Global, Rural, Underserved Child Health Fellowship

What We Do

The objective of the Global, Rural and Underserved Child Health (GRUCH) Fellowship is to provide our fellows the clinical exposure, academic opportunity and mentorship to become leaders in global child health. Our fellows receive mentorship from faculty at the University of Utah and from colleagues at our partner sites at the University of Rwanda and Navajo Area Indian Health. During their time with us, GRUCH fellows also have the opportunity to pursue an advanced degree through the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

How to Apply

We would be excited to have you join us in this unique and rewarding fellowship.

Applications are being accepted now until October 1, 2019.

Apply at: https://tinyurl.com/gruch2019

Required application documentation:

- Online Application that includes CV and Personal Statement
- Three (3) letters of recommendation sent to Dr. Jeff Robison & pamela.carpenter@hsc.utah.edu
Who We Are

The fellowship is administered as part of the GRUCH program within the UU department of pediatrics and integrated into the residency pathway and other global health efforts within the department. We partner with the University of Rwanda Teaching Hospital of Butare and the Chinle Comprehensive Care Clinic of the Navajo Nation.

Why We Do It

We are interested in elucidating common principles in the care of children in resource limited settings, working towards long-term, evidence based solutions to complex determinants of health and training future leaders in global child health.

Jeff Robison, MD
Reena Tam, MD
Dave Sandwiess, MD
Bernhard Fassl, MD

Check out more about Jeff HERE.
Check out more about Reena HERE.
Check out more about Dave HERE.
Check out more about Bernhard HERE.
How We Do It

Over the two-year program, fellows will spend 12 months in Butare, Rwanda, stationed at the University Teaching Hospital and the local district hospital. Fellows are integrated into the faculty of the University of Rwanda and participate in research, quality improvement and clinical care. Fellows will also spend a 6-month period at the Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility where they will work in an integrated fashion with a dynamic group of pediatric care givers in this critical referral hospital on the Navajo Nation.

An additional 6 months will be spent in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah where fellows will receive mentorship to complete an academic project while also participating as a mentor to global health (GRUCH) pathway residents, while also working clinically in our short stay unit at Primary Children’s Hospital.

Fellows are compensated competitively as compared to other Pediatric Global Health Fellowships in the United States and Canada, and all travel, insurance and housing are included. Applicants must be Board Eligible or Board Certified by the American Board of Pediatrics at the time of employment.

Learn more about our department at HERE.
Chinle Comprehensive Health Center: Chinle, Arizona, Navajo Nation

Global, Rural and Underserved Child Health Fellows will be working at the Chinle Comprehensive Health Center (CCHC) in partnership with Navajo Area Indian Health. Chinle is located in the heart of the Navajo Nation. Here, the fellow’s role will primarily be clinical and educational with additional avenues for community outreach and/or project development. The fellow’s clinical responsibilities will be a combination of inpatient wards (including the newborn nursery), evening and weekend call, and outpatient medicine within the Department of Pediatrics. Fellows actively participate in education within the department of pediatrics together with talented colleagues, nurses and visiting residents and medical students from across the country. There are also options to work in community-based adolescent clinics or with the public health nursing team or to seek other areas of community involvement if interested. Fellows will experience full autonomy in clinical decision-making, develop, implement and assess quality improvement projects, encourage education and partnership between the University of Utah and CCHC and provide a wide-range of clinical care to the people of the Navajo Nation.
GRUCH fellows working in Butare, Rwanda will be spending most of their time at the University Teaching Hospital of Butare (CHUB) and the Kabutare District Hospital. The fellows will make clinical decisions, teach local medical students and residents during rounds, and participate in quality improvement projects and collaborative research. At CHUB, children are admitted with a wide variety of illnesses including typhoid fever, rheumatic heart disease, HIV, tuberculosis, and cerebral malaria. One week per month the fellow will also attend on rounds at Kabutare District Hospital, a rural hospital where they will see a high volume of patients primarily with malaria, malnutrition, and bacterial pneumonia. At Kabutare DH, the fellow has the opportunity to mentor and give presentations on various pediatric topics to general practitioners. Fellows will learn how to utilize limited resources, how to diagnose and treat various tropical diseases, and will contribute to developing solutions to major health care issues.

GRUCH fellows will spend their time fully immersed and integrated into the clinical and scholarly activities at our partner sites, while also receiving ongoing mentorship from University of Utah faculty in Salt Lake City. Fellows will evenly divide their time between our two partner sites during the first year of the fellowship. The second year of the fellowship will include time spent in Salt Lake City wherein fellows will work closely with mentors to forward their scholarly project while participating in the education of students and residents in global health topics. The remainder of the second year will be spent in Rwanda.
University of Utah, Primary Children’s Hospital: Salt Lake City, UT

GRUCH fellows will spend 6 months in Salt Lake City in the Rapid Treatment Unit. The Primary Children’s Hospital Rapid Treatment Unit (RTU) is a 23-bed Observation Unit adjacent to the Pediatric Emergency Department. The RTU cares for both acute pediatric issues requiring short observation/inpatient care (usually less than 24 – 36 hours), as well as a number of scheduled procedures (medication infusions, pH probes, video EEGs, endocrine stimulation studies, procedures requiring sedation, and Same-Day anesthesia procedures).

During this time, GRUCH fellows will be able to mentor and teach residents in the GRUCH residency pathway. In addition, the fellow will be able to receive project and research mentorship from the faculty at the University of Utah, Department of Pediatrics. GRUCH fellows will also run and participate in applicable simulations for GRUCH residents in the state of the art simulation lab at Primary Children’s Hospital.

Primary Children’s Hospital ranks among the best children’s hospitals. Located in scenic Utah, everything in the hospital is focused on providing the best care for children. For more than 90 years, they have been committed to helping children, families, and communities across the western United States. Primary Children’s Hospital and the University of Utah Health Sciences Center serve as the referral centers for a geographic area spanning all or part of six states.