

## **Physician Assistant Program in St. George recognized as Outstanding Health Care Provider of the Year**

Congratulations to our Physician Assistant Studies faculty and students at the Dixie State Campus in St. George, UT. On Saturday, September 7, 2019 the group was recognized as the Outstanding Health Care Provider of the Year at the [Root for Kids](#) Secret Garden Gala.

Faculty and students enrolled in the Physician Assistant (PA) Studies program located in St. George work with Root for Kids on a number of projects throughout the year including providing screenings, physicals, and immunizations for children and their parents enrolled in their early childhood programs. The PA studies program also partnered with Dixie State University (DSU) dental hygiene program to provide dental and medical screenings. This year Root for Kids was invited to participate in the recent Creek Valley Health Fair where vision and hearing screenings were available to participants.

Richard Bennett, PhD, MMSc, PA-C, Associate Program Director for the St. George PA program and Rayne Loder, MHS, PA-C, faculty with the program in St. George, have been instrumental in establishing the relationship with Root for Kids. "It is a great partnership and is a really good opportunity for our students to work with underserved populations within Washington County. I developed this partnership with Tena Heward and Rayne Loder has been leading the organizations of the events for our students." said Bennett.

Congratulation to the program for this recognition and thank you to Dr. Bennett and Ms. Loder for their efforts in developing the relationship.

### About the St. George Extension of the University of Utah Physician Assistant Studies Program

The St. George extension of Physician Assistant Program is in collaboration with the University of Utah School of Medicine and Dixie State University. The St. George classroom is located at the Russell C. Taylor Health Science Center Building, near the Dixie Regional Medical Center, a level II trauma center that serves Southeast Nevada, Northwest Arizona, and Southern Utah.

To learn more about the program, please visit the program [website](#).

### About Root for Kids

[Root for Kids](#) (previously known as The Learning Center for Families) is a non-profit organization located in Southern Utah that provides services for children and families in need of extra support. They provide education and a nurturing environment for optimal growth and development for each child. Since 1993, Root for Kids has served 15,000 families through Early Head Start, Early Intervention, and Parents as Teachers home visiting programs in Washington County, Utah and the Arizona Strip.