Residency and Fellowship Programs

Where Diversity and Medicine Meet

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*
Welcome!

If you want to live, train and work in one of the most diverse communities in the country, then Columbus, Ohio, home of Nationwide Children’s Hospital and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, is the right place for you! Columbus is a dynamic and diverse city offering a favorable cost of living and impressive quality of life.

In this document, we wish to share our enthusiasm and deep commitment to recruitment of a diverse group of residents, fellows and faculty to Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Our hospital is uniquely dedicated to addressing social determinants of health, quality and patient safety, genomic medicine, behavioral health and population health. The intentional recruitment of a diverse workforce that mirrors our patient population is crucial to our success in these initiatives. Similarly, as we train the next generation of talented physicians and researchers, we must embrace diversity as a core value.

We hope you enjoy learning more about Nationwide Children’s Hospital. If you have questions about our programs, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Olivia Thomas, MD
Chief Diversity and Health Equity Officer

John Mahan, MD
Director of Faculty Development
Director of the Center for Medical Education Research
Program Director, Pediatric Nephrology Fellowship Program

John Barnard, MD
Chair, Department of Pediatrics
President, The Abigail Wexner Research Institute

Rebecca Wallihan, MD
Program Director, Pediatric Residency Program
Vice Chair of Education, Department of Pediatrics
Our Underrepresented in Medicine (URM) Pediatric Visiting Student Elective Scholarship Program is designed to financially support an away rotation and guarantee a residency interview for those accepted into the program. During the elective, students get world-class education on clinical rotations and also get to experience our amazing culture and supportive work environment.

We started the URM program because we believe that a diverse physician work force only strengthens an institution and can better serve its patients. There needs to be a better pipeline to get URM students into medicine and this is our attempt to contribute to that. We believe Nationwide Children’s is a remarkable place to train and we don’t want it to be overlooked by URM applicants due to lack of familiarity with the hospital or city.

Program Benefits

• Multiple subspecialties to choose from for a four-week inpatient sub-internship experience at a free-standing quaternary-care, nationally recognized pediatric institution
• Course credit from home institution via application through VSAS/VSLO
• Inclusion in resident conferences and activities
• $1000 stipend for travel/living expenses
• Housing provided by Nationwide Children’s Hospital
• Mentorship by residents, faculty and medical students as well as residency program leadership
• Additional meetings with Nationwide Children’s faculty can be arranged at the request of the student based on their areas of interest
• Residency interview with Nationwide Children’s pediatric residency program during the experience
• Opportunities for social networking and building relationships with URM residents and faculty while exploring Columbus, OH

To learn more about the URM Pediatric Visiting Student Elective Scholarship Program, including eligibility and how to apply, please visit: NationwideChildrens.org/URM-Externship

Nationwide Children’s values diversity and we know diversity improves patient care. Our educational mission includes a program to support students who are Underrepresented in Medicine (URM) from U.S. medical schools to attend our URM Pediatric Rotation Program.
“When I talk about support, to me this means that people truly have my best interests in mind and want me to be successful.”

– Rebecca Wallihan, MD
Program Director, Pediatric Residency
Vice Chair of Education, Department of Pediatrics

Our People

Q: What was your path to Nationwide Children’s and what do you love about working here?

A: I have been at Nationwide Children’s almost 14 years, originally coming to do my residency and then never leaving. Although this was never in my 5- or 10-year plan, I’m becoming a lifer here. For me it really comes down to 3 things: the people, the opportunities and the support. I’ll break each of those down a little further:

1. As cliché as it sounds, the people are truly the number one reason I am still at Nationwide Children’s Hospital today. The people at this hospital are truly like a second family for me. They make it such a fun place to work and we are all working toward a shared goal of improving the health of children, not only in central Ohio, but around the world. And it doesn’t feel like work when you’re surrounded by such amazing people!

2. The opportunities at Nationwide Children’s are endless! No matter what your interest, you can find expertise, experiences, and mentorship to help you be successful.

3. When I talk about support, to me this means that people truly have my best interests in mind and want me to be successful. I have felt this throughout my career at Nationwide Children’s – as a resident, chief resident, fellow and now as a faculty member. I often tell people that we are not trying to make our trainees and faculty fit into a certain mold. We want to help them identify their passions and develop the necessary knowledge and skills to be successful.

Q: What is your role at Nationwide Children’s?

A: Clinically, I am an assistant professor in Pediatric Infectious Diseases and care for children with a variety of infections, in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. However, my favorite part of my job is the work I do in medical education as the Program Director for the Pediatric Residency Program and Vice Chair of Education, Department of Pediatrics.

I obviously love the people in our program – there is such a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, interests, and thought that truly elevates everything we do. It is also incredibly exciting to play a role in training the next generation of leaders in pediatrics and, most importantly, it’s a lot of fun! Working with fellows, residents, and students makes me a better doctor. They ask amazing questions and really keep me up to date on the latest advances in medicine.

I’m always excited about meeting new residents and improving the program. It never gets old watching someone grow from a brand-new doctor to an outstanding physician and leader.
Here at Nationwide Children's Hospital, we are privileged to train the next generation of outstanding physicians and leaders in child health care. Our residents and fellows are the best and brightest. Their energy, wisdom and commitment to the patients and families we serve is exceptional.

We asked a few of our residents to share a little about themselves.

Destiny Wilson, MD
Resident II - Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?
A: San Antonio, Texas

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children's?
A: I was amazed that we get to work one-on-one with subspecialists on a daily basis instead of having to consult. It’s nice to work on a team with them because we get direct insight into their thought processes in relation to the workup and treatment of different disorders within the different disciplines. I love the overall comradery with fellow co-residents and even within the administration and with attendings. I feel that many individuals I interact with on a daily basis love their job, enjoy teaching, and make my work day fun.

Claudia Mosquera, MD
Resident I – Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?
A: Caracas, Venezuela

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: I love all the food options and fun activities the city has to offer every weekend: festivals, football, baseball and hockey games, and concerts. There are options for every day of the week!

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I would like to do a Fellowship, still deciding which one and enjoying the process of being exposed to all subspecialties during my residency.

Q: Tell us something fun about you.
A: I come from a very big Venezuelan family and we are currently all over the world! My siblings live in Spain while my parents are still in Venezuela. It is a challenge to communicate all at the same time but that's how I entertain myself between pages during night shift!

Monica L. Hoff, MD
Resident I – Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?
A: Columbus, Ohio

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: To me, Columbus is the biggest small town. As one of the 15 largest cities in the U.S., we still have the small-town feel, i.e. people speak to each other and traffic isn’t terrible.

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I am still deciding what I want to do when I grow up! Right now, I’m considering a Chief year, figuring out when I want to become a mom, and deciding between Nephrology and Hematology/Oncology for fellowship.

Q: Tell us something fun about you.
A: I come from a very big Venezuelan family and we are currently all over the world! My siblings live in Spain while my parents are still in Venezuela. It is a challenge to communicate all at the same time but that’s how I entertain myself between pages during night shift!

“I was amazed that we get to work one-on-one with subspecialists on a daily basis instead of having to consult.”
Megan King, DO
Resident I - Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?
A: Erie, Pennsylvania

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?
A: One thing I love about the program is our support staff. Everyone from the residency leadership to the pharmacists to the resident assistants is incredibly helpful, friendly, and makes our lives so much easier!

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: One thing I love about Columbus is that there is always something to do regardless of the time of year. Sporting events (baseball, hockey, soccer, football), musicals, brewery trails, biking, climbing, you name it!

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I’m still unsure of what direction I want my career to take. Right now, I’m mostly considering Primary Care, Cardiology, or Hospital Medicine.

Alex Saucedo, MD
Resident I - Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?
A: I grew up in El Paso, then moved to College Station, Austin, and Houston before coming to Ohio. This is my first time living outside of Texas!

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?
A: There is definitely a large volume and diversity of patients. I know that I will be well prepared with the training here no matter what I decide to do after residency.

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: I love living in a neighborhood where I can walk down the street to restaurants and bars.

Q: Tell us something fun about you.
A: Early on in my intern year, when President Donald Trump was visiting the hospital, there was a code blue called in an area that had been restricted by secret service. As I was running to the code, my team and I ran right by Trump and First Lady Melania.

Cristina Tomatis, MD
Resident I – Pediatrics Status Post International Training and Infectious Diseases Fellowship

Q: Where are you from?
A: I’m originally from Lima, Peru, and I trained in Madrid, Spain. After completing my Infectious Diseases fellowship training at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, I fell in love with both Columbus and Nationwide Children’s and have chosen to stay in the States to practice.

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?
A: I have enjoyed the subspecialty training, large catchment area, and the amount of exposure to bread and butter cases as well as with the rare, complicated cases that we see at Nationwide Children’s.

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: Columbus has good museums, good theater/musicals/concerts, and it’s nice for raising a family.

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I plan to stay in Columbus for a few years as an Infectious Diseases attending.
Erika Basil, DO  
Resident I - Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?  
A: Delaware, Ohio

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?  
A: I love that the resident team is like a family. They look out for each other and help each other in any way they can.

Q: Tell us something fun about you.  
A: I love to salsa dance.

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?  
A: There is always something to do in Columbus. There are tons of festivals, events and new restaurants popping up.

Q: What are your plans for the future?  
A: I hope to become a primary care pediatrician.

Roberta Gomez, MD  
Resident II – Internal Medicine/Pediatrics

Q: Where are you from?  
A: I’m originally from Rockaway, NJ, but I’ve lived in both New York and Atlanta for school.

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?  
A: I was drawn to the OSU and Nationwide Children’s Med-Peds program because it was important to me to be able to train at a large, free-standing children’s hospital. However, after my interview day, Nationwide Children’s really stood out to me because of how tight-knit and friendly all of the residents and staff were. When I matched here and met all of my co-residents, we immediately became tight-knit as well. And the overall supportive culture here is one of things I love most about this program.

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?  
A: As for being from out of town and never having lived in the Midwest before, I was pleasantly surprised by how many fun things there are to do here in Columbus. Two of my favorite things are exploring the different hiking/waterfall trails and all the different breweries!

Q: What are your plans for the future?  
A: I plan to use my med-peds training to help adolescents and young adults with sickle cell disease transition smoother from their pediatric to adult hematologists (either via a combined fellowship or as an adult benign hematology fellowship).
About Nationwide Children’s Hospital

As one of the largest and busiest pediatric hospitals in the country, we conduct more than 1.4 million patient visits every year giving us one of the country’s largest ambulatory and neonatal networks. We are also the largest provider of inpatient pediatric surgeries in the nation, and our Emergency Department is a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center staffed by board-certified Pediatric Emergency Medicine subspecialists 24 hours a day.

MORE THAN 1.4 MILLION PATIENT VISITS FROM ALL 50 STATES AND 48 COUNTRIES

Inpatient Statistics

Inpatient Discharges: 18,128
Average Length of Stay (Days): 8.9
Licensed Beds: 527
Leased Off-site Beds: 146
Patient Days: 161,454

Provide more than $236 MILLION IN CHARITY CARE and community benefit services annually

Our Vision: Best outcomes in everything we do, together delivering the best health care for children.
Our Patients and Community:

As Ohio’s capital and the 15th largest city in the United States, Columbus boasts a diverse population. Nationwide Children’s is collaborative, respectful and inclusive of everyone. Our community is rich with social and advocacy networks for all races and religions, socioeconomic classes, and members of the LGBTQ community. We are fortunate to be both a university-affiliated and a community-based hospital. We serve not only the Columbus Metropolitan area, but also patients who travel regionally from rural Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky, as well as individuals who travel nationally and internationally to receive care. Columbus also has a large immigrant population and is home to the second largest and fastest growing Somali community in the United States. As an institution, we have the honor of being able to serve a diverse patient population with culturally relevant and competent healthcare, and we value the differences within and among our patients and providers.

An example of how our residents are involved in community outreach is the Residents in Schools Initiative (RISI), which is truly unique among residency training programs. This initiative gives our residents the chance to go to elementary schools and teach second and third grade students about health and science. The goals of the experience include:

- Educating children about their bodies and health, and how to make safe and healthy choices
- Giving children, primarily from underserved neighborhoods, weekly role model experiences with young health care professionals, highlighting the value of education
- Exposing residents to children in their “natural environment”
- Showing residents the challenges of teaching, and how children’s academic, social, emotional and behavioral issues impact their classroom experience
- Encouraging advocacy for children’s issues by residents and fostering the view that pediatricians are part of a bigger community

The Livingston Ambulatory Center offers Adolescent Medicine, Behavioral Health, The Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition, Dental Clinic, Laboratory services, Physical Therapy, Residency Continuity Clinics and more.

Outpatient Visits

Total Visits (excludes home health): 1,486,471
Subtotal Outpatient Visits: 1,486,343

- Specialty Care Clinics (on-site, off-site, Dental, Psychology and Child Dx Center)
- Off-site Outpatient Diagnostics
- On-site Outpatient Diagnostics
- Primary Care Clinics (on-site and off-site)
- Behavioral Health Outpatient Visits (Community Based, Outpatient Therapy, Psychiatry, Autism)
- Urgent Care (Main Campus, Dublin, Westerville, East Columbus, Canal Winchester, Marysville and Hilliard)
- Emergency Department
- Outpatient Surgery (Main OR, Surgery Center, Westerville Surgery Center, Dental, GI, Procedure Center)
- Observation Cases
- Outpatient in a Bed Cases
- Behavioral Health Intensive Outpatient/Patient Hospitalization Visits (IOP/PHP)
“I always thought that it was going to be the impact I had on patients that would make me love global health work, but in reality, it was the effect patients had on me.”

– Mena Botros, MD,
Resident IV - Internal Medicine/Pediatrics
Internal Medicine Pediatrics Chief Resident

Our Opportunities and Experiences:

In addition to work within the community, our residents have the opportunity to provide care globally and impact the future of medicine in both advocacy and research.

Global Health

At Nationwide Children’s, our residents can use their elective time to complete Global Health work or to complete an Advanced Competency in Global Health.

Q: Tell us a little about yourself
A: I completed my MD at the University of Toledo, and then I was excited to join The Ohio State University (OSU) and Nationwide Children’s Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency program. I’ve developed an interest in pulmonology and critical care medicine during my training, with specific focus in transition of care and transplantation in cystic fibrosis patients. I have additional interests in global health, medical education, and medical administration. This past year I have been privileged to serve as one of two Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Chief Residents. The position has been very rewarding and fulfilling as I have been able to assist with recruitment, participate in resident education, mentoring, and wellness.

Q: How did you get interested in global health?
A: My interest in global health began when I was quite young. My parents taught me from a very early age that no matter what resources we had, part of them should always be dedicated to those who had less. As a result, we frequently spent time serving the underserved.

Spending part of my life living outside of the United States, and many subsequent years of traveling, has also afforded me a perspective on what poverty is. It is not necessarily just the lack of material resources that makes poverty as dangerous as it is, but the lack of resources to mediate it – the lack of education, healthcare resources, documentation, and political representation to name a few. For this reason, I became involved in global health. I simply realized that monetary donations were great, but they are never enough.

Q: How was global health work feasible during residency?
A: There are many avenues to get involved in global health at Nationwide Children’s. There is a global health track, which is a formal educational opportunity during residency that includes an international service trip. Nationwide Children’s and OSU both have partnerships with hospitals and clinics around the world through which residents can complete a month-long international rotation. In addition, residents can set up their own elective.

To learn about our global health advanced competency, visit NationwideChildrens.org/International-Health-Residency
... to promote child health equity. This means listening to and learning from members of underserved and ethnic minority communities where health disparities have the greatest impact and working with them to promote health equity from the inside-out.”

– O. N. Ray Bignall II, MD, FAAP
Division of Nephrology

Advocacy

At Nationwide Children’s, our residents can work closely with faculty and members of the community to advocate for our patients at the local, regional, and national level.

Q: Where did you get your passion for child health advocacy?
A: As one of a small number of African American men in medicine nationwide, and a first-generation American of immigrant parents, my interest in medicine is driven by a desire to promote social justice and make a positive impact on my community. During my time as an undergraduate at Howard University and medical student at Meharry Medical College, I realized that advocating for my community would be an essential part of my career as a physician. I was blessed with fantastic mentors who pushed me to pursue my passion and make an impact early in my career. As a Pediatric resident, I was awarded a Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics to partner with inner-city African American fathers studying barriers to their involvement in the pediatric medical home. Later, as a fellow in Pediatric Nephrology, I was named a Lewy Fund Advocacy Scholar, and learned how to advocate for health equity for children with kidney disease. I am fortunate that my training as a pediatrician has included opportunities to advocate for vulnerable populations.

Q: Can you tell us about some of the work you are doing to promote child health advocacy at the local, state, and national levels?
A: Here at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, I’ve been given an opportunity to make advocacy a core part of my work. This includes mentoring medical students, residents and fellows interested in advocacy; and meeting with lawmakers in Columbus, OH and Washington, DC to inspire policies that promote health equity for children and families. I am a member of the Public Policy Committee of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology, and the Policy and Advocacy Committee of the American Society of Nephrology. I am privileged in this capacity to promote national policies and legislation that will help improve care for children with kidney disease, and address many of the root causes of health disparities in this population. Locally, I work with teams of health care providers and community leaders on initiatives like the Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Families program, which is helping to provide safe and affordable housing and job opportunities to our low-income neighbors. Our location in the state capital gives us unique access to change-makers, and at Nationwide Children’s my colleagues and I are encouraged
to use our expertise to advocate at both the local and national levels to promote health for the children and families we serve. I also have the privilege to mentor and team up with medical students, residents and fellows who travel to the Ohio Statehouse and meet with lawmakers about proposals that maintain health care coverage for underserved children across our state.

Q: What are your future goals as a child health advocate, and how does Nationwide Children’s help foster those goals?

A: As a physician-advocate, my goal is to use community engagement and community partnership as tools to promote child health equity. This means listening to and learning from members of underserved and ethnic minority communities where health disparities have the greatest impact and working with them to promote health equity from the inside-out. I’m always excited for the opportunity to foster relationships with Pediatric trainees at Nationwide Children’s who are interested in advocacy – from grassroots community work, to national health policy – we are doing important work!

To learn more about Nationwide Children’s community outreach and the Advocacy Advanced Competency, please visit: NationwideChildrens.org/About-Us

Improving the Neighborhood We Call Home

Healthy Homes

An affordable housing initiative aimed at revitalizing housing in the neighborhoods around Nationwide Children’s. Focusing on blighted homes, Healthy Homes and its partners builds, rehabilitates and repairs homes.

Check out our progress from kick off in 2008 through today!

117 Home Renovations
- 41 rented
- 62 sold
- 14 on the market

166 Home Improvement Grants
- 74 new roofs
- 75 homes received new windows (that’s about 850 windows installed)
- 76 homes received new siding

31 New Builds
- 30 sold
- 1 on the market

Additional 37 homes completed by the Home Again program, Homeport and Community Development for All People

350 Homes impacted by Healthy Homes and our community partners! Total financial investment: $30,194,700

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About our Research

The Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital is one of the largest pediatric research centers in the United States and is ranked in the top 10 for National Institutes of Health funding among freestanding children’s hospitals.

A distinguished group of more than 160 basic science, clinical and behavioral health scientists provide a rich and supportive milieu for mentoring and training of the next generation of physician investigators. Additionally, we offer an institute-wide didactic research curriculum tailored specifically to clinical fellows. The Clinical/Translational Fellows’ Research Curriculum addresses fundamental concepts in research training. Through this regular conference, fellows gain fundamental knowledge in study design, data analysis, scientific presentations, scientific writing and strategies for success in academia.

Research at Nationwide Children’s involves collaborations throughout the hospital, across the country and around the world. Our research centers include:

- Bartelle Center for Mathematical Medicine
- Center for Biobehavioral Health
- Center for Cardiovascular Research
- Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases
- Center for Clinical and Translational Research
- The Institute for Genomic Medicine
- Center for Gene Therapy
- Center for Injury Research and Policy
- Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice
- Center for Microbial Pathogenesis
- Center for Perinatal Research
- Center for Regenerative Medicine
- Center for Vaccines and Immunology
- Biopathology Center

The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s also offers the Integrated Research Pathway program for residents who have earned an MD (with substantial research experience) or MD/PhD degree and are committed to an academic research career.

For more information, visit NationwideChildrens.org/ResearchPathway and NationwideChildrens.org/Research

166 Home Improvement Grants

350 Homes impacted by Healthy Homes and our community partners! Total financial investment: $30,194,700
We asked Dr. Monica Hoff, Resident I - Pediatrics to tell us about her experiences in research at Nationwide Children’s.

Q: When did you become interested in research?
A: I originally never thought that I’d be interested in research, but now, I can’t imagine my career without it! I graduated a semester early from Johns Hopkins University but stayed in Baltimore to walk with the rest of my friends at graduation. At that time, I had never done research, but I started working in Neurobehavioral clinical research and loved it! Since then, I’ve worked on Pediatric Psychopharmacology clinical trials, human papillomavirus-driven Head and Neck cancer molecular epidemiology research, Epstein-Barr virus-driven post-transplant lymphoproliferative disease adoptive cellular research, and Pediatric Nephrology urothelial development research.

Q: How important was research in your residency search?
A: When searching for residency programs, I sought out institutions that had the resources and facilities in place to support any research that I might choose to do. I also knew that I would actually need time to do research, so having research tracks or elective rotations that allows time for research projects, and not just chart review, was really important to me.

Q: What sort of research opportunities have you had during residency?
A: I’ve been extremely fortunate that the culture at Nationwide Children’s has promoted my desire to do research even in the midst of a very busy time during my training. As an intern, I have already had the opportunity to work on a research project during my elective time as well as attend and present at a number of conferences. I’ve had the opportunity to obtain travel awards and have had the honor of being nominated by the Chair of Pediatrics, for a Frontiers in Science Symposium. Each of these accomplishments and so much of my love for science has been facilitated by amazing opportunities to develop impactful relationships with my research mentors who strive to challenge me and to nurture my desire to continually learn and ask questions. As a woman of color in science, I understand the importance of great mentors, and I look forward to mentoring others along the way!

“When searching for residency programs, I sought out institutions that had the resources and facilities in place to support any research that I might choose to do.”

– Monica Hoff, MD
Resident I – Pediatrics
For more information about residency and fellowship programs at Nationwide Children’s:
Online: NationwideChildrens.org/Residency-Fellowship
Email: Program Coordinator, Kathy Trace at Kathy.Trace@NationwideChildrens.org
Call: (614) 722-4414

Nationwide Children’s Hospital
700 Children’s Drive | Columbus, OH 43215
NationwideChildrens.org
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Nationwide Children’s Hospital
700 Children’s Drive  |  Columbus, OH 43215

NationwideChildrens.org

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*