



General Assembly – July 26, 2024 – Destin, FL

**DePaul Community Health Center
Family and Social Medicine Residency Program -
Tulane Affiliated**

Program Director: Coleman Pratt, MD

This has been an eventful year for us.

This academic year we received accreditation by the ACGME and began plans to enroll our first PGY1 class in July of 2024.

Our program is a little different than most residency programs around the country, in that we are part of the Teaching Center (THC) GME program through HRSA. HRSA developed this program to train primary care residents in underserved areas, both rural and urban, with a focus on retention of primary care providers in those communities. Family Medicine is the most common THC GME residency program, though there are also programs in other specialties such as Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Internal Medicine, and even Surgery and Dentistry, around the country.

Even though we went through interview season, and interviewed some truly inspiring and exciting applicants, we unfortunately had to pull out of The Match, as HRSA had not received the necessary funding from Congress to support new programs, in time for us to submit our applicant rank list. HRSA's THC GME program fortunately has bipartisan support in Congress, as these programs have a great track record of retaining primary care physicians in the underserved communities where they trained - which is a benefit that transcends partisanship.

The good news is that HRSA remains very supportive of our efforts, and those of the other newly accredited programs around the country who are in the same predicament, so we remain hopeful that the necessary funds will soon be made available, and that we may still be able to field an intern class in this academic year.

Our program will be based in New Orleans East, at one of De Paul Community Health Centers' busiest clinics. New Orleans East was devastated in Hurricane Katrina and continues to rebuild. We hope our program will help fill the need for comprehensive socially engaged Family Medicine in this community.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Coleman Pratt, MD
Program Director
DePaul Family and Social Medicine Residency Program**