

Tim Kane, FULD Fellow Cohort II



“Arriving at meaningful solutions is an inevitably slow and difficult process. Nonetheless...better is possible. It does not take genius. It takes diligence. It takes moral clarity. And above all, it takes a willingness to try.” –Atul Gawande

Project Emerge is a large-scale, multidisciplinary, multi-site quality improvement and research initiative sponsored by the Armstrong Institute and the Moore Foundation that seeks to eliminate preventable harm, optimize patient outcomes and experience, and reduce healthcare costs through a comprehensive ICU redesign involving an integrated system of technologies, clinical practices, and healthcare worker mindsets. In my work with the Learning and Accountability work group under Dr. David Thompson, DNSc, MS, RN, I have been involved in efforts to develop optimal practices and tools to promote a workplace culture that enables and supports constant change for the better by creating systems of constant feedback for the care teams.

I am currently a BSN candidate graduating in December 2013. In 2010 I graduated from Brandeis University with a BA in Psychology. Following graduation, I worked for the Framingham Study Neuropsychology group aiding in investigations of risk factors for the development of Alzheimer Disease, Mild Cognitive Impairment, and other forms of neurodegenerative diseases.

My interest in patient safety and quality improvement is driven by an ethical obligation. As healthcare providers who have the privilege of caring for others' loved ones, we are expected to provide care that is up-to-date and evidence-based. We must constantly strive for better and create systems that embrace constant change.

Next year I will take the strong foundation in quality improvement and systems thinking that the Fuld program has instilled in me, to a unit with a strong culture of safety and the administrative support to allow me to immediately get involved in efforts to improve patient outcomes and quality of care. I will also continue on in my education part time in the acute care nurse practitioner MSN program at Johns Hopkins University with the ultimate goal of working with the acutely ill neuroscience population in this role.