or chronic pain.

Brittany Malin is the current PT Volunteer Scheduler.

Brittany’s thoughts on MEDiC and working in interdisciplinary teams:

What I like most about being involved with MEDiC is being able to give back to the community and serve those in need of health care who may not be able to have services elsewhere.

I think working as an interdisciplinary team brings a lot of diversity to the table and I continually find it helpful to be able to pull from other disciplines to learn what their take on a patient issue is and then compile these views to best serve the patient.

Starting last fall, MEDiC began organizing Health Talks. Laura Zimmerman, Nursing Patient Education Lead, talks a little bit about the new initiative in a quote from a piece she wrote for NursingMatters, which will be coming out in December:

“MEDiC has expanded the Health Talk sessions to a total of four locations in the Madison area, meeting once monthly to gain and share information. These locations include a women’s homeless shelter, a group home for women transitioning from the criminal justice system, and a support group for women recovering from addictions. The number of women attending the monthly sessions ranges from 3 to 15.

Averaging four Health Talks sessions per month provides opportunity for approximately 20 nursing students and 10 medical students to volunteer with MEDiC’s Health Talk each semester. Pairing different disciplines delivers a mix of medical and nursing information, while capitalizing on each profession’s strength and fostering ties between future cross-disciplinary colleagues.

In addition to serving increased numbers of women, Health Talk has also become has also become tailored to specific populations. This is accomplished through surveys given to the women and staff at Health Talk locations. The surveys provide an opportunity to give feedback and suggest Health Talk topics. Frequent requests are stress reduction, coping skills, women’s sexual health, and the effects of alcohol and nicotine. Health Talk is taking off, working to empower women through knowledge.”
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays from all of us at MEDiC!

Reflecting upon this last year, MEDiC is very thankful for all the time and support from our volunteers, donors, and community partners. In addition, I would like to take the time to highlight the top 5 changes and accomplishments that MEDiC has had this year as a reflection of where we have been and what we look forward to for next year.

1. This past July, MEDiC was sad to see our longtime faculty advisor, Sharon Younkin leave. Sharon left her longtime position of Community Service Program Director to pursue another job in Los Angeles and move back to her home state of California. MEDiC misses her passion, dedication and commitment to serving the community and the school, but we wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

2. A few of our clinics have gotten a makeover this past year and these changes have helped make the patient encounter more comfortable for our patients and volunteers. Last June, the ARC House Clinic finished its remodeling of the basement clinic space with a new painted floor and new furniture. The space is now a more comfortable working environment for both our volunteers and patients. Our Safe Haven Clinic also moved this past November into a brand new building. The new Safe Haven Porchlight facility now provides additional safe and affordable housing to the homeless population of Madison. To see updated photos of these clinics, please check our website as they will be up soon!

3. This year MEDiC Council has also been working on improving the efficiency of our clinics. With a medical record keeping system overhaul and hopefully the roll out of our electronic health records in the next few months, we look forward to moving towards an electronic health recording keeping system. We also saw an overhaul of our drug and supply keeping system to an electronic recording system. Hopefully, this decreases the amount of boxes and papers in our tiny MEDiC office and will increase the efficiency of our clinic operations.

4. We also are very proud of our continual collaborations between the health profession schools. Our annual Turkey Bowl this year saw one of the largest turnouts from all the different health profession schools: we had 4 medical student teams, 2 physical therapy student teams, 1 physician assistant team, and 1 pharmacy school team. We also want to thank the Wisconsin Student Pharmacy Society (WSPS) and Phi Theta Physical Therapy student organizations for hosting fundraisers for MEDiC. Movin' for MEDiC 5k run (WSPS), Trick O’ Treat for OTC (WSPS) and Bucky’s Race for Rehab, raised over $600 for MEDiC!!!

5. New programs and new people! We are also very grateful to Madeline Duffy who stepped in as our interim Community Service Programs Director at the beginning of the school year to help get MEDiC up and moving! She brought a lot of enthusiasm and energy to the MEDiC crowd and sadly she had to leave at the end of October for a World Health Organization internship. We also wish her the best of luck with her internship and we are crossing our fingers that she will be back in May. In addition, we had a new program added this year to MEDiC: Health Talks at ARC Community Houses. This program allows medical and nursing students to work together to present health topics of interest to the women who live in these community houses. So, far the program has gotten great feedback and we look forward to making these talks more interdisciplinary in the future!

At the end of this list, I would also like to take the time to thank all of the current MEDiC council members for a wonderful year of accomplishments with all of the handwork and dedication to making this student-organization run. It is because of all of them that we can continue to do all the good work we do.

Things to look out for with MEDiC in the New Year 2013:

1. Roll out of the Patient Encounter Document Electronic Health Record!!
2. Continuing to improve our clinics
3. Continuation of building upon and fostering the interdisciplinary aspect of our organization
4. Welcome the 2013-2014 MEDiC council in March!!!
Making a Gift:
Your gift will allow us to continue our mission of providing health care to those most in need in our community while enhancing practical educational opportunities for health professions students. For information on how to make a gift, please visit our website at medic.uwmedstudents.com
To discuss philanthropic opportunities please contact Jill Watson
Director of External Relations and Development
University of Wisconsin Foundation
(608) 263-3173
Jill.Watson@uwfoundation.wisc.edu

Donating Medications:
We greatly appreciate donations of medications listed on MEDiC’s formulary. Due to our inability to monitor and follow most patients with chronic conditions, many chronic care medications are not useful in our clinics, especially those second line medications that would be too costly for our uninsured patients to continue using. Our policies have recently changed, and we are no longer able to distribute expired pharmaceuticals due to our affiliation with UW Hospital. No surgical equipment or accessories are used in the MEDiC Clinics. We are not able to accept any medications that have been prescribed to a patient. We are also unable to accept donations from pharmaceutical or medical device companies.
If you are interested in donating medications to MEDiC, please contact the MEDiC office at:
(608) 265-4972
Medic-drugs@lists.wisc.edu

Physician Volunteers:
MEDiC is always looking for physician volunteers! While MEDiC provides primary care, physicians from all specialties are encouraged to volunteer. If you are interested in providing care to the underserved populations of Madison while working with health professional students or would simply like more information, please contact the MEDiC physician scheduler:
Meghan Fanta: scheduling.medic@gmail.com

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TURKEY BOWL
Health professional students came together for football and other field games to raise money for an excellent cause. This year we raised around $400, which, at an average cost of $4.43 per patient, will help us continue care of our underserved population and treat ~90 patients.