Dr. Elizabeth Peacock-Chambers Awarded $3.3 Million Grant for Improving Care for Parents with Substance Use Disorders

Congratulations to Dr. Elizabeth "Lili" Peacock-Chambers, MD, MSc, assistant professor of Pediatrics and Healthcare Delivery and Population Sciences and chief of the Division of Health and Behavior, Department of Healthcare Delivery and Population Sciences, on her NIH RO1 award of a five-year, $3.3M grant from the National Institutes on Drug Abuse.

The grant, titled "A Type I Hybrid Effectiveness-Implementation Trial of "Mothering from the Inside Out" (MIO), builds upon an extensive body of literature aimed at improving the care provided to parents with substance use disorders (SUDs). The ultimate goal is to provide bigenerational benefit to parents and children as a way to curb the trajectory of SUD epidemics. This grant was a natural extension of the efficacy trials done to assess "Mothering from the Inside Out," a parenting intervention designed specifically for mothers with SUDs. MIO helps mothers in recovery recognize and manage the emotional stress related to parenting young children.

In collaboration with the MA Department of Public Health, Dr. Peacock-Chambers and her team have been able to gain real world, practice-based experience training clinicians and counselors across a variety of clinical settings in MA, leading to this grant which will conduct an effectiveness implementation trial with community partners in Springfield/Holyoke (Behavioral Health Network) and Worcester (Spectrum). They will recruit 200 mothers from four SUD clinics in Springfield, Holyoke, and Worcester to compare those receiving MIO versus treatment as usual to determine how MIO affects the parent-child relationship and parental mental health. Broad collaborations spanning multiple institutions and communities, including BHN and Spectrum and various experts, will support this project, which could have immediate impact on communities in western and central Massachusetts.

The immediate next step will be to begin training SUD counselors in the spring of 2025 and begin data collection of the implementation process while conducting the training. Recruitment of mothers into the trial will occur in fall 2025 and will continue for 2.5 years.

Dr. Peacock-Chambers joined the Division of General Pediatrics and Community Health in the Department of Pediatrics at Baystate in 2016 as an emerging physician investigator. Congratulations on this significant achievement!