



Weill Cornell Medical College

The Weill Cornell Center for Human Rights

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Evaluations

October: 6 evaluations

Total Evaluations to

Date:

240 evaluations for 206 unique clients

WCCHR Holiday Party

Friday, Dec. 4th, 6:30 PM
The Center, 208 W 13th St

Educational Event

Working with Survivors of FGM and Sexual Violence

Monday, Dec. 14th, 7 PM
402 E 67th St, Floor C1, Rm. A



Students use the iHuman platform during full training. (pg.2)

Photo credit: Solomon Husain, MS2

WCCHR Holiday Party!

The Weill Cornell Center for Human Rights invites you to join us on December 4th from 6:30 - 9:00 PM at the Center, 208 W 13th St., for an evening of live music, drinks, and merrymaking at our 3rd Annual Holiday Party! Come celebrate for a fantastic cause, honor our faculty evaluators, and help give asylum seekers an opportunity for a new start.

Tickets are FREE for faculty evaluators, \$15 for students and \$30 for guests, and can be reserved at humanrights.brownpapertickets.com.

Ticket prices include food and beverages. 100% of proceeds go to WCCHR's Continuing Care Client Fund, which provides direct support to WCCHR clients seeking medical, psychiatric, or social services.

Working with Survivors of FGM and Sexual Violence

On Monday, December 14th, Drs. Deborah Ottenheimer and Julia Geynisman will be speaking about practical considerations and strategies for working with survivors of female genital mutilation, physical abuse, and sexual abuse.

Dr. Deborah Ottenheimer spent 7 years as the Director of Adolescent OB/GYN at Bronx Lebanon Hospital. She is currently in private practice, and also works as a medical volunteer in rural Haiti. She has been an active member of Physicians for Human Rights since 2008, aiding victims of female genital mutilation in their applications for asylum to the U.S.

Dr. Julia Geynisman is a resident in OB/GYN at New York Presbyterian and founder of the Survivor Clinic. The Survivor clinic provides free, sensitive gynecologic care and primary care for many conditions to women who are survivors of sex trafficking or gender-based violence. For more information on the Survivor Clinic, go to www.survivorclinic.org or contact survivorclinicnyc@gmail.com.

iHuman and WCCHR

This year during our fall training, new student volunteers conducted forensic evaluations using iHuman's virtual patient platform. Students practiced asking forensic interview questions, taking vital signs, and forming a differential diagnosis and a treatment plan with a virtual asylum seeker. The case was developed by WCCHR in conjunction with Dr. Yoon Kang and Susan Kane as part of a research project exploring the effectiveness of a virtual patient encounter in training medical students to conduct forensic evaluations.

Pedro Duran and Emily Grodinsky, Senior Student Advisors for WCCHR, are now working with Drs. Alex Tatum and Janna Gordon-Elliot on developing an i-Human case for use in the psychiatry clerkship.

In the News

A Family Swept Up in the Migrant Tide

—NYTimes, October 22nd, 2015

As we read the news about refugees and migrants from the civil war in Syria, we often hear about people as statistics and numbers, not as individuals. This article and beautiful accompanying photographs tell the story of Ahmad Majid, a Syrian man, his wife, 4-year-old son, and the rest of their family. For the last two months, his family traveled through Syria to Turkey and eight European countries, hiding in fields and crawling under fences on their way to an unknown new life.



Link to article: <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/10/22/world/europe/syrian-refugees.html>

Spotlight on...

Charlotte Roy, MS4

Charlotte Roy graduated from Vassar College with a degree in French in 2010. After graduating, she became involved in community service with diverse populations from refugees in Texas to children in Haiti. For Charlotte, volunteering for WCCHR was a way to stay connected with her passion for human rights and community service throughout medical school. Now a fourth year medical student and WCCHR Senior Student Advisor, she first served WCCHR for three years as the Continuing Care Coordinator. She founded the Continuing Care branch of WCCHR and built it from a team of one to more than 10 medical students. She explains, "I think the only thing better than helping people is empowering others to help people. When I hear a case manager get excited about placing an asylum seeker into treatment, that's the most rewarding moment for me."



Charlotte is applying for residency in Emergency Medicine. She plans to earn a Master's in Public Health after residency and hopes to pursue a career in global health by working for an organization such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Joseph F. Murray, MD

Joseph F Murray III, M.D., is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He completed his internship at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and residency in Psychiatry at New York Presbyterian Hospital. From 2010-2013, he was the Director of the Medicine Patients Society I course and the Associate Director for the Psychiatry clerkship. In 2013, he was appointed as the Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Weill Cornell Medical College.

Several years earlier, Dr. Murray had performed an asylum evaluation for an HIV patient at the Center for Special Studies; however, at that time, he was not aware of the unmet need many asylum seekers have for access to high-quality forensic evaluations. It wasn't until he met Dr. Shelli Farhadian, (MD/PhD '12), a WCCHR co-founder, that he realized the difference a clinic like WCCHR could make. Since 2011, Dr. Murray has been an active member of WCCHR's team of psychological evaluators. The highlight of his experience with WCCHR occurred on December 26, 2012 - the day after Christmas. On that afternoon, he learned that an applicant he had evaluated with Monica Jeong ('16) and Carmen Stellar ('16) had been granted political asylum. This remains the best Christmas news he has ever received. Dr. Murray finds the opportunity to engage with intelligent, hard-working, idealistic medical students to be one of the greatest perks of volunteering with WCCHR.