

# Welcome!

If you want to live, train and work in one of the most diverse communities in the country, then Nationwide Children's Hospital and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio, 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 brochure, we wish to share our enthusiasm and deep commitment to recruitment of a diverse group of residents, fellows and faculty to Nationwide Children's. Our hospital is uniquely dedicated to addressing social determinants of health,

quality, 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, where passion meets purpose. If you have questions about our programs, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'O.N. Ray Bignall II'.

**O.N. Ray Bignall II, MD, FAAP, FASN**  
Chief Diversity and Health Equity Officer



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Krawczeski'.

**Catherine Krawczeski, MD**  
**Physician-in-Chief**  
Chief of the Department of Pediatrics



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Bonachea MD'.

**Elizabeth Bonachea, MD**  
Vice Chair of Diversity and Inclusion  
Director of the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship  
Director of Fellowship Education, Department of Pediatrics



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Wallihan'.

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

where  
**PASSION**   
meets **PURPOSE**



# Join Our Team

*Diversity. Inclusion. Community.*



**NATIONWIDE  
CHILDREN'S®**

*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*



## **WHO** *We Are.*

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The moment you walk through our doors, you can feel it. When you meet one of our patient families, you believe it. And when you talk with anyone who works here, you want to be a part of it. Welcome to Nationwide Children's Hospital, *Where Passion Meets Purpose.*

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*where*  
**PASSION**   
*meets* **PURPOSE**

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We invite you to join our team of diverse residents and fellows. Here you will have the opportunity to grow and use your talent to make an impact that truly matters. Nationwide Children's values diversity, and we know that providers who reflect their patient populations improve patient care.

As one of the largest and busiest pediatric hospitals in the country, we recognize and embrace the crucial role diverse staff play in addressing social determinants of health, quality, patient safety, genomic medicine, behavioral health and population health.

At Nationwide Children's our passion is to recruit a diverse workforce so that together we can achieve our purpose – to help children everywhere reach their highest potential.

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## A Culture of Inclusion

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As Ohio's capital and the 14th largest city in the United States, Columbus boasts a diverse population and is home to one of the largest networks for young professionals in the country. Columbus has a large immigrant population and is home to the second largest and fastest growing Somali community in the country. Our community is rich with social and advocacy networks for all races and religions, socioeconomic classes and members of the LGBTQ community. We are proud to be recognized as an LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Healthcare Equality Index.

At Nationwide Children's, our educational mission includes programs to support students, residents and fellows who

attend our medical training programs and to be a part of our vision for *Best Outcomes*. We also know diversity, combined with our authentic progress to build an inclusive culture, enables our employees to bring their unique differences and talents to work every day.

One way we support a culture that fosters inclusivity and diversity is through our Employee Resource Groups:

- All Equal – LGBTQ
- APAN – Asian Pacific American
- CapABLE – Disability
- Connect With Us – Black and Multiracial
- HOLA – Hispanic/Latinx
- LEAD – Professionals
- Military/Veterans

### A DIVERSE WORKFORCE IMPROVES OUTCOMES

*Striving for  
a culture  
of inclusive  
excellence.*



#### STRATEGY - Visibility

Improving physician visibility for applicants, trainees and patients of diverse backgrounds.

*"You can't be what you can't see." – Marian Wright Edelman*



#### GOAL - Support

Fostering a sense of community within the training programs and providing networking opportunities for trainees and faculty.



#### ACCELERATOR - Education

Providing education for faculty and trainees on topics such as diversity, racism, health equity and advocacy.



#### VISION - Physician Diversity Coalition

A collective whose central aim is to optimize physician diversity at Nationwide Children's Hospital.



#### LEGACY - Inclusive Excellence

A hospital-wide culture that promotes diversity of its providers in an institution that recognizes that in order to have the *Best Outcomes*, we must also have the best diversity and inclusion.

## ***Stand Against Racism (StAR)***

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The hospital's Stand Against Racism, Stand For Health Equity initiative has been organized into seven pillars. These pillars are designed to:

- Encompass all intertwined aspects of our organization and shared work.
- Help us identify ways to make antiracism and equity a priority in each of them.
- Provide lenses we can use to evaluate ourselves and our progress.



### **PRINCIPLES OF EQUITY, INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY**

- All patients, families and staff should be treated with equal dignity.
- Everyone should feel equally welcome at Nationwide Children's Hospital — regardless of background, race, gender, etc.
- All children deserve an equal chance to achieve *Best Outcomes* in life and reach their full potential.

## ***Residency and Fellowship Programs***

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Nationwide Children's is a place that allows dedicated, hardworking physicians to thrive. Whether your plan is to work in private practice, in an outpatient clinic, treat the sickest patients in a first-rate children's hospital, advocate for children, teach, conduct research or all of the above, we can help you learn everything you need to know to be successful.

### **Residency Programs:**



**2 Specialty Residencies**



**3 Subspecialty Residencies**



**5 Advanced Training Residency Programs**

### **Fellowship Programs:**



**17 Surgical**



**5 Radiology**



**48 Pediatric Medical Subspecialties**



**5 Advanced Training Fellowships**



**8 Behavioral Health**

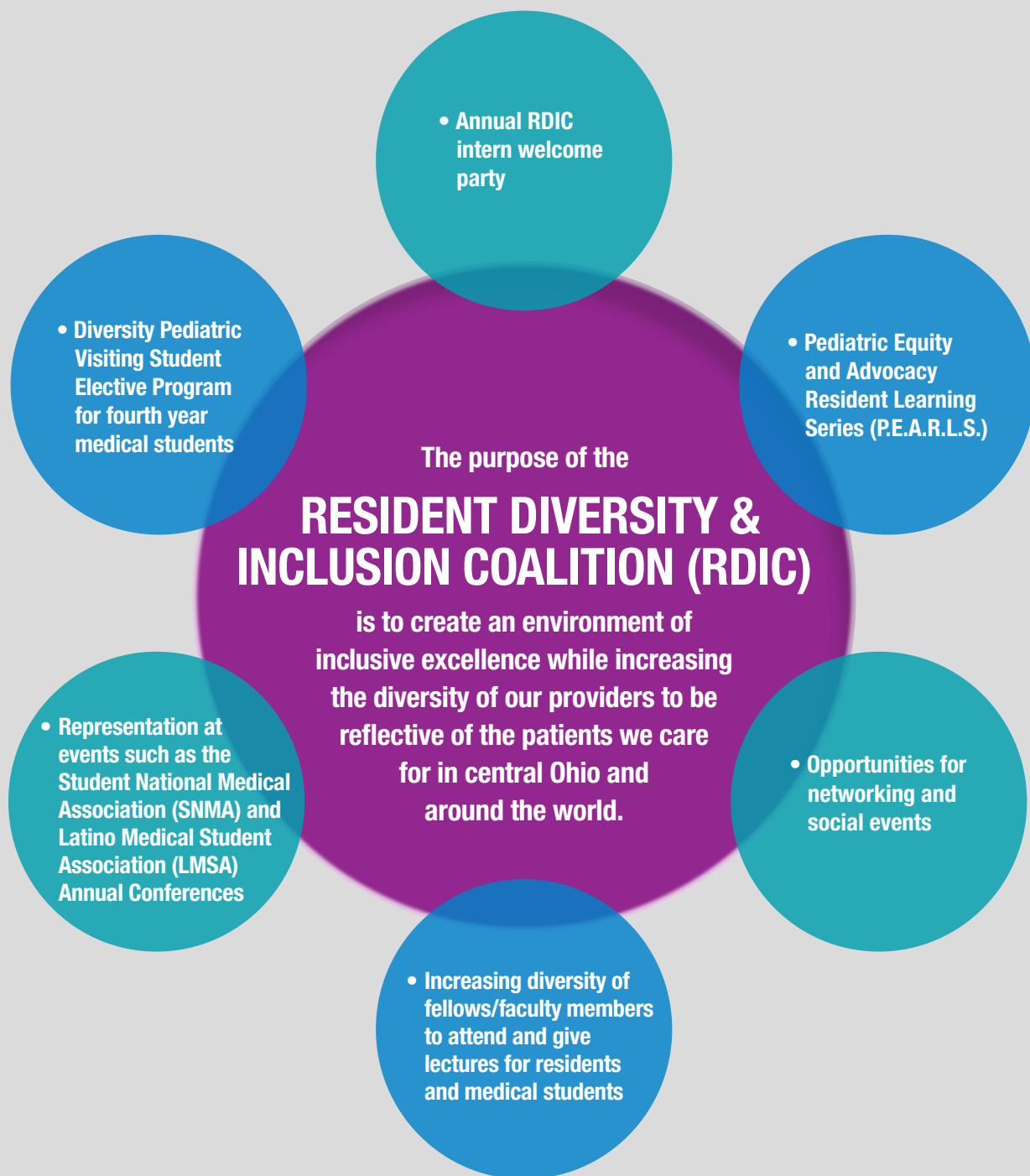
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For more information about our Residency and Fellowship Programs, visit:  
**[NationwideChildrens.org/for-Medical-Professionals/Residency--Fellowship](https://NationwideChildrens.org/for-Medical-Professionals/Residency--Fellowship)**



### ***Where Passion Meets Purpose***

The foundation of an organization is its people. At Nationwide Children's Hospital, we align our strategy with the *Best People* and *Best Programs* to achieve the best outcomes. We also know diversity, combined with our authentic progress to build an inclusive culture, enables our employees to bring their unique differences and talents to work every day.



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**As a residency program, we are experiencing a time of exciting change!**

**Our residency family is quickly growing, and this expansion of our program comes with a continued commitment to recruit and retain residents who reflect the diversity of the patient population we serve.**

**For more information about our Resident Diversity and Inclusion Coalition, visit: [NationwideChildrens.org/RDIC](https://NationwideChildrens.org/RDIC).**



## Rebecca Wallihan, MD, Program Director

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

### What was your path to Nationwide Children's and what do you love about working here?

I have been at Nationwide Children's almost 20 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 three 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 your best interests in mind and want you 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 achieve their goals.

### What is your role at Nationwide Children's?

Clinically, I am an associate 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.



“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 achieve their goals.”

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– **Rebecca Wallihan, MD**

Program Director, Pediatric Residency  
Vice Chair of Education, Department of Pediatrics



## Evan Ingram, MD, Chief Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

### What was your path to Nationwide Children's Hospital?

When applying to residency, my priorities were to find a program that would provide me with a great education (with importance on primary care) and a program that demonstrated prioritization of efforts to promote diversity, equity and inclusion amongst its residents, faculty and staff. I found that Nationwide Children's program led in both areas, so I was immediately drawn to it and fortunate to match here.

### What made you want to be a chief resident, and what are some of your goals for the upcoming year?

What drew me to Nationwide Children's similarly made me want to be a chief resident here. Through training, I further developed my clinical interest, as well as my passion for diversity and inclusion, with an emphasis on promoting a diverse workforce. I've had the opportunity to see the impact of physician-patient concordance and our community engagement as pediatricians. I found great support and education in my journey to being a primary care pediatrician. I look forward to integrating that further into the program to continue to aid in the development of the amazing physicians that represent our community.

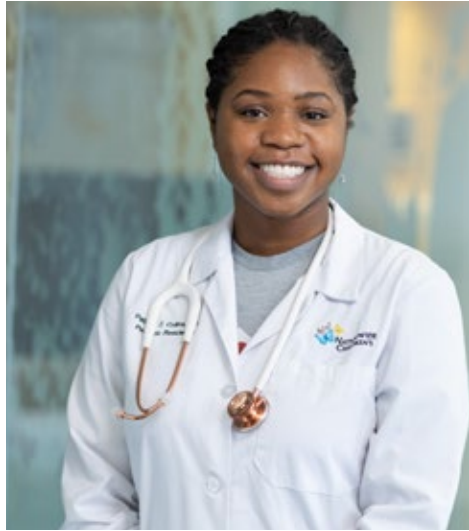
### What are some of your career goals and how has training at Nationwide Children's made you uniquely positioned to be successful in achieving your goals?

The broad and diverse training at Nationwide Children's has provided me with experiences for patients with varying medical complexities, social situations and cultural beliefs so I can feel comfortable doing so as an independent practitioner. Beyond the clinical preparation, my other experiences have aided in my development as a leader, ultimately getting the opportunity to serve as a chief resident, and with skills I hope to translate into my future roles.

"The broad and diverse training at Nationwide Children's has provided me with experiences for patients with varying medical complexities, social situations and cultural beliefs so that I can feel comfortable doing so as an independent practitioner."

— Evan Ingram, MD  
Chief Resident - Pediatrics





## Patrice Collins, MD Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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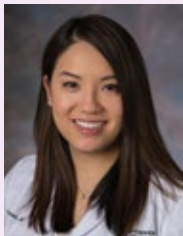
What I really like most about the residency program here is the community and supportiveness of my co-residents, interns and faculty. Knowing everyone is trying to help each other out is very comforting. I've found that you can find people you can connect with and experience life with outside of the hospital.

## Alyssa Mendoza, MD Fellow - Child Neurology

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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I became interested in child neurology at Nationwide Children's because I wanted to train at a hospital with high patient volumes and a diverse group of child neurology subspecialists to learn from. I am still deciding what I'd like to do because I love everything within neurology, but right now I am particularly interested in neurodevelopmental disabilities, neuroimmunology, neurocritical care and epilepsy.



**Rena Kasick, MD**  
Hospital Pediatrics  
Associate Program Director  
*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

***My passion*** and motivation for a career in hospital medicine is the desire to serve and care for children. ***My purpose*** is to pay it forward in my career as an educator and mentor of medical students and residents.



## Claudia A. Mosquera Vasquez, MD, Fellow - Nephrology and Hypertension

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

### What was your path to Nationwide Children's Hospital?

I have been working at Nationwide Children's Hospital since 2017 when I started working as a research aide in one of the Nephrology labs. From that moment, I knew that I wanted to train here and I set a personal goal to have a positive impact on the residency program. Just one year later, I started residency, and I began working alongside my co-residents to increase the diversity of our residency program through the Resident Diversity and Inclusion Coalition (RDIC). This organization is continuously striving to foster an inclusive environment for all trainees not only in creating a sense of community but having created educational curricula like the Pediatric Equity and Advocacy Resident Learning Series (PEARLS) curriculum as well as pipeline programs, such as the MentorU program formed to mentor underrepresented medical students in collaboration with Internal Medicine residents at The Ohio State University.

During my three years of residency, I had the chance to work with amazing subspecialists and to learn general pediatrics by being able to customize my learning based on my own goals

and interests. I also had the opportunity to continue working in the lab, present at a national conference, work on publications and develop a curriculum with Drs. Monica Hoff and Matthew Hazle, two of my co-residents. These experiences allowed me to not only graduate as a general pediatrician but to also complete two advanced competencies, Research and Medical Education. There truly are endless opportunities for residents at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

### What are some of your career goals and how has training at Nationwide Children's made you uniquely positioned to be successful in achieving your goals?

In July 2022, I joined the Division of Pediatric Nephrology and Hypertension at Nationwide Children's Hospital as a fellow. I am super excited about it! Nationwide Children's allowed me to explore different fields in pediatrics and work with top subspecialists from all over the country and the world. I will always be grateful to have had the opportunity to train and continue my career here in the upcoming years.



## Blen Weldekidan, DO Fellow - Pediatric Emergency Medicine

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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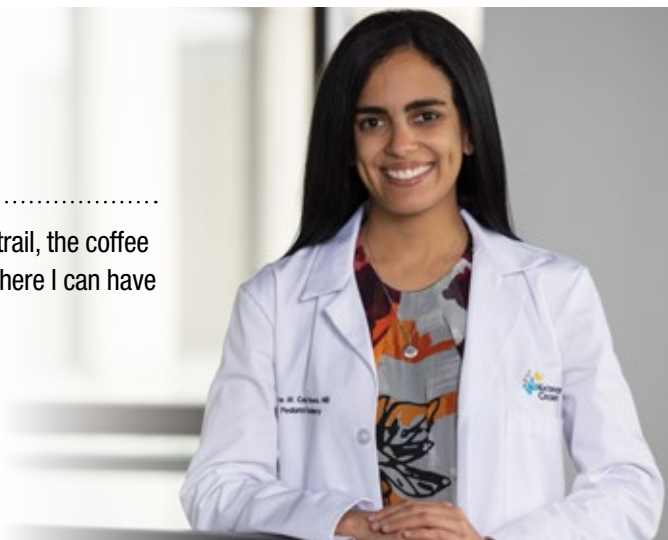
What I love most about the program is the people! I would describe our residency culture as one of teamwork, dedication to the community and friendship.

## Ana Maria Cabal Herrera, MD Resident - Child Neurology

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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What I love most about Columbus are the parks, Scioto trail, the coffee scene, the diverse food options (including restaurants where I can have arepas!), the breweries; it is a very lively city!



## Susan Creary, MD

Hematology/Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

***My passion*** is for children and adolescents with sickle cell disease and their families. As a principal investigator in the Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice and an assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Hematology/Oncology/BMT at Nationwide Children's Hospital, ***my purpose*** is to improve utilization of effective preventative therapies to improve the long-term outcomes to children with sickle cell disease.



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## Alicia Rodgers, DO, MS, Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

### Hometown:

Columbus, OH

### What do you remember most about your interview/application process?

People were real and honest. Dr. Wallihan presented to be so down to earth, with the first segment of the day spent on getting to know each interviewee and being intentional about connecting with each of us. The URiM recruitment was fun and very inviting. Latin tunes [were played] to welcome people in and collegiality among host participants. It was all really encouraging to see.

### What do you love most about the program?

I felt like a member of the community from day one. My mentors and advocates through Nationwide Children's sought me out during interview season – welcoming me to the experience/pediatrics on #MedTwitter and others through intentional mentorship with the URiM Sub-Internship. Nationwide Children's faculty followed up by offering tips and strategies to prepare for interviews and offered to meet in person to welcome me for the rotation and kept in touch after, still offering support. And the day I found out my match results, everyone I interacted with during the interview process called/texted/DM'ed me to welcome me to the community. Those are the same people now who touch base as I go through the block as an intern.

This is a really special community with whom I felt seen and cared for from the early interactions.

### What do you love about Columbus?

I love that it's a large metro city without a crazy, fast pace. I think there's a great balance to meet varied preferences – suburbia, urban living and rural. I grew up here, and I'm amazed by how much this city has grown by creating a more inviting scene for young professionals, with lots of sporting events, districts for arts, entertainment and dining. It is also welcoming of diversity with a robust LGBTQ community and a wide variety of cultures that make up the community. It's easy to find green space, affordable activities and summer concerts. Same for surrounding neighborhoods, with their own identity with festivals year-round.

### What are your plans for the future?

Primary Care and Sports Medicine.

### Fun Fact

**I studied abroad in India for a month, focusing on public health.**



## Albert A. Phillips II, DO Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: He/him/his*

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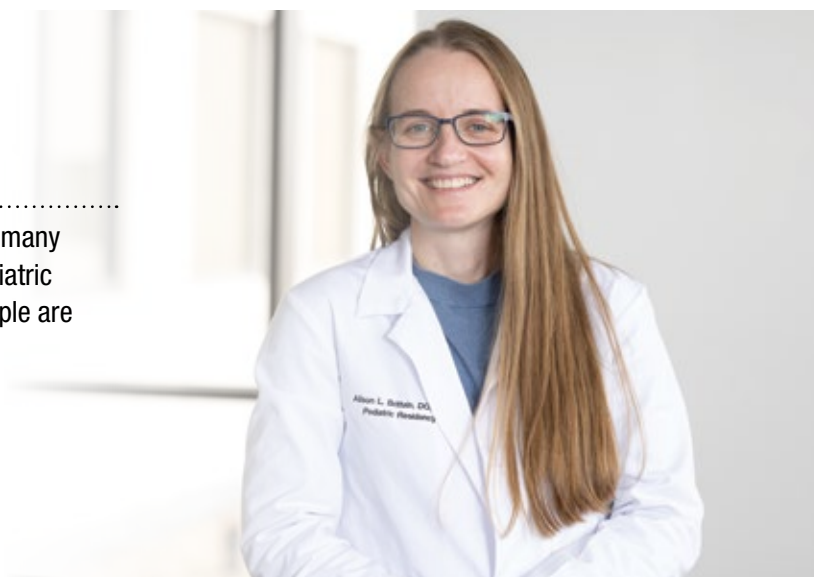
What I remember most about the application process was how empathetic and eager to help the faculty and residents were due to the interview process being affected by the pandemic. It stood out to me that they wanted me to succeed.

## Alison Brittain, DO, PhD Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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I love that Nationwide Children's offers many opportunities to learn cutting-edge pediatric medicine in an environment where people are supportive and welcoming.



## Rohan Henry, MD Endocrinology

*Pronouns: He/him/his*

**My passion** as an endocrinologist includes Type 2 diabetes, care transitions in pediatric patients with growth hormone deficiency and medical ethics. **My purpose** is to care for our diverse endocrinology patient population and to educate trainees and clinicians on endocrinology and diabetes.



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## Kaia Amoah, MD, Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

### Hometown:

Cincinnati, Ohio

### What do you remember most about your interview/application process?

**I wanted to train at Nationwide Children's because I absolutely loved my experience rotating here as a Sub-I. From resident-led rounds and the mentoring from URiM faculty, I felt that it was such a supportive and welcoming environment and a place where I could thrive. This remained consistent throughout my rotation, during the meet and greets, and on my interview day.**

### What do you love most about the program?

I love the camaraderie among my co-residents and the support from the attendings. Most importantly, Nationwide Children's and the residency program practice what they preach when it comes to resident wellness. There is a visible effort to support residents and show them they are valued.

### What do you love about Columbus?

I have really enjoyed the Scioto biking trails and grabbing a bite to eat at North Market on the weekends! Also, having lived in multiple cities, Columbus has some of the friendliest and most genuine people in the country!

### What are your plans for the future?

So far, my interactions with mentors, attendings and hospital staff at Nationwide Children's have allowed me to explore interests that I have not considered before. I am excited about exploring every facet of pediatrics so that I will be well-informed before making my final decision.

### Fun Fact

I was a national competitor in track and field and karate!



## Abena Obeng, DO Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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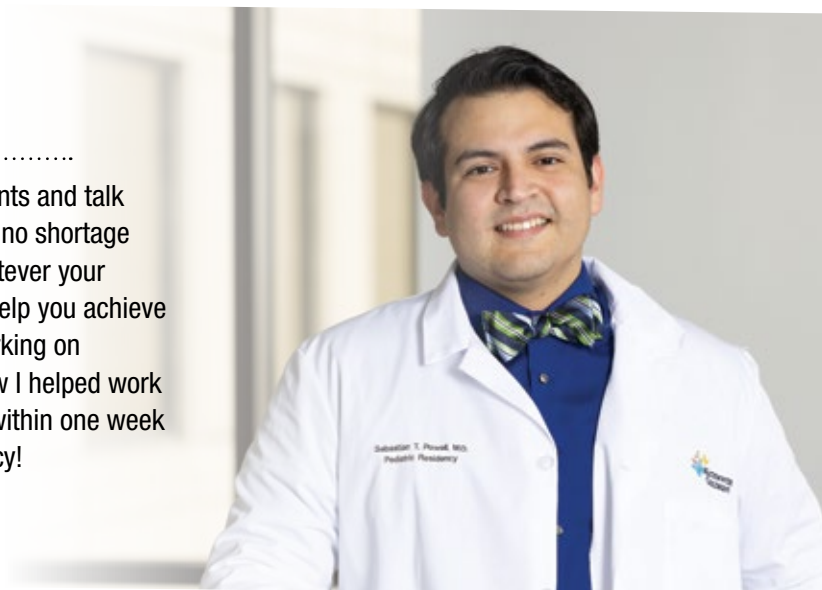
I really love how supportive and friendly everyone is. Everyone is always so willing to help, which has been amazing, especially with starting residency in a new city I had never visited.

## Sebastian Powell, MD, MSc Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: He/him/his*

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I feel like I can walk up to any of my co-residents and talk about medicine or even everyday life. There is no shortage of opportunities at Nationwide Children's. Whatever your interests, there is always someone willing to help you achieve them or connect you to somebody already working on something similar. I love to tell the story of how I helped work on a legislative bill and advocate for patients within one week of expressing an interest in policy and advocacy!



## Jorjee Wells, MD, MPH Pediatric Emergency Medicine

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

**My passion** is to create change at the intersection of health care and public policy for children everywhere. **My purpose** is to improve female adolescent health in pediatric emergency department settings and to empower and advocate for communities through honed clinical acumen and compassion.



**“Everyone is always thinking about ways we can set our many teams up for success.”**

## **Marcella A. Orozco, DO, Resident - Pediatrics**

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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### **Hometown:**

Columbus, OH

### **What do you remember most about your interview/application process?**

On my interview day, Dr. Wallihan greeted each of the applicants individually, and she made an effort to learn something unique about each of us. She was so genuine, and after her warm welcome, I felt my nerves disappear. I left with an excitement that lasted well after the interview was over. I spent the rest of the interview connecting with faculty and other residents. They cared more about getting to know me as a person rather than just focusing on my academic achievements alone. They were just as excited as I was, and I knew right away Nationwide Children's was the right residency for me!

### **What do you love most about the program?**

I love that Nationwide Children's residents have a team mentality. No one ever leaves their work for someone else. Instead, everyone jumps at opportunities to help each other out. When a resident team has a busy day, you can always count on visits from other resident teams asking what they can do to help. Our senior residents are supportive and the glue to our patient care team. They care about our wellness outside of the hospital, and in the hospital, they help lighten the workload of interns with a variety of patient tasks. Our attendings and fellows are so kind and knowledgeable. They allow us a lot of autonomy and work hard to create a safe space for residents to debrief after difficult patient encounters. Everyone is always thinking about ways we can set our many teams up for success.

### **What do you love about Columbus?**

Columbus is a kind and beautiful community. It is the type of place where you will be greeted with a smile and a warm hello from fellow passersby. I grew up here and enjoyed all our wonderful metro parks and fun festivals, such as the Latino Festival and Irish Festival. There are unique museums to visit or attend a wide variety of our sports teams' games, such as the Columbus Crew and our OSU football team. Columbus is growing every year, and I would like to think this is because when people visit, they find themselves feeling the warm Columbus spirit that makes them want to stick around and see what Columbus is all about.

### **What are your plans for the future?**

I have a passion for advocating for vulnerable pediatric patients, and for that reason, I am interested in child abuse medicine. Although I also enjoy helping families navigate the confusing health care system, helping with coordinating care, and practicing preventive medicine, I am also considering primary care. We are so lucky to get so much exposure to different areas of medicine at Nationwide Children's, along with access to mentors, so regardless of what path I take, I know I will be supported.

### **Fun Fact**

I have worked at a coffee shop in Upper Arlington for over 10 years and have continued to pick up shifts on my days off from the hospital.



## Darius Rowe, MD Resident- Pediatrics

*Pronouns: He/him/his*

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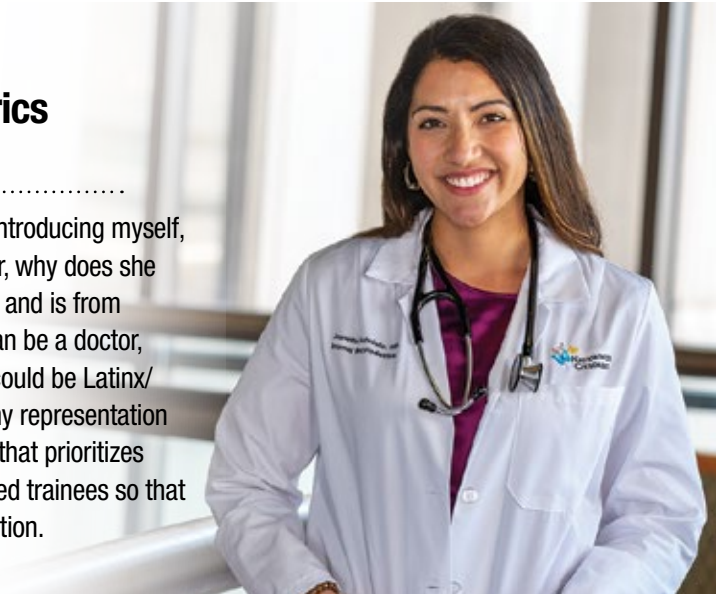
What I love most about the program is the kind nature of the people around me, coupled with the world-class prestige of the hospital and the intellectual fortitude of my co-residents and faculty.

## Jeanette Schnierle, MD, MPH Resident - Internal Medicine/Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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Recently, I took care of a Spanish-speaking family. After introducing myself, the child asked her mom, “Who is she? If she’s the doctor, why does she speak Spanish?” Her mom responded, “She is the doctor and is from Mexico; if you study very hard, when you grow up, you can be a doctor, too.” The fact that this child could not understand how I could be Latinx/ speak Spanish AND be a doctor demonstrated exactly why representation is so important. I’m so happy to be training at a program that prioritizes having a diverse workforce and supports underrepresented trainees so that we can thrive and better serve our diverse patient population.



## Desalegn Yacob, MD Gastroenterology & Hepatology & Nutrition

*Pronouns: He/him/his*

**My passion** as a pediatric gastroenterologist is quality of life for children with impaired gut motility. **My purpose** as the medical director of the nation’s most prestigious and largest Center for Neurogastroenterology and Motility Disorders is to support education and innovation to improve the outcomes for children everywhere.



## Dianne Mancheno, DO Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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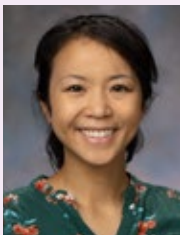
During my visiting medical student rotation, I felt welcomed by the faculty and residents who took the time to meet with me and talk more about their experience at Nationwide Children's. When I met the program directors and assistant program directors during my interview, I knew I would have a supportive environment coming to Nationwide Children's for residency.

## Nichole Anderez, DO Resident - Pediatrics

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

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The program, particularly the people, creates the most supportive and inclusive environment for us to train as physicians. The senior residents lead with patience, the attendings prioritize resident autonomy and the administration values having a diverse workforce and recognize the importance of increasing representation in medicine. I feel safe here, not only to push myself, learn and make mistakes, but to be myself.



## Sarah Chen, MD Fellow - Emergency Medicine

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

**My passion** for pediatric emergency medicine comes from the challenge of managing critical illnesses with not only efficiency and accuracy but also with compassion. That has been the framework for **my purpose**, which is to provide empathy to the patient and family during an incredibly scary time and to show them we care.

We serve patients from the Columbus metropolitan area as well as patients from across the nation and around the world. As one of the largest and busiest pediatric hospitals in the United States and with some the country's largest ambulatory and neonatal networks, our patients come to us for their health care needs ranging from heart, lung, kidney and liver transplants to cancer, genetic diseases and broken arms.

## MORE THAN 1.7 MILLION PATIENT VISITS FROM 50 STATES AND 45 COUNTRIES



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Create a safe day. Every day.

Committed to  
quality and safety



**FOUR-TIME MAGNET**  
designation for nursing  
excellence



### AMERICA'S LARGEST NEONATAL NETWORK

AND PROVIDER OF  
INPATIENT PEDIATRIC  
SURGERIES\*\*



Provided more than  
**\$259 MILLION IN  
CHARITY CARE**  
and community benefit  
services annually\*\*\*



Named one of  
**AMERICA'S  
BEST  
EMPLOYERS  
FOR DIVERSITY  
BY FORBES**



Named one of  
**AMERICA'S  
BEST EMPLOYERS  
BY FORBES**



The Research Institute at  
Nationwide Children's  
Hospital is ranked  
**AMONG THE TOP 10**  
NIH-funded freestanding  
pediatric research facilities  
in the U.S.



**53,403 DONORS**  
contributed more than  
**\$89.5 MILLION**



### BEST OF THE BEST

Once again listed on U.S.  
News & World Report's Best  
Children's Hospital Honor  
Roll, a distinction awarded  
to only 10 children's medical  
centers nationwide



## The Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital

The Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital is organized into centers of emphasis and the Steve and Cindy Rasmussen Institute for Genomic Medicine, all of which facilitate interdisciplinary team science by transcending traditional academic boundaries. The structure supports discovery, enabled by outstanding shared resources. Each center and institute is home to talented faculty members, staff, graduate students, residents, postdoctoral fellows and other students.

- Battelle Center for Mathematical Medicine
- Center for Biobehavioral Health
- Center for Cardiovascular Research
- Center for Child Health Equity and Outcomes Research
- Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases
- Center for Clinical and Translational Research
- Center for Gene Therapy
- Center for Injury Research and Policy
- Institute for Genomic Medicine
- Center for Microbial Pathogenesis
- Center for Perinatal Research
- Center for Regenerative Medicine
- Center for Vaccines and Immunity

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





## Deena Chisolm, PhD, Director of the Center for Child Health Equity and Outcomes Research

Pronouns: She/her/hers

### What was your path to Nationwide Children's Hospital?

My path to Nationwide Children's was quite "bendy." Prior to committing to a career in research, I worked as a state health department epidemiologist, a health quality evaluator and a consultant. The one thing that all of these roles had in common was the responsibility to turn data into information that created improvement in health and health care. That was my niche.

I returned to college to complete a PhD in public health eight years after completing my master's degree. After graduation, I was fortunate to meet and collaborate with Dr. Kelly Kelleher on a health care data project, which led to the start of my 15 years at Nationwide Children's.

I have stayed at Nationwide Children's because I love knowing that the research I do goes directly into the hands of clinicians and administrators who can apply it to improving the lives of children. I feel like what I do here can create real-time change.

What I love most about Nationwide Children's is the collegiality and collaboration. Clinician-scientists and research scientists share their varying skills in a way that advances science and health with little competition or "turfism." The concept of "One Team" is not just words, it permeates the way we work.

### What research are you passionate about?

My key research interest is addressing health outside of health care. It is estimated that only 20% of our health is driven by actual interactions with the health care system. My question is *what approaches work for addressing the social, economic, behavioral and environmental issues that make up the other 80%*, in addition to understanding how health care systems like Nationwide Children's and health policies can implement those approaches successfully.

My passion is health equity. My purpose is to generate knowledge that helps us ensure that every child has an equal opportunity to

achieve their best health, as well as building a world where that opportunity is not limited by factors like race, poverty or neighborhood. I have a special interest in the health of teens. Adolescence can be hard because of the natural physiological and psychosocial changes happening all at once, but it is also

a great time to engage youths in their health. When we develop approaches that teach young people how to manage their own health, make good health choices, navigate the health care system, and advocate for their own health interests, we build a generation that can be part of the process for reaching health equity.

### Please tell us about your work with health equity research:

The mission of the Center for Child Health Equity and Outcomes Research is to advance child health and well-being through research in and across clinical care, health services, health policy and community initiatives. As center director, I am focused on building multi-disciplinary research initiatives that advance our knowledge of what works to achieve that

mission. This work includes condition-specific research in areas including sickle cell disease, infant mortality and behavioral health. It also goes beyond traditional health outcomes and disparities to focus on issues of child and family well-being including, housing instability, kindergarten readiness, health literacy and poverty.



**“*My passion* is health equity. *My purpose* is to generate knowledge that helps us ensure that every child has an equal opportunity to achieve their best health and to build a world where that opportunity is not limited by factors like race, poverty or neighborhood.”**

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**– Deena Chisolm, PhD**

Director, Center for Child Health Equity and Outcomes Research  
Vice President, Health Services Research



## Monica Hoff, MD, Fellow - Pediatric Hospital Medicine

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

### When did you become interested in research?

I originally never thought 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, pediatric nephrology urothelial development research, quality improvement and medical education research.

### How important was research in your residency search?

When searching for residency programs, I sought out institutions that had the resources and facilities in place to support any research I might choose to do. I also knew I would need dedicated time to do research during my training, so having research advanced competencies or elective rotations that allowed time for research projects, and not just chart review, was really important to me.

### What sort of research opportunities have you had during residency?

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 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 meaningful 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**

Fellow - Pediatric Hospital Medicine





*Big Lots Behavioral Health Pavilion*



***My passion*** is to promote the mental health and well-being of all children. ***My purpose*** is to increase equity and access to mental health educational resources and tools for every community.

*Ariana C. Hoet, PhD*



*Play Deck*



## Break Stigmas – Big Lots Behavioral Health Services

As a national leader in pediatric behavioral and mental health, we are pushing the field forward. In March 2020, thanks to a transformational \$50 million gift from Big Lots and their Foundation, we constructed America's largest center dedicated exclusively to child and adolescent behavioral and mental health on a pediatric medical campus.

Featuring inpatient services, intensive outpatient services, a Psychiatric Crisis Department and research all under one roof, this integrated pediatric behavioral health approach serves as a model for other health care systems across the nation.

Through Big Lots Behavioral Health Services, we bring together a comprehensive team comprising psychiatry, psychology, pediatrics, advanced practice providers, nursing, counseling, social work, clinical therapies and parent support specialists to help with every aspect of a child's treatment.

With one in five children living with a mental health disorder, we realized that children needed a voice. That's why Nationwide Children's developed the On Our Sleeves® movement for children's mental health. Based on the idea that kids don't wear their thoughts on their sleeves, the mission of On Our Sleeves® is to provide every community with free educational resources to break stigmas around children's mental health.

To learn more, visit [www.OnOurSleeves.org](http://www.OnOurSleeves.org)

**ON OUR SLEEVES®**  
The Movement to Transform Children's Mental Health



*Inpatient Room*



*On Our Sleeves  
movement for  
children's mental  
health*





## Ariana Hoet, PhD and Whitney Raglin Bignall, PhD

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*



**Tell us a little about  
your academic interest.**

**Ariana Hoet, PhD:**

I am interested in health equity and access to culturally responsive mental health services for our community!

**Whitney Raglin Bignall, PhD:**

My academic interests include 1) understanding psychosocial and cultural factors that contribute to health and mental health disparities; 2) designing interventions that are contextually appropriate for underserved communities and 3) adapting and implementing evidence-based treatments that are sustainable within communities. My work also serves to bridge the gap between health systems and the communities they serve by making psychological interventions more accessible and equitable. This includes creating vibrant and robust community-academic partnerships between hospital partners, primary care offices, neighborhood schools and community organizations. Lastly, I am passionate about disseminating evidence-based information to all communities to reduce stigma and build mental wellness.

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**What is your role at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and what is your vision for breaking the stigmas associated with pediatric mental and behavioral health?**

**Ariana Hoet, PhD:**

I am the executive clinical director of On Our Sleeves®, a pediatric psychologist in integrated primary care and an assistant professor of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. I dream of a world where every adult feels they have the tools they need to support the mental wellness and development of the children in their lives.

**Whitney Raglin Bignall, PhD:**

I am the associate clinical director of On Our Sleeves®, an integrated pediatric psychologist at Nationwide Children's Linden Primary Care Center and an assistant professor of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. I am passionate about getting our community, friends and neighbors comfortable talking about mental health and having the tools to build mental wellness

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**Why is Nationwide Children's unique in creating an environment where you and your career can thrive?**

**Ariana Hoet, PhD:**

From my first year at Nationwide Children's, there were opportunities to get involved in leadership positions and community outreach. I think this is rare, and I'm grateful for all the amazing projects and programs Nationwide Children's has to improve health equity. Joining these groups and positions allowed me to feel a part of the hospital culture outside of my clinic duties and have the ability to advocate for change.

**Whitney Raglin Bignall, PhD:**

Nationwide Children's Hospital knows that achieving the best health outcomes for children requires a systematic approach that invests not only in the hospital's infrastructure but also in the people who work here and the communities we serve. Because of this shared commitment, I have received tremendous support for my clinical and academic interests. I have enjoyed an environment where I can partner with people across the network to make real change.

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**“Nationwide Children's Hospital knows that achieving the best health outcomes for children requires a systematic approach that invests not only in the hospital's infrastructure but also in the people who work here and the communities we serve.”**

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**– Whitney Raglin Bignall, PhD**

Associate Clinical Director, On Our Sleeves®  
Integrated Pediatric Psychologist, Nationwide Children's Hospital  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, The Ohio State University College of Medicine



## Grace R. Paul, MD and Traci A. Bouchard, MD

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

### Tell us a little about your research interests.



#### GRACE R. PAUL, MD

Even after immigrating to the United States more than 20 years ago, my conviction and passion to serve the medical community and patients in India and other low-and-middle-income countries remain strong. I find this to be my calling and privilege to work and teach about pulmonary diseases affecting children, not only in the United States but globally, as respiratory illnesses are major contributors to early morbidity and mortality worldwide.

I am blessed to be the principal investigator for the Cystic Fibrosis-India project, a well-structured initiative to promote diagnosis and management of cystic fibrosis in India. Our work is funded by the U.S. CF Foundation and aims to improve awareness and access to CF diagnostic services while creating cost-effective management protocols that would benefit many children with CF

living in developing nations. Even a small investment of time, planning and effort go a long way in resource-limited areas-an important factor that motivates my work. I serve on a few national and international committees to promote awareness of pediatric pulmonary health and participate in strategic planning to improve health care outcomes. Navigating through the complexities of international research during the COVID-19 pandemic was a very interesting learning experience!



#### TRACI A. BOUCHARD, MD

I have been working with medical trainees in global health since 2004 and was thrilled to join the leadership team of Nationwide Children's Global Health Advanced Competency in 2021.

I am passionate about working with children and their families locally and globally to improve their health and the health of their community. I am very excited to bring my prior experience and knowledge to work with the very talented and enthusiastic residents, fellows and faculty at Nationwide Children's and train the next generation of physicians to improve the health of children everywhere. Our program is truly a collaborative experience, with many residents, fellows and faculty with diverse experiences, backgrounds and skills – I often learn as much as I teach at our global health meetings.

I am currently working with a resident on understanding our non-English speaking patients' needs beyond just the use of translators and understanding the complexities of medical literacy and its impact on treatment and health outcomes. I am also working with Nationwide Children's Center for Injury Research and Policy on a study exploring the use of Fitbits and home motion sensors to prevent relapse in patients with substance use disorder in recovery. Working with this patient population and the growing opioid crisis in Ohio and globally is another passion of mine. My purpose as a physician and public health educator is to make a difference in the lives of families and children, particularly those marginalized or with limited resources.

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## What is your vision for global education at Nationwide Children's?

As co-directors of the Advanced Competency in Global Health, our vision is to strengthen medical knowledge and skills of our pediatric residents in addressing the health care needs of diverse populations living in areas with limited resources.

Through participation in the program, our residents will be able to demonstrate fundamental knowledge of the pediatrician's role as a global health practitioner and learn to deliver culturally sensitive care in under-resourced environments in the United States and international settings. Our program aims to provide basic knowledge in the following: global indicators of disease, population health, maternal-child health, infectious diseases, tropical diseases, managing the sick child and chronic diseases in resource-limited settings, local and global health, and addressing health needs of new immigrant communities in the United States.

We plan to achieve these goals through online modules, formal and informal didactic sessions presented by renowned global health faculty, journal clubs, and scholarly projects with a special focus on quality improvement. We are excited about making our program even more robust with our partners in Uganda and India, our joint work with The Ohio State University global health colleagues, and our new partnership with the Indian Health Services to give our residents more options for their experiential learning elective. Our goal is that the knowledge and skills gained through the competency, travel experiences, and scholarly work would inspire and encourage them to incorporate global health/underserved population health as part of future career plans.





## Q&A

### Abha Athale, DO, Fellow - Emergency Medicine

*Pronouns: She/her/hers*

**What sort of global health work have you done in residency, and how was that feasible with busy resident schedules?**

I knew once I matched to Nationwide Children's Hospital for residency that I wanted to be part of the Advanced Competency in Global Health. The global health competency is a certificate course that residents can complete alongside core residency training. The competency focuses on teaching trainees about global health topics through journal clubs, seminars and one-on-one mentorship. As part of the competency, I completed a global health elective in Kampala, Uganda, with a co-resident. There, I worked at a large referral hospital where I was able to participate in patient care in their PICU, general ward and sickle cell ward. I am also completing an academic project in the field of global health with my mentor. Global health is important to me, and I'm thrilled to be part of a residency program that supports my endeavors and makes them feasible despite being a resident. The program has given me protected time for away electives. There are scholarships, for which residents are encouraged to apply to help fund these trips. We're also offered many opportunities for scholarship and mentorship.



## Q&A

### Guillermo Yepes Junquera, MD, Fellow - Infectious Diseases

*Pronouns: He/him/his*

#### How did you become interested in Global Health?

I was born and raised in Caracas, Venezuela. Although I have been in the United States since 2015 and have continued my training in this country, my initial exposure to the medical realm was in med school in Venezuela. I experienced the struggles of a poorly administered public medical system and not ideal medical outcomes due to lack of resources, despite having amazing medical professionals. It is not uncommon in these settings to see doctors getting creative, using third or fourth lines of therapy to provide appropriate medical care to their patients. As I grow my medical career in the United States and have the ability to practice in a resource-rich environment, these differences have become even more evident to me. It has made me realize that I want to help people, like those in my native country, who sometimes do not have access to good-quality medical care.

My time with the Advanced Competency in Global Health at Nationwide Children's and my past experiences as a doctor in Venezuela have helped me see a career in global health as a powerful tool to help people.

# Q&A

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## **Where did you get your passion for child health advocacy?**

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 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 of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology where I 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.

## **Can you tell us about some of the work you are doing to promote child health advocacy at the local, state, and national levels?**

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, as well as meeting with lawmakers in Columbus, Ohio and Washington, D.C. to inspire policies that promote health equity for children and families. I've been honored to serve as a member of The White House Health Equity Roundtable Series on Access to Care, and as the inaugural chair of the Health Care Justice Committee of the American Society of Nephrology. These opportunities enable me 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 promote community wellness to our historically disadvantaged 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, fellows, and faculty colleagues to travel to the Ohio Statehouse and meet with lawmakers about proposals that champion justice and equity for underserved children and families across our state.

## **What are your future goals as a child health advocate, and how does Nationwide Children's help foster those goals?**

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 – and I can't wait to work with you!



“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.”

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– O. N. Ray Bignall II, MD, FAAP, FASN

Chief Diversity and Health Equity Officer  
Pediatric Nephrologist

## Q&A Angela Mingo

### Tell us about your role at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

I began working in the Department of Community Relations 15 years ago because I saw the potential of the organization to build a deeper relationship with the neighborhood. I love that our institution values population health enough to make it part of the strategic plan through the Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families initiative. The camaraderie throughout the organization and community is what makes initiatives like this possible.

### What are we doing as an institution to work together with our community?

The South Side is the neighborhood Nationwide Children's calls home. Its greatest asset is the children and families that live in the community. We are proud to partner with Community Development for All People to support the health and wellness of the corridor through the Healthy Neighborhood Healthy Families Initiative.

Our efforts have expanded into the Linden neighborhood in Columbus thanks to strong partnerships with Linden community stakeholders. The work of Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families is informed by neighborhood residents, clergy and civic leaders who serve as everyday experts on the journey to best outcomes. Together, we can ensure that families thrive where they live and health equity abounds.

### Community Wellness



#### NEARLY 200 EMPLOYEES

serve as mentors at neighborhood schools and organizations



#### MORE THAN 500 HOMES

improved through rehabilitations, home improvement grants and new builds



#### 96% OF CHILDREN

who finished our kindergarten readiness program improved their numeracy skills



#### MORE THAN 1,220 RESIDENTS

of zip codes 43205, 43206 and 43207 employed by Nationwide Children's



“I love that our institution values population health enough to make it part of the strategic plan through the Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families initiative.”

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— **Angela Mingo**  
Vice President of Corporate Affairs





With a population of over 890,000, Columbus is the 14th largest city in the United States. The city is perfect for active lifestyles, having recently invested \$20 million to develop a growing system of bike and fitness trails that connect the suburbs and river trails to downtown's \$44 million riverfront park system restoration. Columbus is recognized for its neighborhoods ranging from historic to hopping, for its fabulous casual and fine dining venues, shopping experiences, museums and more.

If you are a sports enthusiast, there is no offseason in the Columbus area with a wide variety of events and venues. Columbus is diverse and home to one of the largest young professional networks in the country. There are several young professional organizations that regularly hold networking events, social and philanthropic activities.



Provided by Experience Columbus



Provided by Experience Columbus



Provided by Experience Columbus

One of our city's proud achievements is the diversity of its economic base. Columbus is at the heart of the largest concentration of population and economic activity in North America. Government, service, distribution, retail and manufacturing companies all make Columbus their

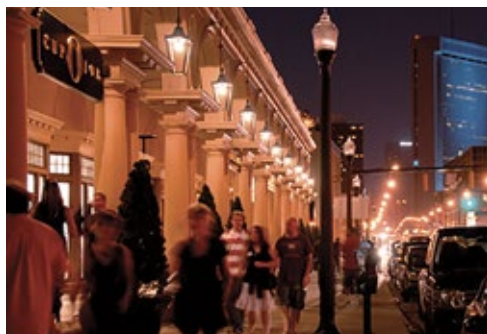
headquarters. Columbus also fosters an emerging tech-start-up and retail scene.

Columbus is centrally located within a day's drive of Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Toronto, New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

Visit [www.Columbus.gov](http://www.Columbus.gov), [www.ExperienceColumbus.com](http://www.ExperienceColumbus.com) and [ColumbusRegion.com](http://ColumbusRegion.com) to learn more about Columbus.



COURTESY OF NATIONWIDE REALTY INVESTORS





At Nationwide Children's our passion is to intentionally recruit a diverse workforce so that together we can achieve our purpose – to help children everywhere reach their highest potential.



For more information about residency and fellowship programs at Nationwide Children's, visit  
[NationwideChildrens.org/Residency-Fellowship](https://NationwideChildrens.org/Residency-Fellowship)

#### **Residencies**

Justin King  
Pediatric Residency Program Coordinator  
[Justin.King@NationwideChildrens.org](mailto:Justin.King@NationwideChildrens.org)

#### **Fellowships**

See the individual programs for contact information:  
[NationwideChildrens.org/for-medical-professionals/education-and-training/fellowship-programs](https://NationwideChildrens.org/for-medical-professionals/education-and-training/fellowship-programs)

**Nationwide Children's Hospital**  
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[NationwideChildrens.org](https://NationwideChildrens.org)



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