

Class of 2022 PGY II – Current 2nd Years



Birnbaum, Nathan Jacob
University of California Irvine,
School of Medicine

I was born and raised in the Bay Area and went to Vassar College, where I majored in political science and drama. After studying public health abroad, I began to see clearly how medicine could be used as a vehicle for social justice. I went on to complete a postbac in Baltimore and then worked with the Transitions Clinic Network to care for patients who had recently been released from prison. At UC Irvine School of Medicine, I was involved in leadership of a syringe exchange and starting projects in the local jail system. I chose to go into family medicine because it will best allow me to help patients and communities combat and prevent illness. When the time comes to lobby for policies that positively impact society's health, being a family physician will best equip me to advocate for my patients. My interests include addiction, reentry medicine, reproductive justice, and health policy. I chose UNM for its broad scope of training, commitment to community health, leadership in addiction, and its role as academic safety-net system. I am incredibly excited to move to Albuquerque with my co-FM resident and wife Orli!



Drake-Lavelle, Shana
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine

Born and raised in Albuquerque, I have grown up grateful for sunshine and the beauty of blending cultures, languages, and people from different walks of life. I attended the College of William and Mary in Virginia for college. Afterwards, I returned to Albuquerque where I eventually was fortunate to attend medical school at UNM. Before and during medical school, I volunteered in clinics in Virginia and Albuquerque to provide medical care for underinsured Spanish-speaking patients. These interactions initiated my love of partnering with people to establish lifelong healthy habits to improve health through treatment and prevention of chronic diseases. I chose Family Medicine to continue these enriching interactions in an environment which values humanism and provides care to all people. My hope as a Family Medicine doctor is to work with families, including providing reproductive, pediatric, and obstetrical care. I chose to continue my training at UNM because it allows me to learn from exceptional family medicine leaders while furthering my clinical interests. Outside of medicine, I enjoy being active by running with my husband, listening to podcasts, spending time with family, being in the “room where it happens” to enjoy musical theater, and playing with puppies.



Florsheim, Orli Kayla
University of California,
Irvine, School of Medicine

I grew up in the beautiful Bay Area. I went to Vassar College for undergrad, where I got the classic “well-rounded liberal arts education,” and ultimately chose to major in Psychology. After spending a few years doing early intervention behavioral therapy with autistic toddlers, I decided to shift gears and completed a premedical post baccalaureate program at Bennington College. I attended medical school at UC Irvine, where I furthered my passion for providing medical care to traditionally marginalized patient populations and discovered my unshakable sense of idealism. I chose Family Medicine because I am passionate about providing socially and culturally competent care, and I believe in the healing power of the patient-physician relationship. I am thrilled to begin residency at UNM, alongside my husband and co-intern Nathan, because this program is committed to training full-scope family medicine physicians who treat patients and communities within the framework of the social determinants of health. I am particularly interested in reproductive justice, obstetrics and women’s health, adolescent medicine and care for patients with substance use disorders.



I am a global rugrat hailing from the coconut fields of my home village Doddavaram India, Perth, Australia and Massachusetts. As a lifelong immigrant and first-generation physician, defining home has been an ever-evolving journey. I chose family medicine to help families like my own navigate their experience of immigration, to be on the frontlines of community medicine, to empower individuals surrounding their health, and finally, to help families heal from intergenerational trauma that can often be passed down within historically marginalized communities. I am particularly excited about the possibility of working on the somatic manifestations of complex trauma with

Gubbala, Supreetha
University of Massachusetts
Medical School

underserved families in an integrated approach that is community-based and family-driven. I was drawn to UNM because of their culturally rich patient population, their inspiring family physicians who are always seeking to better meet the needs of their patients and their strong roots in Native health and culture. They are a community of family docs who truly walk the walk. Outside of medicine, I am an avid fiction reader, writer, bad-joke-provider and nature lover. So I am beyond thrilled to be heading to the Land of Enchantment to explore, grow and learn during this next leg of my medical training!



Kee, Jaron
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine

Yá'át'ééh and hello! My name is Jaron. I was raised in Crystal, NM on the Navajo Nation. Through the Combined BA/MD Degree Program, I completed my undergraduate and medical education at the University of New Mexico. I am excited to continue my journey as a Family Medicine Resident in our wonderful state. The emphasis on holistic health, care of the underserved, and opportunity to care for generations are not what only drew me to Family Medicine, but what motivated me to stay here in New Mexico. I strongly believe in our residency program's mission and plan to unwaveringly serve and advocate for my fellow New Mexicans. Beyond medicine, I enjoy spending time with family, friends, participating in our religious



Lavender, David William
Escuela Latinoamericana
de Medicina

I am motivated to become a Family Medicine physician because of its prominent role in providing continuity of care. The state of New Mexico has been an inspiration for me as it continues to be a leader in providing high-quality, easily accessible medicine for its population. The University of New Mexico's Family Medicine residency has been instrumental in the development of the state's healthcare system and training the doctors that take care of their patients. I am passionate about increasing access to care for people from all communities and walks of life. My professional interests include medicine as a tool for social justice, quality improvement, obstetrics, and community health. I am very excited to train and work with the Family Medicine residency at the University of New Mexico.



Lutz, Bailee Lynn
University of Kansas
School of Medicine - Wichita

I was raised at beautiful Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri where my parents instilled in me a zest for life and a deep compassion for others. My love of Family Medicine stems from my love of people and desire to be integrated into community. I've spent time doing life alongside pregnant teenagers, victims of sex trafficking, people suffering from homelessness and men reintegrating into life outside of prison, and I'm continually inspired by the strength within these communities. As deeply as I care about these people and wish to impact their stories, they have just as much to offer me. I'm committed to working with underserved populations long term and desire to integrate addiction medicine into my practice. I can't imagine a better place to embark on that path than UNM. The commitment and fervor of faculty and residents to provide care and advocate for a multitude of vulnerable populations is unparalleled. They embody the culture and spirit of Family Medicine that I'm grateful to be a part of.



Moorhead, Megan Louise
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine

Hello all! I was raised in Silver City, a small mining town in southern New Mexico. I completed my undergraduate degree at New Mexico State University and my medical education at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. I am so excited to continue my training as a Family Medicine physician in beautiful NM. What I enjoy most about Family Medicine is the ability to create close patient-provider relationships, the ability to care for patients of all age groups and complexities, and the ability to provide socially and culturally appropriate care. This allows the unique opportunity to work within a multidisciplinary team alongside many talented professionals, resulting in increased quality of patient care. I chose UNM Family Medicine Residency because of its diverse patient population served by the UNM institution, as well as the dedication to providing care to the underserved. Outside of medicine, I enjoy spending time with my husband and family, volunteering within my religious organization, bicycling, and movie going.



I moved to Albuquerque after graduating college and taught high school in the South Valley for six years. During this time, I became a single parent but I was never without tías, tíos, madres, padres, and primos from my students' families to help take care of my daughter or help me with just about anything! I am very grateful that they became a part of our big family; because of them, I can be a doctor. I entered family medicine because I want to practice both mental and physical health care. I like exploring the art and science of discussing and connecting how we feel and think, and the short and long-term health consequences of what we decide to do. I also want to foster relationships that permit these interactions; starting with children and continuing through adolescence and adulthood. I think medicine should be a

Plaza, Andres Daniel
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine

tool to maintain and optimize what gives a person purpose and happiness for as long as possible. My specific interests in family medicine include adolescent medicine, sports medicine, school-based health, and immigrant health care. In my free time, I love spending time with my daughter, concerts, reading, cooking, backpacking, snowboarding, and soccer.



Rooney, Kathryn Elizabeth
Rush Medical College of Rush
University Medical Center

I grew up in Pennsauken, New Jersey, which is just outside of Philadelphia. I attended the University of Pennsylvania, where I studied biochemistry and bioanthropology and coached a lively middle school running team in West Philadelphia. After college, I joined the Department of Family Medicine at Penn and coordinated a research study focused on improving the health of adults with diabetes and comorbid depression through integrated care. This experience sparked my interests in both family medicine and population health research. I earned my medical degree from Rush Medical College, where I joined the Family Medicine Leadership Program and worked with patients undergoing detoxification for drug and alcohol use at a behavioral health center in Chicago. I grew passionate about the opportunity to provide comprehensive care to patients, families, and communities through family medicine. I chose to train at the University of New Mexico because it offers unparalleled opportunities to explore my interests in perinatal substance use, reproductive health, rural medicine, and research. In my free time, I enjoy running, practicing yoga, discovering new donut shops, and being outdoors. I'm so thrilled to be joining UNM, and I look forward to hiking the Southwest and becoming a well-trained family physician!



Squire, Spenser Ryan
Saint Louis University
School of Medicine

Through several experiences, I have had the opportunity to interact with a wide variety of people in diverse circumstances. I have learned that there is an incredible amount of suffering in the world, and that although individual details can be quite different, most people simply want to be happy, healthy, and loved. I want to help, and I see family medicine as a great way to do it. I believe a truly well-trained family physician can profoundly influence people's lives, and I am excited to be the kind of doctor who has something to offer to everyone in the community. I look forward to developing long term relationships with my patients and molding my future practice to fit their needs. I am inspired by the broad scope of the specialty. A few specific interests include obstetrics, procedures, and behavioral health. I'm excited about UNM because I believe it will be a good place for me to learn those things, and I like the focus on underserved and rural care with the resources of a large academic medical center. It will be a great place for me to become the best doctor I can be.



Travers, Chelsea Shiree
University of Nevada
Reno School of Medicine

As cliché as it may be, Family Medicine chose me. I initially was interested in becoming a pediatrician when I entered medical school at the University of Nevada, Reno. I had worked with children with special needs teaching outdoor recreational therapy in Seattle during college and thought I would continue working with that population as a physician. While in medical school, I fell in love with obstetrics and reproductive health while working at the hospital in Las Vegas. Throughout my travels and research throughout Latin America, I was able to learn Spanish and interact with multiple Latino cultures. I fell in love with the food and culture and became passionate about health access among immigrant populations in my own backyard. With my MPH, I studied health access and program

development. While interviewing at UNM, I found a place where all my interests collided. When I found out I was going to the Land of Enchantment, I felt a sense of peace and excitement. In that way Family Medicine chose me, so that I would learn the skills and knowledge to accomplish the advancement I hope to see in my patients and healthcare.



Unruh, Erik Russell
University of Kansas
School of Medicine

I grew up in the rural farmland of southwest Kansas, where cattle far outnumber people and fields of amber wheat wave in the wind. I completed nursing school at MidAmerica Nazarene University and later a master's in public health at the University of Kansas Medical Center. I was drawn to the way Family Medicine can be a gateway to healthcare and also an avenue for advocacy. I chose Family Medicine because of the ability to care for individuals and the community, working to address root causes of disease and disparity while providing primary care. I am particularly interested in underserved medicine, advocacy, education, adolescent health and rural medicine. I am excited to train in the rich tradition of UNM, learning from some of the best in Family and Community medicine. Outside of medicine, I enjoy spending time with my wife, gardening, beekeeping, our dog Milo, camping, reading and, of course, Kansas basketball.



Yaney, Amanda Roach
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine

I grew up playing soccer and riding horses in southern California before moving to Colorado where I began my first foray into a health-centered career path as a personal fitness trainer. Later, my spouse and I traveled Europe in an old campervan, where I was inspired to expand my horizons and attend a university after returning home. I studied biology and biomedical science at Colorado State University while I worked as a nurse assistant, cared for my ailing parents, and became a parent myself. These experiences led me to pursue a career as a physician where I could combine my loves for health, science, and caregiving. Medical school here at UNM has presented me with unique opportunities to work with a wide variety of patients from all walks of life, which further shaped my career goals. I chose to specialize in family medicine because I want to offer full spectrum care to anyone from newborns and pregnant mothers to adolescents and the elderly. I have a special interest in reproductive health and hope to eventually be a small town doc. I am thrilled to be continuing my training in vibrant New Mexico among compassionate family physicians!