

I am the Director of the Mount Sinai Pediatric School Based Clinics—4 clinics all located in East Harlem that provide both medical and mental health care. I provide medical care at the sites and am also the director/administrator of the operation. I run bi-monthly in-service meetings for our multidisciplinary staff from case conferences to guest speakers. Our program is well known in East Harlem and we partner with many local agencies in East Harlem including Little Sisters for home visits and EHACE for comprehensive asthma care. We are lucky that many medical students come to our sites either for a shadowing experience or as an InterAct site as 2 of the members of my team are preceptors for this longitudinal clinical experience. I serve as a ward attending on the pediatrics floors approximately 6-8 weeks of the year where I do teaching rounds with housestaff and medical students. I also do several clinic talks throughout the year for the general pediatricians and housestaff usually on adolescent medicine topics.  I am one of the general Pediatrics Associates attendings and share in the on call weekend and after hour responsibilities. As an adolescent medicine specialist I also see adolescents at the AHC on many Wednesday afternoons and provide care for children/adolescents/young adults from 10-24. I am able to easily see my school based children who “age out” of our school clinics and that is great for me as I like continuity. I love primary care and enjoy caring for children and adolescents in East Harlem. I am the product of NYC public schools and strongly advocate for the children that they serve.

   I serve as the Vice Chair for Diversity Initiatives in Pediatrics I am part of the Pediatrics Executive Leadership Committee. A goal of this committee is to strategize for optimal growth of pediatrics with a lot of attention to education, finance, research, funding and recruitment.  As the pediatric faculty is not very diverse it has been great to openly discuss with others what they perceive the challenges are. I started the committee for diversity in pediatrics  focusing on URMS and LGBTQ  about 2 years ago and we have done many new things including giving all applicants information about our group and our contact information  as well as calling all potential candidates that are URMs that we think will do well here. A major achievement of the committee is that is has people in my department thinking more about diversity and talking about it! In addition my work has focused on meeting with the Division Chiefs, Program Directors and administration working toward a creative solution. I also interview prospective housestaff here—with an emphasis on looking for diverse applicants. Recently, we had an amazing Pediatric Grand Rounds that our group suggested to the Grand Rounds committee on the care of LGBTQ youth. While I continue to stress to the department that diversity and inclusion is a shared responsibility, I think that much of the momentum for change within our department has come from the committee that I started. This year our interns are the most diverse in the history of the program! I am the department representative to the Icahn School Diversity Council as well a Diversity Leadership Committee.