Pediatric Residency Program
2019-2020
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PGY-1s
Miriam Ahmad, MD

Hometown: Fresno, CA

Hobbies: cooking, traveling, reading, spending time with family and friends

Favorite place: home

Favorite TV Show: Stranger Things

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? People here are very supportive and willing to go out of their way to help you out – whether it’s attendings, co-residents or staff.
Hometown: Amman, Jordan

Hobbies: playing sports, water activities, playing violin, listening to audiobooks

Favorite place: home

Favorite TV Show: Friends

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Access to a variety of specialties, a great PICU unit, friendly work environment, very organized QI projects and research activities
Ashley Bosse, MD

Hometown: Cincinnati, OH

Hobbies: spending time with family, running/hiking, watching the Cincinnati Bengals, crocheting

Favorite place: walking along any beach

Favorite TV Show: Friends

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The People! The culture here is one of community and success. Everyone here contributes to that mentality and wants to see you succeed.
Lindsey Boyke, MD

Hometown: Verona, WI

Hobbies: huge sports fan (Go Badgers!), hiking, running, baking, wakeboarding

Favorite place: Hatfield, WI (family lake home)

Favorite TV Show: Band of Brothers

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The people here have truly become my family. It’s a perfect sized program to pursue your interests while being extremely well-trained in general pediatrics, and Grand Rapids is beautiful with lots of outdoor activities and food options
Clinton Bunde, DO

Hometown: Petersburg, MI

Hobbies: watching University of Michigan football, playing volleyball, baking

Favorite place: La Jolla, CA

Favorite TV Show: Schitt’s Creek

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? It’s the perfect sized program where the chief residents, program directors and attendings all know you. Plus there are cookies the size of dinner plates.
Hometown: Sarnia, Ontario, Canada

Hobbies: rugby, cake decorating, camping, family time

Favorite place: Tennessee Smoky Mountains, Canadian lake towns

Favorite TV Show: Frasier

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Our wonderful, complex and unique pediatric patients and their families make the residency experience what it is. Not to mention the exceptional teaching and mentorship, exposure to award-winning pediatric subspecialties and overall optimistic, hard-working and family-centered atmosphere.
Megan Crippen, MD

Hometown: Toledo, OH

Hobbies: yoga, hiking with her dog, reading

Favorite place: Disney World

Favorite TV Show: Impractical Jokers

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Everyone is helpful, and the faculty are really invested in supporting your education. All specialties available, but people still know you by name.
Michael Dohar, MD

Hometown: Canfield, OH

Hobbies: baking, swimming, eating

Favorite place: beach, specifically Southern California

Favorite TV Show: Friday Night Lights

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Supportive residency culture with individuals who are passionate about teaching. Work can and should be fun and that is definitely the case here! Also, Grand Rapids is a great city with a lot to do and see!
Leah Garvin, MD

Hometown: Brazil, IN

Hobbies: finding new coffee shops, Netflix and Hulu, trying new fitness classes

Favorite place: Brown County, IN in the fall

Favorite TV Show: Schitt’s Creek

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Supportive, welcoming people/environment – it felt like home right away!
Elijah Huang, MD

Hometown: Carmel, IN

Hobbies: eating all the food, longboarding, running, playing the drums

Favorite place: on a mountain for a sunrise hike

Favorite TV Show: The Punisher

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Genuine people with authentic interests in growing residents into attendings. It’s a place where the staff works collaboratively to provide excellent care.
Claire Jackson, MD

Hometown: Harlem, GA

Hobbies: cooking, gardening, hiking/running with my dog, singing along to Disney movies

Favorite place: Disney World

Favorite TV Show: New Girl

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The program is perfectly sized with good access to research and subspecialties.
Michelle Knapp, MD

Hometown: St. Joseph, MI; Chicago, IL

Hobbies: cooking and baking, cycling, traveling

Favorite place: Barcelona, Spain; Maui, Hawaii

Favorite TV Show: Parks and Recreation

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Incredible people in the best state! We see so much awesome pathology from around the state because of our huge catchment area.
Anaya Mishra, MD

Hometown: Austin, TX

Hobbies: reading, dancing, singing, traveling, running

Favorite place: Austin, TX; London, England

Favorite TV Show: Parks and Recreation, Call the Midwife

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? It’s a beautiful, busy children’s hospital with an extremely supportive group of faculty and residents. Wellness and compassion are priorities here.
Rahamat Odunsi, MD

Hometown: Calumet, IL

Hobbies: DIYs, planning events, sleeping

Favorite place: Grandma’s house

Favorite TV Show: Handmaid’s Tale

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
I appreciate how accessible resources are for our families. It makes me happy that I know there is help out there for them. I'm all about treating the "family" and not just the disease – Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital makes that a priority as well!
Megan Schuetz, MD

Hometown: Novi, MI

Hobbies: hiking, camping, kayaking, reading, yoga, puzzles and board games

Favorite place: the beach

Favorite TV Show: Planet Earth

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The people! Everyone I have met has been welcoming, excited to come to work and encouraging of our growth as pediatricians!
Samantha Schwartz, MD

Hometown: Northbrook, IL

Hobbies: reading, cooking, University of Michigan football

Favorite place: The Big House

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order SVU

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The people. Everyone fosters such a welcoming and warm environment.
Austin Voydanoff, MD

Hometown: Lake Orion, MI

Hobbies: running, hockey, baseball, University of Michigan football

Favorite place: Jackson Hole, WY

Favorite TV Show: The Office

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
The people! I loved the residents I worked with as a medical student here. The attendings were awesome teachers. We are blessed with a beautiful children’s hospital with great resources and specialists.
Chelsea Walquist, MD

Hometown: Brighton, MI

Hobbies: spending time with family, planning vacations, baking and cooking

Favorite place: camping in the Upper Peninsula

Favorite TV Show: Call the Midwife

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Grand Rapids is a great city, especially for raising my child. The children’s hospital is the perfect sized program with easy access to subspecialty resources.
Ai Yamasaki, MD

Hometown: Grosse Pointe, MI

Hobbies: art, rock climbing, dancing, gardening

Favorite place: Kyoto, Japan

Favorite TV Show: Terrace House

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
It’s a gorgeous facility with access to resources and services tailored to pediatric needs. Everyone is committed to being approachable, which is key to an optimal learning environment!
Michelle Yoo, MD

Hometown: Medina, OH

Hobbies: painting, shopping, traveling

Favorite place: wherever my families are

Favorite TV Show: Modern Family

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? It’s an awesome facility and staff. I love how our program always asks for feedback and is open to trying out new ideas.
Pediatric Residency Program
2019-2020

PGY-2s
Hometown: Milwaukee, MI

Hobbies: playing with my dog (Linus), playing piano and guitar, cooking and baking

Favorite place: Paris, France

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? This is a great medium sized program in a fun city. Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital has a wide range of pathology, knowledgeable specialists and dedicated attending physician teachers.
Einas Alkhatib, MD

Hometown: Sartell, MN
Hobbies: traveling, drawing/painting, reading
Favorite place: Amman, Jordan and Barcelona, Spain
Favorite TV Show: This is Us

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I chose this program because everyone is compassionate and collaborative. I like that it is a medium-sized program with a variety of patient cases and an emphasis on community outreach.
David Ashen-Garry, DO

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Hobbies: tennis, skiing, board games

Favorite place: Portland, OR

Favorite TV Show: The Walking Dead

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
It’s a great children’s hospital in a great little city.
Daniel Borman, MD

Hometown: Evansville, IN

Hobbies: DIY projects, sports (go Cats!), amateur foodie

Favorite place: The Rocky Mountains

Favorite TV Show: UK Basketball

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
First and foremost, the people. The focus on patients, their safety, and their families is incredible. Secondly, the hospital is stunning. Third, I really enjoy Grand Rapids and I’m constantly learning about new places and events to explore.
Timothy Borup, MD

Hometown: Boise, ID
Hobbies: spending time with family, playing guitar and piano, running, cycling and hiking.
Favorite place: Sawtooth Mountains, ID
Favorite TV Show: Black Mirror

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Loved the city (close to friends and some family), the overall feel of the program was much more friendly and supporting than others where I interviewed.
Sydney Elizer, MD

Hometown: Brentwood, TN

Hobbies: spending time with my dog, traveling, cooking and baking.

Favorite place: Dublin, Ireland

Favorite TV Show: First 48

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? It felt like home.
Hometown: Shelby Township, MI

Hobbies: cooking, traveling, spending time with friends and family

Favorite place: Kauai, Hawaii

Favorite TV Show: The Office

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I loved the balance between strong academics and community feel.
Alejandra Escobar Vasco, MD

Hometown: Medellin, Columbia

Hobbies: reading, baking, watching movies

Favorite place: Bariloche, Argentina

Favorite TV Show: Friends

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Excellent academic program, resident centered, children’s hospital with all pediatric subspecialties available to learn from.
Melissa Keeley, MD

Hometown: Kalamazoo, MI

Hobbies: kayaking/paddle boarding, going on walks with her husband and dog, baking

Favorite place: Pretty Lake in Kalamazoo, MI

Favorite TV Show: Friends

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Excellent academic program, resident centered, children’s hospital with all pediatric subspecialties available to learn from.
Nina Kuei, MD

Hometown: Atlanta, GA

Hobbies: writing, drawing, spoiling my cat

Favorite place: Tucson, Arizona

Favorite TV Show: Riverdale

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Beautiful smaller city and a gorgeous hospital to work in (almost) every day. The nice folks I met along the way helped too.
Vanessa Martinez, MD

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Hobbies: traveling, trying new restaurants, yoga

Favorite place: Chicago, IL

Favorite TV Show: How I Met Your Mother

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I loved the program and the people when I interviewed. I also wanted to try something different from home but still be close to home.
Mark Nolan, MD

Hometown: Sterling Heights, MI

Hobbies: movies and music, personal finance and investing, all things HGTV

Favorite place: home – wherever that may be

Favorite TV Show: Fixer Upper

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Beautiful facility full of subspecialists and a variety of pathologies drawing from a large catchment area. The nicest, most competent professionals to work with, learn from and call colleagues. A vibrant, perfect-sized city with all the amenities.
Anita Sebastian, DO

Hometown: Chelmsford, MA
Hobbies: meditation, traveling, cooking
Favorite place: Paris, France
Favorite TV Show: This is Us

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
Family-centered program close to the Great Lakes, growing in innovation and medicine
Ambaris Singh, MD

Hometown: Apex, NC; Vancouver, British Columbia
Hobbies: college football, dancing, golf
Favorite place: Canada
Favorite TV Show: The Wire and Game of Thrones
Hometown: Manchester, KY

Hobbies: camping, embroidery, rock climbing

Favorite Morehead, KY

Favorite TV Show: Big Brother

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The hospital is beautiful. The people are the best.
Hometown: Novi, MI

Hobbies: video games, reading books, trying to restaurants

Favorite place: Disney World

Favorite TV Show: Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Great city to explore; beautiful hospital to work at, and everyone in the residency program seems to like each other!
Matthew Vosters, MD

Hometown: Kalamazoo, MI

Hobbies: camping, college football, biking, swimming

Favorite place: Zion National Park

Favorite TV Show: Game of Thrones

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
The people are incredible! The program has a family feel between the residents, faculty and staff. It’s a dedicated children’s hospital that offers plenty of opportunities to explore areas of interest in subspecialty and primary care.
Andrew Walls, MD

Hometown: Evansville, IN

Hobbies: exploring Grand Rapids, skiing, lacrosse, basketball and baseball

Favorite place: Lincoln Financial Field (go Birds!)

Favorite TV Show: Breaking Bad

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Close to home, amazing one-on-one training. Being the only stand alone children’s hospital in West Michigan, you get a chance to see it all.
Hometown: Chicago, IL

Hobbies: cooking and trying new foods, puzzles

Favorite place: Athens, Greece

Favorite TV Show: Breaking Bad

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? When I walk into the hospital, it feels like home. I get that same rush of belonging and joy when I walk into work every morning that I felt when I first came for my interview. It’s a phenomenal place to learn and grow.
Hometown: Midland, MI

Hobbies: violin, exploring Grand Rapids/state of Michigan, sailing

Favorite place: Harbor Springs, MI

Favorite TV Show: Bones

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I fell in love with this program on my interview day. It feels like a close knit community, with the benefit of every pediatric specialty from whom to learn.
Hometown: Rochester Hills, MI

Hobbies: cooking, barre classes, trying new restaurants

Favorite place: Murter, Croatia

Favorite TV Show: Bachelor in Paradise

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I chose Grand Rapids because of the beautiful Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital, the caring residents that I met here and the wonderful city that I experienced during medical school.
Mounir Djemil, MD

Hometown: Champaign, IL

Hobbies: exploring new cultures, soccer, driving around listening to NPR

Favorite place: My bed

Favorite TV Show: Game of Thrones

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
Program was a good balance of many key characteristics, including community and academic environment. A free standing children’s hospital which is growing each year, and becoming increasingly academic with more fellowships each year.
Elayna Dush-Bryant, MD

Hometown: Sanford, MI
Hobbies: camping, running, boating
Favorite place: Milford Sound, New Zealand
Favorite TV Show: Grace and Frankie

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? It's in beautiful West Michigan, just the right size program and I enjoyed my interview dinner and day and all the people I met!
Hometown: Littleton, CO

Hobbies: mountain biking, going to the dog park, sleeping on the beach

Favorite place: Lake Powell, UT

Favorite TV Show: Parks and Recreation

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Family, program size and quality, awesome people!
Hometown: Suffern, NY
Hobbies: hiking, yoga, basketball
Favorite place: Jaffa, Israel
Favorite TV Show: HGTV

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Very friendly working environment where it is easy to learn and have fun!
Amy Herbig, MD

Hometown: Monterey, CA
Hobbies: camping, yoga, cooking
Favorite place: Kaua’i, HI
Favorite TV Show: something on PBS
What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Supportive learning environment, vibrant city, close proximity to beautiful natural spaces
Hometown: Chicago, IL

Hobbies: cooking and baking, listening to music, singing, traveling and experiencing different cultures

Favorite place: Anywhere my mother is

Favorite TV Show: Insecure

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The camaraderie you find here is truly like no other. Everyone genuinely wants to see you do well and succeed in your chosen path. Residency has truly been amazing and I am sure that if you end up here, you will love it!
Hometown: Northville, MI
Hobbies: Disney, walking my dogs, baking
Favorite place: Disney World
Favorite TV Show: Parks and Recreation

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
I loved the atmosphere, pretty building and friendly people!
Cameron Kasmai, MD

Hometown: Memphis, TN

Hobbies: gold, cooking, sailing

Favorite place: Northport, MI

Favorite TV Show: Supernatural

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Wonderful program, great people, close to the cottage.
Leanne Mansfield, MD

Hometown: Hastings, MI

Hobbies: gardening, yoga, hiking, crocheting, reading classic novels

Favorite place: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Favorite TV Show:

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I love Grand Rapids and was very impressed with the program at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital. It was an excellent fit for me with a mix of general pediatrics and subspecialties. My co-residents are now my second family!
Jenna Millstead, MD

Hometown: Farmington, MI

Hobbies: crafting/designing, craft beer, personal finance

Favorite place: Her mom’s house

Favorite TV Show: Sherlock and Brooklyn 99

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I felt I could find a real work-family here. I knew my colleagues would be smart and hard working, but also so fun. Finding "my people" has definitely been the key to taking on residency and I wouldn't change a thing.
Christopher Monson, MD

Hometown: Santa Barbara, CA

Hobbies: mowing the lawn, movies, watching soccer, exploring Michigan

Favorite place: Inwood Park, New York City

Favorite TV Show: Avatar the Last Airbender

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Seemed like an interesting new place with a great children’s hospital and nice people!
Ann Novosel, MD

Hometown: Tonganoxie, KS
Hobbies: crafting, cooking, gardening
Favorite place: Cinque Terra, Italy
Favorite TV Show: Dancing with the Stars

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? I appreciate that this program really values resident wellness. Also, the people are great!
Cory Schmidt, MD

Hometown: Milan, OH

Hobbies: slow pitch softball, golf, going to lake houses

Favorite place: McCane Lake near Brighton, MI

Favorite TV Show: Sneaky Pete

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Large and growing community-based stand-alone children's hospital with a touch of academic affiliation with plenty of experienced and diverse teaching faculty. That, to me, was a recipe for great training and a deep experience. Also my wife's family lives close by!
Hometown: Grand Rapids, MI

Hobbies: beekeeping, running and barre class, spending time outdoors with family

Favorite place: Seville, Spain

Favorite TV Show: This is Us and Big Little Lies

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? The relaxed and collegial atmosphere created by the people of the residency program and the entire hospital staff at the children’s hospital.
Marissa Watson, MD

Hometown: Lexington, OH

Hobbies: snow and water skiing, fishing, reading

Favorite place: Rome, Italy

Favorite TV Show:

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital?
Love the area and proximity to Lake Michigan. Great opportunity to see diverse array of patients and learn from well skilled attendings
Pediatric Residency Program
2019-2020

Chief Residents
Emily Disbrow, MD

Hometown: Wheaton, IL

Hobbies: watching and playing sports, attending sports games, playing piano

Favorite place: cottage in Honor, MI

Favorite TV Show: Grey’s Anatomy

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? Wonderful city with tons to do, perfect sized program where you can have access to all the specialties but still have everyone know your face, and family close by in South and West Michigan
Caryn VandenBerg, MD

Hometown: Grandville, MI

Hobbies: hiking and enjoying nature, good food and drink, hanging out with loved ones

Favorite place: Ludington, MI

Favorite TV Show: the OA, Vikings or Scrubs

What’s special about Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital? A great education, and it feels like a family!