

July 30, 2020

Inclusive. Innovative. Impactful.

What does this mean to us and why does this make Helen DeVos Children's Hospital's Pediatric Residency Program the perfect fit for you?

Inclusive

Our residents come from diverse backgrounds and have many different interests, but we all share a love for pediatrics. This helps form a strong bond and a tight knit family. We know each other very well and have multiple opportunities to get together, whether it be at a social hour after work or with our intramural sports teams. Our program leadership encourages work-life balance, values feedback, is committed to diversity and inclusion (we have a pediatric residency- specific committee, as well as Spectrum Health system support) and cares about the emotional well-being of our residents.

We chose to work here because it was small enough to feel like a family while big enough to give us access to knowledgeable faculty in 50 pediatric subspecialties and ample research projects and teaching opportunities through our affiliation with Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. We have heard our program described as a "hidden gem" in the Midwest because of the rapidly growing pediatric hospital, research support and faculty in every pediatric subspecialty.

We have excellent program leadership in Drs. Kira, Raj, and Justin (yep, first names), who always inspire us to grow and push our boundaries to become excellent physicians while instilling the values of compassion and teamwork that have become an integral part of the functioning of our program.

Innovative

Our individualized program tracks allow us to tailor our education so that it aligns with our career goals, while still providing us with a solid foundation of general pediatric knowledge. Education is valued and reinforced through our protected half-day Thursday didactic series, morning reports, and multidisciplinary case conferences with participation by experts from many subspecialties. We are always innovating ways to improve active education, including daily board questions completed through our residency's mobile app.

We pride ourselves on being a resident-driven program with a wonderful balance of support and autonomy, as well as numerous opportunities to drive progress through feedback. Program leadership has an open-door policy and we always want to hear your ideas!

There are tons of research opportunities at Spectrum Health. Each resident is expected to complete a scholarly activity project during residency and we have plenty of resources to make that happen. From research mixers to connecting you with mentors in your chosen area to presenting at national conferences, our program has done it all and will help you do the same! Spectrum Health also strongly supports quality improvement and new ideas through the iHub, which hosts all quality improvement projects throughout the hospital.

Impactful

We love being at a free-standing children's hospital with a huge volume of patients – we have 233 inpatient beds (not including newborn and the NICU) and see more than 56,000 pediatric emergency department visits yearly. We thrive in high acuity environments thanks to our level IV NICU that is the largest in Michigan, a 24-bed state-of-the-art PICU, and our new cardiovascular ICU which opened in January 2019. Eight subspecialties were nationally ranked by U.S. News & World Report in their Best Children's Hospitals in 2020-2021. We draw from a large catchment area including all West Michigan, northern Indiana, the Upper Peninsula and more! We also have a vast network of pediatrics-trained support staff – everyone in the hospital from nurses to respiratory therapists has chosen to be trained to work with kids!

This environment provides residents exposure to a broad spectrum of pediatric illness which will prepare you for any career path from general pediatrics to subspecialty training. Recent graduates have matched in fellowships across the country – including Boston Children's (Boston, MA), Columbia (New York, NY), University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI), Lurie Children's (Chicago, IL) and many more.

Why Grand Rapids?

We love living in Grand Rapids. Grand Rapids is ranked #13 on U.S. News and & World Report's "125 Best Places to Live in the USA" list. It's also one of the fastest growing cities in the country. West Michigan's wonderland of outdoor recreation combined with Grand Rapids' vibrant food, art and music scene might have a little something to do with that. Most importantly, Lake Michigan is just a 45-minute drive away!

Thank you for taking an interest in the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital/Michigan State University pediatric residency program. We look forward to meeting you on the (virtual) interview trail this year! Please contact us with any questions you may have, and we would be happy to provide you with more information.

2020-2021 Pediatric Chief Residents

Deirdre Bartlett, MD Deirdre.Bartlett@spectrumhealth.org

Jenna Millstead, MD Jenna.Millstead@spectrumhealth.org