

East Valley Family Medicine Residency Program Newsletter ~ October 2022 | Volume II

Reflective Thought

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards." – Søren Kierkegaard

Dignity Health Medical Group Family Medicine – Mercy Gilbert

Our new Gilbert Family Medicine clinic opened for care and treatment of patients on September 19, 2022. Pictures below reflect the excitement of our Faculty and staff at our "meet& greet" scheduled prior to the clinic opening. Marketing is working on scheduling an official Ribbon Cutting ceremony for our new clinic; watch your email for details and an invitation to this event.



With this much needed clinic in Gilbert we will begin laying the footprint of innovative and exceptional care as we build a strong patient base for our new FM Residency clinic. Construction is scheduled to be completed on our new FM clinic (Mercy Gilbert MOB III) in Spring 2023.

It's Interview Season!!!

Happy Fall – and Happy Interview Season! We are excited to be participating in our first interview season where we will have opportunity to meet and interview hundreds of potential interns for our inaugural residency class of 6. Our Faculty has reserved 12 hours a week, October through mid-December, in order to host these interviews.

Our Thoughts on the Electronic Residency Application System (ERAS)

Residents began applying for programs through ERAS on September 7, 2022 and our program, along with programs across the country were able to access these applications on September 28, 2022. To-date we've received over **1,050** applications, and we are thrilled with the GREAT interest in our program! We have a very talented pool of residents to interview. We anticipate offering interviews to as many as 180 potential residents.

Our goal is to fully MATCH in Spring 2023! Time will tell – and we will be anxious to share with you what happens in The Match. Match Day will be March 17, 2023 this academic year.

Family Medicine Interest Groups

Our Faculty are making in person and virtual visits with local Medical Schools, including UofA, Creighton, A.T. Still, Mayo, and Midwestern to speak with their student based Family Medicine Interest Groups. The Medical Schools are excited to have our residency come to the East Valley. We are working on fostering relationships with these Medical Schools as we anticipate having their students rotate through our clinic.

Faculty Spotlight – Introduction to Andrew Wong MD



Hi, I'm Andrew Wong, one of the core faculty members with the Dignity East Valley Family Medicine Residency and I'm excited to be a part of building a new residency program. I was born and raised in a family of first-generation immigrants in Central Phoenix and am an all-around (and eternally cautiously optimistic) Arizona Sports fan (Go Suns!). In my free time, I enjoy spending time with family, playing basketball, exercising, traveling, finding delicious places to eat, and watching sports.

I graduated from the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix (Bear Down!) and now work there as an Assistant Clinical Professor teaching clinical skills and at the Center for Simulation & Innovation. I completed my residency at Via Christi in Wichita, Kansas where I received training in full scope family medicine including high-risk obstetrics, surgical obstetrics, endoscopy, hospital procedures and point of care ultrasound. I am passionate about teaching and educating both students and residents and I believe the combination of full scope family medicine with obstetrics and alternative models of care such as Direct Primary Care (DPC) are key to helping solve both the healthcare shortage and healthcare problems in our country.

However, all that is secondary to my life mission to live out the Gospel through healthcare among the poor and marginalized and to equip others to do likewise (Isaiah 58:6-14). Since a young age, God has given me a passion and calling to live and work among the underserved, specifically in an urban inner city setting. I have spent my residency years and most of my career living and/or working in multiple low resourced settings being able to combine both ministry and medicine to live out that calling. My hope is to be able to inspire and encourage students, residents, and others to consider doing likewise.

From the Family Medicine perspective, I believe that full spectrum family medicine has a vital role for maintaining the health of a community, not only abroad and rurally, but also in low resourced urban settings. To that end, as one of the faculty leaders in the areas that encompass full spectrum family medicine, we hope to be able to create a program where our residents can get the training to practice high quality care in whatever scope and setting they desire. My hope is that our residency will be a place where faculty & residents can maintain a full scope of practice and be a national model for how broad-spectrum family medicine can work together with the rest of the healthcare team in highly specialized urban centers like Phoenix.

I have been blessed with a gift & passion for teaching and have been active in education since grade school. From coaching basketball to at-risk youth, to tutoring classmates one on one, to lecturing for large group didactics, to teaching procedures through simulation & at the bedside, I can meet the learner where they're at and hope to use these skills to provide excellent training for our residents. I also hope to be able to use those clinical skills and my love for teaching to be able to continue to serve overseas, encourage and equip students to pursue full scope family medicine, and build a residency practice where others can also practice full spectrum family medicine and serve internationally on a regular basis.

I'm excited to be able to be a part of training and mentoring the next generation of physicians through our new Family Residency Program at Dignity Health East Valley and hope to be a positive part of our residents' training experience. Whether you are a student, resident or practicing professional, if I can be of encouragement, please feel free to reach out to me!

Program Coordinator's Corner

When I think about the magnitude of what we are undertaking and the responsibility that I will have for complete and accurate record keeping, it's a bit overwhelming. I mean, I share in the responsibility of managing and reporting information that is CRITICAL to the future of our residents. What if I report the wrong data or don't report in a timely manner??

Yet when I take a minute to remember everyone that is involved in this program I can breathe a sigh of relief. Between our PD, Faculty, Rotation Directors, our GME Manager, and other Program Coordinators, I have all the resources I need to be successful.

The reality of Dignity Health and the GME programs is this – we are a family and together we can and will accomplish many great things. So, as we enter this interview season and as we look forward to our inaugural year I can stand with my feet firmly planted on this truth; we are a team, and my teammates will not let me fail.

AAFP National Conference for Residents & Medical Students

Our first visit to the AAFP National Conference in July was a great success. We met a great number of potential residents; the soon to be graduating medical students are eager to begin their training and excited about all the future holds for them.



Family Medicine Clinic Update – MOB III

Our NEW Family Medicine Clinic has WALLS! It's exciting to watch our new clinic starting to take shape. We were pleased to hear that the monsoons and accompanying rain did not cause any delays in the timeline or projected completion date!



Photo Dated 10/6/22

MedHub

The agreement between Dignity Health East Valley Residency Programs and MedHub is executed!

MedHub is the Residency Management System that we will be using to track and document residents activities, evaluations, and a variety of other critical program information. Watch for information on MedHub, including helpful tips and tutorials for working in this program which will be shared in future newsletters.

Things to do in Gilbert, AZ (source "The Crazy Tourist")

Spend your Saturday morning exploring the Gilbert Farmers Market located in downtown Gilbert. This lively market is open year round every Saturday (excluding select holiday weekends), offering goods from 60 to 100 vendors. The market offers a vast variety of fresh locally grown produce from the nearby farms together with a variety of local meats, sauces, jams, pickles and handcrafted products. Food trucks are available as well. Grab a snack and take time to sit and enjoy your goodies while the kiddo's play giant games of Connect Four and Jenga.