










2023-2024 Women's Leadership Program

Name	Headshot	Department	Track	Email	Biography
Alyssa Tilhou		Family Medicine	Clinician Scientist	alyssa.tilhou@bmc.org	Dr. Tilhou is a family physician, addiction specialist and health services researcher in the Department of Family Medicine at Boston Medical Center. She completed her undergraduate education at Harvard University and her medical and doctorate at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas. After completing a fellowship in Addiction Medicine at the University of Wisconsin, she joined Boston University/Boston Medical Center on a clinician scientist track in the Department of Family Medicine. Her areas of clinical expertise include primary care and addiction medicine. Her research focuses on disparities in health care utilization and outcomes with particular experience using Medicaid data. She is currently funded by a NIDA K08. She has received awards for humanism and advocacy in medicine as a medical student and resident and has been identified as an emerging leader by the National Academy of Medicine and Boston Medical Center.
Andreea Bujor		DoM/ Rheumatology	Clinician Scientist	andreea@bu.edu	I am a physician scientist and a board-certified Rheumatologist with extensive research background. After completing a postdoctoral research fellowship, I pursued clinical training and became a board-certified Rheumatologist in 2017. After graduating from fellowship, I have accepted an Assistant Professor position at Boston University, where I am combining my basic research and clinical skills as a physician scientist. My lab is studying the molecular mechanisms of scleroderma cardiomyopathy and is NIH funded. I am also interested in clinical translational research and studying a novel device to assess skin in scleroderma, project currently funded by National Scleroderma Foundation. Clinically, I specialize in scleroderma and have two continuity clinics weekly. I am involved in teaching as the Associate Program Director for the Rheumatology fellowship program and the supervising attending for the fellow's clinic. I am also the Associate Director of The arthritis and Autoimmune Diseases Center at BU.
Brittany Gouse		Psychiatry	Clinician Scientist	brittany.gouse@bmc.org	Dr. Brittany Gouse's MD MPH is the Associate Clinical Director of the WRAP program and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine. She earned MD-MPH through the State University of New York Upstate Medical University and Syracuse University dual degree program. She completed both her Residency in Adult Psychiatry and Fellowship in Public Psychiatry at BU-BMC. Through her Fellowship in Public Psychiatry, Dr. Gouse specialized in the care of individuals living with schizophrenia and other forms of serious mental illness and currently sees patients for psychopharmacology in the WRAP program. Dr. Gouse's research is predominantly in epidemiology, with a focus on studying the drivers of morbidity and premature mortality in schizophrenia. She co-directs WRAP's Advancing Coordinated Care through Epidemiologic Studies in Schizophrenia (ACCESS) initiative. She is the recipient of the 2023-2025 BU Clinical and Translational Science Institute KL2 Award and the 2023-2025 American Psychiatric Association Research Fellowship.




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Heather Hsu		Pediatrics	Clinician Scientist	heather.hsu@bmc.org	I am a pediatric hospitalist at Boston Medical Center and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine. I have an undergraduate degree in Gender Studies from Brown University, an MD from Harvard Medical School, and an MPH from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. I also completed a research fellowship in Pediatric Health Services Research in the Department of Population Medicine at Harvard University and the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute. My research interests center around the impact of value-based care on health equity and the financial well-being of the healthcare safety-net, particularly in the areas of infectious diseases and substance use. I currently serve as the Scientific Director of Boston Medical Center's Clinical Data Warehouse for Research and I am a founder and lead faculty mentor for the Health Equity Rounds program in the Boston Combined Residency Program in Pediatrics.
Insa Schmidt		DoM/ Nephrology	Clinician Scientist	ischmidt@bu.edu	I am an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the BU Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine (Section of Nephrology). I work as a full-time clinical researcher with a focus on kidney and cardiovascular disease. I have a broad range of interests in quantitative and qualitative clinical research, and am also committed to linking my interests in care, biomedical practice, and the intersection of medicine with the social sciences and humanities.
Jenna Titelbaum		Ophthalmology	Clinician Educator	jenna.titelbaum@bmc.org	I graduated from the New England College of Optometry (NECO) in 2012 and completed a Pediatric Optometry Residency from NECO in 2013. I started in the Ophthalmology Department at Boston Medical Center right after graduation in the summer of 2013 as a Clinical Instructor and the Optometry Student Director. I quickly built a high-volume practice of both pediatric and adult patients. I began work as a clinical investigator for studies in the Pediatric Eye Disease Investigative Group (PEDIG) Network and overtime became the Principal Investigator for more recent studies in Amblyopia and Strabismus that are still actively recruiting today. I currently participate on the yearlong PEDIG Research Leadership Development Program that prepares investigators for future leadership positions. I was promoted to Assistant Professor a few years ago and later became the Optometry Service Chief about two years ago leading a small group of staff optometrists in the Ophthalmology Department. I have been traveling twice a year to Lesotho (Africa) for the past 5 years with other members of the Ophthalmology Department participating in global health with our Ophthalmology Residents. I have completed the Boston University Medical Group (BUMG) Early Career Development Program. I am currently a Medical Dental Staff Officer as the Representative for Special Clinical Staff. I also participate on the BUMG Engagement Committee and the BUMG Wellness and Professional Vitality Advisory Council.

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Jennifer Ross		Health Law, Policy, & Management	Population Scientist	jjross@bu.edu	Jennifer Cornacchione Ross, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Law, Policy, and Management at Boston University School of Public Health. She is a communication scientist who uses persuasion and communication theories and methods to develop and test effective messages to reduce tobacco use and understand message features that may influence beliefs, such as tobacco industry marketing. Much of her work is focused on tobacco policy and regulation among priority populations, including adolescents, young adults, and those identifying as Black or African American. Dr. Ross seeks provide evidence for implementing equitable policies that reduce tobacco use. She is PI/multi-PI for two R01 studies funded by the National Cancer Institute to optimize and test warnings for cigarillos among young adults and adolescents. Dr. Ross earned her PhD in Communication from Michigan State University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in tobacco regulatory science at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.
Katherine Matta		OB/GYN	Clinician Educator	katherine.matta@steward.org	I completed medical school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a BA in Chemistry. This was a six-year combined program. I then completed a residency in OB/GYN at Loyola in Chicago. After that, I did two fellowships focusing on laparoscopy and robotic surgery. I have been practicing general Ob/GYN at St. Elizabeth's for ten years. I recently completed a Safety, Quality, Informatics, and Leadership certificate program at Harvard in 2022.
Kavita Sharma		DoM/ Endocrine	Clinician Educator	kavita.sharma@bmc.org	I trained in Internal Medicine at Cambridge Health Alliance. My residency training had strong focus on primary care and prevention and I worked closely with a diverse and underserved patient population. With similar focus and mission I took my first job at East Boston Health Center. I really enjoyed working as a primary care physician and being a part of the community. During this time, I developed interest in chronic disease management. This led to a Fellowship training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Clinical Nutrition and Weight Management. After completion of my training, I joined BMC as I wanted to continue my work with underserved population and BMC being the biggest Health safety net hospital was the preferred choice. Since 2019, I have been an attending physician in weight management and nutrition support program.

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<p>Maria Prom</p>		<p>Psychiatry</p>	<p>Clinician Scientist</p>	<p>maria.prom@bmc.org</p>	<p>I am a global mental health researcher, clinical-educator and consultation-liaison psychiatrist dedicated to addressing mental health disparities. My areas of focus include mental health systems and services development in under-resourced settings, integrated mental health care, and sociocultural psychiatry. I received my MD and Graduate Certificate in Global Health at Vanderbilt University. I completed Adult Psychiatry Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH)/McLean Hospital and Consultation-Liaison Fellowship at MGH. I completed the NIMH-funded BUMC/MGH Global Psychiatry Clinical Research Fellowship and served as the Assistant Director of Training Development and Research for the Division of Global Psychiatry at MGH. In January 2023 I came to BUSM/BMC as the Director of the BMC/BUMC Global and Local Center for Mental Health Disparities (GLCMHD). I lead the GLCMHD team in program development in education, research, and clinical care delivery. I am also developing my own research lab and work with trainees on the Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Service.</p>
<p>Mekkin Lynch</p>		<p>Family Medicine</p>	<p>Clinical Administrator</p>	<p>mekkin@bu.edu</p>	<p>I graduated from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2013 and completed my family residency at Boston Medical Center in 2016. Since graduating I have practiced both inpatient and outpatient medicine within the BMC system. I work on the inpatient service on resident teaching teams and in independent practice as a hospitalist. I also have a full spectrum outpatient practice, initially at the South End Community Health Center, and now at the South Boston Community Health Center (SBCHC). My outpatient practice includes prenatal care, pediatrics, women's health, the care of adults and osteopathic manipulation. In 2021 I became the medical director of the Family Medicine Department at SBCHC. In 2022 I started an osteopathic manipulation clinic for residents at SBCHC.</p>
<p>Samar (Summer) Hafida</p>		<p>DoM/Endocrine</p>	<p>Clinician Educator</p>	<p>samar.hafida@bmc.org</p>	<p>I am an endocrinologist and weight management specialist at Boston Medical Center and an Assistant Professor at Boston University School of Medicine. I graduated from Tripoli University in Libya and completed my endocrinology fellowship in Detroit followed by a weight management fellowship at Boston Medical Center/Boston University. I specialize in the management of people with obesity and complex metabolic disorders including diabetes. Using diabetes technology to advance the care of people living with diabetes is among my many interests. I also have a special interest in treating emerging adults who live with obesity and type 2 diabetes and work to help bridge the gap in transitioning them from pediatric to adult care. I am passionate about advocating for people with diabetes and obesity, believe in eliminating obesity-related stigma, and provide quality equitable care for all without exception.</p>