



Where the world comes for answers

The Boston Combined Residency Program and the Alumni Association Proudly Announces the 2021 Recipients of The Susan Brooks Award

The Susan Brooks award is given annually to a resident and a faculty or administrative staff member who has shown exemplary services to his or her patients, colleagues, and the Boston Combined Residency Program community, and is the utmost example of service leadership within the residency program, just as Susan was for so many years.

This year's recipients are:



Theodore Sectish, MD

Ted obtained his MD degree from Johns Hopkins and was an intern and resident in pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital from 1977 to 1980. He then spent 13 years as a general pediatrician in Salinas, California before becoming the program director at Stanford where he worked for 14 years. Ted came back to Boston Children's in 2007 to serve as the Vice-Chair for Education and Program Director of the pediatric residency training program. He has since written extensively about residency education, including an article on making pediatric residency programs family friendly, an area of special interest to him. He also served as one of the leaders of the I-PASS Study, a multi-site collaborative research project to standardize the handoff process to reduce medical errors and improve the workflow of residents.

Ted is universally praised by residents as one of their favorite attendings. Due to Ted's knowledge and expertise, Ted always has the solution, the answer, the fix. What makes him so unique and such a strong clinical educator, is that his boundless experience and calm demeanor has allowed the residents to have room for error. Whenever Ted is present, the environment feels calm and under control, regardless of the clinical circumstance. This also extends beyond the clinical space and there is perhaps no better example of this than all the chaos and uncertainty brought on this past year by a global pandemic. Through it all, Ted has been the steady voice of calm that has held our residency community together. On top of being an incredible educator, Ted serves as a phenomenal mentor and leader within the BCRP Residency Program. He leads by example and is the perfect embodiment of service leadership.



Katelin Blackburn, MD

Katelin is a senior resident in the Urban Health and Advocacy Track. Over the course of the last three years, she has exemplified what it means to be a servant leader. Katelin's passion and tender but fiercely protective heart for the most vulnerable among us is the foundation for her many accomplishments and acts of service in residency. To name just a few of the innumerable ways in which she has served her patients and our community: Katelin led the design and implementation of a new mental and behavioral health rotation for the residents, created a video series on children's mental and behavioral health for providers, has published on the use of motivational interviewing to decrease teen dating violence, and was one of the initial residents to pilot leading a Teen and Tots centering group to provide primary care to a group of adolescent parents and their infants in a shared community context.

Clinically, Katelin has been an absolute star with attendings and peers alike raving about her strong advocacy for patients and the ways in which she goes above and beyond to ensure holistic care of families. She stands out for her humanism and respect for her patients, the remarkable way in which she is able to build rapport even with patients that others find hard to engage, and her strong interdisciplinary professionalism with everyone on the team. Katelin leads through example and brings the team along with her. She is supportive of her peers and effectively builds relationships with nursing, social work, and other providers.

We congratulate and commend the service and care of Dr. Sectish and Dr. Blackburn!