



MDCGC QUARTERLY

Official member newsletter of The Maryland and DC Society of Genetic Counselors

The vision of the MDCGC is to ensure the quality of genetic health care and to promote the field of genetic counseling in Maryland and the District of Columbia (hereafter referred to as DC). *MDCGC Quarterly* is your source for updates on our past accomplishments, current projects, and upcoming events.

Congratulations Class of 2021!

MDCGC would like to say a huge congratulations to the class of 2021, not only for making it through a very challenging year, but also for making it through an already rigorous and demanding graduate program. Each and every year we are proud to welcome new graduates into this rewarding and rapidly growing field as they make the switch from students to colleagues. We would also like to congratulate those who will be entering genetic counseling school in the fall! Match day was on April 23rd this year and if you would like more information on how the process works, click [here](#).



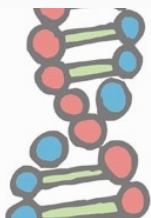
Member Spotlight: Patrick Semesky



Patrick Semesky is a graduate of the University of Maryland Genetic Counseling Training Program, a practicing prenatal genetic counselor with the University of Maryland team, and a lifelong Marylander. He is also the chair of our MDCGC Membership Committee!

"I was thrilled to join the MDCGC after it was founded in 2018 because while genetic counseling is a small field, I found that it was easy to become siloed within an individual office or institution. Initially as a member and now as the chair of the membership committee, I have relished the opportunity to help the organization reach counselors in the Maryland and DC area and give them a forum for connection and collaboration."

Do you know an MDCGC member who deserves a shout out?
Email us at info@mdcgc.org to nominate them for our next newsletter!



A look at what's coming in 2021...

Baltimore Washington Genetics Group

September 9, 2021

Cardio-focused single topic meeting

November 11, 2021

To sign up for emails about future BWGG meetings, email Dr. Tonie Kline at akline@gbmc.org

2021 MDCGC Educational Conference

November 5, 2021 - all day virtual event

NSGC 40th Annual Education Conference

September 22-26, 2021 - New Orleans, LA

Genetic Counselor Awareness Day

November 4, 2021

We are looking for members to help plan an exciting MDCGC event for GC Awareness Day! Email us at info@mdcgc.org to volunteer!



Don't forget to renew your MDCGC membership for 2021!

Follow us on social media for regular updates!



@TheMDCGC



@MDCGeneticCounselors



@TheMDCGC

Social Event?

Would you like to see a 2021 MDCGC social event? If so, how would you like it to look? Although we don't know exactly what life will look like in the coming months, we want to continue to make our members feel safe and heard! Please look out for a survey in your email or fill it out [here](#).

Meet your 2021 MDCGC Leadership

Executive Board

President - Ashlee Vargason

President-Elect - Katie Bisordi

Secretary - Rachel Gore

Treasurer - Monique Lubaton

Committees

- Social Media & Communications
 - Chair: Elizabeth Kramer
 - Co-Chair: Julie Frank
- State Meeting and Education
 - Chair: Ashley Jachens
 - Co-Chair: Colleen Jodarski
- Membership
 - Chair: Patrick Semesky
 - Co-Chair: Laura Sulmonte
- Public Policy
 - Chair: Margo Gallegos
 - Co-Chair: Carolyn Applegate



Looking to add to your resume or to become active in our state efforts? We are always looking for members to serve on our committees! [Click here](#) to learn more.

We need volunteers for our new subcommittees!

Award and Scholarships: The MDCGC State Meeting and Education Committee's Awards and Scholarships Subcommittee supports & recognizes educational endeavors and/or members' efforts to improve and promote the profession of genetic counseling in MD and DC. The Subcommittee aims to provide funding to any combination of the following: prospective and/or current genetic counseling students, member-initiated research proposals, projects designed to facilitate genetic counselors' career development and visibility in the region, or recognition for outstanding members of the community. The Subcommittee will establish annual criteria for awards & scholarships distribution and work with the MDCGC Treasurer to determine available funding.

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI): The MDCGC JEDI subcommittee will support the voices and feedback of diverse students and genetic counselors in the regional area by integrating efforts to improve justice, diversity, equity and inclusion in practice and within the community at large. The expectation of involvement is a monthly call to share ideas and discuss plans to address the goals of the subcommittee. _

If you feel comfortable, it would be valuable to hear about your experiences and perspectives on this topic so we can address specific issues you hope for the JEDI subcommittee to prioritize. Personal information will NOT be shared with the subcommittee or MDCGC membership. Please feel free to share your thoughts and experiences with Nisha Isaac (Email: Nishaisaac@umm.edu).

Outreach: The Outreach Subcommittee will work towards establishing and maintaining contact with local schools and universities to promote awareness of the field of genetic counseling. This includes coordination of outreach events and facilitating contact between MDCGC membership and students interested in genetic counseling. The subcommittee will also be responsible for creating and maintaining recruitment materials for prospective genetic counseling students. The Subcommittee will collaborate with other committees/subcommittees focused upon diversity, equity, and inclusion to increase awareness of and access to the profession for underrepresented groups

Genetic Counselor Awareness Day: The Genetic Counselor Awareness Day subcommittee aims to implement social activities and information outreach for GC Awareness Day in November. The goal is to foster community among the MDCGC members, as well as promote genetic counseling as a career. Members of the subcommittee will work as a team to assist with social media promotions, planning of a social event, preparation and set up for the event as needed, and assistance with event facilitation in collaboration with the Social Media & Communications committee

Want to learn more about these opportunities? Ready to volunteer?
Email the MDCGC at info@mdcgc.org and we will connect you with our committee chairs!

