

Mission Physician

What??

- A program to attract young people to enter family medicine
- Supported by Altru Health System
- Aided by a grant from Dakota Medical Foundation
- Conceived and directed by the Altru Family Medicine Residency Program



Who??

- Junior and senior high school students
- Non-metropolitan schools, mainly smaller towns and rural
- Identified and selected by school principals and health occupation counselors
- Contacted by brochure and letter

Where??

- In Altru Hospital
- At the Family Medicine Residency
- Around the Community
- At the Canad Inn



When??

- June and July
- Beginning on a Sunday evening and ending the following Thursday evening
- Five camps in total, maximum of 10 students per camp



Why??

To combat the shortage of family physicians

Family physicians are more likely to:-

- come from rural areas
- come from less affluent families
- be motivated by a sense of service
- to identify with their patients and community



Importance of May 23, 2007

First time in history, World's population more urban than rural

Consequences

- Redistricting - new urban legislatures redraw lines to favor other urban legislators
- Changes in school funding such as consolidation
- Restructuring education formulas to force consolidation
- Unconsolidated rural schools face funding difficulties
- All medical schools admitting fewer students from rural origins
- Medical schools with rural mission had less decline
- Medical schools with greatest decline most recently shifted from rural to urban



Problem of elitism

Medical schools place emphasis on MCAT scores

- poor indicator of future success

Admission committees are impressed by "service" and "travel"

- rural students are financially disadvantaged and "needed to support family"



Rural students need advocacy!

Better predictors of success are background and work ethic, hence "Mission Physician"



The following physicians generously volunteer their time to mentor students if wished, and to assist and advise with the management of the program

Mentors

Brad Braunagel MD, Valley City

Laura Walker MD, Hettinger

Dawn Mattern MD, Minot

Mark Olson MD, Williston

Marc Neilsen MD, Williston

Brenda Miller MD, Bismarck

Shelly Seifert MD, Bismarck

Derek Wayman MD, Devils Lake

Pat Emery MD, Wahpeton

Tracy Martin MD, Fargo

Jamie Roed MD, Grand Forks

Todd Schaffer MD, Carrington

Kamille Sherman MD, Dickinson

Rup Nagala MD, Oakes

Aaron Garmen MD, Beulah

Rob Kemp MD, Williston

Dave Field MD, Bismarck

Louise Murphy MD, Bismarck

Heidi Bittner MD, Devils Lake

Joel Johnson MD, Park River

Chuck Nyhus MD, Harvey

Larry Halvorson MD, Grand Forks

Pat Moore MD, Grand Forks

Management committee

Derek Wayman MD, Devils Lake

Chuck Breen MD, Hillsboro

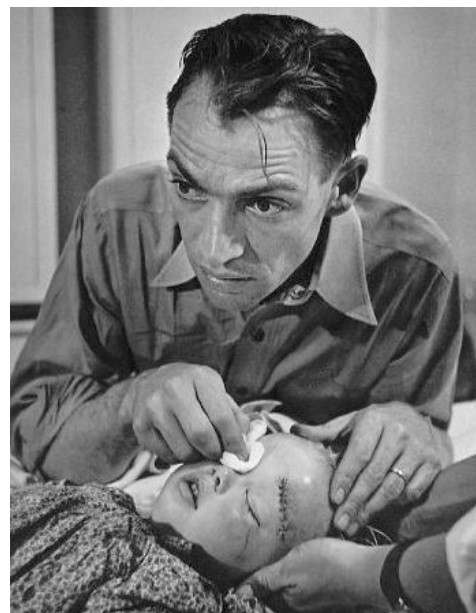
Aaron Garman MD, Beulah

Chuck Nyhus MD, Harvey

Todd Schaffer MD, Carrington

Pat Emery MD, Wahpeton

Mark Olson MD, Williston



Itinerary

Family Medicine Residency

- Built by Altru Health System
- Gifted to UND in exchange for Medical Center Rehabilitation Hospital
- Unsupported by state funds

Procedures

An introduction to basic clinical procedures

- Xray interpretation
- Suturing
- Spinal tap
- Respiratory & Circulatory Systems
- Casting
- Joint injections
- Vision & Hearing assessment



Shadowing

- Shadowing within all major hospital departments, and with faculty and residents
- An introduction to office practice and physician-patient relationship
- How care is actually delivered!
- How diagnosis is actually made!
- Practice rather than academic theory!

Panels/Presentations

- An opportunity to question and interact with residents in a panel setting



Presentations

- What is a family physician? Not a "community-based primary care specialist!"
- Health care careers
- Physics in action
- Clinical Anatomy
- Forensic Pathology
- Hospice
- Life of a Paramedic
- Mock Medical School Interviews
- End of Life Care
- Prosthetics/Orthotics
- Sports Medicine

Altru Hospital

- Emergency room
- Radiology
- Physical Therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Internal Medicine
- Cancer Care Nursing
- Nuclear Medicine
- Nephrology
- Hand Therapy
- Gastroenterology
- Prosthetics/Orthotics
- Physician Assistant
- Operating suite
- Orthopedics
- Occupational Therapy
- Respiratory Therapy
- Clinical Dietetics
- Podiatry
- Speech/Language Pathology
- Pain Management
- Chronic Wound Clinic
- Pathology
- Diabetes Center
- Pulmonology & Critical Care
- Cardiac catheterization lab
- Clinical Laboratory
- Cardiology Nursing
- Audiology
- Pediatric Nursing
- Pediatrics
- Radiation Therapy
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Oncology
- Nurse Practitioner

- **CPR certification**

- **Family Practice Teaching Service**

Recreation

- Columbia Mall, shopping
 - Water Park
 - Movie
 - Picnic, University Park
- (all activities chaperoned)



Other components

- Tracking and demographic database
- Appointment of mentors
- Web-based support
- Expansion of family medicine fellowship
- Video product, summer camp & residency program
- Legislative initiative

Acknowledgements

The program has been arranged, coordinated and directed by Wanda Cary, Resident Associate, Family Medicine Residency Program

Administrative support has been provided by Pam Carlson, Residency Program Administrator, who has also assisted with negotiations with Canad Inn, and managed the cost center set up to fund the project

Both Heidi and Wanda have been recognized by Dakota Medical Foundation for their contributions

Heidi Collison, Human Resources Employment Recruiter and Coordinator of Altru's Shadowing Program, in the Human Services Department, Altru Health System, has provided all the school health occupational contacts and extensive arrangements for in-hospital shadowing experiences for more than 35 areas

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