

Hello Whitney Young Health staff,

The final touches are being made to the WYH/Equinox Affiliation Agreement (AA), which establishes the terms and conditions that will govern future activities and responsibilities for both organizations.

As things have progressed with the AA over the last few months, there have been many parallel tracks in the development process. The WYH Board, as a result of our efforts to integrate the two organizations, has offered Equinox (EQX) the opportunity to appoint two members to our Board.

The first of these two EQX appointees was approved by the WYH Board last month. The main focus of the WYH/EQX Affiliation Update in this month's Whitney Wire is introducing you to our new WYH Board member!

What is your name?

Lauri Rosmarin-Plattner.

Where do you work and what do you do?

"Several decades ago, before my children were born, I taught for a couple of years. Since then, I have been fortunate to be able to be a full-time volunteer.

When my kids were younger, I was active in parent-teacher organizations. I became involved with local community organizations and the Equinox Community Thanksgiving Dinner. In the early 1990s, I joined the Equinox Board of Directors and served as Board President, along with serving on multiple committees. I was also a member of the New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) Board of Directors and am currently a Board member of their subsidiary, Good Causes."



What is your background?

"I have lived in NY most of my life, but for a few enjoyable years, I resided in the California Bay area, and I try to return there often to visit my brother and other family. Our children and grandchildren live in New York City, so my husband and I head down there as frequently as possible."

What do you look forward to as you join the WYH Board?

"As a member of the Equinox/ Whitney Young Health Exploratory Committee, I learned a lot about WYH's programs and services which support those in greatest need. Equinox has a similar focus and mission, and I look forward to seeing the resources of both entities integrated to better serve the community."

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

"I love to cook, travel, and spend time with family - especially my grandchildren!"

Black History Month: Honoring Black Leaders in Public Health



Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner, 1912- 2006

Holding more patents than any other Black woman in history, Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner was an inventor. She is best known for inventing the menstrual sanitary pad. However, it took 30 years for her invention to be developed and manufactured for mainstream markets due to racial discrimination and sexism.

[Click here to see a video about Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner](#)

Joycelyn Elders, MD, b. 1933

Joycelyn Elders is a pediatrician and public health administrator who in 1993, became the first African American to be appointed as the Surgeon General of the United States. Prior to becoming Surgeon General, she worked to reduce the prevalence of teenage pregnancy by promoting birth control, counseling, and sex education at school-based clinics. She also worked on projects to increase child immunization and screening rates, availability of HIV services, and breast cancer screenings.

[Learn more about Dr. Elders](#)



Dr. Charles R. Drew, 1904-1950

Charles R. Drew was a surgeon and medical researcher that studied blood, blood transfusions, and blood banking. He also developed a method to preserve blood plasma for transfusions that saved countless lives during World War II due to the development of large-scale blood banks. He was the director of the first American Red Cross Blood Bank, and he protested against racial segregation in the donation of blood.

[Learn more about Dr. Drew](#)



FEBRUARY 2023

Diversity, Equity & Awareness

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 National Freedom Day World Hijab Day Imbolc (<i>Pagan</i>)	2	3 National Wear Red Day National Women Physicians Day	4
5	6	7 National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day	8 National Black Women Physicians Day	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Parinirvana Day or Nirvana Day (<i>Buddhist</i>)	16	17 Random Acts of Kindness Day Lailat al Miraj (<i>Muslim</i>)	18 Maja Shivaratri (<i>Hindu</i>)
19	20 Presidents' Day	21 Mardi Gras	22 Ash Wednesday (<i>Christian</i>)* * Fasting may be required for some observers	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Monthly Observances:

- AMERICAN HEART MONTH
- BLACK HISTORY MONTH
- NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH



WYH IS HOSTING A HIRING EVENT
Thursday, February 9 at 920 Lark Dr.
from 4pm – 7pm
 with on-the-spot interviews!

Encourage a friend to apply or attend and if they are hired, you could earn \$500 or more

Help us spread the word by sharing our event post on social media!

Welcome, New Staff!

Penny Willis	LPN - Albany Health Center
Patricia Nwaefuna	Psychiatric Mental Health NP - DeWitt
Daniela Puerto	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Swinburne & SBHC
Phillip Couillard	Safety Resource Specialist
Elizabeth Andrews	Triage Nurse

January
2023

New Hires

National Wear Red Day is Friday, February 3

Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year, but the simple truth is that most cardiovascular diseases can still be prevented with education and healthy lifestyle changes.

All WYH staff are invited to wear red to raise awareness of heart disease in women and in honor or remembrance of loved ones with heart disease.

The American Heart Association’s signature women’s initiative, **Go Red for Women**, is a comprehensive platform designed to increase women’s heart health awareness and serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally.

American Heart Association.



It’s no longer just about wearing red; it’s no longer just about sharing heart health facts. **It’s about all women making a commitment to stand together with Go Red and taking charge of their own heart health as well as the health of those they can’t bear to live without.** Making a commitment to your health isn’t something you have to do alone either, so grab a friend or a family member and Go Red today.

Learn more at the [American Heart Association](#) website