

## Dr. Katherine Guyon-Harris, Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics

By Karla Perelstine, M.Ed.

Dr. Katherine Guyon-Harris, assistant professor University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics and licensed psychologist at Children's Primary Care in Oakland is one of the newest cluster hire faculty members. Having received her Ph.D. at Eastern Michigan University and her clinical training in Psychology in New Orleans, Katherine recently completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Academic General Pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Children's Hospital. She currently lives in Pittsburgh with her husband, Chris, and her two sons. Katherine leads a busy life between work and home but invites you to keep tabs on her through her Twitter account at [https://twitter.com/k\\_guyonharris?lang=en](https://twitter.com/k_guyonharris?lang=en).

Dr. Guyon-Harris' research background is in perinatal mental health, particularly trauma, and the impact on parenting and early parent-child relationships. Katherine's work is centered on substance abuse, particularly opioids, with emphasis placed on disparities in the response and care provided to people of color by social service organizations and the court system. In her role as a researcher, Katherine is currently awaiting the determination of a National Institute of Health (NIH) K23 award whose focus is to inform and adapt an evidence-based preventive parenting intervention, the Family Check-Up, to improve parent-child outcomes among pregnant women with opioid use disorder. In June, Katherine was informed that she received high scores on this NIH research grant, which is her first-ever grant. She is anxiously awaiting the final determination of the award.

Katherine identifies as coming from the White Earth band of Ojibwe, otherwise recognized as "Chippewa" in the U.S. Her great grandfather left the reservation to better his athletic and academic opportunities at Georgia Tech. In doing so, much of her family's indigenous culture was left behind, and Katherine was raised white. Feeling the deep loss of this culture, Katherine strives to regain her cultural identity and step back into her heritage. The cluster hire program brings her closer to accomplishing this goal. In addition to working toward a more equitable space for people of color, Katherine hopes to become a resource for future indigenous students, trainees, and faculty who are navigating academia and searching for connection.

We can't wait to see the positive impact Katherine has on others as a new cluster hire and within the space of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We wish Dr. Guyon-Harris much success in the field of academia and research. We can't wait to hear more about her K23 grant project.