

Erica N. Johnson, MD, FACP, FIDSA - 2018 Recipient of C. Lockard Conley Award

We are very pleased that this year's recipient to the Conley Award is Dr. Erica Johnson. Dr. Johnson is currently the Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program, at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. She is also an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins Bayview. Dr. Johnson graduated from the University of Maryland Medical School and completed her residency at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She then completed a Fellowship in Infectious Disease at the Brooke Army Medical Center where she continued her services with the Armed Forces serving a total of 11 years as a Medical Corp Officer in the US Army from 2003 until 2014. She was also an Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency and the Infectious Diseases Fellowship at the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium. She began her career at Hopkins/Bayview by serving first as the Associate Program Director in 2014-2015, and within one year she was leading the program as Program Director from 2015 to the present.

Dr. Conley was known as a beloved educator who powerfully impacted the lives of his trainees, and Dr. Johnson is known for the same. Shortly after arriving at Hopkins, she developed and received grant awards for her novel TEACH Curriculum (Training for Engagement and Advocacy for Community Health), which educates residents about the importance of addressing the social determinants of health. Dr. Johnson inspires her trainees to care about patients as people in the context of their life experiences and cultural backgrounds.

Dr. Johnson has also taken her unique perspective into the community by beginning a novel community service tool called Project VOICE. This initiative brings a voice to the Turner Station community, the historical home of Henrietta Lacks, by providing girl scouts in this area with skills and tools that allow them to interview and photograph senior citizens as they share stories about their health experiences. Residents from Bayview participate in this effort which allows them a much greater understanding of the community around them.

Dr. Johnson is not only passionate about appreciating diversity among the patient population, but also brings these ideas to the general medication program at Bayview. At the bedside, Dr. Johnson serves in multiple roles as an outstanding clinical educator where she acts as a teaching attending and is known for her compassionate bedside manner, clear teaching style and positive learning environment. She shares her deep knowledge of infectious diseases with residents who have the joy to join her in her outpatient practice during an outpatient subspecialty rotation.

As Dr. Conley is known for his mentorship of trainees, Dr. Johnson is a valued mentor to each of her house staff members. She cares deeply about each of her resident's personal and professional growth during their three years of training and beyond. She not only supports her resident victories, but more importantly she helps to support her trainees through the challenges they may experience along the way.

If Dr. Conley could have seen the future of medicine, he would have been very pleased that Dr. Erica Johnson is in the forefront of this new wave of physicians and educators. She is a physician that not only assists the patient with their medical problems, but also believes that their life's experiences and cultural backgrounds are just as important. The Maryland ACP is very grateful that physicians such as Dr. Johnson are able to carry on the legacy of Dr. C. Lockard Conley.