Join our team of diverse residents and fellows

Where your passion and purpose can make a difference for children everywhere
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 part of it. Welcome to Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Where Passion Meets Purpose.

Here, Everyone Matters. We’re over 12,000 strong. And it takes every single one of us to improve the lives of the kids we care for, and the kids from around the world we’ll never even meet. Kids who are living healthier, fuller lives because of the knowledge we share. We know it takes a Collaborative Culture to deliver on our promise to provide the very best, innovative care and to foster new discoveries, made possible by the most groundbreaking research. Anywhere.

Ask anyone with a Nationwide Children’s badge what they do for a living. They’ll tell you it’s more than a job. It’s a calling. It’s a chance to use and grow your talent to make an impact that truly matters. Because here, we exist simply to help children everywhere.

Nationwide Children’s Hospital.
A Place to Be Proud.
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 Hospital. 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 Hospital, where passion meets purpose. 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 Providers

Nationwide Children’s values diversity, and we know that providers who reflect their patient populations improve patient care. Our educational mission includes programs to support students, residents, and fellows who are Underrepresented Minorities (URM) in Medicine to attend our medical training programs and to be a part of our vision for BEST OUTCOMES.

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.
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.
Q: What was your path to Nationwide Children’s Hospital?
A: I was born and raised in New York City, and first ventured out for college because I wanted “to see the world.” Perspective has always been very important in my growth, and there is no better way to see how other people live and think than to go out and live it for yourself. After bouncing around the Midwest and East Coast, I ended up in Columbus for residency, partially because of the impressive breadth and scope of the institution, but also because my then-fiancé was here for general surgery residency. I came here loving the gorgeous hospital and the systems-based curriculum and have really fallen in love with those who keep Nationwide Children’s Hospital running – the faculty, nurses, fellows, my co-residents, the custodial staff, resident assistants, the list goes on and on. Easy days breeze by, but on bad ones, that connection – a greeting, smile, hug – can go such a long way.

Q: What made you want to be a chief resident and what are some of your goals for the upcoming year?
A: Deciding to apply for a chief resident position was multifactorial. On an institutional level, I will always be grateful for the opportunity to train at Nationwide Children’s, so being a chief allows me to give back to our residency program. On a resident level, we pediatricians are specially equipped for standing up for those with little or no voice. In a large institution like Nationwide Children’s, resident input is extremely important, so as a chief, I will be in a unique position to represent those voices. On an individual level, being chief pushes me out of my comfort zone and will help me grow in vital areas like negotiation, conflict resolution and advocacy. Residency is difficult and can be draining. Being a part of a community and working towards a unified goal mitigates the burnout, so one of my primary goals for the year is to focus on making each resident feel included, appreciated and to support a culture of joy.

Q: What are some of your career goals and how has training at NCH made you uniquely positioned to be successful in achieving your goals?
A: My aspiration is to be a general pediatrician. One of the most nerve-wracking aspects is the need to have a wide breadth of knowledge in order to generate large differentials and catch diseases at their presentation. One of the reasons I was first attracted to Nationwide Children’s was the magnitude of the hospital – there are over 500 beds, 60 sub-specialists, and an extensive catchment area, including a global presence. Now that I have completed my three years of training, I can confidently say that choosing to train here did not disappoint. I have access to an incredible number of sub-specialists who have mentored me through the years, and I have taken care of the bread and butter as well as the zebras. On top of this, the permeating culture of compassion, teaching, and feedback have shaped my practice and habits, which I hope will serve my patients well in the future.
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. As Chief Residents, our goal is to be advocates and resources to all our residents and faculty and we aim to support you in all your endeavors here at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Welcome!

2019-2020 Chief Residents

Hannah Elkus
Taylor Jersak
Shauna Schord
Megan Yanny
Becky Zhao

Alex Saucedo, MD
Resident II - Pediatrics

Interestingly, during my intern year, I was on the code team, and as we were running to a code, we ran right by President Trump and First Lady Melania while they were visiting the hospital.

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

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 plan to stay as an Infectious Diseases attending.

Destiny Wilson, MD
Resident III - Pediatrics

“I appreciate that we get to work one-on-one with subspecialists on a daily basis instead of having to consult.”

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

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?
A: I appreciate 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. I love the overall comradery with my fellow co-residents, attendings, and hospital administration. I feel that many individuals I interact with on a daily basis love their jobs, enjoy teaching and make my work day fun.

Q: Who is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: Columbus is a relatively big city but without the terrible traffic. There are also many great food options throughout the city.

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I plan to pursue further training in Pediatric Emergency Medicine.

Q: Tell us something fun about you.
A: I have bungee jumped over, and gone white water rafting in, the Nile River.
Ask me anything you want to about the Primary Care Track! The combination of the traditional residency program curriculum with experiences in primary care including inpatient, outpatient, surgery, PICU, NICU, adolescent and emergency medicine are definitely preparing me for my career as a primary care pediatrician!

A resident’s life is a busy life. One thing I love about the program is our support staff. Everyone from residency leadership to the pharmacists to the resident assistants is incredibly helpful and friendly. They make our lives so much easier!

The supportive training environment has always made me feel that I can achieve my career goals. I love to project that support forward to help my patients achieve their goals.

“I was impressed by how involved the residents were in patient care and how the attendings took the time to succinctly explain clinical pearls on rounds.”

Q: Where are you from?
A: I was born in Puerto Rico and was raised in Miami, Florida.

Q: What do you think about the training program at Nationwide Children’s?
A: I had the opportunity to do an away rotation in outpatient congenital cardiology at The Ohio State University and Nationwide Children’s Hospital as a 4th year medical student; specifically to see the Adult Congenital Heart Disease program. I was impressed by how involved the residents were in patient care and how the attendings took the time to succinctly explain clinical pearls on rounds. It was also easy to notice the overall collegiality amongst all members of the medical team (medical students, nurses, social work) at both places. Still now as a resident, I truly value that everyone is a team player and always willing to help out when things get busy.

Q: What is living in Columbus, Ohio like?
A: I am a foodie and was surprised by the variety of ethnic restaurants. Saraga International Market is my favorite market in Columbus. I also love hiking, picking apples, and the summer festivals!

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I will pursue a pediatric cardiology fellowship on my path to pursuing a second fellowship in Adult Congenital Cardiology.

Q: Tell us something fun about you.
A: I am a proud mother of a daughter who is currently in college.
Roberta Gomez, MD  
Resident III – Internal Medicine/Pediatrics

There was a time when very few pediatric patients with sickle cell disease would survive into adulthood, but this has changed significantly with current therapies. I plan to use my internal medicine-pediatrics training to help adolescents and young adults with sickle cell disease smoothly transition from their pediatric to adult hematologists.

Claudia Mosquera, MD  
Resident II – Pediatrics

I come from a very big Venezuelan family and we are currently living all over the world! My siblings live in Spain while my parents are still in Venezuela. It is a challenge to communicate with them but that’s how I entertain myself between pages during night shift – catching up with them and filling my family in on the exciting work I am doing!

Aisha White, MD  
Resident II – Internal Medicine/Pediatrics

In addition to enjoying Nationwide Children’s, I’m enjoying exploring Columbus. It has big city opportunities with a smaller city vibe. There is always something to do or new places to explore, and traffic is usually light so getting around the city is so easy!

Our Opportunities

Rohan Henry, MD  
Endocrinology

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.
Our Underrepresented Minorities (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 workforce only strengthens an institution and can better serve its patients.

Program Benefit Highlights

• Course credit from home institution via application through VSAS/VSLO
• $1000 stipend for travel/living expenses
• Housing provided by Nationwide Children’s Hospital
• Residency interview with Nationwide Children’s pediatric residency program during the experience
• Multiple subspecialties to choose from for a four-week inpatient sub-internship experience at a free-standing quaternary-care, nationally recognized pediatric institution
• Opportunities for social networking and building relationships with URM residents and faculty while exploring Columbus, OH
• Inclusion in resident conferences and activities
• Mentorship by residents, faculty and 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.

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

Brittney Hills, MD, Cardiology Fellow
I developed my passion for pediatric cardiology and medical education when, as an undergraduate, I met a patient post-operatively with single ventricle physiology. My purpose is to develop critical congenital heart disease curricula to further medical education and prevent the long-term morbidity and mortality of this population.

Rena Kasick, MD
Hospital Pediatrics
Associate Program Director
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.
Q: What was your path to Nationwide Children’s Hospital?
A: 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 healthcare. 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 healthcare data project, which led to the start of my fifteen 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.

Q: What research are you passionate about?
A: My key research interest is addressing health outside of healthcare. It is estimated that only 20% of our health is driven by our actual interactions with the healthcare 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 and to build 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 healthcare system, and advocate for their own health interests, we build a generation that can be part of the process for reaching health equity.

Q: Please tell us about your role as the Director of the Center for Innovation and your vision for the Center.
A: The Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice is the primary home of the institute’s health services and population health research. Our faculty address a wide variety of clinical issues including suicidality, surgical outcomes, sickle cell disease, asthma, clotting disorders and more. We also work closely with the hospital’s Community Wellness team to help design and evaluate neighborhood interventions focused on housing, neighborhood safety, education, employment, and other social determinants of health. My vision as the new director of the Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice is to further the Abigail Wexner Research Institute’s reputation as the national leader in research that advances health through improvement in care outside our hospital walls in homes, neighborhoods, schools and beyond.

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– Deena Chisolm, PhD
Director Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice
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 advanced competencies 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 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
Resident II – Pediatrics

Mari Mori, MD
Genetics
My passion is for patients and families with genetic conditions. My purposes are to manage patients with inborn errors of metabolism to prevent catastrophic crises, to conduct research in the budding field of complex genetics, and to advance technology in genetic diagnostics.
About Our Research

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 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 or institute is home to talented faculty members, staff, graduate students, residents, postdoctoral fellows and, other students.

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

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
“… 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

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

– Angela Mingo
Director of Community Relations

Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families

Q: Tell us about your role at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

A: I began working in the Community Relations department 11 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 comradery throughout the organization and community is what makes initiatives like this possible.

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

A: The South Side of Columbus is home to Nationwide Children’s Hospital and this community’s greatest asset is the families that reside within the corridor. However, there’s a great need in the area. Therefore, Nationwide Children’s has partnered with Community Development for All People (CD4AP) to support the work of the Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families initiative. Through this program, we have the opportunity to collaborate in the utilization of a $20 million fund that facilitates the redevelopment of up to 170 affordable housing units on the South Side, with a vision of creating safer and healthier homes for our patients and community without changing the affordability, and therefore the demographics, of the neighborhood that we call home.

Community Wellness

200 EMPLOYEES serve as mentors at neighborhood schools and organizations

96% OF CHILDREN were prepared for kindergarten after participating in a readiness program

MORE THAN 350 HOMES improved through rehabilitations, home improvement grants and new builds

MORE THAN 700 RESIDENTS of zip codes 43205, 43206 and 43207 employed by Nationwide Children’s
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 and 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, have 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

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One in five children has a mental health illness. The comprehensive team approach through our Big Lots Behavioral Health Services at Nationwide Children’s Hospital brings together psychiatry, psychology, specialized pediatrics, counseling, parent support specialists, social work and nursing to help with every aspect of a child’s treatment. As a national leader in childhood Behavioral Health research, we are pushing the field forward.

On Our Sleeves was developed by Nationwide Children’s Hospital to help break the stigma around child and adolescent mental and behavioral health and was introduced on World Mental Health Awareness Day in October 2018. The movement’s awareness campaign made its national debut May 9, 2019 on NBC’s “Today” show and many corporations have since joined the movement.

To learn more, visit NationwideChildrens.org/Giving/On-Our-Sleeves
“Our staff is a family, and we are all passionate about making the lives of our patients and community better.”

– Whitney Raglin Bignall, PhD, Psychologist

Q: What was your path to Nationwide Children’s Hospital?
A: My passion is to deliver culturally competent, evidence-based behavioral health care to all children and families, especially within communities in need. I was so impressed by Nationwide Children’s expansive mental and behavioral health programs, and the deep and genuine commitment to treat all children; I really wanted to be a part of this team. Our behavioral system is dedicated to treating mental and behavioral health at all levels – from home visits and school-based therapy, to traditional outpatient and sub-specialty inpatient care. What’s more, we specialize in delivering culturally competent care to our diverse patient population right within the neighborhoods they call home.

Q: What is your role at the institution?
A: I am a pediatric psychologist, integrated within the primary care setting at Nationwide Children’s Linden Primary Care Center. As a psychologist driven to eliminate health and mental health disparities experienced by under-represented communities, working in the Linden neighborhood is a dream come true! At Linden, we practice a multi-disciplinary team approach to primary care that is so exciting to be a part of. Our staff is a family, and we are all passionate about making the lives of our patients and community better. At Linden, we take pride in trainee education and we are deeply passionate about medical education.

Q: Do you do any research?
A: Yes! My research aims are three-fold: 1) understand psychosocial and cultural factors that contribute to health and mental health disparities, 2) design interventions that are contextually appropriate for underserved communities, and 3) adapt and implement existing evidence-based treatments that are sustainable. My research serves to bridge the gap between health systems and the communities they serve to make psychological interventions more accessible. This includes creating vibrant and robust community-academic partnerships with children’s hospitals, primary care offices, neighborhood schools, and community organizations.

Q: What is unique about Nationwide Children’s that creates an environment where you and your career can thrive?
A: It is an exciting time to be a child health professional interested in the care of children and communities from diverse backgrounds, and Nationwide Children’s Hospital is the kind of diverse, supportive environment that helps these dreams to become reality. We have a progressive vision to make meaningful, positive change in the community, and being an employee here encourages you to naturally think bigger and aim higher for our children and families.

A word from Whitney Raglin Bignall, named to the “40 under 40 Leaders in Minority Health Behavioral Health” by the National Minority Quality Forum:

My passion is to create change at the intersection of healthcare 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.

Jordee Wells, MD
Emergency Medicine attending
A Culture of Inclusion

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 United States. 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 a LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation’s Healthcare Equality Index.

At Nationwide Children’s we are deeply committed to the recruitment and retention of a diverse group of residents, fellows and faculty that reflects our patient population. We recognize and embrace the crucial role diverse staff play in addressing social determinants of health, quality and patient safety, genomic medicine, behavioral health and population health. One way we support a culture that fosters inclusiveness 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 URM and LGBTQ Physician visibility for applicants, trainees, and patients.
"You cannot be what you cannot 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 it’s providers in an institution that recognizes that in order to have the BEST OUTCOMES, we must also have the best diversity and inclusion.

Every pediatrician in America should want to work and train at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

Our Patients

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 country with one of 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.

U.S. patient visits

1,562,983 TOTAL PATIENT VISITS
(excludes home health)

Desalegn Yacob, MD
Gastroenterology

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.
About Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Our Mission
Nationwide Children’s Hospital is committed to providing the highest quality care to all children and their families, regardless of ability to pay:

- Patient Care
- Advocacy for children and families
- Pediatric Research
- Education
- Outstanding Service to accommodate the needs of patients and families

Our Vision
Best Outcomes in everything we do, together delivering the best health care for children.

At a Glance

- ZERO PREVENTABLE HARM
- Provided more than $191 MILLION IN CHARITY CARE and community benefit services annually
- 97,866 donors RAISED NEARLY $51 million
- The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital IS ONE OF THE TOP 10 NIH-funded freestanding pediatric research facilities in the U.S.
- America’s LARGEST neonatal network and provider of inpatient pediatric surgeries*
- America’s Second LARGEST CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL*
- Three-time Magnet designation for nursing excellence
- More than 1.5 MILLION patient visits from all 50 U.S. STATES AND 45 COUNTRIES

* Most recent data from CHA-member pediatric hospitals

Aurelia Wood, MD
Endocrinology

My passion is community engagement and creation of mechanisms of increasing access for children with complex medical conditions. My purpose is to build trusting and open relationships with families, provide them with individualized yet evidence-based care and empower them with knowledge to increase healthcare literacy and self-management outside of the hospital walls.
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

Residencies
Kathy Trace
Residency Program Coordinator
Kathy.Trace@NationwideChildrens.org

Fellowships
See the individual programs for contact information:
NationwideChildrens.org/for-medical-professionals/education-and-training/fellowship-programs

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NationwideChildrens.org