What Our Graduates Say

“The Residency Program set me on a career path in Preventive Medicine and Public Health. The knowledge, networking, and leadership skills learned in the program have been instrumental in my attaining the current position as Director of the Florida Department of Health—Palm Beach County.”

Alina Alonso, MD
Director
Florida Department of Health
Palm Beach County

“The training I received in this residency program has been a solid foundation for a successful career in public health that really has made a difference in my approach to medicine.”

James Howell, MD, MPH
Assistant Dean, Professional Relations
Professor, Public Health
Nova Southeastern University
College of Osteopathic Medicine

“The residency trained me to embrace the community as my patient in a holistic way, which was necessary for a career in public health.”

Robert Parkes, MD, MPH
Assistant County Health Department Director
Chief Medical Director and Epidemiologist
Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County

Eligibility Requirements for Application:
The Florida Department of Health-Palm Beach County’s Preventive Medicine Public Health Residency Program is open to both osteopathic and allopathic physicians. Successful applicants must possess the following:

♦ A passion for Public Health.
♦ A completed intern year with at least eleven months of direct patient contact.
♦ Passing scores on all three steps of USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Examination) and/or the COMLEX (Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination). Official documents/scores are required.
♦ Three letters of recommendation, one letter from the program director of each Residency attended.
♦ Applications are accepted only through ERAS.
♦ All physicians must apply for and obtain a Florida Training License before their start date into the Residency Program.
♦ Our program does not provide J-1 Visas.

Contact Us:
Florida Department of Health
Palm Beach County
Preventive Medicine/Public Health Residency Program
800 Clematis Street
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Phone: (561) 837-5168
Fax: (561) 837-5083
For more information, visit www.PBCHDResidency.org
What Makes Our Program Unique?

From the Zika virus, to the opioid epidemic, to increasingly severe weather events such as Hurricane Irma, Palm Beach County is at the epicenter of many of the public health issues plaguing our nation. The Florida Department of Health—Palm Beach County Preventive Medicine Public Health Residency Program has trained highly qualified physicians to combat public health problems for over 60 years.

In 1950, Dr. Carl L. Brumback became the first public health physician and health department director in Palm Beach County, when the county had only 115,000 residents. In 1956, answering a need he saw for well-trained, qualified public health physicians, Dr. Brumback started a public health residency housed within the health department. For the last 60 years, the Preventive Medicine Public Health Residency Program and the physicians trained within have maintained his legacy of tireless work for the people of Palm Beach County, the State of Florida, and the United States.

The Preventive Medicine Public Health Residency has trained physicians through disasters, epidemics, and public health crises. From migrant workers’ health to hurricanes; from anthrax to HIV and tuberculosis; and from Zika virus to the opioid epidemic, our residents have been there, learning through real world experience. Palm Beach County has both rural and urban communities now serving over 1.4 million people. Residents get hands on practical experience serving a diverse population including the underserved such as migrant farm workers, homeless people, immigrants, and refugees as well as experience with the wealthier populations of the county.

Program Description

The field of Preventive Medicine Public Health treats an entire community as the patient, with training concentrated on the following core areas: Health Services Administration; Systems based Practice; Environmental Health; Biostatistics; Epidemiology; and Clinical Preventive Medicine.

Our Residency Program offers a valuable learning opportunity to develop and increase physician competencies in public health, practice, program planning and administration in a diverse, dynamic and unique agency. Our residents work in the TB, HIV, Family Planning, and STD clinics as well as at the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Residency Graduation Requirements:

Our Preventive Medicine Public Health Residency Program is accredited by ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education). Residents are Board-eligible after graduation. In order to graduate, each resident is expected to fulfill the following requirements:

- Complete the requirements for a Masters in Public Health degree (or equivalent).
- Actively participate in all scheduled lectures, public health seminars, journal club, and other requires meetings.
- Pass all assigned rotations.
- Present a Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance project to the faculty.
- Present a Research Project to the faculty.