

LSUHSC - New Orleans at Lake Charles Family Medicine Residency Program

Program Director: Danette Null, MD, FAAFP

Happy Spring to you! I reported to you last year that we had a “monumental” 2018-2019 academic year. In light of all the changes with COVID-19, those previous adjustments seem less colossal. Reviewing the year as a whole, we’ve done very well. Our residency administrative staff and Program Director have completed their inaugural year and weathered a pandemic to boot! Communication has been one of our focuses this year. We are using a secure text messaging service for better dissemination of information, and we recruited the help of a local psychologist to provide additional resident balint sessions to enhance wellness. As for community interaction, the residency decorated a piano and donated it to a local school to enhance their music program. We continue to work with McNeese State University at their infirmary and athletics department. We care for the working poor by volunteering at the Calcasieu Community Care Clinic and now work more closely with the Public Health Department whose local leader is our very own graduate, Dr. Lacey Cavanaugh.

This year’s graduating class has seen numerous changes within medicine and our world. They know how to provide virtual care and can Zoom like never before! Though they have had their board exam dates postponed, I am confident they will do well. All three residency classes scored above the national average on their ITE exam. Last year’s graduates successfully passed their boards and we thank God for their success. Our current third year residents will be practicing medicine in the outpatient and inpatient settings. They are a highly competent group and we bless them to be a positive force of good in their respective communities. They have served our community well and we wish them great success in all they do especially as they serve others.

We have transitioned from an intern class of 6 to 7 and are excited to introduce the newest members of our family: Dr. Ifeoma “Iffy” Anagboso, University of the Americas; Dr. Vincent Godinich, Trinity School of Medicine; Dr. Tucker Madden, LSUHSC-NO; Dr. Manpreet Mand, Saba University; Dr. Daniel Seeser, LSUHSC-S; Dr. Matthew Taylor, Windsor University; and Dr. Adrian Vinas, St. George’s University. Our faculty and staff are excited to welcome these new interns who were selected from an application pool of over 1200 applicants for our 7 positions.

What a beautiful spring we have had thus far. In the garden, the tomatoes are ripening on the vine and the blueberries are starting to turn blue. I’ve even enjoyed a few early blackberries. The flame lilies are climbing the fence and the sunflowers have started their vertical growth. We have another spring addition to our residency family. The Porter family has been blessed with little Josephine Tess. Mom and baby are both doing well in spite of all the social distancing.

Truly, this has been a year of rapid change for all of us in medicine and education. We are so thankful we have the privilege of caring for others during this time of need and we count our blessings daily for the simple things in life: love, family, health, and community to name a few.

Blessings to all of you!

**Respectfully Submitted,
Danette Null, MD, FAAFP
Program Director**

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