



CDUSG Corrals CDU Community to Support Relief Efforts For Members of Migrant Caravan

After seeing the migrant caravan episode unfold in media reports, CDUSG president Sana Abbasi felt compelled to issue a call to the CDU community to donate products and help assemble hygiene kits for members in the caravan.

The CDU community answered, and starting from December 6 to December 9, students and faculty from all three schools, as well as staff and outside donors assembled nearly 200 hygiene kits consisting of toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, hand sanitizer, towels and wipes. The packages were then shipped to Mexico the following weekend with trusted physicians and medical volunteers to be distributed.

"Its days like this that make me feel like we are living up to our mission and promises of giving back to the underserved," said Abbasi, a staunch advocate of social justice and equity for all. She expressed her gratitude to all who participated in the effort, adding: "We do not need to agree on politics, religion, sports or perspectives. What we can agree on is humanity, and that cannot be taught or learned."

President's Message

Greetings,

It's been a busy year for us at CDU. Not only did we survive 2018, we thrived due to the diligent contributions, hard work, and dedication of the entire CDU community. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Management Team, I sincerely thank all staff, faculty, students, donors and stakeholders for their steadfast commitment to Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and its mission.

During the break, I would like to challenge each of you to do something in addition to enjoying family, friends and holiday traditions: find the time to *reflect*, *relax* and *renew*. We've accomplished phenomenal things this year at CDU and now we owe it to ourselves to decompress. In order for us to continue the great work we began in 1966 and to continue to make a positive impact on the communities we serve going into 2019 and beyond, our minds, bodies, and spirits must be in

optimal condition. Upon our return to campus on January 2, I am confident that we will continue to make excellent progress and achieve even greater success in 2019. From my family to yours, I wish you all the happiest of holidays and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President & CEO

Campus News

COSH Welcomes New Students at White Coat Ceremonies

The College of Science and Health welcomed the newest group of practitioners to the health professions field with the Radiologic Technology and Physician Assistant programs' white coat ceremonies on December 12 and December 14, respectively. The RadTech program welcomed 20 new members of the Class of 2020, while the PA program issued 22 long white coats to the Class of 2018.



White coat ceremonies are considered a rite of passage for those entering health professions, as they have symbolized the trust between patient and healthcare provider for over 100 years. Both ceremonies concluded with students reciting the oaths of their professions to signify their commitment to the humanitarian goals of medicine.

Sylvia Drew Ivie Receives Community Award

Sylvia Drew Ivie, JD, was honored with the Women Warriors Working in Watts award at the 53rd annual Watts Christmas Parade breakfast on December 8. She was recognized for her outstanding work in the Watts community over the years.



Former CDU Intern Named Rose Queen



Former CDU high school research intern Louise Deser Siskel has been selected as the Pasadena Tournament of Roses' 101st Rose Queen. She will appear in the Royal Court float in the 130th Rose Parade® presented by Honda and attending the 105th Rose Bowl Game® presented by Northwestern Mutual, both on Tuesday, January 1, 2019.

Louise is a senior at Sequoyah High School and lives in San Marino, California. Her research in space biology has been funded by NASA Ames Research Center, based in Silicon Valley, and she previously conducted breast cancer research at CDU with Dr. Shehla Pervin. A lover of science, she admitted that she'd never considered entering a beauty pageant until recently, choosing to do so due to the "unique opportunity [court members have] to be mentors to other young people in the Pasadena area." She plans to use her new platform to promote and advance scientific thinking, literacy and education. Though she has moved on from the CDU labs, she noted her affinity for CDU and her former colleagues and occasionally returns to campus to observe the work being done at the University. Now a senior in high school, Louise plans to study molecular and cellular biology in college and hopes to have a career in surgery while still remaining involved with cancer research.

CDU Concludes 2018 With Year-End Celebration



CDU students, faculty and staff came together on December 11 for an afternoon of joy and fun activities as they celebrated the University's annual Year-End Celebration. President/CEO Dr. David Carlisle gave opening remarks at the event, taking the time to thank the CDU community for their hard work throughout the year. The event featured various raffle contests and performances from the CDU Holiday Choir, who performed renditions of holiday classics "Joy to the World" and "Silent Night." Photos from the Year-End Celebration can be found [here](#), or on the CDU SmugMug website.

CDU in the News

Los Angeles Times

[Loretta Jones, who fought for better healthcare in L.A.'s inner city, dies at 77](#) (12/1/2018)

San Diego Union Tribune

[Loretta Jones, who fought for better healthcare in L.A.'s inner city, dies at 77](#) (12/1/2018)

Kaiser Permanente

[Kaiser Permanente Announces \\$6 Million in New Grants in Southern California Focusing on Mental and Behavioral Health Services](#) (12/3/2018)

Los Angeles Business Journal

[Kaiser Permanente Launches \\$6M in Grants for SoCal Mental Health Agencies](#) (12/3/2018)

Black AIDS Institute

[BLACK AIDS INSTITUTE NAMES NEW PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER](#) (12/4/2018)

HBCU Money

[A Patent Created Is A Million Earned: HBCUs Are Not Keeping Pace In The Intellectual Property Arms Race Among American Colleges](#) (12/5/2018)

The Body

[#MeToo Movement Founder Tarana Burke Opens the Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit -- and a Conversation About Sexual Violence and Harassment](#) (12/6/2018)

Americans for the Arts

[Move Well with Communities](#) (12/6/2018)

PR Newswire

[Latino Health Students And Leaders To Be Honored In Los Angeles](#) (12/13/2018)

LA Sentinel

[Rep. Bass Elected New Chairperson of Congressional Black Caucus](#) (12/17/2018)



CDU News is published monthly by the Office of Strategic Advancement.

For more information or to submit a story, email ccarter@cdrewu.edu or call (323) 357-3669