



Weill Cornell Medicine Center for Human Rights

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Statistics

- As of August 2019, the WCCHR has conducted **596** evaluations for **514** clients from **74** countries. **157** clients or **95%** of the cases that have been adjudicated have already been granted asylum or another form of relief.

Upcoming Events

- The WCCHR Research Interest Meeting for Clinicians will take place on September 25th at 5:30 PM in the WCMC Department of Anesthesiology P3 Conference Room, 525 E 68th St NY, NY 10065. Contact Nicholas Vernice at nay4001@med.cornell.edu with any questions.

North American Refugee Health Conference

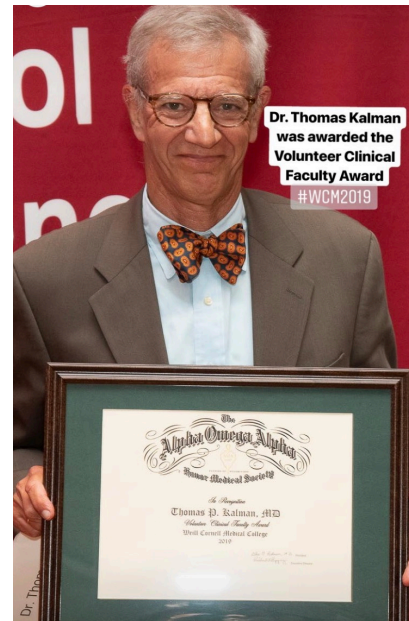
In June, current and former members of WCCHR took part in the North American Refugee Health Conference (NARHC) in Toronto. The NARHC is the largest global conference focusing on refugee health and the title of this year's workshop was "Challenges in Founding and Developing Student-Run Asylum Clinics". The event included presentations from the Honorable Bob Rae and Dr. Maya Prabhu as well as courses on tropical medicine and the health of travelers. The WCCHR members collaborated with medical students from UCLA's asylum clinic in this workshop to foster a conversation about refugee health and how best to advocate for the refugee patient population.



WCCHR members in front row, left to right: Ellie Emery (One of WCCHR's first Executive Directors), Andrew Milewski (Co-Executive Director Emeritus, Former Director of the PHR Student Advisory Board), Jeremy Chang (Evaluation Scheduler), Rhiannon Miller (Events Coordinator)

Volunteer Faculty Teacher of the Year Award

Dr. Thomas Kalman was awarded the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society's Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award at the 2019 Weill Cornell Medical College Convocation. This award recognizes clinicians who have made significant contributions to training and educating students. Faculty are nominated by students and chosen by the student members of the Alpha Omega Alpha Society. Dr. Kalman has been on the Cornell Medical Faculty for 40 years and has volunteered with WCCHR since 2011. He became one of WCCHR's medical directors in 2015.



Court allows Trump admin asylum restrictions to take place along most of border

By Quinn Owen

"The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals rolled back a prior nationwide injunction that blocked the Trump administration's attempt to deny most asylum claims at the U.S.-Mexico border."

"Those who cross the border into California or Arizona will be able to seek asylum, while those entering into New Mexico and Texas will be barred unless they're from Mexico."



Link to article: <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/court-trump-admin-asylum-restrictions-place-border/story?id=65016549>

Jeremy Chang

Jeremy Chang is a second-year medical student. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 2018. Although Jeremy is in the Tri-Institutional MD-PhD program and intends to focus on biomedical research, he is interested in the intersection of law, policy, and medicine. Participating in WCCHR allows him to explore this interest and to utilize his medical knowledge to help vulnerable populations in a novel way. Jeremy joined the WCCHR student board as an evaluation scheduler last year. To date, he has been involved in the planning of almost 30 evaluations for clients seeking asylum, withholding of removal, or U-Visas. Jeremy is the incoming Director of Scheduling for the 2020 WCCHR Student Board. So far, WCCHR has been the most fulfilling part of Jeremy's medical school career.



Dr. Carol Kessler

Carol L. Kessler, M.D., M.Div is a board certified child, adolescent, and adult psychiatrist and an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Church of America. Since returning from volunteering in El Salvador in 1987, she has been conducting asylum evaluations - with the Central American Refugee Committee, and later with Physicians for Human Rights. She is a volunteer with the longtermers project of the Osborne Association, accompanying people who are serving long sentences for homicide-related offenses on their journey toward parole. She works as a community-based psychiatrist with Astor Services for Children in the Bronx and with Open Door Family Medical Centers in Westchester County. She has been on the faculty of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and Columbia University.

