

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2025-2026



University of Iowa Health Care's comprehensive program that addresses core characteristics and skills needed to lead effectively in an academic healthcare environment.



LINDA BLOCK

QUALITY AND OPERATIONS
IMPROVEMENT ENGINEER
CENTRAL STERILIZING SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
Implement the SPM (CSS Instrument Tracking System) across all clinical and procedural areas, ensuring that instrumentation and trays are consistently tracked at all locations in real time.



JEN BOYD

NURSE MANAGER
INTEGRATED CALL CENTER

PROJECT FOCUS:
A Nurse Triage Training module will assist nurses participating in over the phone assessments of patient concerns/symptoms in understanding the importance of a thorough review of patient history and the additional risks that come with telephone nurse triage.



MARGARET BYRNE

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
INTERNAL MEDICINE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Creation of a state-wide molecular tumor board for presentation of patients with metastatic solid tumor malignancy.



EXODUS CARDOZA

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
PATIENT EXPERIENCE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Establish a dedicated endowment funded initiative to support adult patients and families facing extenuating non-medical financial hardships such as transportation, food, and lodging while enhancing access and the overall care experience.



SWARNIMA CHAUDHARY

SENIOR BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH CONSULTANT
CAMPUS SAFETY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Reimagining the Disruptive Behavior Committee (DBC) to clearly define stakeholders, structure, and function, ensuring a responsive, interdisciplinary approach to identifying and managing high-risk behaviors across UI Health Care.



COURTNEY DAYTON

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR
LEGAL AFFAIRS

PROJECT FOCUS:
Development of a structured training program and a central resource hub to close knowledge gaps and simplify non-procurement contract processes across UI Health Care.



JESSICA FALCONER

STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST
PATIENT EXPERIENCE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Co-leading the relaunch and standardization of Bedside Shift Report.



WILLIAM FEDDERS

STRATEGY CONSULTANT
HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION

PROJECT FOCUS:
Business plan to offer pharmacy, radiology, and pathology services to rural hospitals in Iowa.



KELLY FERRONI

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Utilizing scheduling data to improve outpatient Ob/Gyn access.



KIRK HARDER

ASSISTANT MANAGER
FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
Implementation of mobile inventory.



DREW HARNEY

HEALTH CARE SERVICES SUPERVISOR
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Develop a standardized, data-driven process to monitor and maintain optimal provider panel sizes. Leverage historical, current, and projected data to support improved continuity of care, patient access, and consistent decision-making regarding provider panel status (open or closed to accepting new patients).



MOLLY JAMIESON

RISK MANAGER
LEGAL AFFAIRS

PROJECT FOCUS:
Development and implementation of a comprehensive disclosure education and simulation program to enhance healthcare professionals' ability to effectively communicate adverse events to patients and families, fostering transparency, trust, and a culture of safety.



SAMUEL JONES

CLINICAL PROFESSOR
SURGERY

PROJECT FOCUS:
To decrease unnecessary bed days, improve length of stay and transitioning patients to the outpatient setting as early and reasonable possible.



SHELBY JUBECK

SUPPORT SERVICES SUPERVISOR
CLINICAL STAFF OFFICE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Development of a formal onboarding and training process for new Clinical Staff Office staff to include an orientation schedule and proper training materials.



ROSCHELL LLOYD

HEALTH CARE SERVICES MANAGER/
ASSISTANT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
CENTRAL STERILIZING SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
My project aims to enhance new staff onboarding and training by pairing them with preceptors who will also serve as long-term mentors and career coaches, fostering professional growth and development.



AMELIA MAIXNER

ADMINISTRATIVE FELLOW
HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION

PROJECT FOCUS:
Caring for the Caregivers: Strengthening the well-being and experience of our APP, GME trainee, and inpatient and perioperative nursing workforce.



ALI MCCUE

AUTISM CENTER CLINIC COORDINATOR
CENTER FOR DISABILITIES
AND DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT FOCUS:
Building provider capacity, confidence, and safety in treating patients with disabilities.



JOSIAH MILLER-DOHRER

MANAGER
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
Implementing Emergency Department discharges across the UI Health Care campuses. To improve patient satisfaction scores and patient safety with more frequent disinfection of Emergency rooms.



ASHLEY NELSON

ASSISTANT LAB MANAGER
ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Standardizing workflows in Anatomic Pathology to create efficiencies and opportunities for additional lines of service for Mission patients.



JEREMY NELSON

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES
AND SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
Propose a Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) with approval by the College of Medicine, the Provost, and the Board of Regents.



JENNIFER OWEN

ASSISTANT OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
PATIENT ACCESS CENTER

PROJECT FOCUS:
Optimizing Radiology Scheduling by bringing departments and teams together for a common goal that will improve a patients experience with UI Health Care.



SAM PATEL

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
SAFETY AND SECURITY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Establish Stead Family Children's Hospital as a secure, standalone facility by implementing a comprehensive access control system that limits entry to validated patients, families, staff, and approved visitors.



KATIE REED

NURSE MANAGER
WALK-IN CLINICS

PROJECT FOCUS:
Implement Patient Self-Triage to guide patients to the most appropriate level of same-day care based on their symptoms, improving access, efficiency, and experience.



KATHRYN SMITH

ADULT CLINICAL PHARMACY MANAGER
ACUTE CARE PHARMACY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Development and implementation of a medication history and reconciliation risk stratification tool within UI Health Care.



ANGELA SPEERS

QUALITY AND OPERATIONS
IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST
RADIOLOGY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Radiology will be launching a double simultaneous go-live of a new PACS (Picture Archiving System) and dictation system enterprise-wide to increase efficiency, streamline workflows, and use ultrafast cloud performance.



JOSHUA STOPAK

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
ANESTHESIA

PROJECT FOCUS:
Removal of the central supply of (piped) nitrous oxide from Stead Family Children's Hospital, with the aim to reduce costs, waste, risk of patient harm and prevent environmental pollution.



THOMAS STRAW

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
GUEST SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
Comprehensive program and safety overhaul for our Patient Transports titled, "BE GOLD" (an acronym) that will provide a high-level overview of the program at a glance, but will include detailed, standardized, practices for our Patient Transports.



JODY TROYER

STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST
PATIENT EXPERIENCE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Strengthening leadership across the institution by creating training that incorporates Brené Brown's research-backed strategies.



KRISTI WALKER

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
INTERNAL MEDICINE

PROJECT FOCUS:
Implementation plan for discharges before 9:30 a.m. on the hospital medicine service.



STEPHANIE WHITE

OPERATIONS MANAGER
ANESTHESIA SIMULATION AND
EDUCATION CENTER

PROJECT FOCUS:
Anesthesia CA-1 residents will be asked to pen reflective journal entries about their life here at UIHC, and submit chosen entries anonymously and they and the team will gather monthly to debrief and discuss topics.



DAWN WHITEHILL

PHARMACY DIRECTOR
MEDICAL CENTER DOWNTOWN
PHARMACY

PROJECT FOCUS:
Develop draft agreements describing potential pharmacy services which could be provided by the Downtown Campus Pharmacy to rural Iowa Community Connect hospitals.



MEGAN WIEBERSCH

COPE TEAM CHAPLAIN
SPIRITUAL SERVICES

PROJECT FOCUS:
Strengthening the emotional culture within health care teams so that grief, loss, fatigue, and resilience can be acknowledged authentically and support can be tailored to each unit's emotional landscape.