The Bogalusa Rural Family Medicine Residency Program continues to strive for excellence and capitalize on the evolving healthcare landscape in south Louisiana and nationally.

There are six graduates this year, all whom passed the ABFM Board Certification Exam. Five physicians plan to stay in Louisiana and one will practice in California.

* Becky Batiste, MD – North Oaks Family Medicine, Hammond, LA
* Charl Ceronio, MD – Hardtner Medical Center, Olla, LA
* Ester Hong, MD – Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles, CA
* Hoangvy Le, MD – Our Lady of the Angels Hospital, Bogalusa, LA
* Juan Martinez, MD – North Oaks Family Medicine, Hammond, LA
* Farhan Siddiqui, MD – North Oaks Family Medicine, Hammond, LA

We are pleased to welcome six new residents to our program to begin training on July 1, 2017. The new residents are: Jeremy Dornier, MD, Catherine Fussell, MD, Gabrielle Givens, MD, Brock Juffs, MD, R. Alden McEwen, MD and Cori Sumrall, DO. The chief residents for the new academic year are Christie Caceres, MD and Krupa Gandhi, MD.

This year, we had our first Residency Retreat, facilitated by Our Lady of the Lake Hospital at a local state park. In addition to leadership and team work workshops, we enjoyed some fun activities with our peers.

We attended “White Coat Day” at the state capitol and participated in the health fair for the legislators.

During this academic year, we again offered a Global Health/International Medicine elective to our residents. We have partnered with Healing Peru, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing medical care in Peru. This year, four faculty members and three residents served in Andajuaylillas for two weeks. We are currently in the process of partnering with ____ and several residents have expressed a strong interest in serving in Honduras for this Global Health elective rotation.

Our program continues to participate in community service activities, including sports medicine physicals for the local schools, presentations to the Council on Aging and the Retired Teachers and Administrators organizations, Family Fun Fest and various health fairs in the community.

Many of our faculty and residents have been busy with scholarly activity and patient safety projects. Several of our residents and faculty have presented posters at regional or national conferences:

- Dr. Russo, Dr. Seeliger and Dr. Caceres presented two posters at the AAFP Global Health Conference in Atlanta, GA, “Sexual and Gender Based Violence in the Peruvian Andes.”
- Dr. Ogden, Dr. Siddiqui, and Dr. Deaver were selected to present a poster presentation at the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA titled, “Never Plateau: A Story of Success.”
- Dr. Mohr, Dr. Seeliger, Dr. Russo, Dr. Martinez, Dr. Bui and Dr. Caceres presented various topics during their Global Health track rotation in Peru.
- Dr. Russo, Dr. Le and Dr. Bui published an article in the February issue of Annals of Clinical Case Reports, titled “Discussion of Acquired Long QT Syndrome in a Patient Being Treated for Non-Cardiac Disease.”
• Dr. Russo, Dr. Martinez, Dr. Caceres presented a Cancer Screening presentation at the Advance in Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer at the Regional Hospital in Cusco, Peru.

• Dr. Bryant presented a poster at Infectious Disease week in New Orleans titled, “Increase in Hepatitis C Diagnosis and Opioid-related Deaths in Urban versus Rural Areas of Louisiana from 2012 – 2015.”

Our faculty and residents are publishing articles in professional journals and chapters in medical textbooks as well.

Our residency program continues to strive for excellence in medical education and patient care.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emilio A. Russo, MD
Program Director