



Association of General Hospital Psychiatric Services

The Association of General Hospital Psychiatric Services (AGHPS)

Jane Chamberlin Award 2021 Selection

Hospital: The Ottawa Hospital (Ottawa, Ontario)

Candidate's Name: Mark Kaluziński, M.D.

Position: Deputy Head and Service Line Medical Director, Department of Mental health

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Since his hire at The Ottawa Hospital (TOH) just a decade ago, fresh out of residency and fellowship, Dr. Kaluziński jumped headfirst into administrative duties while maintaining a busy clinical schedule. In 2019, when we were leaderless, he temporarily stepped in to become our youngest chief ever. This turned out to be the most challenging 15 months in our department's history, occurring during a period of implementation of a new electronic medical record, the first six months of the COVID-19 pandemic and with an already diminished workforce. His grit and energy earned our trust and partnership to successfully navigate EPIC implementation and pandemic adjustments. Under his leadership, the department went from its lowest ebbs of morale to jointly sponsor a major departmental donation (\$7500 to the Crisis Centre to assist with the increased community demand arising from COVID-19). During EPIC implementation, Mark clearly communicated changing TOH directives, assigned members to various peer educator roles and EPIC committees, and ensured coordination between mental health and other medical services. He supported the department and finance committee to make difficult but necessary human resource decisions. He then oversaw the department's mammoth pandemic overhaul that required closing of some services and rapid deployment of virtual care. These unprecedented challenges occurred in the context of chronically over-capacity inpatient units, the end of Criticall's regional support to Psychiatry, and 43% lower full-time equivalents of psychiatrists. The positive impact of Mark's leadership on Mental Health's profile extended beyond TOH to our regional partners. He collaborates administratively and academically with multiple departments, including the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and the Foundation, regional Schedule 1 and community hospitals, the Ottawa Medical Society, the University of Ottawa and the Ontario Medical Association. He actively supports physicians and the community in his various endeavors.

Submitted by

Jess G. Fiedorowicz, Sandra Antochi, Jasmine Gandhi, and David McBride on behalf of the faculty and staff in the Department of Mental Health

Head and Chief of Mental Health, physicians and staff