



The Elm is a publication of the University of Maryland, Baltimore

# The Elm

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## Looking Back: On the Front Lines: UMB Champions of Excellence

April 14, 2021 | UMB Communications and Public Affairs

Our 2020-2021 campaign features 24 inspirational stories and videos about UMB employees who've done exemplary work since the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in March 2020.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) On the Front Lines: Champions of Excellence campaign features 24 inspirational stories and videos about UMB employees who've done exemplary work since the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in March 2020.

From Alana Kyriakakis, JD, the University Counsel who provided sage advice to help UMB navigate legal matters related to the pandemic, to the University of Maryland Pathology Associates laboratory services team, which worked around the clock to help ramp up COVID-19 testing capabilities, these individuals and teams embody the University's core values of accountability, civility, collaboration, diversity, excellence, knowledge, and leadership.

The campaign highlighted the work of employees from a variety of UMB departments and schools, including the School of Medicine's Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, the School of Social Work's Promise Heights, the School of Nursing's facilities team, the School of Dentistry's emergency oral health care team, and the Center for Health and Homeland Security, which partners with the Francis King Carey School of Law.

The School of Pharmacy's director of facilities and laboratory services, Pamela Crowe, MS, was featured for her role in keeping the school's buildings and operations running smoothly during the pandemic. UMB's Community Engagement Center (CEC) leaders — Ashley Valis, MSW, and Tyrone Roper, MSW — were honored for their work in transitioning CEC programs and services to virtual platforms. Stacy Holmes, business services senior specialist for Parking and Transportation Services (PTS), was recognized for staying "ahead of the curve" and working to ensure the safety of PTS staff and customers even before the pandemic began.

Those are just a few examples of the compelling stories the campaign brought to life. You can read about all of the honorees on the UMB Champions of Excellence website at the link below. The Champions of Excellence campaign began in 2015 and continued in 2017-18 before resuming in 2020-21 with the On the Front Lines theme. We look forward to the next Champions of Excellence campaign in the years ahead.

<https://www.umaryland.edu/champions/>



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*The Elm* was overhauled and relaunched in February 2019. Articles from before that time can still be accessed at [The Elm Archive](#).

